

NCEA Review and Maintenance Programme – 2026 updates

Review and maintenance work has been undertaken for all three levels of NZC NCEA for 2026. This pdf document contains the updated Achievement Standards for **Dance Level 1**. In January 2026 the NCEA website will be updated with these changes for Level 1, and the pdf version will be removed as it will no longer be necessary. For Levels 2 and 3, NZQA will update their website with the registered standards in December. For external assessment specifications, refer to the NZQA website.

Subject: Dance Level 1

Standard	What's changed?
AS 1.4 91939	Explanatory Note 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Definition of 'purpose' aligned across 1.2 and 1.4 for consistency.

Achievement Standard**Subject Reference** Dance 1.4**Title** Demonstrate understanding of the elements of dance in a dance sequence**Level** 1 **Credits** 5 **Assessment** External**Subfield** Dance**Domain** Dance Performance**Status** Approved **Status date** September 2025**Planned review date** December 2028 **Date version published** December 2025**Purpose Statement**

Students are able to demonstrate understanding of the elements of dance in a dance sequence.

Achievement Criteria

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate understanding of the elements of dance in a dance sequence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain the elements of dance in a dance sequence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the elements of dance in a dance sequence

Explanatory Notes

- 1 *Demonstrate understanding of the elements of dance in a dance sequence* involves:
- describing the dance elements in a dance sequence
 - describing the purpose of a dance sequence.

Explain the elements of dance in a dance sequence involves:

- explaining the effects of the dance elements in a dance sequence
- explaining the connections between the dance elements and the purpose of a dance sequence.

Evaluate the elements of dance in a dance sequence involves:

- discussing the impact of the dance elements in a dance sequence
- reflecting on the use of the dance elements to communicate the purpose of a dance sequence.

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- 2^{D]} *Elements of dance* are the key components of dance movement. These may include:
- body
 - space
 - time
 - energy
 - relationships.
- 3 For the purpose of this achievement standard, a *dance sequence* is one that the student has performed in.
- 4 A *dance sequence* is a series of connected dance movements that work together. A dance sequence could be a portion of a longer choreographed work. A dance sequence may be choreographed by the teacher, a guest choreographer, a group of students, or the student themselves. A dance sequence may be performed as a solo, duo, or group.
- 5 The *purpose* of a dance sequence refers to the reasons it is performed. The purpose of the dance sequence should be identified.
- 6 Refer to the NCEA [glossary](#) for Māori, Pacific, and further subject-specific terms and concepts.
- 7 This achievement standard is derived from the Arts Learning Area at Level 6 of *The New Zealand Curriculum*: Learning Media, Ministry of Education, 2007.

Replacement Information

This achievement standard and AS91936-AS91938 replaced AS90002, AS90005, and AS90858-AS90861.

Quality Assurance

- 1 Schools and institutions must have been granted consent to assess by NZQA before they can register credits from assessment against achievement standards.
- 2 Schools and institutions with consent to assess must engage with the moderation system that applies to those achievement standards.

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference 0233