



theHammond

ADMISSIONS POLICY (DIPLOMA STUDENTS)

2023 - 24

THE HAMMOND SCHOOL LTD., MANNINGS LANE, CHESTER, CH2 4ES

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The Hammond School Limited is registered in England and Wales Number 838325. Registered office is above. Charity Number 1022427 incorporating the Betty Hassall Foundation. The school is accredited by the I.S.A and C.D.E.T. and is a member of the B.S.A and I.S.I.

Selection

The Hammond is a selective college which accepts students with talents in dance and musical theatre for the professional courses. Students in the college section of The Hammond are also invited to study a course of A Level qualifications alongside their professional training.

The Hammond fully adheres to the 2010 Equality Act, especially in relation to the support of Protected Characteristics. All schemes of work and activities ensure that the following protected characteristics are supported:

The protected characteristics as listed in section 4 of the Equality Act 2010 are as follows:

- a. Age
- b. Disability
- c. Gender reassignment
- d. Marriage and civil partnership
- e. Pregnancy and maternity
- f. Race
- g. Religion or belief
- h. Sex
- i. Sexual orientation.

The process of applying for a place at The Hammond takes place through an audition.

Auditions take place throughout the academic year. These are necessary in order to assess the suitability of the candidate both physically and mentally to embark upon the intensive training offered at The Hammond and to assess their previous training and experience.

Accredited Prior Learning

We acknowledge that if an applicant has gained prior knowledge and or skills in aspects of part of the qualification, the applicant may have the capacity to acquire the additional skills and knowledge needed to complete the qualification over a reduced period of time.

Audition Criteria

The audition panel considers candidate's suitability in physique and potential for a career in the profession. Assessment takes place in technical proficiency, musicality, artistry and performance. Whilst a high standard is expected, extensive previous training is not always necessary.

As from September 2022, The Hammond offers students the opportunity to audition for either the professional dance or the professional musical theatre course. It is possible for students to move between the courses, this conversation will take place with relevant staff.

The Audition comprises

- Classical Ballet
- Contemporary
- Jazz
- Vocal Assessment (choice of two songs)
- Acting Assessment
- A prepared dance solo lasting no longer than 1 minute (any style of dance) followed by an interview with the audition panel for selected candidates.
- Physical Assessment by the Course Physiotherapists

At the audition, parents and students are given the opportunity to talk to the Principal and other key staff. Discussions take place concerning student welfare and accommodation and funding. A tour of the Hammond is also given.

Dance/Musical Theatre are precise physical art forms concerned with shape, line, co-ordination, musical and performance qualities. It is within these parameters that The Hammond welcomes candidates with disabilities to audition for a place on the course. It is recognised that some candidates with a disability who are entered for audition may need extra time or support to enable them to perform to the best of their ability and The Hammond will make the appropriate arrangements. It is, however, emphasised that all candidates will be assessed against the same criteria.

A parent/guardian/teacher of a candidate must inform The Hammond of any special arrangements needed prior to audition either on the application form or by letter.

If there is any doubt about a student's ability to fulfil the assessment criteria for audition please contact the Registrar.

At the conclusion of the audition candidates are guaranteed a written result within one week.

Overseas candidates and candidates requesting online auditions

Overseas candidates are not expected to attend audition, and The Hammond will accept auditions submitted online in a variety of circumstances. Footage may be sent demonstrating the candidate's ability in: Ballet, Jazz, Vocal and Acting lasting no longer than five minutes dance and five minutes other. The Senior audition panel at The Hammond will judge as to the suitability of the candidate.

Footage must also show the candidates flexibility for movement i.e. splits – both legs, box splits, forwards and back bends. It is also helpful to demonstrate any singing/vocal ability. Candidates are asked to complete and return all information requested on the application form together with the DVD recording and an assessment will then be made as to their suitability to attend the course. Once the information has been provided, we write to the candidate informing them as to whether or not they have been accepted to The Hammond.

Appeals

Should a parent or student believe The Hammond’s admissions policy has not been followed, we encourage parents/students to formally write to the Principal who will treat the communication as part of the complaints procedure.

Policy Details

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