



COVID-19 SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR DIGITAL MUSIC EXAMS

This document applies to the following syllabuses:

- ▶ Digital Graded Exams: Classical & Jazz, and Rock & Pop
- ▶ Digital Diploma Exams: Music Performance Diplomas

The document applies to cases where access to accompaniment or instruments is restricted due to social distancing measures or other local or national restrictions.

ACCOMPANIMENT

In cases where it is not possible to perform with an accompanist, the following alternatives will be accepted:

a) Performance with backing tracks

- ▶ Candidates may use backing tracks or pre-recorded accompaniments at all levels.
- ▶ Candidates may have help operating the equipment so that it does not disrupt their performance.
- ▶ Performing levels should be checked before the recording starts to ensure that there is correct balance and the candidate's instrument can be heard properly.

b) Solo performance without accompaniment

- ▶ It is strongly recommended that some form of accompaniment is used, but if this is not possible we will accept unaccompanied performances for classical, jazz and diploma exams.
- ▶ Please note that Rock & Pop candidates must use the Rock & Pop backing tracks provided. Unaccompanied performances are not allowed.
- ▶ Candidates may only play accompanied pieces solo if they have no facility to provide live or backing track accompaniment.
- ▶ If submitting unaccompanied performances, candidates may truncate rests of more than two bars.
- ▶ The option to perform without accompaniment applies to all instruments except drum kit. Accompanied drum kit pieces must be played with live or backing track accompaniment.

DIGITAL INSTRUMENTS

In cases where it is not possible to perform on an acoustic instrument during national or local lockdown, the following alternatives will be accepted:

- ▶ **Piano candidates** may use a digital piano (up to LTCL level) or electronic keyboard (up to Grade 3), provided that the instrument is touch-sensitive and is capable of achieving all the technical and musical demands of the chosen pieces. A solo piano voice must be used.
- ▶ **Drum Kit/Rock & Pop Drums candidates** may use an electronic drum kit up to Grade 8. Where instruments are not capable of producing the required voices, effects and dynamics, a list of acceptable adaptations and solutions can be found on the Covid-19 Special Arrangements web pages.
- ▶ **Rock & Pop Vocals candidates** can perform without a microphone at all grades if necessary. Please be aware of the balance between voice and backing track to ensure the candidate can be heard clearly at all times.

Please note that examiners are only able to assess the outcome, and cannot make allowances for the instrument itself. Videos may be returned for re-recording if the instrument does not meet the specified requirements.

DECLARATION

Candidates must complete the declaration on the submission information form which must be uploaded with their video and other supporting documents. The declaration should be signed by the candidate, or by an adult if the candidate is aged under 18.