

## Admissions policy

The School values its diversity of cultures and welcomes applications from all over the world. The selection of students will be based purely on talent, regardless of family background, race, disability or ethnic origin, following a rigorous audition and/or interview process designed to assess both attainment and potential. An audition and/or interview will be offered to every applicant who is able to meet the minimum entry standards.

The School will consider applicants whose qualifications do not conform to those prescribed in the relevant programme specification on the basis of their professional background and/or experience or general education, scholarship, and/or training. However, confirmation of admission and continuing registration may be subject to a further examination or qualifying period of study, or special scheme of study.

To maximise the number of applicants who can benefit from the School's open admissions policy and attend the School for audition/interview the School will have a fifteen-month admissions cycle starting in June. The admissions process is supported by the School's own on-line application system.

The School seeks to conduct its admissions processes in a fair and transparent way to a high level of professionalism and is mindful of the QAA Code of practice for the assurance of academic quality and standards in higher education ~ *Section 10: Admissions to higher education*. All admissions decisions will be taken by at least two people.

The School seeks to broaden the talent pool of potential applicants, both for the School specifically and for music and drama in higher education more generally, by working in partnership with its own junior School, Junior Guildhall, and by developing synergies with local communities through its award winning *Connect* programme and in partnership with Barbican Education and LSO *Discovery*.

The School is not only committed to admitting students solely on the basis of merit but endeavours to do its best to ensure that no student who is offered a place is prevented from taking up that place on grounds of financial hardship. The School has a long and distinguished record of supporting students throughout their studies through scholarships and bursaries. In addition to the Guildhall Bursary Scheme, which matches 50% of the value of the English maintenance grant awarded to students from disadvantaged backgrounds, the School offers over £1million of scholarships from the School's own fundraising to support students in their studies.

*Approved: Teaching & Learning Board 7 May 2009, and  
Executive Directorate 26 June 2009*