Northern School of Contemporary Dance

Northern School of Contemporary Dance (NSCD)

Philippa Ranger, Access & Participation Manager

Undergraduate courses

September 2026 entry

Northern School of Contemporary Dance

What is NSCD?

- Based in Chapeltown, Leeds, NSCD is a leading centre for contemporary dance in the UK.
- We have open classes from children aged 5years+.
- Centre of Advanced Training (CAT)
- Undergraduate & Postgraduate courses
- Professional theatre programme
- Dance Conservatoire

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Dance Conservatoire

- Not on UCAS – an extra option
- Still a university
  - tuition fees the same
  - qualify for a student loan
- 2 step process:
  1. Application (direct)
  2. Audition
- Increased contact hours
- Industry facing teaching staff
- Small and Specialist

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Undergraduate Courses

- Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) in Dance:

  Contemporary Pathway

  Street Dance Styles Pathway

- BA (Hons) Dance: Choreography, Producing & Teaching
- BA (Hons) Contemporary Dance Performance

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Audition Process

Our audition process consists of a single audition – either in person at NSCD or by video submission.

IN PERSON

- Apply online
- Book your audition date/time and pay the £20 application fee via NSCD Box Office
- Learn 2 movement phrases in advance of your audition date using the link provided

BY VIDEO

- Read the guidance online and prepare your video submission
- Apply online and include a single link to your recorded footage
- Pay the £20 application fee via NSCD Box Office

Please note we offer application fee waivers for applicants from low-income backgrounds

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In-person Audition Content

BA (Hons) Dance: Choreography, Producing & Teaching

- Intro/Ice-breaker/Improvisation (60 mins)
- Choreography Workshop (75 mins)
- Dance Analysis (75 mins)
- Group Discussion (45 mins)

BA (Hons) Contemporary Dance Performance & CertHE Dance

- Intro/Ice-breaker/Improvisation (60 mins)
- Contemporary Technique (75 mins)
- Ballet (30 mins)
- Afro-fusion (30 mins)
- Creative/Choreography (30 mins)
- Group Discussion (30 mins)

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Entry Requirements

All our offers are conditional on you meeting the academic entry requirements:

- CertHE & BA applicants – usually Level 3 qualifications (such as A Levels or L3 BTECs) or equivalent
- CertHE applicants aged 16 – GCSE profile considered plus successful audition

Full details of UK entry requirements are available online

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Student Support

Student Services at NSCD offers:

- Health & Wellbeing support
- Learner support
- Bodywork support
- English language support
- Financial support

The Student Services office operates a one-stop-shop, where students can arrange access to the above support.

Students can also use student services as a drop-in for when they need immediate support. Our student services staff are available to listen and can signpost students to further help and assistance.

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Any Questions?

Contact: admissions@nscd.ac.uk