

The route to 'specialist' status

This starts by contacting the Registrar by phone, email, on-line application or in writing. The Registrar will take your child's details and send out a prospectus and application form.

Step 1 Pre-audition

- free of charge
- by appointment
- accompanist provided
- may include a tour of the school and meeting with the Head
- candidate undertakes various activities with their prospective instrumental Head of Department and the Director of Music, including playing prepared pieces; sight-reading, ear tests and brief discussion
- instant feedback and advice

Outcome: may result in the immediate offer of place at the school as a Special Provision musician or recommendation to try for a Specialist place at the Main Auditions.

Step 2 Main Audition

- audition fee of £60.00
- accompanist provided
- candidates participate in a programme of events including rehearsal with their accompanist, pastoral interviews and diagnostic aural tests
- may include a workshop or group activity at the discretion of the appropriate instrumental Head of Department
- main event – panel audition. Candidates play prepared repertoire in front of an audition panel consisting of Heads of Department, Director of Music etc

Outcome: may result in the offer of Specialist status, which may carry with it a means tested award from the DfES; or, offer of a place as a Special Provision musician.