

EAST LONDON ARTS & MUSIC



Author:	C.Kennard
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CURRICULUM POLICY

Signed by Chair of Governors:

Signed by Principal:

Introduction:

The course at ELAM has been designed in conjunction with the creative industries to ensure all Trainees have the skills, knowledge and portfolio of work they need to enter the creative industries when they finish ELAM. There are three main courses at ELAM, Music, Games Design and Film & Television Production. Trainees on these courses will take the BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma which is the equivalent to 3 A-Levels in UCAS Points and contact time. In addition to any of these qualifications, all Trainees study Maths and English as the skills developed in both are critical for success in the creative industries. The level at which Trainees study Maths and English depends on their starting level upon entry. We offer A-Levels, AS Levels, Level 3 Qualifications and GCSEs in both Maths and English.

Curriculum Principles

1. All trainees undertake a Level 3 Extended Diploma in Music or Digital Media Production (From Sep 2017). We do not offer subsidiary diplomas or any level 1 or 2 qualifications.
2. All trainees develop their numeracy and literacy through the discrete teaching of rigorous qualifications in each of these subjects.
3. Trainees undertake projects that have real world outcomes and authentic audiences and therefore go beyond a distinction standard and instead meet the industry standard.
4. The curriculum provides direct access to leading individuals within the creative industries. We take the definition of 'leading individuals' seriously and work with individuals and organizations leading the way in the creative sector and economy.
5. Our curriculum supports the development of skills, with specific focus on the opportunity to develop our five values; Collaboration, Integrity, Excellence, Innovation and Drive.

Academic Qualifications and Pathways

This is a list of qualification we currently have on offer at ELAM:

Level	Maths	English	Music	Digital Media
A-Level	A-Level Mathematics (Pearson)	A-Level English Literature and Language (Pearson)	BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Music	BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Digital Media
Level 3	MEI Quantitative Reasoning (OCR)	Extended Project Qualification (Pearson)	N/A	N/A
GCSE	GCSE Mathematics (Pearson)	GCSE English Language (Pearson)	N/A	N/A

The specific pathway a trainee takes depends on their prior academic attainment. All trainees either take the level 3 extended diploma in Music or Digital Media.

Trainees that did not obtain a C grade in either Maths or English will complete this qualification. If a trainee obtained a D grade in both they would undertake a double GCSE pathway. If a trainee obtained a D grade in English and a C grade in Maths, they would undertake GCSE English and a Level 3 qualification Mathematics and vice versa. In exceptional circumstances a student may take an A-Level and GCSE at the same time but due to the workload associated with the A-Level this would only be in exceptional circumstances as judged by the senior leadership team.

A trainee who comes in with a grade A-C in their Maths and English will have the option of either taking an A-Level in maths and/or English or pursuing a Level 3 Qualification in Maths and English. This decision is ultimately made by the Head of Department but a conversation with the trainee will be a part of this in addition to baselining etc. When pursuing an A-level in either maths or English, it is unlikely that a trainee will undertake a diet of the other subject. In exceptional circumstances, a trainee will be able to take an A-Level in both Maths and English.

The study of Maths and English is an part of the ELAM curriculum and no trainee can opt out of this and this is made clear when applying to ELAM. In very exceptional circumstances, a trainee may follow a unique pathway. The decision to pursue a unique pathway needs to be signed of by the ELAM Principal.

Industry Integration

Links and access to employers and leading industry experts are fundamental elements of the curriculum. These look like the following.

- ❑ Every week trainees receive a 1-2 hour masterclass from a leading industry individual.
- ❑ Every year all trainees undertake two weeks work experience at a leading organisation within the creative sector. This takes place in February.
- ❑ In addition to the two core elements of the curriculum, there are multiple other areas through which trainees engage with employers throughout the year.
- ❑ Within our vocational units, teachers regularly develop real world outcomes which challenge trainees to exceed the level required by the qualification.