

A photograph of a musician with dreadlocks, wearing a white t-shirt, playing a bass guitar on a stage. The musician is in the foreground, slightly out of focus, looking down at the instrument. In the background, another person is visible, and the stage is lit with warm, yellowish lights, creating a bokeh effect.

ICMP

The Institute
of Contemporary
Music Performance

Audition Guidance

MMus Popular Music Performance

icmp.ac.uk



MMus Auditions

On the Day...

Please ensure that you are on time for your arranged audition, we recommend arriving at least fifteen minutes before your scheduled appointment.

Please be aware, if you have not already, you will need to complete your ICMP application before we can make you any formal offers, regardless of your audition outcome.



Complete your Application Form



If you are using any MP3s, USBs, or any Soundcloud / YouTube links, we recommend you test them prior to arriving to ensure they work.

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What to prepare...

Performance Piece

For your audition, you should prepare a balanced 10-minute performance programme containing two separate pieces of contrasting repertoire of different styles/genres.

Please give thought to how best to showcase your diverse musicianship skills through this performance.

Short Rationale Statement

As part of your process of preparing for Audition you should think carefully about the repertoire you select to perform. To help you with this, please prepare and bring with you a short statement (one single side of A4 text) to clearly articulate your intentions. This is a normal aspect of Postgraduate study and is usually called a Rationale.

It should clearly explain why you selected the repertoire you will perform at your audition, including what specific challenges you faced in learning and preparing it for performance, how you coped with those challenges, what it shows/demonstrates about your musicianship, and the value/benefit in supporting your ongoing development.

You may for example wish to comment on technique, phrasing, articulation, intonation, tone, timbre, control, expression, fluency, consistency, stamina, tempo, timekeeping, feel, groove, communication, confidence, etc.

In short, what are your reasons for presenting the repertoire you selected.

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What to prepare... (cont)

Your Rationale statement will ultimately help your Auditioning Tutor to better understand your motivation, intention, purpose, and aspirations – it will also help you to think about these things yourself.

Please also ensure you have familiarised yourself with the course details and programme specification prior to the audition.

You will also be asked interview questions by the auditioning tutor, discussing your performance piece, rationale, current level of experiences, understanding of the MMus programme and academic/professional aspirations.

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What to bring

If you require audio to accompany your performance. It is best to bring this on your phone, tablet, laptop or an MP3 player. Download/upload it beforehand so that you do not have to rely on phone reception to stream the audio on the day. We can plug this into our PA system with an aux cable to play at full volume if required to accompany your performance.

Other equipment you may need:



Drummers – sticks only (please let us know ahead of time if you require a left handed set-up or a double pedal. Your audition will be on a standard 5-piece house kit)



Guitar & Bass players

– guitar only, amps will be available to use in the audition room



Vocalists – no equipment needed



A keyboard is also available on request and will likely be used in vocal auditions.



Headphones / In Ear Monitors (IEMs) and Ear plugs (if you have them)
– auditions can be loud, we encourage students to protect their hearing at all times.



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Final note

Prepare as best you can for this, but remember, this is not just about an opportunity to celebrate what you can already do. More important, the audition allows you an opportunity to ensure ICMP is the right fit for you.

The point of this audition is not to make decisions about whether you are good enough to study at ICMP. Instead, it's an opportunity for us to identify what we can do for you.

The activities in the audition will support our recommendation of what we consider to be the most suitable programme of study for you. This will be made clear through detailed written feedback which you will receive.

Postgraduate auditions are generally 45-minutes in length

Any questions?

If you have any questions on the above, please contact the ICMP Admissions team on: 020 7328 0222 or via email enquiries@icmp.ac.uk

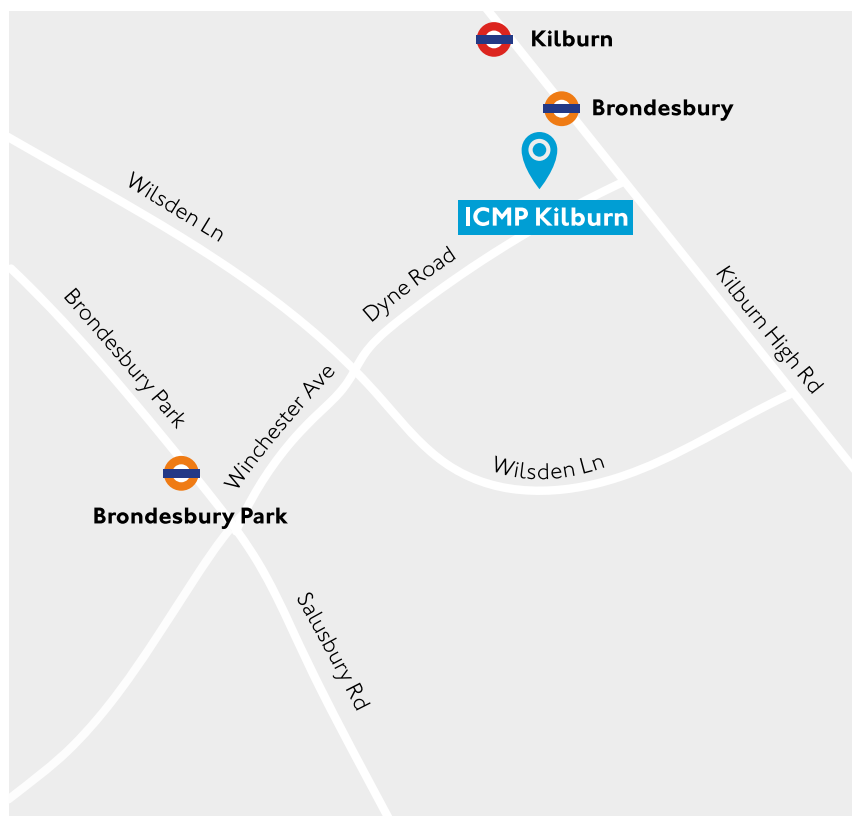
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How to find us

All onsite auditions take place at our Kilburn Campus.

Our building is conveniently located close to public transport, just two minutes walk from Brondesbury Overground station or five minutes walk from Kilburn Underground station on the Jubilee Line.



Kilburn Campus, NW6 7XG

Brondesbury

Overground: 2mins

Kilburn Underground

(Jubilee line): 5mins

Remote Auditions

If you are unable to attend your audition in person, we are also able to offer 'remote auditions' via Skype. Please see separate guidance document on how to get the most from your experience.



If you have any questions,
don't hesitate to contact our friendly
Admissions team



+44 (0)20 7328 0222

enquiries@icmp.ac.uk

We look forward to meeting you
at your audition.