

# A-level Dance requirements for recording and submitting performance and choreography evidence for summer 2022 only

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A-level Dance Component 1 will move from visiting exams to postal exams for summer 2022 only. You can conduct your A-level Dance Component 1 exams between now and 30 May 2022 and schools will need to send the video evidence to their allocated examiner. AQA requires schools/colleges to video record all students' final performances for assessment. Enquiries about results (EARs) will be in reference to the recording sent to your examiner after the exam has taken place.

## Important information for 2022

We've taken the decision to change from visiting examination to postal examination to help schools manage any public health restrictions that may be in place at the time, and having a flexible postal exam system will ensure that the exam process is fair, comparable and consistent for all students.

Despite the flexibility that the postal approach allows, the following points must be adhered to:

- This is an examination and you must record your students' final performance of each element of component 1 at the same time, but you can record each element on different days ie all the solo performances linked to a specified practitioner within an area of study must be recorded on the same day. The same is the case for the performance in a solo/duet/trio/quartet and the solo/group choreography.
- Covid/illness exception – if a student is absent on the day of the exam then you can reschedule the date for this student(s), you are not required to reschedule the whole cohort. Please contact [aqadance@qa.org.uk](mailto:aqadance@qa.org.uk) if you need further guidance on any particular case.
- Please ensure you send the video evidence and the supporting documentation via your Exams Officer in one submission. Do not send each element separately.
- You must keep a copy of the material securely at your centre until after the post-results deadline.

Please refer to section 4.2 of the specification for full details of the assessment tasks and centre responsibilities for administering the tasks. You can see more details on the changes to NEA for 2022 only on our website [here](#).

Please read this document carefully so you'll be familiar with AQA's recording requirements. If you have any questions, please call 01483 437750 or email [aqadance@aga.org.uk](mailto:aqadance@aga.org.uk)

### Before you start recording

1. Test the camera and any accessories, such as microphones, by recording a small piece of video and playing it back. Use a tripod to stabilise the camera and position it from an audience perspective.
2. Ensure that the space being used for filming is clear of furniture, equipment and other students standing around the edges; these can obscure the overall view of the dancer or detract from the performance.
3. Ensure the studio is well lit, with any direct light source behind the camera operator; where natural light floods in from windows behind the dancer, the recording will appear in silhouette; stage lighting or spotlights can also adversely affect the video quality.
4. Ask students to wear light coloured clothing where black curtains are the background; this should enable them to be seen clearly.

### During recording

The final performance for assessment must be recorded with a single camera from an audience perspective from start to finish and be unedited.

1. Clearly identify dancers, particularly where more than one appears in shot (see later instruction on how to do this).
2. Avoid clipping the ending of the recording.
3. Ensure filming does not go automatically to auto-focus during the performance as this can cause blurring, making assessment very difficult.
4. Always film the student straight-on from the audience perspective. Evidence filmed from a side angle, or from behind the student, will not be accepted.
5. Ensure that extraneous noise is kept to a minimum. It can affect student performances and make it difficult to hear the soundtrack.
6. Make sure that the person filming knows the dance well. This is usually the teacher acting as the technician. Familiarity with the work will enable the action to be followed.
7. Do not film the student from some distance without the zoom facility being used.
8. Avoid using a fixed position camera without an operator as students may disappear off screen.

### Identify students

1. Identify each student by writing his or her name and candidate number clearly on an A4 sheet. Zoom in on each student holding their A4 sheet with their face in view so the examiner can clearly identify the student. This way, we will always have a back-up method of identification.
2. You must make a comprehensive and accurate running order of the students' work. You must use the form(s), as appropriate, included in this document.

## Format and media

AQA can only accept work recorded on the following media:



A USB stick

AQA will not accept work which has been recorded onto DVD, VHS cassette, Mini DV tapes or SD Cards.

**Recording onto the wrong format may mean that AQA is unable to mark students' work.**

## Changing format

If you've recorded work onto a format other than a USB stick, you will need to transfer it to one. There are several software packages that are able to do this, or you will need to find an AV technician to transfer it to a USB stick for you.

## After recording

Please label every USB stick with the appropriate information, for example:

Centre name

Centre number

Qualification

Component

Number of candidates

USB number (if multiple)

## Special considerations

To ensure special considerations can be applied it is advisable to record interim work, in case any student is injured or unwell at the time of final assessment.

Please also refer to AQA policy on special consideration on the AQA [Special considerations](#) web page.

If you've any further, questions please call 01483 437750 or email [aqadance@aqa.org.uk](mailto:aqadance@aqa.org.uk)

Please see next page for record sheets.


