

Acting Audition and Interview Guidelines

UAL Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts September 2023 entry

Thank you for applying to join our **Acting** course for September 2023. We understand that you may be as nervous as you are excited and want to make sure that you feel that you are able to present yourself and your work to the best of your ability. These guidelines are intended to help you prepare effectively, give you some information about what to expect on the day, and explain what happens next in the application process. Please read through them carefully, and do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions that aren't answered here.

We want to make sure that our applications process is accessible to everyone and will make reasonable adjustments if you have a disability or particular requirement. If you have any questions about this, please contact Julie Humphreys at admissions@lipasixthformcollege.org or call us on 0151 330 3232. This information can be made available in other formats – please let us know about any specific needs you have.

Any questions?

We wish you the best of luck and hope you enjoy your day with us. In the meantime, if you need any further information about any aspect of the audition and interview process, please contact Julie Humphreys at admissions@lipasixthformcollege.org or call us on 0151 330 3232.

Overview

Your audition and interview are intended to enable you to present yourself and your work in the best possible way. We understand how much you care about your work and how nerves inevitably play a part on such occasions, so we encourage you to view the day as a learning opportunity in its own right, both with the panel and with fellow candidates. Regardless of the outcome, there is much you can learn about yourself and your work from a day like this. The audition and interview schedule for Acting is as follows:

Arrival and registration

Session A Group workshop

This workshop will give you an idea of how it would feel to be in class as part of LIPA Sixth Form College and allows us to assess how you engage with the collaborative learning process. There is no need to prepare for this, but please make sure you engage with the activities fully. You can expect theatre games, improvisation activities and voice and movement exercises for actors.

Session B Audition and interview

During this time, you will be allocated a slot to present your prepared audition piece and to have a short interview. You will present your audition piece to at least one member of the acting team, who will then conduct a short interview. This is also an opportunity for you to ask any questions. Each candidate will have 10-15 minutes in total. You can use the rest of the time productively in meeting other candidates and sharing experiences of performing arts and performances.

Please note: We will confirm audition and interview timings when you arrive to register for your audition and interview.

Your audition

You are asked to:

Select a speech from a play that when you perform it is approximately TWO minutes - extracts from TV and film scripts are NOT to be used. Please bring two copies of your speech with you for the panel and ensure that you can perform it from memory.

Tips to help you prepare for your audition

- Choose a speech that you find exciting, challenging and engaging, and – most importantly – that you can, in some way, relate to. This will help you to make an emotional and creative connection with the character and their words and will help to give an element of authenticity to your performance.
- Make sure that you understand the speech you have chosen – if there are words or phrases you aren't sure about, ask a friend or teacher for help.
 - Read and get to know the play that your speech is from
- Spend time thinking about the character, their experience, where they are and whom they are speaking to. If you can practice performing to a friend or teacher, it will help your imagination to develop your approach to the speech.
- Don't try and copy a particular actor or try to imitate what you think a 'real' actor should sound like – use your own voice, your own imagination and your own emotions to find your own, unique way of delivering the piece. A friend or teacher can let you know if you really sound like yourself.

Your interview

You will be asked the following questions:

About your audition piece:

- Why did you choose this work to present?
- How did you go about working on it?
- How do you think it went today and what can you learn from it?

About your training and future career:

- What is your ambition?
- How will coming to LIPA Sixth Form College help you to achieve this?

We have provided these questions so that you have time to think about what you want to say in advance. We want you to have the opportunity to speak honestly about yourself and your work.

Tips to help you prepare for your interview

- Make some notes about each of the questions to help you shape your thoughts and responses – by doing this over a period of time, you may find that new ideas occur to you and that you can add to your possible answers the more you think about them.
- As with your application form, think about what makes you different – you may have wanted to be an actor since you were a small child, but what makes you stand out from everyone else? Why would studying at LIPA Sixth Form College - rather than elsewhere - set you on the path to achieving your ambition? What are you looking for by applying to us, and how do you think we can help you?
- What can you bring to your studies, and to us as a college, if you were offered a place? Think about all the different ways in which you could make the most of the opportunity – not just in the drama studio, but outside.
- Practice answering the questions in front of a mirror, or with a friend or teacher who you can trust to give you honest, useful feedback. The more you practice what you want to say, the easier it will be to speak naturally and with confidence on the day itself.
- Look again at the information you put on your application form, and make sure you can talk about it if asked to - being able to talk confidently about things you've done or seen will help you to be more natural and 'yourself' in an interview.
- Above all, relax and enjoy the experience – we want to know about you, and only you can tell us that.

What to wear

Please ensure you are dressed in loose clothing, comfortable for movement. Please do not wear jeans or other restricting clothes. You may also be asked to work barefoot in a workshop. If, for medical reasons, you cannot work barefoot, then please ensure you have appropriate, flat footwear.

What happens next?

The panel will consider all four elements of your application together - your audition, your interview, your contribution within the group workshop, and the information on your application form (including your predicted GCSE grades). They will reach a decision regarding your application collectively.

You will receive a decision email from us in the beginning of April 2023 which will state the outcome of your audition and interview.