

# County Sixth Form



## Applying for Music

Music applications fall into two main categories:

**1) Conservatoire applications** – Specialist performing arts schools which offer a range of courses. The focus of the courses is on practical performance, but all carry academic modules, dissertations and assessments

**2) University applications** – Many universities offer music-related undergraduate degree courses. The focus here tends to be more academic although there may be some performance-based assessments.

**Conservatoire applications through UCAS Conservatoire - deadline 2 October at 6pm.**

There are 8 conservatoires that you can apply to through the UCAS Conservatoire application system, each offering their own unique courses:

- Royal Birmingham Conservatoire
- Leeds College of Music
- Royal Academy of Music
- Royal College of Music
- Royal Northern College of Music
- Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
- Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama
- Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance

Guildhall School of Music and Drama is another world class conservatoire but takes applications directly, so you can't apply through UCAS (see [https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about\\_the\\_school/shared\\_left\\_nav/how\\_to\\_apply/](https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about_the_school/shared_left_nav/how_to_apply/))

Each institution is different and a visit to the ones you are interested in is strongly advised to see whether you would be the right fit. Think about your musical personality, who you wish to study with, your career ambitions, the range of ensembles on offer and when in the

course you can access what as well as the Alumni as well as the facilities on offer. Part of the application process is an audition(s) so you will need to ensure you have worked with both the Music Department and your individual instrumental / vocal teachers to plan and prepare your pieces, scales and aural in accordance with what the conservatoire is asking for. Some also require written and harmony exercises to be completed.

**Music degree applications through UCAS - deadline 15 January at 6pm.**

University Music applications happen through the normal UCAS system allowing you to choose up to five courses (these can be at one or more institutions). Look carefully at the course content of the courses you are interested in and be sure about the balance between academic music and performance to ensure the course will be the right fit for you.

Some good universities to consider for Music are: Durham University, University of Manchester, University of Bristol, University of Oxford, University of York, University of West London, University of Nottingham, University of Leeds, University of Birmingham, University of Cambridge, Royal Holloway, University of London, University of Southampton, University of Edinburgh, King’s College London, University of London, Cardiff University and Surrey University.

See <https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/league-tables/rankings/music> for full listings.

University ranking	University name	Overall score	Entry standards	Student satisfaction	Research quality	Research intensity	Graduate prospects
1	<a href="#">Durham University</a> VIEW COURSES →	100%	100%	83%	85%	99%	92%
▲ 1	<a href="#">University of Cambridge</a> VIEW COURSES →	100%	90%	n/a	77%	100%	86%
▼ 1	<a href="#">University of Manchester</a> VIEW COURSES →	99%	92%	n/a	81%	100%	80%
▲ 3	<a href="#">University of Oxford</a> VIEW COURSES →	98%	91%	n/a	86%	100%	74%
▼ 1	<a href="#">University of Southampton</a> VIEW COURSES →	96%	80%	84%	89%	94%	84%