



Leeds Conservatoire

Audition Requirements

2024 Entry

BA (Hons) Music (Songwriting)

BA (Hons) Music (Songwriting) with Foundation Year

Introduction

Applicants have the option to audition online via portfolio submission or in person at an audition on our campus.

In person auditions will take place w/c 19th February 2024.

Once the February audition week has passed you will only be able to audition online.

This guide will set out what you will need to prepare and / or submit when auditioning for one of our Songwriting courses at Leeds Conservatoire.

Application Process

Once you have submitted your application to the conservatoire via UCAS, if you meet or are likely to meet our minimum entry requirements, you will receive an email that will detail how to send your audition materials to us, or how to book an in person audition.

Once we have reviewed your application and audition we will update UCAS with our decision and you will be notified via UCAS Hub.

In Person Audition Days

If you choose to audition in person we will assign you a date and time to attend the conservatoire during our February audition week commencing 19th February 2024.

You will have a 30 minute warm up slot followed by a 30 minute audition.

On the day, as well as your audition, you will have the opportunity to have a tour of the conservatoire and meet some of our current students.

Audition, Interview and Portfolio Requirements

Your audition materials will be slightly different depending on which course you are applying for.

Please ensure that you look at all the requirements for the correct course(s) that you are applying for.

- **Single pathway courses e.g. BA (Hons) Music (Songwriting).**

If you have applied for both the four-year and three-year route for the same course e.g. BA (Hons) Music (Songwriting) and BA (Hons) Music (Songwriting) with Foundation Year then you will just make ONE audition submission and we will assess your suitability for both routes.

Please see the following pages for full details of what you will need to prepare.

IN PERSON AUDITION

Your audition will consist of 30 minutes warm up time with your instrument followed by a 30 minute individual audition.

We are looking for evidence of individual musical skills, creativity and enthusiasm for the subject. If you choose an in-person audition day you will be asked to do the following:

1. Prepare three original songs in total for the audition

- At least one of these should be played live in the audition to demonstrate your ability to play and/or sing as well as your compositional strengths and style. Please note: you are unable to bring along any band members or accompanists.
- For the remaining two songs, applicants can choose whether they would prefer to play these live or bring in recorded versions on an MP3 playback device (a phone or laptop are fine).
- You do not need to send us any compositions in advance, we will listen to them in the audition with you.
- A CD player and mini jack will be provided in the audition room for playing backing tracks. A member of staff will help you set this up.
- The audition room will contain a piano, a selection of amps, a drum kit and PA with microphone which you will be able to use.

2. Take part in a short interview after you have performed and played your material

- Here we will ask you about your influences, approach and ambitions etc.
- We will discuss your pieces/compositions/songs in terms of the technical, creative and compositional process as well as your influences and direction
- We will also ask you to answer some music theory based questions to ascertain your theoretical knowledge.

ONLINE AUDITION SUBMISSIONS VIA ACCEPTD

1. Submit recordings of three full songs that you have written entirely by yourself

- At least one of these songs must be submitted in the form of a video of you singing, or performing it with an instrument you play. You may submit all audition songs in this format if you wish.
- You may perform as a soloist or with accompaniment.
- Any remaining songs not submitted as videos should be submitted as audio recordings with accompanying lyric sheets.

2. Submit a short video (no longer than 10 minutes) with your answers to the following questions (please speak to camera)

- Why do you want to study at Leeds Conservatoire?
- Who are your influences as a songwriter and how/why do they influence you?
- What music are you currently listening to and why?
- Tell us about your experience of playing/performing solo/or in bands.
- Tell us about your experience of using music recording technologies.
- Please briefly analyse one of your audition pieces/songs to demonstrate your knowledge of music theory.
- Tell us about an issue facing songwriters that you think is particularly important at the moment.
- Why do you believe we should offer you a place? What can you bring to the conservatoire?
- What do you want to do once you've finished your studies?

