

### Entry Requirements

As a guide, the Advanced Course entry level for younger applicants (Year 7) is approximately Grade 5 (ABRSM) with merit/distinction\*.

A higher standard is generally expected of older students; however, consideration will be given to musical potential, as well as their age and instrument/voice.

The entry level for Music First is approximately Grade 1 (ABRSM)\*.

*\* NB These grades are referenced as an illustration of playing level and there is no requirement for the exams to have been taken.*

*Piano applicants must have access to an acoustic piano at home.*

### Audition Requirements

1. Please record and upload a video of the applicant performing:
  - a. principal study: two **contrasting** pieces/songs
    - i. For instrumentalists: four scales and four arpeggios of your choice. Please vary your articulation, i.e., record a mix of legato and staccato scales and arpeggios
    - ii. For singers: examples of some of your vocal exercises/warm ups
  - b. additional study (if applicable): one piece/song
2. We are very interested in learning about applicants' musical experience and ask that they record themselves giving some brief spoken answers to the following questions:
  - a. How long have you been learning your instrument/voice and how long have you been having lessons?
  - b. Tell us about your lessons – are these weekly, do they take place individually or in groups, and how long are your lessons (e.g., 30mins, 45mins, etc)?
  - c. Tell us about your musical activities and your musical goals. For those in Year 11 and above, do you wish to study music when you leave school?

### What Happens Next?

An audition panel will listen to your recording, usually within three weeks of submission.

The panel will comprise at least two members of the Junior Conservatoire team. This will always include the head of department, who will refer to a specialist on your instrument as required. The panel will consider your overall musical experience and aims and look at aspects of your playing including posture, technique, musicianship, etc.

## How to Create and Upload an Audition Video to YouTube

### Preparing to make your recording

1. Use a quiet room with good lighting and minimal reverb (echo)
2. Please record the video in landscape
3. Do a test recording with the loudest and quietest sections of your pieces/songs
4. Listen back with headphones to see if anything is:
  - distorted (e.g., crackly, too loud)? If so, move further away from your recording device and try again
  - inaudible? If so, move closer to your recording device and/or perform more loudly

### Recording your video

1. If you can, record your all your audition material onto one or two videos. Don't worry if this means there are short breaks between items
2. Remember to introduce your pieces and say which scales/arpeggios/exercises you're playing/singing

### Uploading your video on YouTube

1. Log in to YouTube. You can do this with an existing YouTube account or by using a Google account. If you have neither of these, it is quick and easy to create a new YouTube account
2. If you have filmed your video on a phone or tablet, you can upload your video using the YouTube app. To do so, simply press the video camera icon at the top of your screen within the YouTube app, and select the existing video from your camera roll
3. If you are uploading your video from a laptop or desktop computer, go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and click the upwards arrow in the top right corner of the screen
4. Follow the steps on screen to upload your video
5. Please label your video as follows:
  - your name
  - the date
  - RWCMD Junior Conservatoire Audition Video number (e.g., one of two, two of two)
6. On the screen labelled 'Visibility' and with privacy settings, tick the 'Unlisted' box; this ensures that only people you send the link to can see your video
7. Send an email containing the link to your unlisted video to [junior.conservatoire@rwcmd.ac.uk](mailto:junior.conservatoire@rwcmd.ac.uk).