

Leeds Conservatoire

Portfolio Requirements

2026 Entry

MA Music (Composition)

Introduction

Auditionees for MA Music (Composition) may request to complete their audition process by submitting audition materials online, or by attending an in-person audition day in Leeds (subject to availability of audition dates.)

We may not always be able to facilitate an in-person audition requesting depending on the time of year. If no in-person auditions are available, we will ask you to submit materials online.

Once you have submitted your application, if you meet or are likely to meet our entry requirements, we will contact you with further details of how to submit your audition materials online through our application system, Accepted, and to request an in-person audition if applicable.

Online Portfolio Submission

You will be required to submit all of the following materials for assessment:

10-15 minutes of Composed Music

- All compositions should include audio files and PDFs of scores. Scores may be traditionally notated on formats such as Sibelius or non-traditional formats for contemporary compositions
- We encourage a variety of compositional styles and would like to see some examples of large ensemble composition if you have them.

Music Theory

To help us assess your music theory knowledge, submit a video recording of you responding to the following question:

- Identify and describe THREE interesting features of one of your audition pieces (these can be harmonic, rhythmic, melodic, or any other aspect that interests you)

Interview

Submit a short video with your answers to the following questions (please speak directly to the camera as if to an audition panel)

- Describe your journey into classical music, including previous study
- Talk about your experiences as a classical performer, outlining any key projects
- Tell us about your influences, especially the artists you have studied/listened to the most
- Why do you want to come and study at Leeds Conservatoire?

Depending on the outcome of your portfolio, you may be contacted by a member of the academic team to schedule an additional Zoom interview where you will be asked a series of short questions exploring your interest, experience and knowledge of Composition, as well as discussing your application and the programme.

Applicants who receive offers and have further questions about the programme can request an online meeting with the academic team or in-person visit.

In-Person Auditions

In-person auditions take place at Leeds Conservatoire.

We may not always be able to facilitate an in-person audition requesting depending on the time of year. If no in-person auditions are available, we will ask you to submit materials online.

You should bring 10-15 minutes of Composed Music

- All compositions should include audio files and PDFs of scores. Scores may be traditionally notated on formats such as Sibelius or non-traditional formats for contemporary compositions
- We encourage a variety of compositional styles and would like to see some examples of large ensemble composition if you have them.

Music Theory

To help us assess your music theory knowledge, you will be asked to respond to the following question:

- Identify and describe THREE interesting features of one of your audition pieces (these can be harmonic, rhythmic, melodic, or any other aspect that interests you)

Interview

You will have a short interview, where we will explore your general musical knowledge and interests.

