



The  
Manchester  
College®  
be amazing

**MUSIC**



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# It starts with you

If you dream of playing on stage in front of thousands of people, creating a seminal masterpiece in the studio or dropping beats at legendary dance clubs around the globe, **The Manchester College is your number one choice.**

We offer courses for singers, musicians, DJs and studio/live sound engineers that will take your skills to the next level. Our focus is to get you ready for a successful career in this tough but exciting industry.

In our state-of-the art facilities at our City Campus Manchester, you will learn from experienced DJs who still perform all over the world and gigging musicians that tour the length and breadth of the country, as well as receive masterclasses from some of the best in the business. As part of our Music Alliance you could work with our industry partners including Band on the Wall, Reform Radio and This is NQ.

Based in the heart of Manchester, with its legendary music scene, you will perform regularly for the public and have lots of opportunities to network.

**So, what are you waiting for?**



# Careers information



## AVERAGE EARNINGS

Average wage in GM is **£27,406 per annum (2021).**



## WORKFORCE SPLIT

Currently **58.4%** of the workforce are male.



## JOB FIGURES

There were approx. **2,238** employees working in the Music sector in Greater Manchester in 2021.



## REPLACEMENT DEMAND

**17.8%** of the current workforce will be reaching retirement in the next 10 years, meaning those jobs will need replacing.

Types of jobs available	Skills needed	Examples of GM employers
DJ	Business development	AO Arena
Film / TV / Game Composer	Communication	BBC
Live Sound Engineer	Customer service	BBC Radio Manchester
Music Journalist	Enthusiasm	BIMM
Music Producer	Influencing skills	Brighter Sound
Music Publisher	Innovation	ITV
Press Agent	Marketing	Manchester International Festival
Recording Artist	Planning	Sharp Project
Songwriter	Sales	The Bridgewater Hall
Tour Manager	Writing	The Royal Exchange Theatre

Data sourced from  
Lightcast March 2023.

**FIND OUT  
MORE HERE**



“

## What our students say

I love that the College is in the centre of Manchester and the facilities it has to offer. The tutors on the course are some of the best tutors I have ever had, truly amazing. I'd recommend The Manchester College, great tutors, great campus and brilliant facilities.

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Shan-Tyler Henderson  
Level 3 Music

Our tutors advice and experience in the music industry has been really helpful and insightful. It's nice to have industry professionals teaching me. I would most certainly recommend The Manchester College.

---

Daniel Selwood  
Level 3 Music

The Manchester College is an amazing place to study. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time studying here. My tutors have taught me about the music industry and the skills I will need to be successful.

---

Caitlin Snape  
Level 3 Music

”



# Meet the team

**When you take a music course at The Manchester College, you'll be taught by a team that doesn't just talk the talk, but has actually walked the walk.**

With experience that spans decades and touches almost every corner of the music industry, your tutors still maintain close industry links that keep them at the cutting edge of the sector's latest developments.



**Maria Foran**  
**Assistant Principal**

Maria taught Visual Arts courses across our Creative Industries department before becoming our Assistant Principal in 2024. Initially graduating in Textile Design, she played a lead role in founding the ground-breaking collaborative project, Future Creatives with Manchester Art Gallery, which our students now benefit from each year.

**Scan here**  
to read more  
about our tutors



**Lucy Oldham**  
**Head of Department**

Lucy has been working in arts education for 17 years, first as a teacher then curriculum manager. She started life as an actress and singer spending 10 years touring and working in rep theatre which took her far and wide. She fell in love with working with young people through that time and has specialist experience of working with students who find traditional educational environments a challenge.

Lucy is focused on ensuring equity and equality of opportunities within performing arts and music for all the communities of Greater Manchester and is dedicated to championing young artists and enabling them to forge their way in the industry.



**Rose Durbin**  
**Department Team Leader**

Rose has worked in the music industry since 1991 as a musician and sound engineer. She has collaborated with renowned and emerging artists worldwide, participating in tours, gigs, and festivals. Specializing in live sound, Rose ensures memorable performances through her technical expertise. For over 20 years, she has also taught music technology, focusing on live sound, employability, and recording techniques. Rose emphasizes hands-on learning, preparing students for real-world challenges. Passionate about industry engagement, she is dedicated to sharing her knowledge and experience.

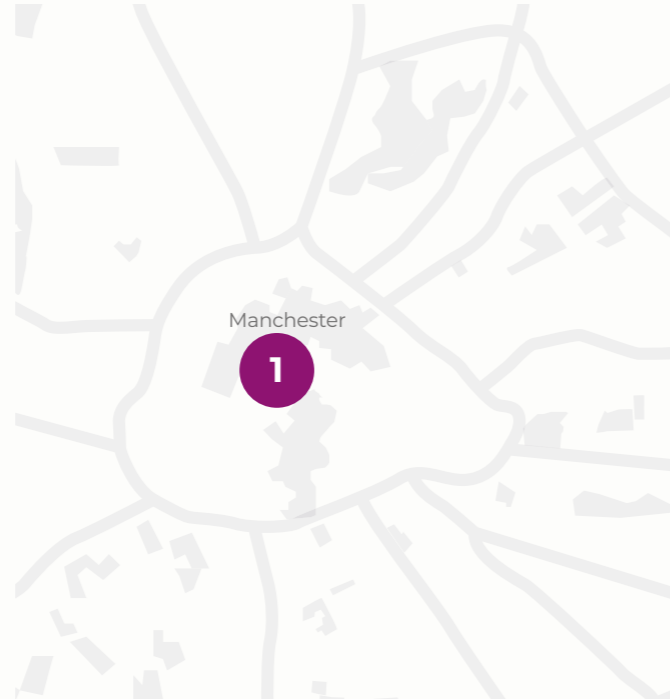
# Our location

When you study Music with us you'll benefit from the industry standard facilities that have been specifically developed for your course at City Campus Manchester.

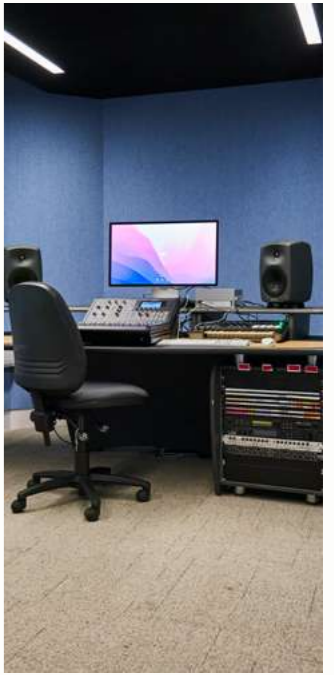
These amazing facilities mirror those used in the world of work and include:

- Two state-of-the-art band teaching rooms
- Adjoining practice rooms for rehearsal
- A DJ classroom with four booths
- Three control rooms with mixing desks
- Two studio live rooms.

Teaching also takes place at our partnership venue Band on the Wall in the heart of the vibrant Northern Quarter just fifteen minutes walk from City campus.



**1 City Campus Manchester**  
60 Great Ducie Street, Manchester,  
M3 1LT



# Get career ready with us

**We passionately believe in helping you reach your ultimate goal, focusing on your future employability and developing the knowledge, skills and behaviours you will need to have a successful career.**

Many of our programmes of study have been co-developed with industry partners. Working so closely with industry partners means you'll benefit from courses that are aligned with current industry skills and demands as well as a range of industry-level activities and lessons.

Once you complete your journey with us you will have the qualifications you need to take the next steps towards an amazing career, as well as the knowledge, skills and behaviours that will help you stand out to future employers.

## Study Programmes

We offer qualifications from Level 1 to Level 3, including T Levels.

If you haven't already obtained a Grade 4 GCSE in English or maths, you'll study to work towards achieving this qualification. This is a mandatory requirement and it's

also essential you achieve this for many careers.

## Employability

To prepare you for your future career, you'll take part in a range of 'employability' activities to equip you with the knowledge and experience of the careers available to you.

You'll be assigned an Employability Co-ordinator and will take part in a wide range of activities that will help you develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours you'll need to thrive in the workplace.

## Industry Expertise

You will get the opportunity to take part in masterclasses and lessons delivered by industry experts, visits from guest speakers within the sector and industry-standard projects, that will see you working on the kind of tasks you'd be

completing once you begin your career in the music industry.

## Work Experience or Industry Placement

As part of your course you are required to take on external work experience. We will help you find a suitable placement. While there, you'll help with day-to-day tasks and shadow staff to develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours that are expected in the workplace and broaden your knowledge of the industry.

Previous students have worked with:

- Band on the Wall
- Beyond the Music
- NQ Legacy
- Reform Radio
- Spirit Studios.

You may be able to apply for an industry placement offering a longer period of experience with a leading employer, depending on your course.

An industry placement gives you in-depth knowledge of the industry, allows you to gain hands-on experience and

gives you an insight into career pathways.

With a placement, you're taking that all important first step onto the ladder; many of our students even go on to gain paid employment with their industry placement employer at the end of the year.

## Work Related Activity

There are so many careers in the music sector and we want to help you explore as many as possible during your studies.

We organise lots of work-related activities to help you discover more about the opportunities that might be open to you. You could soon be taking part in activities such as:

- Performing music at iconic Manchester venues like The Bridgewater Hall, The Academy and Band on The Wall
- Visits and Q&As with experts in their field
- Masterclasses from leading employers
- Industry conferences to network with professionals.

# Industry partners

**When you study music at The Manchester College, you will have the opportunity to immerse yourself in the world-renowned Manchester and North West music scene.**

Our Music department has long-standing links with a full ensemble of industry partners and we work in perfect harmony to open the doors that enable you to experience an exciting career in this thriving sector.

We work with a broad range of venues across the city and have an impressive track record of gigs that we have supported our students to deliver. And for all the fun, this is also an amazing opportunity to experience what working in the industry is like!

Some of the music industry partners and venues we've worked with include Ableton, The Academy, Band on the Wall, The Bridgewater Hall, Beyond the Music, Pie Radio, Reform Radio, The Warehouse Project and ThisIsNQ, Spirit Studios.

Our students regularly light up venues across the city where our musicians host and collaborate on a whole range of pro-level activities and real-life industry standard activities and performances.

But we don't just send you out on stage with no preparation. You'll get to polish your performance in our suite of rehearsal rooms and purpose-built stages and performance spaces.

That's if you're not putting your talents to use in one of our recording studios.



Our established industry partnership with Band on the Wall continues to thrive and new partnerships are constantly opening up, offering a new era of possibilities for music students at The Manchester College.

Band on the Wall is one of the most prestigious music venues in Manchester, with a long history that chronicles the cultural development of popular music in Manchester.

We have been working in collaboration with the venue for a number of years, providing students with loads of exciting opportunities. This includes showcase gigs, regular performances and open mic nights, sound engineering and technical development in a working venue, as well as marketing and promotion placements and work experience.



## Study for a Technical Level (T Level) qualification in Media, Broadcast and Production

**T Levels are a new two year technical programme that provide you with a high-quality alternative to A Levels.**

They have been developed in collaboration with employers and combine theory, practical and classroom learning with a minimum 45 day industry placement. If you opt to take a T Level you will spend 20% of your time on an industry placement and 80% in the classroom.

After completing the course you can progress directly into work, on to a higher apprenticeship or even move on to study a university degree, as T Levels are awarded UCAS points.



## T Award

Those successful in gaining a place on a T Level will be eligible for the 'T Award', a package of benefits that includes:

- £300 per year bursary\*
- Access to industry standard laptop\* (as appropriate)
- Opportunity to take part in exciting college-wide competitions
- Minimum 20% delivery by industry experts
- Minimum 45-day industry placement
- Free branded work wear
- Masterclasses
- Digital upskilling
- Bursary incentive if progressing to UCEN Manchester
- Guaranteed progression to a higher education course at UCEN Manchester
- Use of industry based software
- And much more.

*\*Subject to requirements including 95% attendance, positive attitude and grade profile.*

# Courses

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## Level 3 | T Level | Events Production City Campus Manchester | Two Years

During the two-year programme, you will learn the core knowledge and skills that are needed for entry to a range of live sound and theatrical production occupations through the events and venues technician specialism.

You will develop an understanding of a broad range of issues relevant to the sector, including:

- The creative economy
- The individual in the creative industries
- Cultural context and vocabulary
- Audience and consumer needs
- Legal and regulatory requirements
- Professional standards and conduct in the workplace
- Equality, diversity and inclusion requirements
- Research skills
- Project methodology and administration
- Continued professional development.

You will learn to expertise in a range of roles with range of professional settings: theatre, live music venues, festivals.

For those who don't meet the entry requirements and would still like to pursue a T Level, there is the option of a one-year Level 2 T Level Foundation Year. This Foundation Year will allow you to gain a qualification and move on to study a T Level the following year.

## Level 2 | T Level Foundation Year | Performing and Production Arts (Technical Theatre) City Campus Manchester | One Year

If you want to work in Theatre Production or Music Events but don't want to be on the stage, but make the magic happen behind the scenes instead, then this qualification is for you.

You will develop knowledge and understanding through college-based workshops and then apply your learning and skills in a practical work placement.

The course will teach you how theatres and music events are supported and how the industry operates. You will learn about job opportunities and roles within the sector as well as the essential key skills in backstage and events support: sound, lighting, set design and construction, and health and safety protocols.

## Jump Start To T Levels

Both our T Level and T Level Foundation Year require you to complete our Jump Start to T Levels programme as an entry requirement.

This programme is a two-week introduction to our T Level and Foundation Year programmes, where you can meet your tutors and experience what studying a T Level at The Manchester College is like.

To apply or find out more about our T Level and T Level Foundation Year programmes, visit our Industry Excellence Academy website: [industry-excellence.tmc.ac.uk/t-levels](https://industry-excellence.tmc.ac.uk/t-levels)



# Courses

## Level 1 | Music, Performing and Production Arts (Music Pathway)

### City Campus Manchester | One Year

For anyone that's new to music technology and wants to know what it's all about, this introduction to the industry will help you get a really good grounding in professional music production.

With a hands-on focus, you'll explore all the basics of studio recording, including how to use microphones effectively and how to record and mix a track. You will create your own beats using industry-standard Digital Audio Workstation software, such as Logic, and learn the basics of DJ technology.

## Level 2 | Music Performance and Production (Blended Pathway)

### City Campus Manchester | One Year

This is perfect for budding musicians and producers who want to develop their skills in music performance and production. Whether you're starting from scratch or already have some skills, we'll help take you to the next level.

You'll have access to top-notch recording studios, rehearsal rooms, and Logic Pro Mac suites. You'll even have the opportunity to record yourself and bands/artists, perform live in and around Manchester, and learn how to use Logic Pro software to write and produce your own music. By the end of the course, you'll be performing your original tracks!

If you're a singer, MC, or instrumentalist looking to be in bands, write music, perform, and produce music, then this course is perfect for you. Plus, you'll gain invaluable transferable skills that are highly sought after in the music industry.

## Level 2 | Music Performance and Production (Performance Pathway)

### City Campus Manchester | One Year

This qualification will help you explore the music industry and develop your own skills as a musician. You will work on developing as a performer on your chosen instrument or voice, as well as learning key skills for working as part of a band.

Alongside practical work, you will also explore music theory and learn how to create your own original music using a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW).

You will take part in a range of live performances at various locations, including the iconic Manchester venue, Band on the Wall.

## Level 2 | Music Performance and Production (Production Pathway)

### City Campus Manchester | One Year

This Level 2 qualification has been designed for anyone looking to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of practical and technical skills within music recording, music production, DJ skills or event production using a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW).

The course will help you to explore your interest in music production, DJ and studio technology as well as event promotion and learn more about these areas whilst building upon the core transferable skills that are invaluable within the music industry.

## Level 3 | Music Performance

### City Campus Manchester | Two Years

In your first year you will study how to perform as a band and create musical materials as well as explore different styles of music, plan a career in the industry and practical music theory.

In your second year you will select an area of the music industry that appeals to you such as performance, song writing, recording, producing, composing or teaching and complete a large scale individual project such as writing or recording an album, presenting a series of gigs as a soloist or writing music for film and TV.

You will also complete a substantial collaborative project where you will plan, market and present a major performance event as a group. You will take part in a range of live performances at various locations including the iconic Manchester venue, Band on the Wall.



### Level 3 | Music Production (DJ or Live Sound Pathway)

#### City Campus Manchester | Two Years

In year one of this Extended Diploma, you'll study four units:

- Studio Production
- Creating Musical Material Through Production
- Music Technology for Live Events (either Live Sound Operations or DJ Technology)
- Planning a Career in the Industry.

In year two, you will work on a self-directed individual project such as writing or recording an album or composing a portfolio of music for TV, film and computer games.

You will also work on a large-scale collaborative project where, as a group, you will organise your own event, festival, recording or composing project.



# Courses for Adults

## Level 1 | Introduction to Music Technology and Production

**City Campus Manchester | 21 Weeks (evening only)**

For anyone that's new to music technology this introduction to the industry will give you a solid grounding in the area of professional music production.

With a hands-on focus, you'll explore all the basics of studio recording, including how to use microphones effectively and how to record, mix and master. You will create your own tracks using industry-standard software such as Logic and Ableton.

## Level 2 | Music Technology and Production

**City Campus Manchester | 23 Weeks (evening only)**

Building on the skills developed at Level 1, this course introduces more advanced skills and techniques in both recording and sequencing. The music industry is also explored, including looking at how to make money out of music and promote your music to a wider audience.



# SUPPORTED LEARNING

Promoting independence through  
accessibility and inclusion

Have you received learning support in the past? Do you have an Education, Health and Care Plan or an identified Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) need? Our Supported Learning team can help students with SEND to achieve their aspirational career goals.

We provide a highly personalised offer for students to create a supportive learning environment for all. Whatever course you choose to study, our provision is specifically designed to support you on your journey to independence and into further education or employment.

Find out more about how we can help you:  
**[tmc.ac.uk/supported-learning](https://tmc.ac.uk/supported-learning)**



# We'll help you Accelerate2industry

As soon as you enrol on a Music course, we'll start talking to you about the opportunities that could be open to you in the future.  
To guide you through the process and help you achieve your aspirational career goals, we've teamed up with our higher education partner, UCEN Manchester, on an exciting initiative.

Book a campus tour, taster session or other support session with the UCEN Manchester Outreach Team by contacting [HEfutures@ucenmanchester.ac.uk](mailto:HEfutures@ucenmanchester.ac.uk).



Ultimately, the aim of Accelerate2Industry is to help you progress into either, higher study, higher education with UCEN Manchester, or your chosen career.

The initiative runs throughout the academic year and there are three distinct phases:

## Step 1 - Plan >>>

Find out about the options available to you at the end of your study programme.

## Step 2 - Pass >>>

Your tutors will speak to you about what you're planning on doing next year and support you to secure the grades you need to move on to the next phase of your journey.

## Step 3 - Progress >>>

Your tutors will ensure you have all of the information and support you need to re-join us in September or progress on to university, employment or an apprenticeship.

## Progressors Award >>>

Do you want to study with a higher education provider that offers something a little bit different and delivers courses that are career focussed and lead you straight into employment? If so, our Progressors Award is just for you.

The award is open to all Level 3 students at The Manchester College that upon completion of their course enrol onto a higher education course at UCEN Manchester. The Progressors Award is currently £200. Please check the amount, eligibility, and terms and conditions ahead of making your progressors application to UCEN Manchester during your final year of Level 3 study.

## **DEGREE LEVEL**

Delivered by The Arden School of Theatre at UCEN Manchester, this programme aims to train and support creative individuals who aspire to have a career that utilises their creative skills.

### **Study a Bachelor's degree in Vocal Studies and Performance**

You'll cover a range of topics including:

- **Contextualising Performance**
  - **Skills for the Vocalist**
  - **Solo Singing Techniques**
  - **General Musicianship.**

For more information or to apply  
visit [ucenmanchester.ac.uk](https://ucenmanchester.ac.uk)



# How to apply

Applying to study at The Manchester College is really easy. Just follow these steps and you will be on your journey to amazing in no time.



## Step 1

Visit **tmc.ac.uk**



## Step 2

Choose a course, apply at an open event, online or mobile



## Step 3

Receive a conditional offer - you must accept this within 12 weeks



## Step 4

Book to attend an interview



## Step 5

Register to attend our New Student Welcome Day on 30 June (16-18 only)



## Step 6

We will invite you to enrol in August or September after you receive your results (if applicable)

# What's next?

## Find out more and apply

To find out more about Music at The Manchester College and to apply scan the QR code or visit: **tmc.ac.uk/music**



## Visit us

Join us at one of our open events throughout the year to learn more about our courses, tour our facilities, speak to our tutors and much more. To find out when our next open event is taking place and to register your place visit: **tmc.ac.uk/events**

## Stay in touch

Follow us on our social media channels:

 **The Manchester College**

 **@TheMcrCollege**

 **@TheMcrCollege**

 **@themcrcollege**

## Contact Us

Got a question about one of our courses, about The Manchester College or just need to get in touch?

 **enquiries@tmc.ac.uk**

 **03333 222 444**



The  
Manchester  
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*The Manchester College is committed to equality of opportunity, non-discriminatory practices and supporting individual learners. This information is also available in a range of formats, such as large print, on request.*

*Version 1. Printed October 2024.*