

The background of the image features several bright blue spotlights shining down from above, creating a dramatic effect. Wisps of white smoke or fog are visible, particularly on the right side, adding to the atmospheric quality of the scene.

RSL

Awarding the **Contemporary Arts**

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Our Brand

Welcome to RSL, the world's leading Contemporary Music and Arts awarding body. At RSL we have a commitment to motivate and support students and teachers alike by creating engaging, contemporary qualifications. Over the years we have expanded our portfolio of qualifications starting in 1991 with **Graded Music Exams**. We now offer **Teaching and Performance Diplomas**, **Vocational Qualifications** (2005), **Performance Arts Awards** (contemporary dance) in 2010 and the worlds first graded **Music Production** syllabus in 2016. 2018 sees the launch of our new Guitar, Bass and drums syllabus which is packed full of new exciting material. We structure our syllabi and qualifications to reflect the changing demands of the creative industries, with the aim of validating the efforts of the contemporary artist. We pride ourselves on delivering the most academically rigorous and industry relevant qualifications designed to support all aspiring musicians, performers, educators and teaching establishments, all over the world.

Our Philosophy

In our increasingly global world, RSL's vision is to provide access for all students, to academically rigorous, relevant and rewarding qualifications which they can use to forward their academic studies or to provide benchmarks to demonstrate their level of proficiency to prospective employers. We want our material to be enjoyable to teach and play and provide students with the knowledge and skills they need to pursue their goals with confidence. RSL certificates candidates on every continent and our qualifications really do provide the benchmark for contemporary qualifications the world over.

We hope you enjoy using our material and taking our qualifications.

John Simpson
CEO

RSL is also a member and supporter of:



Our Qualifications



GRADED MUSIC EXAMS (Grades Premiere – 8)

GUITAR // BASS // DRUMS //
VOCALS // PIANO & KEYS //
UKULELE // MUSIC PRODUCTION //
POPULAR MUSIC THEORY

Each grade will take you through all the core skills needed to become an accomplished, confident and expressive musician.

DIPLOMAS (Levels 4 and 6)

TEACHING // PERFORMANCE

University-level qualifications in both teaching and performance, Rockscool Diplomas are self-study based, enabling you to easily integrate each qualification into your current schedule.



VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS (Levels 1-4)

MUSIC PRACTITIONERS //
CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS //
CREATIVE PRACTITIONERS

For performers, producers, composers, actors, dancers and entrepreneurs; RSL's Vocational Qualifications aim to educate and inspire your students with fully regulated, practical music industry and performing arts courses.

Developed in conjunction with a range of industry professionals, our vocational qualifications are tailored to the specialist requirements of the creative industries.



PERFORMANCE ARTS AWARDS (Entry Level - Level 4)

MUSICAL THEATRE //
JAZZ DANCE //
STREET DANCE

Performance Arts Awards are group graded examinations in musical theatre and dance.

Ranging from absolute beginner (Premiere) to advanced (Grade 8), each exam is specifically designed to measure, assess and reward progress throughout the year whilst encouraging innovation and creativity.

rockschool®

“ROCKSCHOOL IS ABOUT BRINGING TALENTED, ENTHUSIASTIC MUSICIANS INTO THE EDUCATION WORLD, SO THAT YOUNG PLAYERS CAN BENEFIT FROM THEIR EXPERTISE AND ADVICE.

FOUNDER, NORTON YORK

ROCKSCHOOL

IT'S WHAT **MUSICIANS** RECOMMEND TO FRIENDS, **TEACHERS** PREFER FOR THEIR STUDENTS, **EDUCATORS** SELECT FOR THEIR CLASSROOMS AND **PUPILS** LOVE TO LEARN.



From a small office in West London in 1991, Rocks School had a dream to change the landscape of formal music education. As players, students and music lovers - we were frustrated by the options we had with the pathways provided.

So, by working tirelessly to imagine, create, and deliver material that people truly connected with, Rocks School sought to become the first viable alternative to the traditional offerings available in Britain at the time.

To simultaneously fill the void and satisfy a demand that they knew was out there, founders Norton York and Dr. Simon Pitt initially developed a guitar, bass and drums syllabus for the contemporary musician. Rocks School began offering these exams in the summer of 1991, making it the world's first graded exam syllabus for popular music.

Rocks School has come a long way since those humble beginnings in 1991. As of 2018, we now offer Graded Music Exams in: **Drums**,

Bass, **Electric Guitar**, **Acoustic Guitar**, **Vocals**, **Piano**, **Ukulele** and **Music Production**.

Each syllabus is developed with the care, skill and expertise to ensure that every addition is creative, innovative and industry relevant.

Our resources are created to provide access to music education for all - regardless of age, gender, race or religion. Creating benchmarks, not boundaries.

ROCKSCHOOL QUALIFICATIONS SUPPORT MUSICAL PROGRESS

ROCKSCHOOL GRADED MUSIC EXAMS ARE AN EXCELLENT WAY TO GAIN A QUALIFICATION THROUGH PRACTICAL ENGAGEMENT WITH A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT AND TECHNOLOGY.

The structure of the graded music exams, the philosophy behind them and the syllabus material means they support other qualifications, whether delivered in your organisation or elsewhere:

- The Performance pieces, Technical Exercises, Ear Tests and General Musicianship sections are all designed to create a well-rounded musician.
- The improvisation sections at grades 1-5 are an excellent way to introduce composition to the individual and to small groups and whole classes.
- The overview page and general musicianship sections support conceptual understanding and provide a clear link to listening and appraising skills.

- The performance pieces can be used as standalone tracks for solo and ensemble performance at GCSE, A-Level and Vocational Qualifications.
- Each piece in our syllabus is available as an individual download and this includes the backing track, full audio and a full score meaning that they fulfil the coursework submission requirements of all the major exam boards.
- Each piece can be used as a differentiated resource for use in whole class teaching given you can learn aurally, through notation, tab and the chord charts.
- As each track has a specific grade, these can be mapped against the difficulty levels at Level 2 (GCSE) and 3 (A-Level).

- In Music Production, the practical, written and listening tasks provide opportunities to deliver benchmarked tasks for individuals, small groups and whole classes which support the curriculum. The exams support students preparing for performing and composing using music technology and those gaining experience of working behind the mic.
- The whole suite of graded music exams support countless vocational qualification units linked to the business of performing and working in the creative music industry.

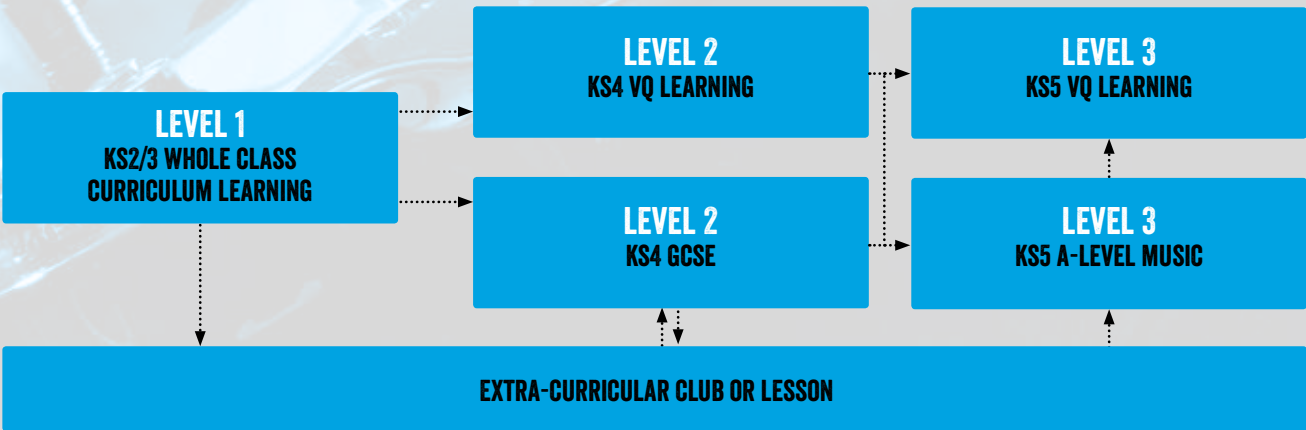
The diagram opposite shows how each aspect of the graded music exam works to support holistic musical learning.

Wherever and however you are learning, our qualifications support progress from one level to the next and can help bring together the learning that happens both inside and outside the classroom, formally and informally.

GRADED MUSIC EXAMS SUPPORTING MUSICAL PROGRESS

	PERFORMANCE PIECES (60%)	SIGHT READING, INTERPRETATION & IMPROVISATION / QUICK STUDY PIECE (15%)	EAR TESTS (15%)	TECHNICAL EXERCISES (15%)	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP (5%)
LEVEL 1 (KS2/3)	SOLO AND ENSEMBLE PERFORMING	COMPOSITION DEVELOPMENT	DEVELOPING LISTENING	INSTRUMENT SPECIFIC SKILLS AND MUSIC THEORY	MUSICAL CONCEPTS AND UNDERSTANDING
LEVEL 2 (GCSE/VQ)					
LEVEL 3 (A LEVEL/VQ)		LEVEL 3 (A LEVEL/VQ)		LEVEL 3 (A LEVEL/VQ)	

PROGRESSION ROUTES



ROCKSCHOOL ELECTRIC GUITAR

The Guitar syllabus whilst maintaining the key technical skills that industry demands, we've been able to include the most diverse selection of contemporary music ever seen in a syllabus making the Grades accessible to everyone, without precluding any musical tastes. Allowing students to connect with the music they love, as well as discovering completely new genres, through repertoire arranged and benchmarked for the correct level of skill and technique.



Whether students are taking their first steps on Guitar or moving into further/higher education a Rockschool Electric Guitar grade will not only improve their playing ability but expand their technical proficiency and give them a solid grasp of music theory – all whilst learning some of the most iconic tracks from the world of popular music.

THE MUSIC

Features tracks from classic and contemporary artists including Ed Sheeran, Jimi Hendrix, Green Day, AC/DC, Bruno Mars, Prince, Adele, Beyoncé and many more. At each grade you will need to purchase the corresponding grade book.

THE BOOK

- 6 arrangements of iconic contemporary artists & 6 Rockschool Originals (2012-2018 syllabus)
- Fact Files: band and artist background information with recommended listening
- Walkthroughs: in-depth guidance on every track
- Downloadable audio: easily access audio content online
- Technical exercises and examples of all tests



**BOOKS AVAILABLE
INSTORE & ONLINE**



www.rslawards.com

THE BENEFITS



Ability to Specialise

For every guitar grade you can plot your stylistic specialism, helping you to develop an in-depth understanding of the type of playing you most easily identify with, whether this is pop, rock, metal, blues, country, funk, jazz, Reggae, EDM, Rap, Hip-Hop and much more.

Exciting Repertoire

Hand-picked tunes from some of the world's biggest artists across a diverse range of genres, the Rockschool Guitar repertoire provide students with an expansive song choice to use in their exams and practice sessions.

UCAS Points

Rockschool Electric Guitar Grades carry huge rewards. For Grades 6, 7 and 8, you can enhance your university application, with up to 30 UCAS points awarded at Grade 8.

12 Exciting Choices

6 arrangements of iconic rock, pop, and contemporary music tracks from classic and contemporary artists & 6 Rockschool Originals (the original compositions included in the previous 2012 editions of the Grade books). The most diverse selection of contemporary music ever.

Rockschool Classics

Rockschool Classics Guitar and Drums Grades 1 – 5 contain eight of the biggest rock tracks from the past five decades. The tracks were previously included in the Hot Rock books which have now been rebranded Rockschool Classics. Students can choose any two tracks from Rockschool Classics Grades 1 – 5 to play as Free Choice Pieces in their Grade Exam or three to play in their Performance Certificate.

Unrivalled Industry Relevance

As with every Rockschool syllabus, Electric Guitar combines unrivalled industry relevance with academic credibility, giving students a wealth of technical, stylistic and theoretical knowledge that's second to none.

rockschool PLAYER PROFILE



MIKE GOODMAN

Alicia Keys, Bruno Mars, Sam Smith, Jessie J and many more.

Mike has been gigging internationally as both guitarist and MD and recording for over 20 years for many artists including Wiley, Living in a Box, The Fizz (formerly Bucks Fizz), Jake Gosling and many more.

DISCOVER MORE
www.rslawards.com

ROCKSCHOOL ACOUSTIC GUITAR

The groundbreaking Acoustic Guitar syllabus further continues the Rockscool long-standing commitment to world leading, industry relevant music education. Rockscool Acoustic is designed to offer both student and teacher: truly diverse range of contemporary repertoire, vast array of crucial supporting tests, technical and stylistic understanding that is second to none



For Acoustic Guitar we've hand-picked songs from some of the world's biggest artists across a diverse range of genres to provide students with an expansive song choice to use in their exam and for their own enjoyment. Delve into the worlds of Rock, Pop, Metal, Blues, Country, Jazz and Acoustic Specialists and a world-class selection of materials from the world's leading practitioners.



www.rslawards.com

THE MUSIC

At each grade you will need to purchase the corresponding grade book. Available in both physical and digital versions, each book contains six professionally produced pieces and all the materials you will need to prepare for your exam.



**BOOKS AVAILABLE
INSTORE & ONLINE**

THE BOOK

- 6 pieces with full TAB and standard notation
- Fact Files – track history and recommended listening
- Walkthroughs – hints, tips and advice
- Digital downloads of full mixes and backing tracks
- Professionally produced, world-class musicians to play along with
- Technical exercises and examples of all tests

THE BENEFITS



Ability to Specialise

For every guitar grade you can plot your stylistic specialism, helping you to develop an in-depth understanding of the type of playing you most easily identify with, whether this is pop, rock, metal, blues, country, funk, jazz or reggae.

Exciting Repertoire

Becoming a technically proficient acoustic guitarist is not without its difficulties, but with fact files and in-depth technical guidance for every piece, we'll help you nail the trickier sections of the tunes.

Duet Arrangements

The Acoustic Guitar syllabus incorporates duet arrangement at every grade, that allow each candidate to perform in a duet or ensemble setting, either with their teacher or fellow students.

Recognised Session Musicians

Our backing tracks feature some of the top session musicians in the industry who have recorded and performed with the likes of Queen, Jimi Hendrix, Michael Jackson, Rihanna and various other iconic artists.

Free Choice Pieces

In addition to the 6 pieces on offer in each of our grade books, you are also able to choose two Free Choice Pieces that can serve as performance pieces for your exam. The criteria for each grade can be found on our website.

Unrivalled Academic Grounding

Rockscool Acoustic Guitar was built with rigorous academic standards in mind. Every performance piece, supporting test and general musicianship question has been designed to give students an unrivalled level of academic understanding and grounding.

***The Acoustic syllabus features
duet arrangements at each grade***

rockschool PLAYER PROFILE



ANDY G JONES

**Van Morrison, Billy Cobham,
Cliff Richard,
James Dean Bradfield**

Andy G Jones is a regular Rockscool musician. Andy has played with the likes of Van Morrison, Queen (Brian May and Roger Taylor), The BBC Radio Big Band, James Dean Bradfield (the Manic Street Preachers) and more.

DISCOVER MORE
www.rslawards.com

ROCKSCHOOL BASS

As the glue that holds the band together, Rockschoo understand that no band can groove without a bass player who is fully in control of melody and rhythm. As you progress through your grades, you will expand your technical proficiency, develop a solid comprehension of music theory, and ultimately understand the bass's unique role in the world of popular music.



From single-string riffs through to advanced arpeggios, Rockschoo Bass Grades will allow your technique to evolve, enabling you to become the musical force behind any band. You'll be able to back it up with sound music theory, sight reading and improvisational skills, providing the foundation upon which the melody rests.

THE MUSIC

Arrangements have been written & performed by top session musicians. Dire Straits' bass player John Illsley is featured on Money for Nothing (Bass Grade 3), Peter Gabriel's guitarist David Rhodes performs on Sledgehammer (Bass Grade 6).

THE BOOK

- 6 arrangements of iconic contemporary artists & 6 Rockschoo Originals (2012-2018 syllabus)
- Fact Files: band and artist background information with recommended listening
- Walkthroughs: in-depth guidance on every track
- Downloadable audio: easily access audio content online



**BOOKS AVAILABLE
INSTORE & ONLINE**



www.rslawards.com

THE BENEFITS



Ability to Specialise

For every bass grade you can plot your stylistic specialism, helping you to develop an in-depth understanding of the type of playing you most easily identify with, whether this is pop, rock, metal, blues, country, funk, jazz, reggae, R&B, Hip-Hop and much more.

Exciting Repertoire

Hand-picked tunes from some of the world's biggest artists across a diverse range of genres, the Rockschoo Bass repertoire provide students with an expansive song choice to use in their exams and practice sessions.

Diverse range of Repertoire

The Rockschoo Bass syllabus has the most diverse selection of contemporary music ever seen in a syllabus making the Grades accessible to everyone without precluding any musical tastes.

Bespoke Performance Pieces

Our bespoke bass pieces have been performed and produced by industry specialists and recognised session players, such as Stuart Clayton, John Illsley (Dire Straits), Andy Robertson and more.

Free Choice Pieces

In addition to the 6 pieces on offer in each of our grade books, you are also able to choose two Free Choice Pieces that can serve as performance pieces for your exam. The criteria for each grade can be found on our website.

Downloadable Audio

Download all of your backing tracks, examples, performances and practice materials directly from our online store.

*** Rockschoo Bass is an internationally recognised, fully accredited UK qualification***

rockschool PLAYER PROFILE



STUART CLAYTON

**Head of Bass,
BIMM Institute (Bristol).**

Author of 6 books, including 'Bass Bible' and 'Ultimate Slap Bass'; Stuart Clayton displays his exceptional slap technique on his own Grade 7 piece 'Thumb King'.

DISCOVER MORE
www.rslawards.com

ROCKSCHOOL DRUMS

Drumming is more than just 'staying in time'. They are the driving force, the backbone and the foundation of the entire band dynamic. Drummers punctuate, embellish and lead changes in the rhythmic figures of each track. They accentuate a horn section, pick up on guitar riffs, mimic vocal lines and command the rhythm section. Drummers do all this and stay in time.



Rockschool Drums enable you to grow both technically and theoretically – all whilst studying some of the most iconic tracks from the world of popular music. Our goal is not just to provide drummers with an internationally recognised qualification, but to ensure successful candidates become dynamic, confident players who can comfortably raise their sticks in professional settings.



www.rslawards.com

THE MUSIC

Featuring a fantastic arrangement of some truly great songs & superbly detailed studies to play. Including a track from the legendary jazz drummer Billy Cobham playing on his own composition of Red Baron (Drums Grade 8).



**BOOKS AVAILABLE
INSTORE & ONLINE**

THE BOOK

- 6 arrangements of iconic contemporary artists & 6 Rockschool Originals (2012-2018 syllabus)
- Fact Files: band and artist background information with recommended listening
- Walkthroughs: in-depth guidance on every track
- Downloadable audio: easily access audio content online

THE BENEFITS



Ability to Specialise

For every drum grade you can plot your stylistic specialism, helping you to develop an in-depth understanding of the type of playing you most easily identify with, whether this is pop, rock, metal, blues, country, funk, jazz, reggae, EDM, Rap, Hip-Hop and much more.

Exciting Repertoire

Hand-picked tunes from some of the world's biggest artists across a diverse range of genres, the Rockschool drums repertoire provide students with an expansive song choice to use in their exams and practice sessions.

UCAS Points

Rockschool Electric Guitar Grades carry huge rewards. For Grades 6, 7 and 8, you can enhance your university application, with up to 30 UCAS points awarded at Grade 8.

Recognised Session Musicians

Our backing tracks feature some of the top session musicians in the industry who have recorded and performed with the likes of Queen, Jimi Hendrix, Michael Jackson, Rihanna and various other iconic artists.

Rockschool Classics

Rockschool Classics Guitar and Drums Grades 1 – 5 contain eight of the biggest rock tracks from the past five decades. The tracks were previously included in the Hot Rock books which have now been rebranded Rockschool Classics. Students can choose any two tracks from Rockschool Classics Grades 1 – 5 to play as Free Choice Pieces in their Grade Exam or three to play in their Performance Certificate.

12 Exciting Choices

6 arrangements of iconic rock, pop, and contemporary music tracks from classic and contemporary artists & 6 Rockschool Originals (the original compositions included in the previous 2012 editions of the Grade books). The most diverse selection of contemporary music ever.

rockschool PLAYER PROFILE



JASON BOWLD

Bullet For My Valentine, Pitchshifter & Axewound

Masterful, metal musician, Jason Bowld, raised his sticks for 'Slipstream' (Grade 2), 'Hammerblow' (Grade 4), 'Tiberius' (Grade 5), 'Mindsweeper' (Grade 6), 'Razorhead' (Grade 7), and 'Meet Darth Ear' (Grade 8).

DISCOVER MORE
www.rslawards.com

ROCKSCHOOL PIANO & KEYS

The Rockscool Piano & Keys syllabus is an essential resource for contemporary pianists and keyboard players. Created with the modern musician in mind, it equips all aspiring players with the knowledge needed to confidently perform within the dynamic world of popular music.



Rockscool Piano Grades are the assured route to improving your playing ability, expanding your knowledge and ensuring a truly solid foundation for your future development - both technically and theoretically. Develop as an accompanist, soloist, sight-reader and improviser, whilst practising and performing to professionally produced backing tracks.

THE MUSIC

At each grade you will need to purchase the corresponding grade book. Available in both physical and digital form, each book contains six professionally produced performance pieces and all the materials needed to prepare for the exam.

THE BOOK

- 3 hit tunes paired with 3 bespoke original compositions
- Fact Files – track history and recommended listening
- Songs from Rock & Pop, Jazz, Blues & Soul, Film & Musical Theatre
- Digital downloads of full mixes and backing tracks
- Professionally produced, world-class musicians to play along with
- Technical exercises and examples of all tests



**BOOKS AVAILABLE
INSTORE & ONLINE**



www.rslawards.com

THE BENEFITS



Ability to Specialise

For every Piano & Keys grade, students can plot their stylistic specialism, helping to develop an in-depth understanding of the type of music that appeals to them most, whether this is pop, rock, metal, blues, country, funk, latin, jazz, reggae or film & musical theatre.

Exciting Repertoire

The Rockscool Piano & Keys repertoire provides students with an expansive song choice, from a diverse range of genres, including tracks from Beyonce, Adele, Ray Charles, Coldplay and many more.

Understanding Harmony

In order to both create and accompany within contemporary styles, a fundamental knowledge of chord voicings is crucial. The Rockscool Piano & Keys syllabus will ensure development of a vast, working vocabulary of chord voicings in a logical, structured way.

UCAS Points

All Rockscool exams at Grades 6, 7 and 8 are awarded UCAS points, which are vital currency for all university applicants.

Free Choice Pieces

In addition to the 6 pieces on offer in each of our grade books, students are also able to choose two Free Choice Pieces that can serve as performance pieces for the exam. The criteria for each grade can be found on our website.

Downloadable Audio

Download all backing tracks, examples, performances and practice materials directly from our online shop.

*** Rockscool Piano & Keys is an internationally recognised, fully accredited UK qualification***

rockschool

PLAYER PROFILE



HANNAH V

Rihanna, Jessie J, Mousse T, Andraya Triana, JP Cooper

Hannah's influence runs through the entirety of the Piano syllabus. A vital consultant in the syllabus' Development Panel, Hannah's experience working with a variety of chart-topping artists enabled us to build a suite of qualifications that will improve modern pianists of all levels.

DISCOVER MORE
www.rslawards.com

ROCKSCHOOL MALE & FEMALE VOCALS

A Rockscool Vocal Grade will not only improve your singing ability, but expand your technical proficiency, grasp of music theory and appreciation of some of the most influential songs from the past five decades. As a student of music, you will improve your chances in auditions and competitions, whilst elevating your ability to write your own



Rockscool Vocals Grades combine technique and music theory to ensure each student possesses the ability to not only perform with confidence, but understand the music technically. Each student will earn an internationally recognised qualification, expanding their vocabulary as a vocalist by developing phrasing, range, ability to improvise and much more.

THE MUSIC

At each grade you will need to purchase the corresponding grade book. Available in both physical and digital form, each book contains six professionally produced performance pieces and all the materials needed to prepare for the exam.

THE BOOK

- 6 of the most influential tracks from the last SIX decades
- Fact Files – track history and recommended listening
- Easy-to-follow separate vocal scores
- Digital downloads of full mixes and backing tracks
- Professionally produced, world-class musicians to sing along with
- Examples of all tests and technical exercises



**BOOKS AVAILABLE
INSTORE & ONLINE**



www.rslawards.com

THE BENEFITS



Ability to Specialise

For every vocal grade students can plot their stylistic specialism, helping to develop an in-depth understanding of the type of music that appeals to them the most, whether this is pop, rock, metal, blues, country, funk, jazz or reggae.

Exciting Repertoire

The Rockscool Vocal repertoire provides students with an expansive song choice from a diverse range of genres, including tracks from Beyonce, Adele, Rihanna, Michael Jackson and many more.

Theoretical Grounding

Every Rockscool Vocals Grade has been designed to give students a comprehensive understanding of musical theory, enabling them to confidently articulate their musical ideas and concepts to other musicians.

UCAS Points

All Rockscool exams at Grades 6, 7 and 8 are awarded UCAS points, which are vital currency for all university applicants.

Free Choice Pieces

In addition to the 6 pieces on offer in each of our Grade Books, students are also able to choose two Free Choice Pieces that can serve as performance pieces for the exam. The criteria for each grade can be found on our website.

Downloadable Audio

Download all backing tracks, examples, performances and practice materials directly from our online shop.

Our Vocal Companion Guide features over 200 unseen test examples to aid further study

rockschool PLAYER PROFILE



HOLLY PETRIE

**Jess Glynne, Cee Lo Green,
Beverly Knight, Billy Ocean.**

Primary vocalist on our Vocals Companion Guide, Holly's experience working with a myriad of extremely accomplished performers was invaluable when it came to developing the most robust, exciting material for contemporary singers.

DISCOVER MORE
www.rslawards.com

ROCKSCHOOL UKULELE

The Rockscool Ukulele syllabus is an ideal introduction to developing stringed instrument technique in a contemporary music setting, whilst introducing students to Rockscool's world renowned range of relevant supporting tests.



The Ukulele is the ideal instrument to learn in a group setting, enabling students to both learn and succeed as a unit, which is why our Ukulele syllabus incorporates duet arrangements at every grade.

The Ukulele syllabus is guaranteed to equip students with the ideal foundation from which to develop the practical skill and theoretical knowledge to perform at the highest possible level, across a range of contemporary styles.



www.rslawards.com

THE MUSIC

At each grade you will need to purchase the corresponding grade book. Available in both physical and digital form, each book contains six professionally produced pieces and all the materials needed to prepare for the exam.



**BOOKS AVAILABLE
INSTORE & ONLINE**

THE BOOK

- 6 pieces with full TAB and standard notation
- Fact Files – track history and recommended listening
- Walkthroughs – hints, tips and advice
- Digital downloads of full mixes and backing tracks
- Professionally produced, world class musicians to play along with
- Examples of all tests and technical exercises

THE BENEFITS

Intro to Composition

The huge array of ever-evolving styles in contemporary music can often seem as daunting as it is appealing. The Ukulele syllabus is a perfect introduction to popular song-writing and composition in a variety of styles and genres.

Exciting Repertoire

Featuring tracks from artists such as Taylor Swift, Adele, Pharrell Williams, Bob Dylan, U2, David Bowie, Bill Withers, The Who, Pearl Jam, Radiohead, Coldplay, The Killers, Biffy Clyro, Bruno Mars, Jess Glynne, Jason Mraz, George Ezra and James Bay.

Duet Arrangements

The Ukulele syllabus incorporates duet arrangements at every grade, that allow each candidate to perform in a duet or ensemble setting, either with their teacher or fellow students.

Globally Recognised Stars

The professionally produced audio accompanying each grade features performances from renowned session musicians and a guest appearance at Grade 3 from global rock star, Ryan Fletcher from the UK band Lawson.

Free Choice Pieces

In addition to the 6 pieces on offer in each of our Grade Books, students are also able to choose two Free Choice Pieces that can serve as performance pieces for the exam. The criteria for each grade can be found on our website.

Downloadable Audio

Download all backing tracks, examples, performances and practice materials directly from our online shop.

The option for ensemble playing means you can perform with a teacher, friend, or playing partner for your exams as well as practice sessions

rockschool PLAYER PROFILE



RYAN FLETCHER

Bass/Backing Vocal, Lawson (band).

Lawson have achieved seven UK top 20 hit singles. Ryan performed on Grade 3 tracks "Cochise" (Audioslave) and "Alive" (Pearl Jam). You can hear Ryan lay down bass tracks throughout our ukulele audio.

DISCOVER MORE
www.rslawards.com

MUSIC PRODUCTION

Rockschool Music Production expands on our 25+ year history of innovation throughout music education, providing aspiring producers and engineers with the world's first accredited music production graded syllabus.



On completion of a Music Production grade, every candidate will own a wealth of technical, practical and theoretical knowledge that can be applied to real-world scenarios; whether it be audio production, electronic music production, mixing, editing, mastering or sound for media.

Unlike other Rockscool Graded Music Exams, Music Production is taken online at an approved RSL Music Production centre.



www.rslawards.com

THE BOOK

At each grade you will need to purchase the corresponding grade book. Available in both physical and digital form, each book features a diverse range of production techniques and highly relevant technical DAW skills, giving aspiring engineers and producers everything they need to progress and succeed in the industry.



**BOOKS AVAILABLE
INSTORE & ONLINE**

- Practical assessments including technical skills and professional scenarios
- Theoretical understanding from music production terminology to sound and audio fundamentals
- Listening skills in sonic fidelity, music theory & harmony/stylistic awareness
- Sample exam paper
- Professionally produced audio
- Glossary

THE BENEFITS



Unrivalled Academic Grounding

Rockscool Music Production was built with academic grounding and industry relevance in mind. Every practical, theoretical and aural test has been written and developed by industry professionals to give students an unrivalled level of academic assurance.

Unparalleled Industry Relevance

From a diverse range of production techniques, to highly relevant technical DAW skills, the Rockscool Music Production syllabus gives aspiring engineers and producers everything they need to progress and succeed in the industry.

Enhance Your Skills

Designed to meet the needs of all aspiring recording engineers, electronic music producers, mix & mastering engineers; this syllabus caters for anyone interested in understanding the complete range of skills essential to modern music production.

Choose Your Area of Specialism

From Grades 6 to 8, students can tailor their learning to their strengths, choosing their area of specialism from Audio Production, Electronic Music Production and Sound for Media.

DAW Agnostic

We recognise that Graded Music Exams should be accessible and relevant to a range of backgrounds and abilities. With Rockscool Music Production, candidates can take their exam using **Pro Tools, Logic, Ableton Live, Cubase or GarageBand**.

Study in Your Own Time

Rockscool Music Production has been designed so students can study in their own time, giving them ample time to develop a wealth of skills and techniques that are highly relevant to today's industry.

PRODUCER PROFILE



CHAD JACKSON

Music Director / Producer / DJ

Syllabus Advisor, Chad Jackson is a DMC World Champion DJ, record producer and music industry educator. Chad has a string of hit records and remixes under his belt and is best known for his hit single "Hear the Drummer (Get Wicked)".

DISCOVER MORE
www.rslawards.com

ROCKSCHOOL POPULAR MUSIC THEORY

Rockschool Popular Music Theory is the essential guide for contemporary musicians, composers and producers.



THE BOOK

Although performance is a huge part of being a musician, we believe it is a firm grasp of musical language that opens up the door to achieving your full potential.

Our goal is to aid the development of articulate, accomplished musicians, and the Popular Music Theory resources have been specifically designed with this in mind.

Whatever your level of technical ability or stylistic preference, our Popular Music Theory Guidebooks will provide you with all of the information necessary to progress seamlessly through the Rockschool's graded theory exams.

As students progress through each grade, they will establish a command of notation, composition, harmony, band knowledge and musical analysis, with a specific focus on:

- Popular music composition
- Arrangement and performance techniques
- How to read and analyse musical scores
- Specialist notation and techniques for all Rockschool instruments
- Harmony theory and key chord progressions



**BOOKS AVAILABLE
INSTORE & ONLINE**



www.rslawards.com

THE BENEFITS



Upon completion of the syllabus (Grades Debut to 8), each student will be able to:

- Read chord charts and notation
- Analyse scores
- Compose stylistically appropriate parts for multiple instruments
- Understand complex rhythm notation and time signatures
- Musically direct musicians, bands and ensembles
- Draw-upon a vast knowledge of instruments and equipment used in contemporary music

THE EXAM

Music Notation (20%)

All questions in this section relate to music notation

Popular Music Harmony (25%)

All questions in this section relate to music harmony

Band Knowledge (25%)

This section is in two parts, each covering a range of instruments:

- Part 1: Identification
- Part 2: Notation and Techniques

Band Analysis (30%)

In this section the questions will include the identification of music notation, harmony and the stylistic characteristics of guitar, bass, drums, keys, vocals, brass and strings, in a multi-instrumental context.

Study in conjunction with any grade exam to communicate with professional players faster

rockschool PLAYER PROFILE



CHARLIE GRIFFITHS

Guitarist, Columnist & Educator

A regular contributor to Total Guitar, Guitar Techniques and Guitar World for over ten years, Charlie has gathered a vast amount of session experience alongside his continued commitment to prog-metal giants, Haken.

DISCOVER MORE
www.rslawards.com

ROCKSCHOOL DIPLOMAS

A natural progression from the RSL grade system, both **Teaching** and **Performance Diplomas** are available for accomplished musicians and performance artists looking to develop industry related skills, further your academic knowledge and advance your career.

DIPLOMAS FOR TEACHING & PERFORMANCE

RSL Professional Teaching and Performance Diplomas are university-level qualifications that are self-study based, enabling you to integrate the qualification into your regular schedule. You are likely to have a portfolio career which requires a flexible approach to professional development so, once you have registered with us, you have up to two years to complete and submit the necessary tasks.

RSL offers four qualifications in teaching and performance at a professional level. Created for the established musician or performance artist, these qualifications target relevant key areas of their career and require both industry-related skills and advanced academic knowledge. The Diplomas are available at Level 4 and Level 6, which both ensure degree standard recognition.

**THE ROCKSCHOOL GRADES HAVE
BEEN THE FRAMEWORK THAT
SHAPED MY DEVELOPMENT, AND
THE PERFORMANCE DIPLOMA
TOOK IT TO A NEW LEVEL**

Richard Rayner - DipRSL (Perf) Level 4 candidate

**ACHIEVING THE ROCKSCHOOL
MUSIC PERFORMANCE
LICENTIATE DIPLOMA HAS
ELEVATED ME WITHIN MY INDUSTRY
AND OPENED NEW DOORS**

Georg Voros - LRSL (Perf) Level 6 candidate

TEACHING DIPLOMA

Designed to lead directly into or to consolidate and advance an existing career in peripatetic music teaching, RSL's Professional Teaching Diploma is entirely focused on the practical application of a variety of teaching methods.

Overview

- Professional qualification
- Prepare in your free time, at your own pace
- DipRSL or LRSL added to your title
- Bolster your PGCE application
- LRSL ensures 180 credits towards Open University degrees
- Full portfolio of lesson plans created for Unit 1 - ideal for taking to job interviews

The Professional Teaching Diploma includes a range of topics including:

- Lesson plans
- Teaching videos
- Performance analysis
- Small business practice
- Special Education needs
- Health & safety
- Safeguarding

For more information, please visit:
www.rslawards.com/music/diplomas/teaching-diploma

PERFORMANCE DIPLOMA

Designed to help you with the transition into or to consolidate and advance an existing performance career, RSL's Professional Performance Diploma allows you to produce a performance programme that best promotes your brand (you!) and further develop skills relevant to our exciting yet unpredictable music/performance industry.

Overview

- Be creative and design your own unique performance programme
- Only one external exam (scheduled at your local exam centre)
- Develop key industry skills
- Develop a business plan
- Bolster your university application (ideal for entry into higher education)

The Professional Performance Diploma includes a range of topics including:

- Elite performance technique
- Marketing and promotion
- Developing a brand
- Insurance and policy
- Contracts

For more information, please visit:
www.rslawards.com/music/diplomas/performance-diploma

THE EXAM

**RSL GRADES ARE REGULATED BY ALL UK
REGULATORY BODIES, WITH UCAS POINTS
AWARDED AT GRADE 6, 7 & 8.**

At every grade we give you the option of sitting a Grade Exam (3 performance pieces plus supporting tests) or a Performance Certificate (5 performance pieces only): The Rockschoool exam should take between 10-40 minutes (depending on grade) and is split into 5 key sections.

**I HAD MY SECOND ROCKSCHOOL
EXAM YESTERDAY AND THE EXAMINER
WAS REALLY HELPFUL AND TRIED TO
MAKE ME FEEL AT EASE UNDER THE
CONDITIONS...**

MARCO BERTI - ROCKSCHOOL STUDENT

**THANKS TO ROCKSCHOOL, I HAVE
ACHIEVED SOMETHING I NEVER
THOUGHT POSSIBLE IN BEING ACCEPTED
TO ATTEND BRIT SCHOOL. I STILL
PLAN TO CONTINUE MY ROCKSCHOOL
EDUCATION AND TAKE MORE GRADE
EXAMS AS I GROW AS A MUSICIAN."**

MELISSA OPREA - ROCKSCHOOL STUDENT



www.rslawards.com

THE EXAM SECTIONS



PERFORMANCE PIECES

3 for a Grade exam and 5 for a Performance Certificate. You will be asked to play your chosen performance pieces along to a backing track.



TECHNICAL EXERCISES

ELECTRIC GUITAR / ACOUSTIC GUITAR / BASS GUITAR / UKULELE

Chords, scales, modes, arpeggios and stylistic studies. Finger picking, hybrid picking and percussive techniques are also included for Acoustic Grades.

DRUMS

Isolated exercises (single and double strokes, paradiddles, flams, ruffs, rolls etc) and stylistic studies.

VOCALS

Scales, arpeggios, intervals, melodic/rhythmic studies, backing vocals and stylistic studies.

PIANO / KEYS

Scales, arpeggios and chords.

The selections will be dependent on the grade undertaken

**FIND A TEACHER NEAR YOU
CHECK OUT OUR TEACHER
PROFILES ONLINE**



SIGHT READING OR IMPROVISATION (GRADES 1-5 ONLY)

You can choose to either sight read a short melodic phrase, or play an improvised melody along to a short chord progression. Both are previously unseen and examples of each are given in the corresponding grade book.



QUICK STUDY PIECE (GRADE 6-8 ONLY)

All level 3 candidates (Grades 6, 7 & 8) will need to prepare and perform a short Quick Study Piece (QSP) to a backing track. The QSP is in the form of a lead sheet and includes both sight-reading and improvisation requirements.

Candidates are able to choose from three genre group options and will be given 3 minutes to prepare.



EAR TESTS

ELECTRIC GUITAR / ACOUSTIC GUITAR / BASS GUITAR / UKULELE

Melodic, rhythmic and harmonic recall.

DRUMS

Groove recall, fill playback and recognition.

VOCALS

Rhythmic/melodic recall, melodic and harmonic development.

PIANO/KEYS

Rhythmic recall, melodic harmony and harmony recall and tonality tests.



GENERAL MUSICIANSHIP QUESTIONS

You will be asked 5 questions to test your general music and instrument knowledge.

ROCKSCHOOL'S LEVELS AND GRADES

Rockschools graded music exams and books span the following Levels and Grades:

ENTRY LEVEL 3 – DEBUT

For candidates who have been learning a short time and have learnt the basic skills.

LEVEL 1 – BEGINNER (GRADES 1, 2 AND 3)

Grade 1 – For students who have been learning between six months to one year and have mastered the key basic skills.

Grade 2 – For students who have been learning approximately one year to eighteen months and have established the key basic skills along with solid basic techniques.

Grade 3 – For students who have been learning approximately eighteen months to two years and have established the basic skills, preliminary techniques and the beginnings of stylistic awareness through articulation and the introduction of solo and improvisation work.

LEVEL 2 – INTERMEDIATE (GRADES 4 & 5)

Grade 4 – For students who have been learning approximately two to two and a half years and have mastered the basic skills, preliminary techniques and have acquired the beginnings of stylistic awareness. Grade 4 develops further stylistic conviction and understanding through developed solo and improvisation work.

Grade 5 – For students who have acquired the intermediate skills and techniques and have developed an increasing sense of stylistic conviction. This is demonstrated through instrumental techniques, increasing rhythmic complexity and convincing solo and improvisation work.

LEVEL 3 – INTERMEDIATE TO ADVANCED (GRADES 6, 7 & 8)

Grade 6 – For students who have begun to develop advanced technical control & a competent grasp of stylistic techniques. Shown through mature stylistic conviction, execution of rhythmic complexity, creative and stylistic solo and improvisation work as well as a secure sense of communication and performance.

Grade 7 – For students who have a developed and advanced technical control and a thorough grasp of extended stylistic techniques. Shown through mature stylistic conviction, execution of rhythmic complexity, mature and creative stylistic solo & improvisation work as well as a commanding sense of communication and performance.

Grade 8 – For students who have mastered advanced technical control and have a thorough grasp of extended stylistic techniques. Shown through mature stylistic conviction, consummate execution of rhythmic complexity, mature and creative stylistic solo & improvisation work as well as a commanding sense of communication and performance.



EXAM STRUCTURE

The Rockschooll website www.rslawards.com includes detailed information on all aspects of our examinations including examination regulations, detailed marking schemes, and assessment criteria as well as notated and audio examples to help you prepare for the examination. The exam structure remains exactly the same as the previous editions of the syllabuses.



GRADE EXAMINATIONS

Available at every Grade, from Debut to Grade 8, and consist of the following elements:

- 3 Performance Pieces: Debut – Grade 8
- Technical Exercises: Debut – Grade 8
- Sight Reading: Debut – Grade 5 or Improvisation & Interpretation Grade 1 – 5
- Quick Study Piece: Grade 6 – 8
- Ear Tests: Debut – Grade 8
- General Musicianship Questions: Debut – Grade 8



PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATES

Available at every Grade, Debut – Grade 8, and consist of:

- 5 Performance Pieces: Debut – Grade 8



ACADEMICALLY RIGOROUS

Like all Rockschooll syllabuses Rockschooll's Graded Music Exams have been designed with industry relevance, student engagement, and academic rigour as priorities. Every practical, theoretical and aural test has been written and developed by a panel of industry professionals and highly credited educators in order to give students an unrivalled level of academic grounding and understanding.



INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED

Music is a global language and a Rockschooll Graded Music Exam is no exception. On completion of a Rockschooll Graded Music Exam every candidate will have earned a globally recognised qualification that's designed to improve opportunities to either higher education or the industry itself.



THE VALUE OF ROCKSCHOOL QUALIFICATIONS

Rockschooll awards qualifications that are listed on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) in England and Northern Ireland by the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual). Rockschooll is committed to maintaining and improving its reputation for excellence by providing high quality education and training through its syllabi, examinations, music and resources.



UCAS POINTS

For students applying for work or University many potential employers see graded music exams in a very positive light. Recognised qualifications demonstrate an ability to dedicate commitment to extra-curricular activities providing evidence of versatility which many students find beneficial with UCAS (Universities & Colleges Admissions Service) applications. For Grades 6, 7 and 8 you can augment your university application with up to 30 UCAS points awarded at Grade 8.



FREE CHOICE PIECES

In addition to the pieces included in each of our Grade books students are able to choose two Free Choice Pieces to play in their Grade exam or three Free Choice Pieces to play in their Performance Certificate. The criteria for Free Choice Pieces can be found on our website.

TAKE YOUR EXAM

ROCKSCHOOL EXAMS

Entering for a Rockscool grade exam is a quick, stress-free process due to our simple online application system. Simply visit our website to enter yourself or a candidate.

www.rslawards.com/enter-online

At this stage, each applicant will be able to confirm:

- Who they're entering for
- The preferred exam centre
- Any dates the candidate cannot attend (within the given exam period)
- Any additional information you might want us to be aware of

Once you've completed your online entry, we will automatically send you an e-receipt confirming all the pertinent information relating to the exam(s). Each applicant will then receive their finalised exam details approximately four weeks prior to the exam.

EXAM SESSIONS

Exam Duration	Closing Date	Exam Period
1st February to 31st March	1st December	A
1st May to 31st July	1st April	B
23rd October to 15th December	1st October	C

Please note: Dates are subject to change at any time, please visit our website for further information.

MUSIC PRODUCTION / POPULAR MUSIC THEORY

- Designated specialised exam centres
- Saturdays only in the UK.
- Dates for each sitting are announced via e-mail
- Exam dates are also presented on our website

All upcoming dates and deadlines can be found at: rslawards.com/music/dates-and-fees

DIPLOMA EXAMS

Rockscool offer two diplomas in Teaching and Performance. Both disciplines are available at Level 4 and Level 6. All entry forms need to be downloaded online and e-mailed to: diplomas@rslawards.com

EXAM FEES

The fee for each examination/qualification can be found on our website. If you would like to find out the price of your exam, please visit:

GRADED MUSIC EXAMS / MUSIC PRODUCTION / POPULAR MUSIC THEORY
rslawards.com/dates-and-fees

DIPLOMAS
rslawards.com/music/diplomas/dates-and-fees



VQ VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

With flexibility of choice and multi-discipline learning at their core, RSL VQs are the most relevant, accessible and practical qualifications on the market.

RSL is a specialist in developing Music and Performing Arts qualifications. Vocational Qualifications have been specifically designed to meet the demands of today's creative industries. Our specifications allow delivery centres to build qualifications which meet the aspirations of each individual student.

The UK's Music Industry contributes £4.1bn to GDP employing almost 120,000 people in the process. It is an industry with a dynamic workforce possessing diverse skills and knowledge. Many people often work in portfolio careers or in small/medium sized companies that require their staff to undertake multiple roles at the same time.

WE FIND RSL TO BE AHEAD OF THE MAINSTREAM MUSIC EDUCATION.

THEY HAVE CREATIVE MINDS WITH A CAN-DO ATTITUDE, WHICH HELPS OUR LEARNERS RISE TO THE CHALLENGE OF TODAY'S MUSIC INDUSTRY.

“ KEVYN GAMMOND – MAS RECORDS
KIDDERMINSTER COLLEGE ”



SOME OF THE CENTRES WE WORK WITH

We have over 400 delivery centres including some of these leading providers:



MUSIC PRACTITIONERS

The UK Music Industry contributes over £4.4 billion pounds to the UK economy and employs 142,000 people. RSL's Music Practitioners Qualifications are designed to reflect the industry as a whole allowing learners to acquire skills in areas as diverse as songwriting and artist management or live sound engineering and practical harmony.

Offered in over 400 schools and colleges globally, RSLs Music Practitioners qualifications offer flexibility of unit choice, up-to-date practical assessment and are written with the input of industry professionals.

QUALIFICATIONS AT A GLANCE

- Levels – 1-3
- UCAS Points – Up to 168
- Units – 140+
- Accreditation – Ofqual, Qualifications Wales, CCEA
- Subjects – Composition, Performing, Music Technology, Music Business, Live Music Production
- Funding – ESFA funded

VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS ARE FOR:



SCHOOLS
Level 1-3



COLLEGES
Level 1-4



TRAINING PROVIDERS
Level 1-4

SUPPORT

Each registered delivery centre receives an allocated moderator who can support them throughout the year. They receive a moderator visit as standard, and will have access to RSLs online support site.

PROGRESSION

- Progress to higher education
- 168 UCAS points (equivalent to three A* grades at A' level)
- Leads to real jobs in the music industry

THE BENEFITS

CHOICE

140+ units across three levels encompassing a huge range of music industry specific skills.

FLEXIBILITY

Pair units in performance with business and music technology, all optional units are available to all learners.

INDUSTRY RELEVANT

Updated to mirror industry trends and developments.

PRACTICAL

No written exam. All assessment is built around skills and knowledge applicable to music industry roles.

CREATIVE

Units in songwriting, composition, remixing and many more which reward creative output.

CURRENT

Download all backing tracks, examples, performances and Musicians in all genres can undertake these qualifications, meaning grime, hip hop and electronic producers can gain the same qualification as learners working in more traditional genres.

FUNDING

A wide range of Music Practitioners Qualifications are funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency for delivery in secondary education, further education and in some cases for adult learners.

DELIVERY MODELS

Music Practitioners Qualifications lend themselves to innovative delivery models and assessment methods. RSL encourages industry relevance in assessment and the flexibility of choice within the units allows delivery centres to devise delivery models appropriate to their cohort.

All of RSLs units contain 'suggested' assessment methods and 'recommended' evidence meaning centres wishing to demonstrate achievement of assessment criteria have the latitude to choose the most appropriate assessment for their centre.

ALUMNI

Wolf Alice – Joff
Rita Ora
Lets Eat Grandma
Swim Deep
The Night Café
Marsicans
Takeover Entertainment

DISCOVER MORE
www.rslawards.com

CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

The Performing Arts industry in the UK is a huge employer and high-profile cultural asset. RSLs Creative and Performing Arts qualifications comprehensively cover all the key aspects of the industry across a huge range of units.

Learners can develop skills and knowledge in anything from Elizabethan Theatre to Hair and Wig Styling and can engage in diverse subjects such as Dance Fitness and Script Writing. The qualifications are practically focused and industry facing meaning the learning and assessment involved is all relevant to current sector practice.

QUALIFICATIONS AT A GLANCE

- Levels – 1-3
- UCAS Points – Up to 168
- Units – 200+
- Accreditation – Ofqual, Qualifications Wales, CCEA
- Subjects – Acting, Dance, Musical Theatre, Business, Technical Theatre
- Funding – ESFA funded

VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS ARE FOR:



SCHOOLS
Level 1-3



COLLEGES
Level 1-4



TRAINING PROVIDERS
Level 1-4

SUPPORT

Each registered delivery centre receives an allocated moderator who can support them throughout the year. They receive a moderator visit as standard, and will have access to RSLs online support site.

PROGRESSION

- Progress to higher education
- 168 UCAS points (equivalent to three A* grades at A' level)
- Leads to real jobs in the music industry

THE BENEFITS

CHOICE

200+ units across three levels encompassing a huge range of performing arts specific skills.

FLEXIBILITY

Offer units in acting, dance and business or focus on musical theatre, with hundreds of units to choose from you can tailor your course to your cohort.

INDUSTRY RELEVANT

Written by renowned industry experts and kept up to date in line with current trends.

PRACTICAL

No written exam. All assessment is built around skills and knowledge applicable to music industry roles.

CREATIVE

Units in Choreography, Script Writing, Costume Design and many more which reward creative output.

CURRENT

Actors, Musical Theatre performers and Dancers of all styles can undertake these qualifications, meaning street dance and hip hop dancers can gain the same qualification as classical actors and sopranos

FUNDING

A wide range of Creative and Performing Arts qualifications are funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency for delivery in secondary education, further education and in some cases for adult learners.

DELIVERY MODELS

Music Practitioners Qualifications lend themselves to innovative delivery models and assessment methods. RSL encourages industry relevance in assessment and the flexibility of choice within the units allows delivery centres to devise delivery models appropriate to their cohort.

All of RSLs units contain 'suggested' assessment methods and 'recommended' evidence meaning centres wishing to demonstrate achievement of assessment criteria have the latitude to choose the most appropriate assessment for their centre.

DISCOVER MORE
www.rslawards.com

CREATIVE PRACTITIONERS

The Level 4 Creative Practitioners qualification is designed for Practitioners and entrepreneurs across the creative industries. None of the units are genre or skill specific. This means musicians, actors, dancers and musical theatre performers can all be registered on this qualification.

Further to this, artist managers, producers, agents, aspiring label owners, or PRs can also use these qualifications. The Level 4 Extended Diploma is equivalent to the first year of a degree and offers a CPD framework allowing individuals to analyse their 'offer' in addition to the market they wish to enter; working on their skills whilst marketing and presenting themselves to the industry.

QUALIFICATIONS AT A GLANCE

- Levels – 1-3
- Units – 200+
- Subjects – Acting, Dance, Musical Theatre, Business, Technical Theatre
- UCAS Points – Up to 168
- Accreditation – Ofqual, Qualifications Wales, CCEA
- Funding – ESFA funded

VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS ARE FOR:



SCHOOLS
Level 1-3



COLLEGES
Level 1-4



TRAINING PROVIDERS
Level 1-4

SUPPORT

Each registered delivery centre receives an allocated moderator who can support them throughout the year. They receive a moderator visit as standard, and will have access to RSLs online support site.

PROGRESSION

- Progress to higher education
- 168 UCAS points (equivalent to three A* grades at A' level)
- Leads to real jobs in the music industry

THE BENEFITS

INDUSTRY RELEVANT

Qualifications which allow learners with a skill or aspiration to receive mentoring and support to refine their professional offer to their chosen sector.

PRACTICAL

Portfolio focused assessment models allowing learners to develop genuine industry ready products and promotional tools.

FLEXIBLE

Deliver to a cohort of musicians, producers, managers and promoters or a group of dancers and choreographers. The qualification is not skill or discipline specific.

FUNDING

Creative Practitioners Qualifications are funded by the ESFA for 16-18 year old learners and are on the adult learner loan catalogue for learners aged 19+.

DELIVERY MODELS

The Level 4 Creative Practitioners qualifications are not genre or discipline specific which means that they can be used in a variety of specialist delivery models. Each centre can tailor a delivery model to their specific expertise in order that learners receive the kind of specialised, industry specific mentoring they need to flourish in their chosen profession.

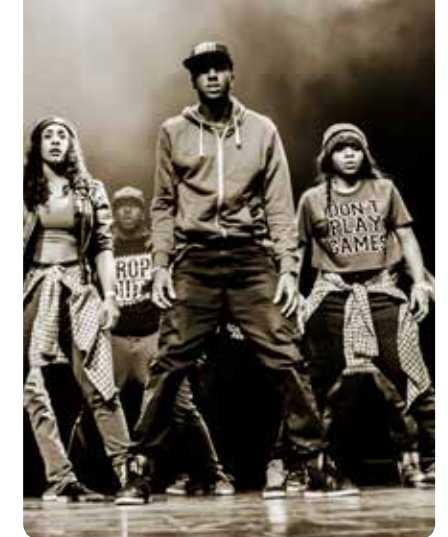
At Notting Hill Academy of Music learners can register for Music Business Entrepreneur, A&R or Songwriting programmes which are delivered by lecturers with successful careers in the industry.

At Urban Development artists are offered the chance to develop through the UK's only dedicated Urban Artist School. They receive mentoring from experienced industry figures and high profile guest lecturers.

DISCOVER MORE
www.rslawards.com

paa

Performance Arts Awards



Unique performance examinations in Dance and Musical Theatre

Performance Arts Awards (PAA) are group graded examinations in musical theatre and dance ranging from absolute beginner (Premiere) to advanced (Grade 8). Developed by industry specialists, PAA exams are specifically designed to measure, assess and reward progress whilst encouraging innovation and creativity.

The PAA Syllabuses are perfect for setting students up for success! A truly creative and inclusive structure for any performing arts teachers and their students.

Hannah Pearce - Performing Arts Teacher

Entering For An Exam

Entering for a PAA exam couldn't be easier: download the syllabus guide from rslawards.com and contact paa@rslawards.com

Our Examiners Come To You

All we need is a space for the performance, technical exercise and discussion. To contact us to arrange for your group exam email paa@rslawards.com

JAZZ DANCE

Unique examinations designed to give teachers the creative freedom to build a bespoke curriculum around their own teaching styles and existing programmes.

Jazz Dance examinations offer group performance whilst assessing each candidate individually.

They are accessible for all ages and abilities and provide teachers with the creativity and flexibility to enable every child to succeed.

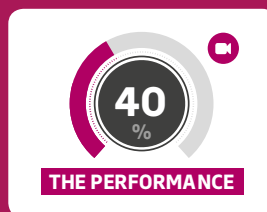


Street Dance examinations contain two core elements:



Technical Exercises

Candidates will prepare a series of technical exercises that display a range of skills within the genre. Exercises encourage the development of a strong technique, whilst embedding performance skills and style.



The Performance

The Performance is the final element to the examination and can include any style or variation of the dance discipline. Teachers have creative control over the content of the group performance creating a truly unique and tailored experience for their students.

The Benefits

Choose your own Repertoire

There are no set music tracks. Teachers are able to choose tracks that best suits their students and that they know they will enjoy. The Performance can include any style or variation of Jazz Dance.

Opportunity to be Creative

From Grade 4 -8, you can improvise as part of your examination.

Video Demonstration

Video demonstration of all the Technical Skills are available on our website.

Audio Download

Music is provided for the Technical Skills section of the examination.

No Membership Fees

With no membership fees and free supporting materials PAA provides the full package to help guide, inspire and motivate your students.

Regulated by Ofqual and Internationally Recognised

Fully regulated by Ofqual, qualifications Wales and CCEA.

“Never has there been a Jazz syllabus that gives dance teachers such freedom, autonomy and flexibility to build their own bespoke curriculum around their students.”

FABIO SANTOS - Performer

'The Illusionist', 'High School Musical', Dolce & Gabbana's 2015 summer collection launch



STREET DANCE

Unique examinations designed to give teachers the creative freedom to build a bespoke curriculum around their own teaching styles and existing programmes.

Street Dance examinations offer group performance whilst assessing each candidate individually.

They are accessible for all ages and abilities and provide teachers with the creativity and flexibility to enable every child to succeed.

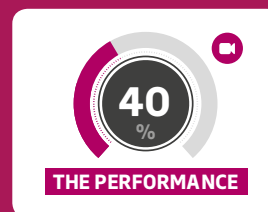


Street Dance examinations contain two core elements:



Technical Exercises

Candidates will prepare a series of technical exercises that display a range of skills within the genre. Exercises encourage the development of a strong technique, whilst embedding performance skills and style.



The Performance

The Performance is the final element to the examination and can include any style or variation of the dance discipline. Teachers have creative control over the content of the group performance creating a truly unique and tailored experience for their students.

The Benefits

Ability to Specialise

At every grade there is the opportunity to specialise in a style/s of Street Dance; choose from Locking, Popping, House and Breaking.

Choose your own Repertoire

There are no set music tracks. Teachers are able to choose tracks that best suits their students and that they know they will enjoy. The Performance can include any style or variation of Street Dance.

Opportunity to be Creative

From Grade 4 -8, you can freestyle dance as part of your examination. At the higher grades, this takes the form of a crew battle.

Supporting Resources

Video demonstration of the Technical Skills are available on our website as well as a Scheme of Work and Suggested Repertoire.

No Membership Fees

With no membership fees and free supporting materials PAA provides the full package to help guide, inspire and motivate your students.

Regulated by Ofqual and Internationally Recognised

Fully regulated by Ofqual, qualifications Wales and CCEA.

The new PAA Street Dance Syllabus allows creativity and industry relevant progression. This syllabus is a fresh and exciting new approach for dance education.

CAITLIN BARNETT - Dancer

BBC Switch, 'The Rules of Love', 'TV's Greatest Dance Moments'



MUSICAL THEATRE

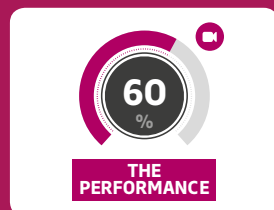
Unique examinations designed to give teachers the creative freedom to build a bespoke curriculum around their own teaching styles and existing programmes.

Musical Theatre examinations offer group performance whilst assessing each candidate individually.

They are accessible for all ages and abilities and provide teachers with the creativity and flexibility to enable every child to succeed.



Musical Theatre examinations contain three core elements:



The Performance

The performance can be an extract of a musical, original work or full scale performance. Candidates must perform a selection of acting singing and dancing.



Technical Skills

PAA technical skills encourage a deeper understanding and proficiency of the skills required as a musical theatre performer.



Understanding & Reflection

Candidates are asked to reflect on the performance and rehearsal process, encouraging students to self evaluate and communicate their understanding of the performance and technical skills required.

The Benefits

Ability to Specialise

From Grade 6 to Grade 8, the Technical skills Demonstration gives you the opportunity to further demonstrate technical ability in any one of the disciplines; acting, singing or dancing.

Choose your own Repertoire

There are no set pieces. Teachers are able to choose repertoire that best suits their students and that they know they will enjoy. The Performance can be an extract of a musical, original work or full-scale performance.

Opportunity to be Creative

From Grade 4 -8, you can freestyle dance as part of your examination. At the higher grades, this takes the form of a crew battle.

Supporting Resources

Acting scenarios and example song extracts are included in the syllabus and further supporting resources, including downloadable audio, are available on the website.

No Membership Fees

With no membership feed and free supporting materials PAA provides the full package to help guide, inspire and motivate your students.

Regulated by Ofqual and Internationally Recognised

Fully regulated by Ofqual, qualifications Wales and CCEA.

Beginners to advanced

Fully regulated by Ofqual, qualifications Wales and CCEA. Entry level (premiere) all the way up to level 3 (grade 8).

Musical Theatre

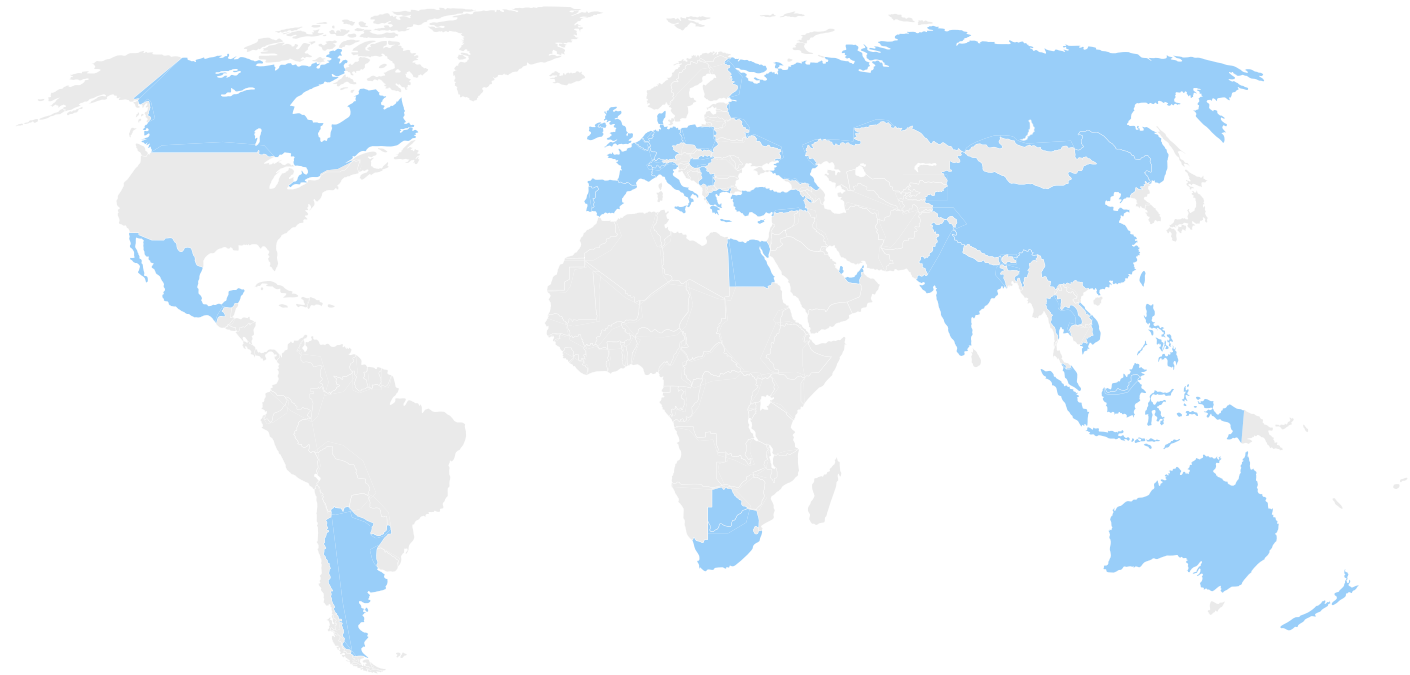
Premiere to Grade 8



RSL INTERNATIONAL

By giving birth to popular music examinations, Rockschoo! started a revolution throughout the world of music education, empowering a new generation of teachers and students across the globe in the process. From those humble beginnings, we have gone on to conduct over 400,000 exams, in over 1000 delivery centres, in more than 40 countries worldwide.

RSL has developed positive and progressive relationships with music providers, institutions and domestic exam boards worldwide.



With over 25 years of experience, RSL takes pride in delivering the most academically rigorous, industry relevant qualifications that support the aspirations of all musicians, performers, educators and teaching institutions - wherever they may be.

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AMEB AUSTRALIA

History

In 1887 a programme of music examinations was initiated in Australia by the Universities of Adelaide and Melbourne. Subsequently the Australian Music Examinations Board (AMEB) emerged in 1918 as a national body with the purpose of providing graded assessments of the achievements of music students.

AMEB Today

As one of the most respected bodies in this field, AMEB's qualifications are recognised as a national benchmark across Australia. AMEB examinations are based on syllabuses designed by leading scholars and performers, regularly updated to ensure that they reflect an appropriate range of performance skills and the latest musicological research. The content of these syllabuses is, wherever practical, published in affordable editions, ensuring that the cost to students of acquiring a full range of the set pieces is as simple and inexpensive as possible.

Rockschoo!, Australia

Adding the Rockschoo! qualifications to the AMEB's suite of syllabuses provided an opportunity to strengthen both Rockschoo! and AMEB's presence in the contemporary music sector, with the provision of challenging and rewarding exams that develop technique, musicianship and performance ability in musicians of all ages and backgrounds.

"AMEB is in it's second year of delivering Rockschoo! exams in Australia and we remain excited about the opportunity and the potential. The Rockschoo! syllabuses are a perfect complement to the syllabuses AMEB already offers in Australia. Take up is accelerating and we look forward to continuing to build the Australian Rockschoo! community."

Bernard Depasquale - CEO AMEB Ltd.

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RSL has been an independently regulated awarding organisation in the UK since 2002. RSL is the only graded music awarding organisation to be regulated by Ofqual (England), SQA (Scotland), Qualifications Wales (Wales) and CCEA (Northern Ireland).

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