



ROYAL
BALLET
SCHOOL



OUR
YEAR 2017/18



Our mission is to nurture, train and educate exceptional young dancers for the Royal Ballet companies and other leading UK and international companies and to inspire the future of classical ballet training.

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Photo: Students dancing *Sea Interludes* by Andrew McNicol at the Royal Opera House

Cover photo: Yu Hang, 2018 graduate, as Aurora in *Aurora's Wedding* staged by Anthony Dowell from Marius Petipa's *The Sleeping Beauty* at the Royal Opera House



© 2018 The Royal Ballet School. Photographed by Tristram Kenton

One of the great privileges of my role is working with dancers who have a drive to learn and a unique focus on achieving their goals.

These achievements would not be possible without our remarkable team of staff, who give the students the confidence, encouragement and support to fulfil their potential. I feel so fortunate to have such a passionate team who are totally dedicated to maintaining our School as a centre of excellence.

We were particularly proud to see our graduating students gaining contracts with prestigious companies around the world again this year, including six with The Royal Ballet's Aud Jepsen Young Dancers Programme and six with Birmingham Royal Ballet.

At Upper School, we saw the first group of students studying for our new BA Honours Degree in Classical Ballet and Dance Performance. The three-year degree programme is accredited by the University of Roehampton and bespoke to our training. It is set in the context of our rich heritage, drawing on our Special Collections archive, our online Ballet History Timeline, as well as our sports science and healthcare expertise.

I am delighted with the exciting progress of our innovative Healthy Dancer Programme. We now have more than 20 in-house practitioners working together to build a truly holistic healthcare programme and support system for every one of our students. Research projects are being conducted with a number of universities and interesting results are already being recorded. These are now informing and developing our training programme.

For the third year running, Kevin O'Hare generously invited the School to take part in World Ballet Day on 5 October. We focused on White Lodge, with Year 10 and 11 students demonstrating a pointe class, which was live-streamed to thousands of viewers around the world.

3rd Year students Katharina Nikelski and Harrison Lee spent ten days in January at the Prix de Lausanne as part of a special choreographic project with dancers from the other partner schools. Choreographer Goyo Montero created a new work on the students, which they performed during the interlude while the jury deliberated.

We had the great pleasure of hosting dancers from American Ballet Theatre Studio Company for a week in May, which culminated in the performance of a new ballet by Ma Cong, Resident Choreographer with Tulsa Ballet. Ma Cong worked with students at each school on this collaborative ballet, which was shown along with other work prepared by each school. We are, as always, so grateful to Ricki Gail Conway who generously supported these two invaluable opportunities for our students.

As ever the year ended on a high with five impressive public performances in July; four at Opera Holland Park and one on the main stage of the Royal Opera House. Students from all years of the School excelled themselves in a challenging range of repertoire. We were especially honoured to work with Sir Anthony Dowell, former Principal dancer and Artistic Director of The Royal Ballet, who presented Aurora's Wedding, restaged from Marius Petipa's The Sleeping Beauty. It featured a cast from all three years of the Upper School with White Lodge students dancing Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf. We are profoundly grateful to our sponsors and in particular Imagination for their continued support of the School and these performances.

It is also with gratitude that I thank our Chairman, The Duchess of Wellington, and our Board of Governors, for their support and guidance throughout another memorable year at the School.

[Handwritten signature of Christopher Powney]

CHRISTOPHER POWNEY
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



© 2015 The Royal Ballet School. Photographed by Schulelewis.com

Photo: Taisuke Nakao, 2018 graduate, as The Bluebird in Aurora's Wedding staged by Anthony Dowell from Marius Petipa's The Sleeping Beauty at the Royal Opera House

The Royal Ballet School is one of the world's greatest centres of excellence for classical ballet training.

2,559

WE HAD 2,559 APPLICATIONS TO OUR FULL-TIME AND ASSOCIATE COURSES

21

21 GRADUATES GAINED JOBS IN 10 COMPANIES AROUND THE WORLD

100%

A LEVEL 100% PASS RATE

278

278 DANCERS TOOK PART IN OUR NEW SPRING INTENSIVES

14

14 TEACHERS GRADUATED FROM OUR DIPLOMA OF DANCE TEACHING

100K

WE REACHED 100K FOLLOWERS ON INSTAGRAM

1,504

1,504 PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN WERE INTRODUCED TO BALLET THROUGH OUR PRIMARY STEPS PROGRAMME

5

OUR STUDENTS DANCED IN FIVE PUBLIC PERFORMANCES AT OPERA HOLLAND PARK AND THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

"It has always been my dream to train here so I make the most of every single day."

1ST YEAR, UPPER SCHOOL STUDENT

Photo: 1st Year ladies' classical ballet class, Upper School



More than half of our 2018 graduates joined The Royal Ballet and Birmingham Royal Ballet with others joining internationally renowned ballet companies.

Photo: Harrison Lee (left) and Eli Gruska (right), 2018 graduates – now dancing with The Royal Ballet on the Aud Jepsen Young Dancers Programme and with American Ballet Theatre Studio Company respectively

Students danced in four spectacular Summer Performances at Opera Holland Park, presenting a range of repertoire demonstrating the skills acquired through their training.

Photo: Aurora's Wedding staged by Anthony Dowell from Marius Petipa's The Sleeping Beauty, performed at Opera Holland Park



They also performed a final performance at the Royal Opera House, featuring works by Marius Petipa/Anthony Dowell, Nacho Duato, Didy Veldman, Robert Binet, Andrew McNicol, Mark Annear and Tania Fairbairn.

Photo: *TooT* by Didy Veldman, performed at the Royal Opera House



5,752 people attended our Summer Performances.

Photo: *Napoli* by August Bournonville performed at Opera Holland Park



“The students, once again, exceeded all expectations.”

BALLET NEWS REVIEW OF THE 2018 ROYAL OPERA HOUSE SUMMER PERFORMANCE



© 2018 The Royal Ballet School. Photographed by Andrej Uspenski and Tristram Kenton



Opposite: Katharina Nikelski, 2018 graduate, as The Fairy of the Golden Vine in *Aurora's Wedding* staged by Anthony Dowell from Marius Petipa's *The Sleeping Beauty*.

This page from top left: *Bach, Multiplicity forms of silence and emptiness* by Nacho Duato, *Pulcinella Suite* by Mark Annear; *Snegurochka* by Tania Fairbairn; Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf in *Aurora's Wedding* staged by Anthony Dowell from Marius Petipa's *The Sleeping Beauty*; *Self & Soul* by Robert Binet.





Our younger students, aged 11-16, live and train at White Lodge in Richmond Park. Admission to the School is based purely on artistic talent and potential and most students rely on financial support to attend the School.

Photo: Year 10 boys' classical ballet class, White Lodge



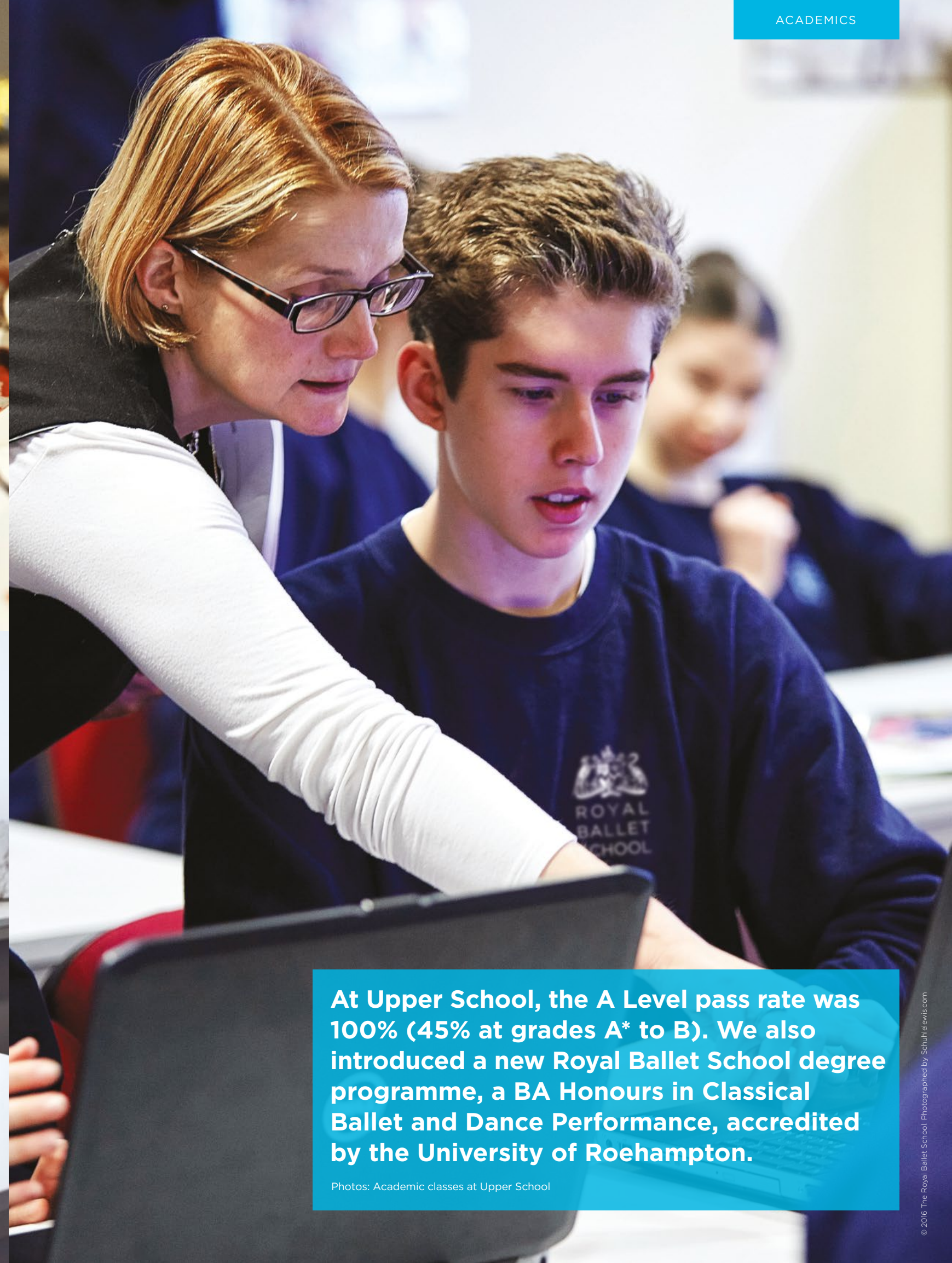
The Upper School, for students aged 16-19, is in Covent Garden adjoining the Royal Opera House. Over 70% of the Royal Ballet companies are alumni of the School.

Photo: 3rd Year ladies' classical ballet class, Upper School

A photograph of a science class in progress. Several students are seated at a long table, focused on their work. In the foreground, a girl with long brown hair and braces is looking down at her hands, which are holding small red objects. To her right, another student is also working with similar materials. In the background, other students are visible, some looking at papers or equipment. The table is cluttered with various items, including a yellow cup, a pink pencil case, and several sheets of paper. The overall atmosphere is one of active learning and collaboration.

The Royal Ballet School continued to score above the national average in academic exams. The School's GCSE pass rate at grades 9-4 (A*-C) was 93% – the national average was 66%.

Photo: Science class at White Lodge



At Upper School, the A Level pass rate was 100% (45% at grades A* to B). We also introduced a new Royal Ballet School degree programme, a BA Honours in Classical Ballet and Dance Performance, accredited by the University of Roehampton.

Photos: Academic classes at Upper School



Students get involved in a range of weekend activities, both in the boarding house and beyond.

Pictured here: students painting, baking, crafting, and on trips to theme parks and musicals.



"I am so grateful for all the amazing opportunities I have been given here and for the friends I've made."

YEAR 8, WHITE LODGE STUDENT



We are committed to creating healthy, strong and resilient dancers, prepared for the considerable physical and emotional demands of a career in ballet.

Photo: Strength and conditioning training at Upper School

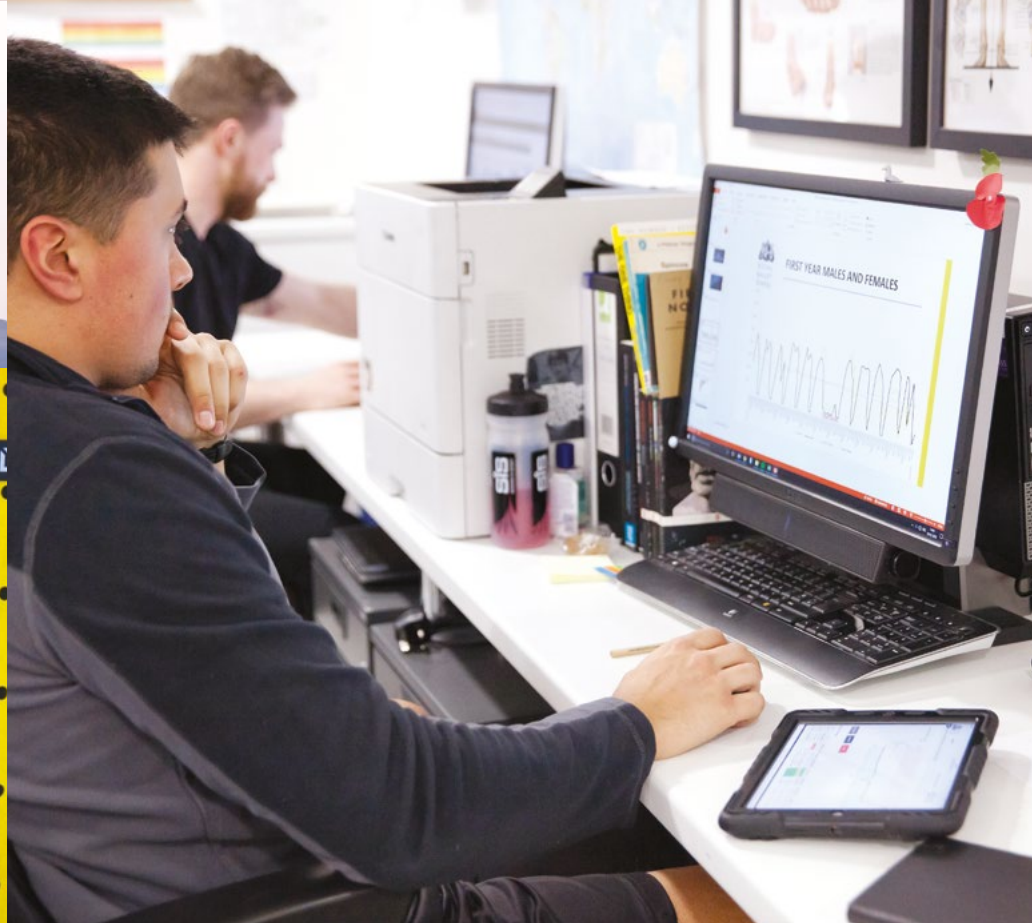


We now have an in-house healthcare team of more than 20 dedicated practitioners offering instant support to all students.



At both White Lodge and Upper School, the healthcare and artistic teams collaborate, educate and share goals to ensure the students remain at the heart of everything that we do.


Pictured here: A physiotherapist using manual therapy for treatment; artistic staff implementing Pilates-based conditioning; upper body conditioning exercises; sports scientists analysing training load data; strengthening rehabilitation exercises with physiotherapists; Pilates exercises.



Anna Daly in Year 10 was the winner of the 2017 Kenneth MacMillan Choreographic Award with her ballet *Experiment 249*. This piece was one of 11 new works performed at White Lodge in front of an audience and panel of judges.

Photo: *Experiment 249* by Anna Daly, Year 10



A photograph of four dancers in black long-sleeved leotards performing a choreographed piece. The dancers are in a line, with the one in the foreground being the most prominent. They are all looking down and have their arms extended in a similar pose. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Upper School students presented their choreographic creations in January at the Ursula Moreton Choreographic Award. It was won by Kele Roberson and Damen Axtens for their joint piece *Introspection*.

Photo: *Introspection* by Kele Roberson and Damen Axtens, 2nd Year



Above: *Cloudburst* by Grace Donovan, Year 8

This page and opposite: *The Imperial 'Good Companion'* by Ruben Mariner Barbeito, Year 8; *Mind The Gap* by Constance Bowes, Year 9 (2nd Prize); *Hear My Voice* by Magdalen Wood, Year 9; *I Am The Resurrection* by Tianie-Finn Grainger, Year 8; *Refugee* by Harriet Gibson, Year 8; *Outcast* by William Ashraf and Arlen Camburn-Morrissey, Year 7 (3rd Prize).



The Ninette de Valois Choreographic Award was won by Year 8 student Grace Donovan with her work *Cloudburst*.



We continue to expand the creative and social influences on our students through collaborative projects with other schools, such as The Advance Project; a series of inspiring guest teachers and speakers; and a number of cultural visits throughout the year.

Photo: The Advance Project performance with Year 10 students and young people from Harris Academy Tottenham

In May we hosted dancers from American Ballet Theatre Studio Company for a week of classes as part of an ongoing exchange. At the end of the week students presented a new ballet together, created by Ma Cong.

Photo: Royal Ballet School and American Ballet Theatre Studio Company performing *On the First Star Of The Night* by Ma Cong



This year we welcomed 2,559 young dancers to auditions around the country for our full-time training and Associate programmes.

Photo: Year 7 boys' ballet class at White Lodge





We worked with 523 Royal Ballet School Associate students at our eight centres around the country. Associates are talented young dancers who train with us at weekly classes alongside their regular ballet classes.

Photo: London Junior Associates in their weekly class



A total of 1,504 Year 3 pupils from 27 schools in Blackpool, Bury St Edmunds, Dagenham, Mansfield and Swindon participated in six weeks of creative ballet workshops as part of our Primary Steps programme. Of these, 253 were shortlisted for final workshops and 134 then joined our weekly after-school classes.

Photo: Blackpool students in rehearsal for the Primary Steps Graduation performance



We launched a new one-week Spring Intensive at White Lodge and in Hong Kong welcoming 278 students from 34 different countries.

Photo: Students at the Hong Kong Spring Intensive

“I have enjoyed every minute of being trained by such great teachers in a wonderful atmosphere with dancers from all over the world.”

SUMMER INTENSIVES 2018 PARTICIPANT



We hosted more than 530 students from around the world over four weeks in July and August at our Summer Intensives at White Lodge and in Covent Garden. The dancers were taught by Royal Ballet School teachers as well as an impressive line-up of guest teachers including current and former Royal Ballet dancers.

Photo: Students at the White Lodge Summer Intensive



Inspire, our professional development programme for ballet teachers, continued to go from strength to strength with 27 seminars delivered in the UK and additional seminars in Italy and Hong Kong. We reached more than 650 teachers.

Photo: Inspire seminar participants in Covent Garden



14 exceptional teachers graduated from our Royal Ballet School Diploma of Dance Teaching. Three of the graduates also achieved Merits and Distinction in Trinity College London's Diploma of Dance Teaching and Learning.

Photo: Our Diploma of Dance Teaching graduates with Lynn Wallis OBE



Significant repairs were made to the stonework, roof and windows of the King's Building at White Lodge, constructed in 1730. It took two tonnes of stone, half a tonne of lead and more than half a tonne of mortar to complete the repairs.

Photo: White Lodge, Richmond Park

Our thanks to all those who enable us to continue our work through their generous support.

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Candida Hurst-Brown
Elizabeth Jack
Martine Olsen
Zita Saurel
Sue Sloan
The Duchess of Wellington

We would also like to thank those who wish to remain anonymous, and those who have generously pledged gifts in their wills to The Royal Ballet School.

Photo: *Bach, Multiplicity forms of silence and emptiness* by Nacho Duato, performed at Opera Holland Park



Our vision is to be the best ballet school in the world.

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HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES

VICE PRESIDENT
THE LADY SARAH CHATTO

FOUNDER
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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
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*Includes Governors who served in office during the year and subsequently

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**ROYAL
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46 FLORAL STREET
COVENT GARDEN
LONDON WC2E 9DA
+44 (0)20 7836 8899

WHITE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK
SURREY TW10 5HR
+44 (0)20 8392 8440

enquiries@royalballetschool.org.uk | royalballetschool.org.uk

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ROYAL
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2017/18 **FIGURES**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 August 2018

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	General	Designated		2018	2017
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
INCOME FROM:					
Charitable activities	8,669	-	-	8,669	8,319
Donations	1,303	-	2,709	4,012	4,022
Other income	39	-	-	39	32
TOTAL INCOME	10,011	-	2,709	12,720	12,373
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising funds					
Fundraising and communications	261	-	23	284	207
	261	-	23	284	207
Charitable activities					
Teaching	2,899	-	58	2,957	2,810
Pastoral and healthcare	1,935	-	282	2,217	1,782
Outreach and partnership	849	-	606	1,455	1,183
Premises	2,968	-	279	3,247	3,021
Support and governance	1,637	2	-	1,639	1,861
Grants and prizes	36	-	839	875	3,998
	10,324	2	2,064	12,390	14,655
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	10,585	2	2,087	12,674	14,862
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)	(574)	(2)	622	46	(2,489)
Transfers between funds	1,055	(1,055)	-	-	-
Other recognised losses					
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension scheme	494	-	-	494	350
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	975	(1,057)	622	540	(2,139)
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	2,415	39,450	1,808	43,673	45,812
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	3,390	38,393	2,430	44,213	43,673

All transactions are derived from the charity's continuing operations.
All recognised gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

BALANCE SHEET

For the year ended 31 August 2018

	2018	2017
	£000	£000
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible assets	40,400	41,400
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	2,441	1,074
Cash at bank and in hand	5,474	5,065
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	7,915	6,139
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Trade and other creditors	(567)	(803)
Deferred income	(2,603)	(1,594)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	4,745	3,742
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		
	45,145	45,142
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year		
	(341)	(371)
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	(591)	(1,098)
TOTAL NET ASSETS	44,213	43,673
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY:		
Unrestricted funds		
General fund	3,390	2,415
Designated funds	38,393	39,450
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	41,783	41,865
RESTRICTED FUNDS	2,430	1,808
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	44,213	43,673

Report by the trustees on the Summarised Financial Statements
The above summarised financial statements are extracted from the full statutory Governors' annual report and financial statements which were approved by the Governors and signed on their behalf on 27 February 2019. The full financial statements, on which the auditors Crowe UK LLP gave an unqualified audit report, will be submitted to the Charity Commission and the Registrar of Companies.
The auditors have confirmed to the Governors that, in their opinion, the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2018.
These summarised financial statements may not contain sufficient information to gain a complete understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. The full statutory Governors' report, financial statements and auditors' report can be found on our website at www.royalballetschool.org.uk/reports.

Signed on behalf of

Antonia Wellington

THE DUCHESS OF WELLINGTON OBE
CHAIRMAN

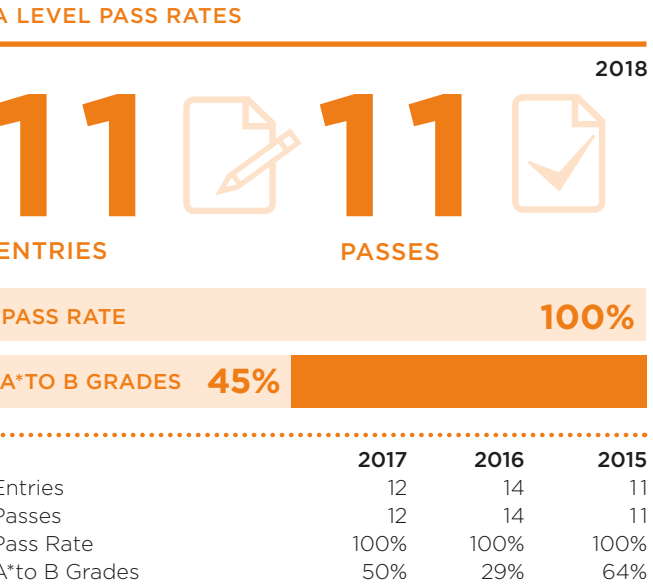
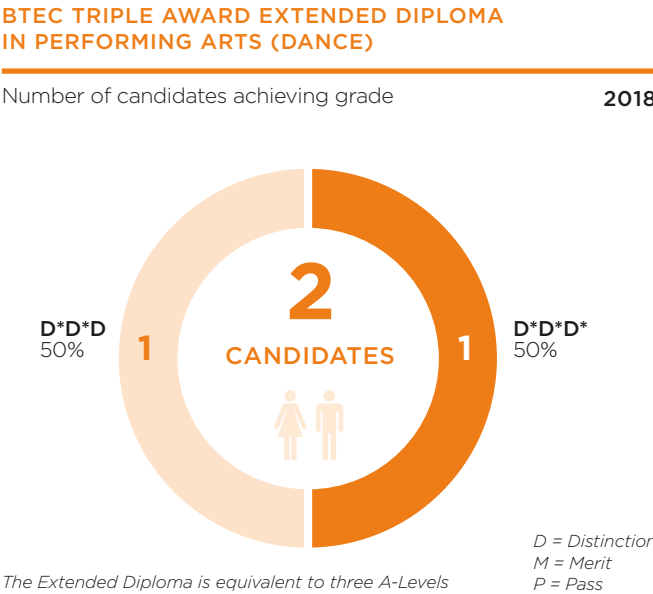
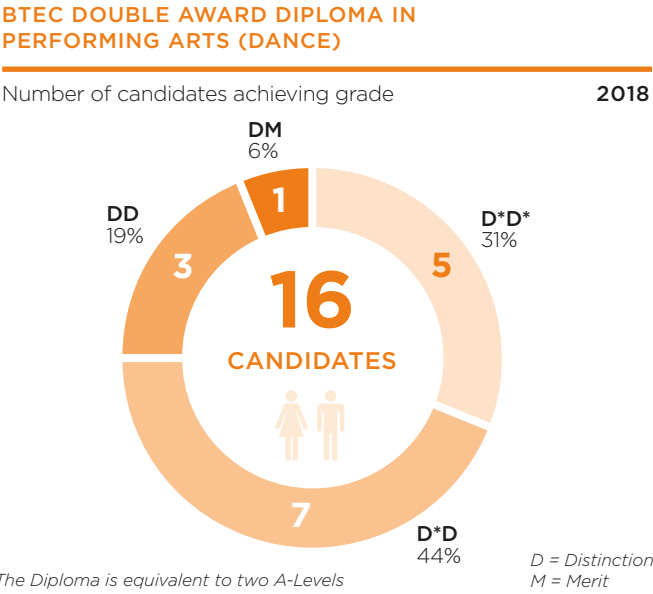
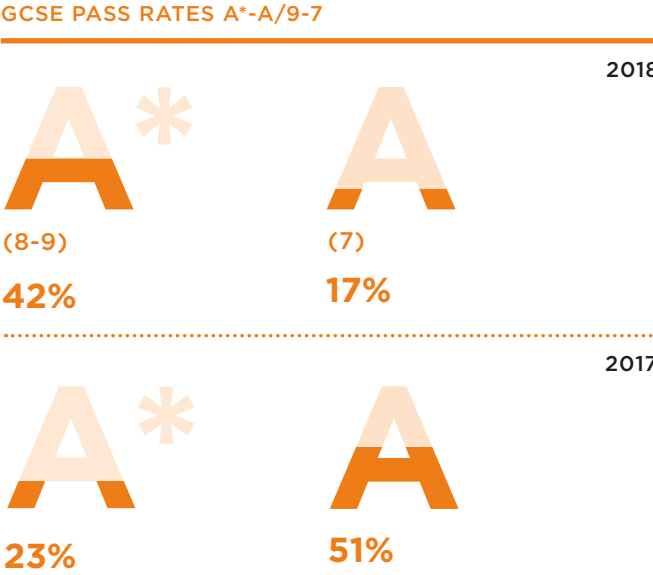
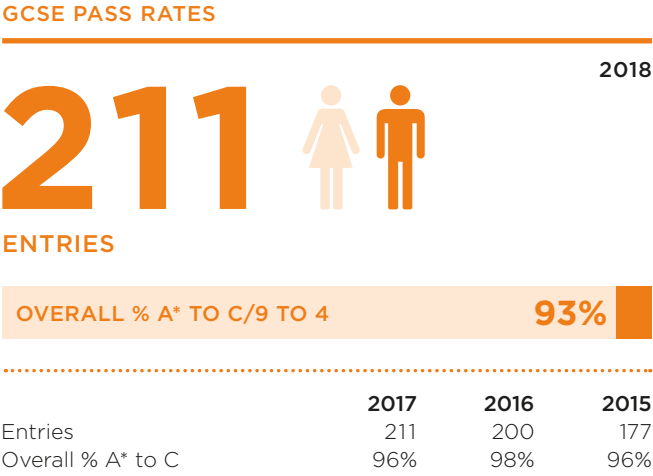
Jonathan Chenevix-Trench

JONATHAN CHENEVIX-TRENCH
GOVERNOR

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

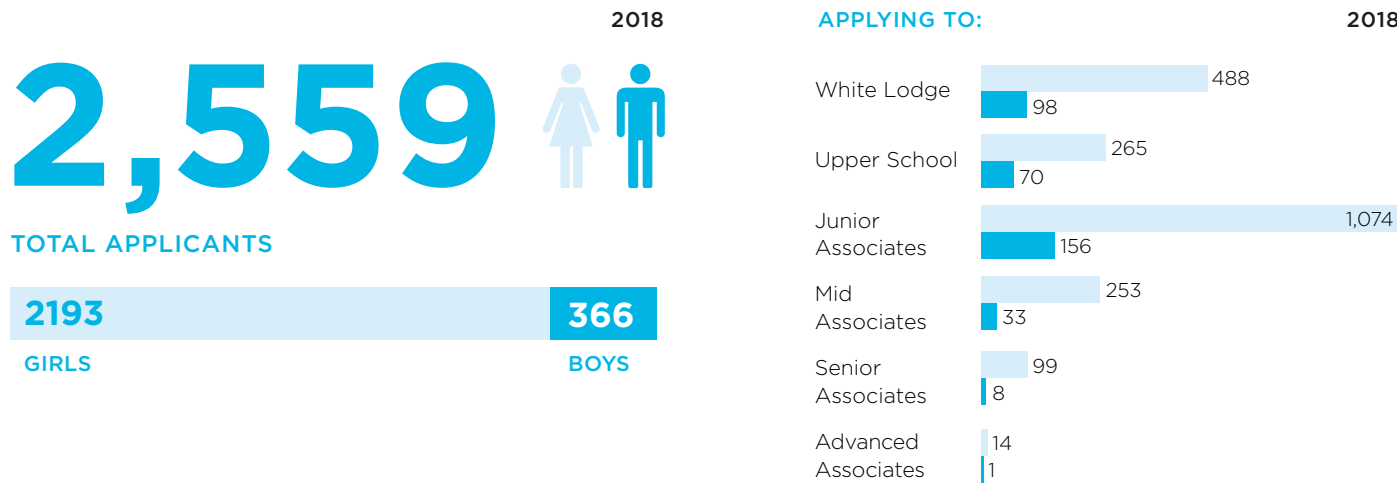


EXAMINATION RESULTS

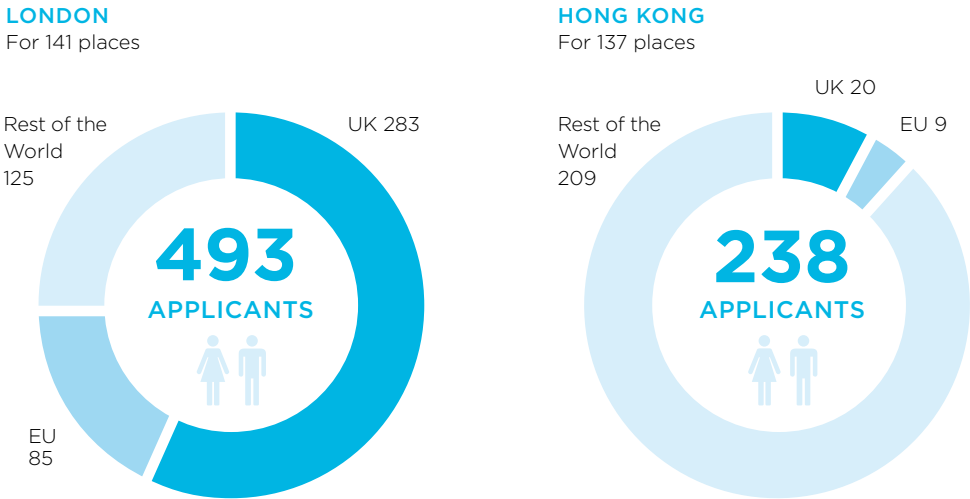


APPLICATIONS 2017/18

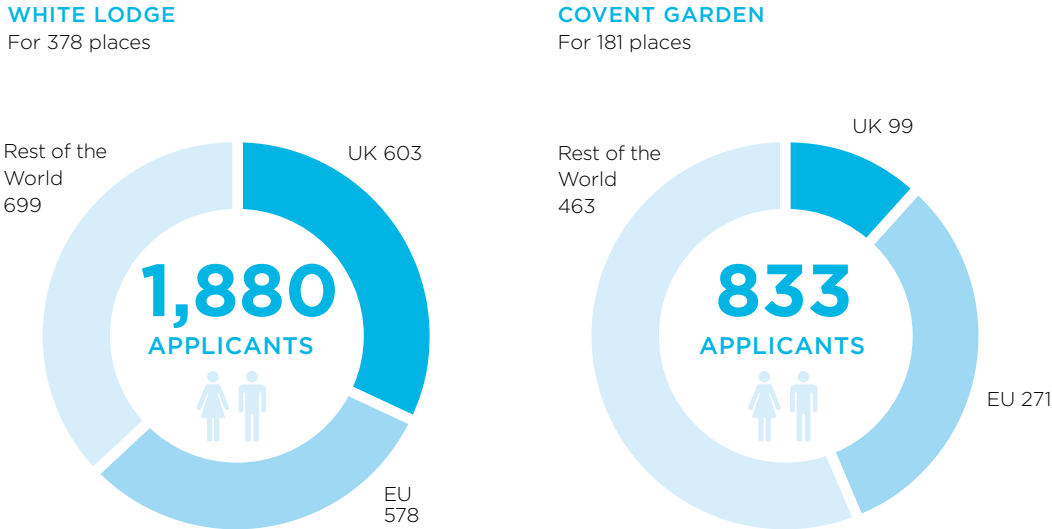
WHITE LODGE, UPPER SCHOOL & ASSOCIATES FOR ENTRY IN SEPTEMBER 2018



SPRING INTENSIVES

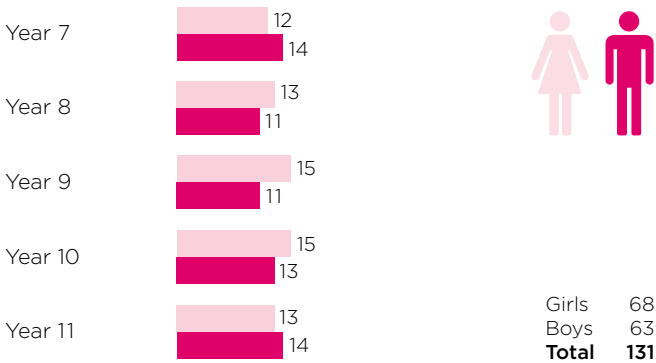


SUMMER INTENSIVES

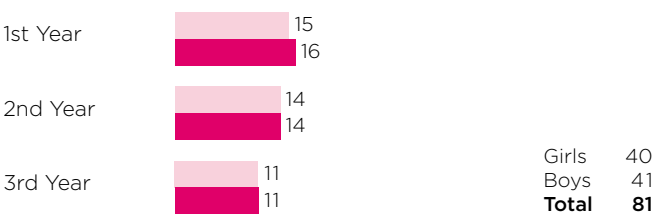


STUDENT NUMBERS 2017/18

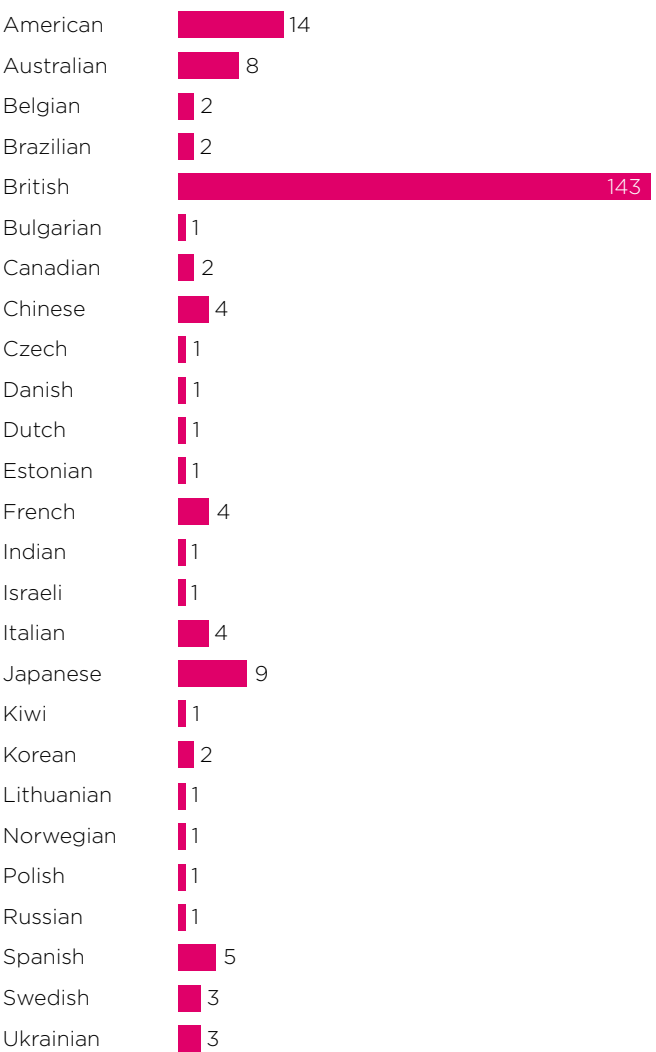
WHITE LODGE



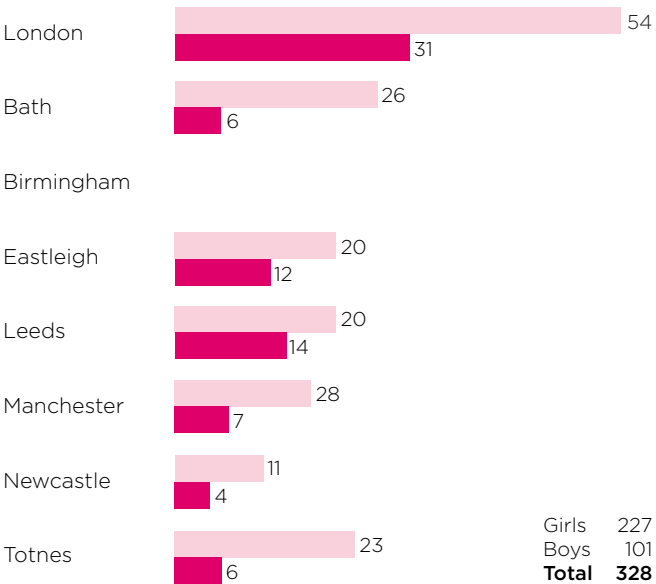
UPPER SCHOOL



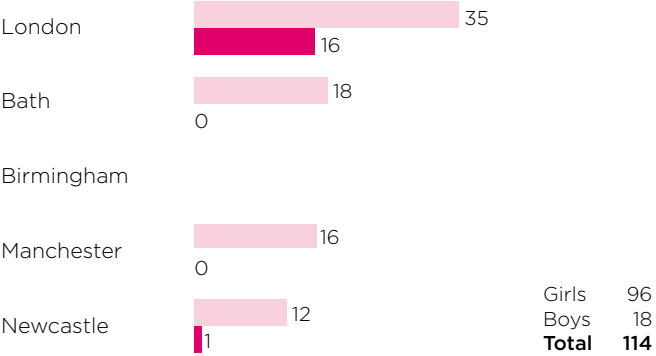
NATIONALITIES OF FULL-TIME STUDENTS



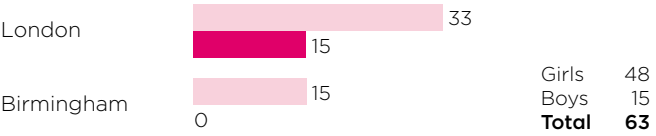
JUNIOR ASSOCIATES



MID ASSOCIATES



SENIOR ASSOCIATES



ADVANCED ASSOCIATES



PRIMARY STEPS AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES

