

Level 3 UAL Extended Diploma

The Professional Music Programme

Why study this course at Cronton Sixth Form?

At Cronton Sixth Form College we welcome and celebrate all styles of music. Our Professional Music Programme is aimed at preparing our students for employment and further study in the music industry as performers, composers, songwriters, recording engineers and other production roles.

If you have a strong interest in music and are considering higher-level study or you wish to gain specialist vocational skills to develop your employability, then the Professional Music Programme is for you. This UAL qualification is nationally recognised and is equivalent to 3 A Levels.

What will I study?

Performance Element:

A number of practical performance units run throughout the course, in which you will be working in bands to develop musical material to perform at a number of external venues, such as The Studio (Widnes) and the Cavern Club (Liverpool). In rehearsals, you will work as professional bands and you will have a say in what songs and styles of music you perform. In this way, we reflect real industry experience in developing your interests and professionalism, as well as working towards a performance.

At all times in the year, you will be working towards a public performance of one form or another.

Composing & Song writing Elements:

During the course, you will study songwriting and work both as an individual and as a group to have your work performed. You will also have the chance to record and sequence your own compositions using our industry standard software.

Music Industry Element:

This course focuses on popular music theory and particularly on aspects that will help you become a more efficient and confident player on your chosen instrument(s), and that will also allow you to compose more effectively and to a higher standard.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed on coursework only. There are no exams on the Professional Music Programme. Your coursework assessments will include all of your gigs, compositions, and written tasks.

Entry Requirements

- A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 9 – 4 including a Grade 4 in English Language and a grade 3 in Maths.
- You must be able to play an instrument/sing competently and have an interest in the industry.
- You will need to successfully pass a musical audition for this course. This will be arranged after your admissions interview.



COMING SOON
New Music Studios

A Centre of Excellence

Students studying Performing Arts will become part of our Centre of Excellence. As such, they will be taught by some of the best teaching staff in the country and benefit from a wide range of extra-curricular activities to support their onward applications to the country's most prestigious institutions.

Students will develop their talents and professional skills by enjoying our wide range of experiences including; international trips, being part of industry standard performances, performing at professional venues, high profile patrons and professional links, and free music tuition.

Performing Arts

- The opportunity to perform in industry standard productions
- Perform at professional venues across the country
- Exclusive links with dance conservatoires and performance institutes



Can I study this course if I have not taken it at GCSE?

You can study this course without having studied GCSE. You will have to complete an audition, and there is also the option of a Level 2 course if you need a foundation year.

Enrichment Opportunities

- Prestigious Universities Programme
- Prestigious Studies programme
- Centre of Excellence

What can this course lead on to?

The music industry is highly competitive, and all students will benefit from further study in Higher Education, however this is not essential as upon completion of the students will have a range of skills that allow them to enter range of jobs such as sound engineer, session musician, songwriter, producer and performer.

Our Professional Music Programme allows you to be able to move straight into the music industry, should you wish to, following completion of the course. You will be experienced in a number of areas of the music industry, and you will have valuable practical experience as a direct result of your work on the course.

Many students also go on to universities and conservatoires for further study of music, so this course is designed to fully prepare you for both employment and further study.

Any additional costs?

Students are expected to use their own instrument in college, although drums and keyboards are provided for lessons. Students will need to maintain their instruments, for example guitarists will need to be prepared to replace broken strings.

All students will also need a pair of headphones with a standard audio cable that will plug into a laptop or PC.

What have previous students said about this course?

"I chose this course over the A Level because I wanted to do more practical work and this course is equivalent to 3 A Levels, so will get me to where I want to be, which is University. The three words I'd use to describe this course is enjoyable, calming and supportive."

Scholarships

Talented performing arts students can also apply for our scholarships, worth up to £2000 each.

Meet the Students

Name:
Charlotte Codack

Vocational Results:
Professional Music Programme, Distinction

Previously from:
Sandymoor Ormiston Academy

Destination:
BIMM Institute Manchester, Popular Music Performance & Event Management



Cronton Playhouse

The Cronton Playhouse is a brand new 320 seat theatre with orchestra pit. The theatre is home to the very latest technology and an advanced technical booth offering new spectacular effects and high impact sound to further enhance the Centre of Excellence performances to industry standard.