



URDANG ACADEMY

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Admissions and Auditions Policy and Procedure

1. Admissions

1.1. The Academy advertises in the Dancing Times Magazine, through our website and other publications. The Academy also participates in a number of events to reach a wider community including:

- Can You Dance? Nationwide dance events
- Senior members of the faculty adjudicate finals of national and regional competitions
- Open Days, where potential applicants are able to observe a student demonstration, meet tutors and current students and have an opportunity for clarification and discussion with staff before applying
- Part-Time Courses which include: Pre-Audition Courses, Summer School, Saturday Dance School and Accelerate

1.2. At Open Days funding issues are explained and there is an opportunity for queries to be addressed.

1.3. The Academy website includes information on selection criteria, the application process and funding information. In accordance with the Equal Opportunities Policy all Urdang printed information and documentation is available in large print on request.

2. Pre-Audition Coaching

2.1. The Academy offers a Pre-Audition coaching course twice a year which offers students guidance in the different areas of an audition process.

3. Monitoring Admissions

3.1. A thorough monitoring process is undertaken annually to ensure Urdang continues to be as accessible as possible in its admission process and promotes widening participation in the performing arts.

4. College Audition Procedure and Selection

4.1. The Academy aims to provide the opportunity to include as many young people as possible in the audition process for full-time professional training. Although some applicants have had considerable previous experience and training, it is not a requirement for entry. All candidates are assessed on their employment potential.

- 4.2. Where there is any impairment or disability a member of staff or a student helper at the audition will assist, wherever possible, to remove any barriers to completing the audition without disadvantage. Applicants are encouraged to disclose any disability through questions posed in the medical questionnaire and equal opportunities questionnaire.
- 4.3. The Academy will always work in depth with an applicant to meet their needs and will liaise with the relevant agencies to further that support.
- 4.4. The audition criterion is reviewed annually as part of the self-assessment process and discussions with staff.

5. Criteria

- 5.1. At the college audition each candidate is assessed on ability and potential in ballet & jazz classes and the presentation of one acting monologue and up to two songs from musicals of their choice. The completed applicant Medical Questionnaire is checked by the Treatment Manager to ensure that the needs and aspirations of prospective students can realistically be met.
- 5.2. Every aspect of the audition process is documented and graded. Auditions are assessed by the CEO and Co-Principals to ensure the consistency of the audition process is upheld.
- 5.3. The college audition comprises of four areas of competence: technical understanding, physical ability, musicality and quality of performance (individual interpretation and presentation), ability to be open to grasp new information and act upon it quickly and correctly. In addition to the areas of competence, the future employability and potential destination of the applicant will be considered in relation to the Musical Theatre Industry.
- 5.4. Applicants (such as overseas students) who, with a valid reason, are unable to attend an audition at the Academy are invited to submit a video via YouTube or Vimeo or on DVD for audition. Detailed information is provided to the applicant on the requirements to be demonstrated.

6. Recall Audition Procedure and Selection

- 6.1. All applicants successfully meeting the required competence levels at the college audition are invited to return for a second in-depth recall audition and interview with senior staff.
- 6.2. All recalled applicants are videoed to aid in the final decision for offering places carried out by the CEO and Co-Principals.
- 6.3. If recalled Degree applicants are not successful in gaining a place on the Degree Course they may be offered a place on the Urdang Diploma Course or Urdang Foundation Course if they meet the audition and age criteria for these courses.
- 6.4. If recalled Diploma applicants are not successful in gaining a place on the Diploma Course they may be offered a place on the Urdang Foundation Course or AVT Course if they meet the audition and age criteria for these courses.

7. Awarding of a conditional place on the Degree

- 7.1. Standard Conditions of an offer are: evidence that the applicant either has or is predicted 'A' level (or equivalent Level 3 qualification) to reach 80 UCAS tariff points and a C/4 grade or above in GCSE English Language (or equivalent Level 2 qualification).
- 7.2. Overseas students are required to pass the Academic IELTS (International English Language) at 6.5 (or the TOEFL equivalent) in addition to gaining relevant High School academic qualifications.

8. Awarding of a conditional place on the AVT

- 8.1 Standard conditions of an offer are: evidence of living within commutable distance of the Academy and that the applicant either has or is predicted a 4 grade or above in GCSE English Language and Mathematics (or equivalent Level 2 qualification).

9. Selecting DaDA and Fee Reduction Award students

- 9.1. All recalled applicants are considered for funding towards their fees.
- 9.2. A panel comprising of the CEO and Co-Principals are present throughout the recall audition. Final decisions are taken after careful evaluation of the audition forms, declared household income and through discussion with all panel members. Video recordings may be used for reference, in particular should a DaDA become available at a future date.
- 9.3. Applicants are informed in writing if they have been allocated an award together with information regarding the award and a request for further evidence.
- 9.4. Applicants who are not in receipt of financial support are given advice on other avenues which may provide them with financial help.

10. Successful Applicants

- 10.1. Successful applicants are emailed a final offer letter by the Academy and terms and conditions to be signed and returned.
- 10.2. Once a Degree applicant has met the conditions of the offer their place will be confirmed by Anglia Ruskin University and requested to register online.

11. Unsuccessful Applicants

- 11.1. Applicants who are unsuccessful are informed as soon as possible via email after the audition and no later than two weeks following their audition date.
- 11.2. The Academy has an appeals procedure in place and the applicant is made aware of this. All auditions are documented for reference.
- 11.3. Sometimes applicants are simply not yet ready for vocational training and audition successfully again after further training.

12. Appeals Procedure

12.1. Appeals will only be considered in the case of the audition procedure not being followed correctly. The applicant should submit their appeal within 7 working days of the result notification.

12.2. The Appeals Committee comprises of the CEO and Co-Principals.

12.3. The Appeals Committee will respond to the applicant within 14 working days of receipt of the appeal.