

September 2012

To whom it may concern:

The Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) is an awarding organisation recognised in England by the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual), in Wales by the Welsh Government, and in Northern Ireland by the Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA).

The RAD offers examinations in dance for young children starting out in dance classes through to older students aspiring to become professional dancers. Each year, approximately 230,000 candidates worldwide take our examinations and Class Awards, non-assessed Presentation Classes and Demonstration Classes.

The RAD is recognised by Ofqual, the Welsh Government and CCEA to operate on the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF). The RAD's Graded Examinations (Grades 1 to 8) and Vocational Graded Examinations (Intermediate Foundation – Advanced 2) are placed on the QCF.

The QCF includes qualifications of many types and in all fields of study, placing dance examinations in a wider context of learning and achievement, and recognising equivalence in levels of knowledge, skills and understanding. It also provides candidates with opportunities for credit accumulation and transfer on the Framework.

RAD Examinations at Level 3 are included in the UK Universities and Admissions Service (UCAS) points tariff for entry into Higher Education. Graded and Vocational Graded qualifications are also included in the catalogue of Additional and Specialist Learning (ASL) for the 14-19 Diploma in England, enabling learners to use their RAD qualifications to contribute towards their Diploma.

Due to the substantial numbers of entries (approx 60,000 in the UK each year), it is regrettably 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(s).

Schools in England that have made a significant contribution to the dance training of pupils who took RAD examinations, can claim points towards their Achievement and Attainment Tables. In such cases candidates should inform the RAD of the relevant National Centre Number (NCN) at the time of entry.

Your assistance is very much appreciated and I do hope that you believe, as we do, that taking RAD examinations is a valuable life experience for students, which contributes to their overall education.

If you would like further information or have any questions, then please do contact me either at the above address or by email: gsowerby@rad.org.uk

With thanks.



Gillian Sowerby
Head of Examinations

Royal Academy of Dance incorporating The Benesh Institute
A Charity Registered in England & Wales No. 312826

Patron: Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II *President:* Darcy Bussell CBE
Chairman: Kerry Rubie *Chief Executive:* Luke Rittner

36 Battersea Square
London SW11 3RA
tel: +44 (0)20 7326 8000
fax: +44 (0)20 7924 3129
info@rad.org.uk
www.rad.org.uk

