# WHY ELECTRONIC KEYBOARD 2019-2022

An introduction to Trinity's Electronic Keyboard 2019-2022 syllabus

TRINITY
ELECTRONIC
KEYBOARD
2019-2022

## The exams that develop the skills a contemporary electronic keyboard player needs

The electronic keyboard has come a long way from its early beginnings of models from manufacturers such as Wurlitzer and Moog, and is now a popular and well-used instrument on the contemporary and live music scene. Its versatility means that it isn't only an 'electric piano', but a unique instrument that offers a range of voices, controls and functions which enable musicians to play in a huge range of styles and create their own musical interpretations. Electronic keyboards are also extremely portable, making them great for live performances.

Our new syllabus has been designed with electronic keyboard functions and capabilities in mind.

Musicians will learn common chord progressions as they work through the grades, as well as the kinds of scales, modes and chords that contemporary professional keyboard players need. Our technical exercises have been specifically designed to support the pieces chosen. To showcase the functionality of the electronic keyboard, there is even a sequencing option at higher grades, to help keyboard players develop the skills to create their own music.



Download and explore the Electronic Keyboard syllabus 2019-2022



## What is required in a Trinity electronic keyboard exam?

The structure of the exam has not changed from our previous electronic keyboard syllabus - you can see the exam structure at a glance in our **Elements of the Syllabus** resource.

All candidates select three pieces, or they may include one piece they have composed themselves.

They will also perform a keyboard exercise (except at Initial) and then select from either scales or technical exercises, according to their own preferences and strengths. At Grades 6-8 candidates have the option to select the new sequencing exercise.

They also select from four supporting tests: aural, sight reading, musical knowledge (Grades 1-5) or improvisation.

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#### New repertoire with audio downloads

Brand new repertoire is available at all grades, in new books available from Trinity College London Press. We've made sure to include the music popular with teachers and candidates and is played by professionals, including popular classics, show tunes, film themes, jazz, folk and world styles. Recordings of the new pieces and exercises are available as free MP3 downloads.



#### New technical work and revised scales and chords

The 2019-2022 technical work includes a new compulsory keyboard exercise. It is designed to help candidates at Grade 1 to Grade 8 learn the chords and chord progressions that players need to really master their technique.

We've also updated the scales and chords so that they are authentic to keyboard repertoire and performance. Musicians will focus on a few tonal centres for each grade and learn the modes, scales and chords that contemporary keyboard performers and composers use.

All the new scales and chords are available in the new graded exam books, so you can find everything you need for each grade all in one publication.

#### New sequencing exercise

For those candidates progressing to Grades 6-8, we've introduced a new sequencing exercise as part of the technical work section of the exam.

The ability to record a track, play it back and then play along with it live, is an exciting feature of playing the electronic keyboard, and a skill that recording artists all over the world use to create their own music in the studio. Selecting this option in the exam could be a great way to start to explore music technology.

#### What resources are available?

Visit our Music Resources website to access an evergrowing range of resources to support electronic keyboard teaching and learning.

You'll find support resources on pieces, supporting tests and technical work, as well as hear from professional keyboard players working in the industry.

Visit: trinitycollege.com/keyboard-resources

### The Electronic Keyboard syllabus 2019-2022 features:

- New performance repertoire at all grades
- Restructured technical work
- New graded exam books
- Accompanying audio, now available as downloads
- A new sight-reading publication Sound at Sight: Grades 6-8
- A refreshed syllabus format
- Digital support resources

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