

FREELANCE MUSIC APPRENTICESHIP COURSE @ LEVELS 1, 2 & 3

Access to Music's Freelance Music Apprenticeships (FMA) are a new way of gaining the right skills to work in today's music industry.

As with any apprenticeship, the focus is on gaining employment skills. However, this is an apprenticeship with a difference!

Rather than working for an employer, you will be working for yourself instead. This means you will be taking a guided journey into self-employment.

Why self-employment? Well, music and the creative industries have few big companies. Most artists and industry players tend to be freelance, or working in small companies.

So, by undertaking the Freelance Music Apprenticeship you will be

making a commitment to set up and operate your own business which we hope will be earning you money before the end of your apprenticeship period.

CREATING YOUR BUSINESS

What you will need to do before starting your apprenticeship is get an idea for what sort of business you want to run.

This may be being a self-employed artist, a session musician, sound engineer or a promoter. It may be setting up a record label, or opening a venue or music shop. It could be creating a digital business for distributing or streaming music or building music websites or working in viral marketing.

On the other hand it could be designing

and producing musical instruments, teaching music, setting up a PA company, running a festival, being a music manager, or becoming a lighting engineer.

DEVELOPING YOUR BUSINESS

Whatever your business proposal, our Freelance Music Apprenticeship will be able to help you develop your ideas into a practical and, hopefully, profitable business.

You will achieve this by being allocated a professional mentor who will act as your personal guide towards self-employment. In many ways this person will fulfil a similar role to a mentor in a conventional apprenticeship.

Above all, your mentor will be someone with a detailed knowledge of

MORE ABOUT YOUR APPRENTICESHIP.

the music and creative industries. So, they will be able to offer expert business advice relating to your chosen area of the music industry.

With their support and guidance we normally expect apprentices to become self employed during the second year of their apprenticeship.

While we would like you to be earning as much money as possible, we also accept that creative businesses in their early stages need to generate a portfolio of work to secure future clients, so some of this work may be in-kind.

DEVELOPING YOUR SKILLS

One thing to be aware of is, as a self-employed person, you will be responsible for

all aspects of your business operation from planning and management through to marketing and promotion.

Because of this it is crucial that you are able to develop competency in a wide variety of areas from budgets and business law to health and safety.

During your apprenticeship you will gain these skills through music and business sessions and tutorials delivered by FMA tutors.

These tutors will guide you in choosing a set of modules or units which match your business goals. By achieving these modules you will not only gain the right skills for your business, but you will also gain a qualification.

This qualification is the same as that for our Further

Education courses. That is a Rockschool Combined Diploma @ Level 3 which generates 96 Level 3 credits.

In addition to this you will also work on improving your Functional Skills, many of which will be vital to your business planning.

NEXT MOVES

At the end of the two-year apprenticeship we hope that you have a sound business which is up and running.

Even if that is not yet the case, you will still have learned essential skills which will stand you in good stead for new business projects, or for employment in the creative industries.

Alternatively you can use your qualification to gain entry to Higher Education

MORE ABOUT YOUR APPRENTICESHIP.

INTRODUCTION

A Freelance Music Apprentice can expect to work towards establishing themselves as self-employed, through work based learning, professional mentoring and support.

The apprenticeship framework includes Key Skills, Employment Rights and Responsibilities, and a Vocational Qualification, which includes both Competence Based and Knowledge Based elements.

QUALIFICATIONS

The Freelance Music Apprenticeship (Music Practitioner) is an overarching Advanced Apprenticeship/Modern Apprenticeship framework.

The framework comprises of:

Vocational Qualification:

- Combined Diploma for Music Practitioners accredited through Rockschool – 96 credits at Level 3.

Key Skills:

- Communication (minimum Level 2).
- Application of Number (minimum Level 2).

Employment Rights and Responsibilities (ERR):

- self-employment

business planning.

- Musicians Union input.
- Mentoring and workshops by industry professionals.

Apprenticeship Certificate

On successful completion of all components, an Apprenticeship Certificate can be applied for.

MORE ABOUT YOUR APPRENTICESHIP.

HOW LONG IS THE APPRENTICESHIP?

There is no time formal time serving requirement for the Freelance Music Apprenticeship but on average it is expected to take up to 20-26 months to successfully complete the programme. Our delivery is based on the Combined Diploma duration of 2 years.

HOW MANY HOURS PER WEEK?

Apprentices are expected to work the equivalent of full time hours on developing their self employed career. They will need to plan their time to always be available for scheduled mentoring sessions, workshops, and during term time the course timetable. A rough guide would be 36 hours per week commitment to their music career over 40 weeks per year.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

These entry requirements are taken from the framework and are linked to the employed creative apprenticeship entry requirements

Successful candidates will be able to demonstrate at interview they have the realistic potential to earn a living in their chosen field.

There are no minimum academic entry requirements. Apprentices will be expected to attend an interview/audition at which they will be required to demonstrate that they have the realistic potential to earn a living in their chosen field.

As a guide to applicants, the industry feels that those wishing to train as an apprentice require the following skills and attributes:

- Self motivation to

succeed within the industry.

- Self discipline and enthusiasm.
- Shows initiative.
- Capacity to develop organisational skills.
- Demonstrates potential to complete the qualifications.
- Willingness to learn and apply that learning in the workplace.
- Willingness to work with due regard to health and safety.
- Willingness to adapt to different work roles.
- Capacity to cope in busy conditions.
- Willingness to communicate with a range of people.

WHERE DOES IT RUN?

Please check the website for information on where the Freelance Music Apprenticeship is running.

www.accesstomusic.co.uk

The one-stop site for more information and applying for courses.
More advice: info@accesstomusic.co.uk / Freephone 0800 28 18 42
© Access to Music Ltd. 2009