

ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCE

To whom it may concern

The RAD offers examinations in dance for young children starting out in dance classes through to older students aspiring to become professional dancers. On an average year, approximately 240,000 candidates worldwide take our examinations, class awards and solo performance awards, as well as non-assessed demonstration classes.

Achievement in dance contributes to the learner's all-round development, as it helps to develop competencies such as motor control, health and safety awareness, self-expression, physical fitness and stamina, discipline, mental ability, confidence and self-esteem.

The RAD is a recognised awards organisation accredited by Ofqual, Qualifications Wales and CCEA to operate on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF). The RAD's graded examinations, vocational graded examinations, solo performance awards, and *Discovering Repertoire* Levels 2-4 are qualifications regulated on the RQF. The RQF includes qualifications of many types and in all fields of study, including GCSEs, A levels, and NVQs, placing dance examinations in a wider context of learning and achievement, and recognising equivalence in levels of knowledge, skills and understanding.

Additionally, RAD Examinations at RQF Level 3 are included in the UK Universities and Admissions Service (UCAS) points tariff for entry into Higher Education.

Due to the substantial numbers of entries, regrettably it is not possible for us to organise all our examinations out of school hours. We fully appreciate the impact and interruption caused to the school day but would be most grateful if you would authorise the student's absence for the purpose of taking an RAD examination. We recommend that where necessary and appropriate, absence should be recorded on the school register as Code B (Attending any other approved educational activity) or Code C (Leave of absence for exceptional circumstance) – see *School Attendance: Working together to improve school attendance* (Department for Education, August 2024)¹.

¹ [Working together to improve school attendance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/118122/Working_together_to_improve_school_attendance.pdf)

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Patron: Her Majesty Queen Camilla
President: Dame Darcey Bussell DBE **Chairman:** Stephen Moss CBE **Chief Executive:** Elizabeth Honer CB
Royal Academy of Dance is a charity registered in England and Wales No.312826



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I do hope that you believe, as we do, that taking RAD examinations is a valuable experience for students, which contributes to their well-being and overall education.

If you would like further information or have any questions, then please do contact us at exams@rad.org.uk.

With thanks,



Mary Keene
Director of Examinations

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