

# RAMBERT SCHOOL

## RAMBERT SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY MA DANCE RESEARCH FOR PROFESSIONAL PRACTITIONERS

(October 2020 entry)

**This programme aims to offer a professional/scholarly opportunity bespoke to the learners' individual practice in dance. It is designed to embrace a wide range of research interests within the dance profession (e.g. dancer, rehearsal director, lecturer/teacher, community practitioner, dance makers). The programme is offered on a part-time basis in order to accommodate professional working schedules and allow for the gradual deepening of dance related practices.**

Students on the MA Dance Research for Professional Practitioners gain a postgraduate qualification whilst developing their individual approaches to their professional practice and context in the dance sector within an academic framework. The programme is delivered by Rambert School and is validated by the University of Kent.

Rambert School is a member school of the Conservatoire for Dance and Drama. Students of the Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance, including students on the MA Dance Research for Professional Practitioners, are registered as students with the [Conservatoire for Dance and Drama](#). The Conservatoire is a higher education provider registered with the [Office for Students](#).

Rambert School offers places based on talent and potential for successful completion of the programme alone (i.e. not discriminating on the basis of gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, disability, economic background or otherwise); and considers each particular applicant's suitability for the programme of study. Rambert School, in union with the Conservatoire for Dance and Drama and its other Member Schools, operates an equal opportunities policy; for further information, go to [www.cdd.ac.uk/about/equality-and-diversity/](http://www.cdd.ac.uk/about/equality-and-diversity/).

### **Applications**

Information regarding the period when the School will accept applications for the programme for entry the following academic year (October start) will be displayed on the school website, along with information about the deadline for submitting an application and how to submit it. Further information about making an application and entry requirements can be found below in this policy.

### **Application Form information**

Applicants are also required to complete a questionnaire in line with our equal opportunities policy. The data from this questionnaire is used to provide statistical information only for monitoring purposes and does not form part of the application process or consideration of an application to the programme.

### **Application process**

The number of places available on this programme will normally be limited to around 10 places per cohort. As this programme is tailored to the individual student, the School will determine during the application process whether the programme is suitable for the candidate.

### ***Making an application***

To make an application for this programme, applicants should submit the following:

- Completed Application form
  - Personal statement
  - ***Either*** An undergraduate essay at Level 6, or their thesis (at Level 6). The subject matter is not restricted to a dance context, as this is an entry criterion to assess academic writing proficiency and suitability for study at Masters level
- Or***
- A 1000 word essay or reflective report (in accordance with guidance provided by the School) on an area of interest or curiosity within their current dance (or related) practice
  - Curriculum Vitae (optional)

Applications that are incomplete may not be accepted for consideration.

The information (as outlined above) submitted with each candidate's application will be scored according to the entry criteria set out earlier in this policy.

Entry to the programme is via a two-stage application process. All applicants who meet the Stage 1 entry criteria will progress to Stage 2 of the application process, the 'Interview Stage'. Unsuccessful applicants at this stage may contact the School for feedback on their application should they wish.

### **Entry Criteria and Eligibility**

#### ***Overview***

Candidates must normally be engaged or have been engaged as a practitioner within a professional context, in dance or cognate disciplines (i.e. Company, Theatre, Conservatoire, School) and normally hold an undergraduate degree in a relevant discipline with a minimum 2:1 classification. Professional experience is a prerequisite for this programme. Applicants must successfully demonstrate a satisfactory level of linguistic written proficiency.

For the purposes of this programme, 'practitioner' includes, but is not limited to, dance industry professionals such as dancer, rehearsal director, education practitioner, community practitioner, dance maker. Other professionals working within the dance or a cognate industry are welcome to apply; the suitability of this programme for candidates not specifically working within a dance industry context will be assessed during the admissions process.

Applicants who have formerly studied at and/or gained a qualification from Rambert School or any other school of the Conservatoire for Dance and Drama are not automatically entitled to a place on the MA Dance Research for Professional Practitioners, or for any priority consideration for the programme.

Candidates who embark upon this programme but who do not complete the full programme and accept an exit award of a PG Cert (60 credits) or PG Dip (120 credits) are not eligible to subsequently complete any outstanding credits on the programme.

The specific entry criteria that applicants for this programme need to meet are set out below. Applicants who meet all the Stage 1 criteria will progress to Stage 2 of the application process.

### ***STAGE 1 PROCESS***

Applications will be reviewed by the Programme Admissions Team to determine whether the Stage 1 Entry Criteria set out below are satisfactorily met:

#### ***STAGE 1 ENTRY CRITERIA***

- ***Age requirement***  
The minimum age to study this programme is normally 22 – there is no upper age limit for this programme.
- ***Educational requirement***  
Candidates should normally hold an undergraduate bachelor's (BA) degree with a 2.1 minimum classification.  
In exceptional circumstances, where applicants do not meet this academic requirement, comparable vocational training and/or experience, supported by satisfactory testimonials, may be considered in lieu of an undergraduate bachelor's degree, or alongside a degree with a classification below 2:1. In these instances, the candidate's whole academic and professional profile will be taken into consideration in reviewing the application against this entry criterion.
- ***Language requirement***  
Candidates whose first language is not English need to demonstrate English language proficiency by submitting results from a recognised testing service, such as the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic Test. The minimum score required for is IELTS 6.5 (no less than 6.0 in any element). Further information about this language requirement can be obtained from the validating university, the University of Kent, at the

following link: <https://www.kent.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/apply/english-language-requirements#uk-eu-non-visa>

Students may be admitted to the programme with advanced standing in line with the University of Kent's standard APECL requirements. Such cases are subject to prior approval by the University of Kent according to its APL process, as set out in the regulations found at the following link: <https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/codes/taught/annexr.html>

Applicants are welcome from anywhere in the UK/EU/EEA economic area; this programme is also open to international students, subject to meeting the [Tier 4 visa requirements](#). Residence requirements for students from the EU/EEA may be subject to change in the event of any new UK government legislation arising from the United Kingdom leaving the EU.

- ***Professional experience requirement***

Normally, candidates should have a minimum of at least 3 years' professional experience in a practitioner capacity in any field of dance and/or within a professional dance context (e.g. Company, Theatre, Conservatoire, School).

### ***STAGE 2 PROCESS***

The Stage 2 process will involve an interview with the candidate, followed by a final assessment of the application using the information obtained during interview and in the documentary application submission to score against criteria (as set out below in this policy in section 'Selection Process').

### ***STAGE 2 ENTRY CRITERIA***

- ***Suitability for the programme***

Subject to meeting the all Stage 1 entry criteria, candidates will progress to Stage 2. The Stage 2 process involves an interview with the candidate. The purpose of the interview is to fully explore and understand the suitability of the programme for the candidate.

All interviews will normally be held either at Rambert School of Ballet & Contemporary Dance, or online. Applicants will be notified during the application proceedings as to the location of interview. Applicants should raise any queries about this with the Head of Admissions, Registry, and Student Support at [admissions@@rambertschool.org.uk](mailto:admissions@@rambertschool.org.uk).

### **Selection process**

The two-stage selection process is designed to identify whether candidates meet the Stage 1 entry requirements and, if so, the suitability of the programme for candidates. The outcomes of the selection process will be determined as follows:

#### **At Stage 1:**

- the application will be reviewed to determine whether the candidate meets the Stage 1 entry criteria, and:

- Applications that demonstrate all Stage 1 criteria have been met will progress to Stage 2 of the application process; **all of the Stage 1 entry criteria must be satisfactorily met in order to progress to Stage 2.**
- Applications that demonstrate one or more of the Stage 1 entry criteria have not been met will be deemed unsuccessful and the application process will be concluded for the candidate.

### **At Stage 2:**

- An interview will be held to explore the application in greater depth with the candidate. Typically, the interview will be used to explore the following areas to help the Programme Admissions Team fully understand the compatibility of the candidate with the programme:
  - The candidate's personal, educational and professional experience
  - The candidate's career experience
  - The candidate's contextual experience and circumstances relating to the dance industry
  - The candidate's understanding of the aims and purpose of the programme
  - The candidate's areas of interest for practice-led enquiry and their desired aims if they were to embark upon the programme
- After the interview, the following components of the application process will be used to determine the programme's suitability for the individual candidate:
  - Information gathered at interview
  - Information submitted in the candidate's Personal Statement
  - Written submission (submitted by candidates as part of the application)
- Using the information outlined above, candidates will be 'scored' according to the criteria below in order to determine the programme's suitability for the individual:
  - **Suitability for study at postgraduate level**
    - Academic competence and potential (writing skills, depth of understanding, awareness of applied theory and theoretical concepts)
    - Level of academic support that would be needed (excluding any reasonable adjustments)
  - **Candidate's professional career experience:**
    - Currency of experience
    - Breadth of experience
    - How strongly this relates to a dance context
  - **Candidate's contextual experience and circumstances**
    - How strongly this experience links with dance industry
  - **Ability to engage with the programme effectively in terms of time and commitment**
    - ability to balance the programme study and contact hours with work schedule
    - Candidate's understanding of the demands of the programme

- **Suitability of identified area(s) of interest for further enquiry for the programme**
  - Appropriateness of identified area of interest for practice-led enquiry
  - Candidate's understanding of the aims of the programme

Priority for places on the programme will be allocated to candidates with the higher scores.

Unsuccessful applicants are welcome to apply for a future place on the programme, and they may request feedback from the School on their application.

### **Offer of a place**

Applicants should expect to hear whether they will be offered a place on the programme normally within 2 weeks of the date of the interview.

The candidate will need to accept that place within two weeks of the offer by returning an acceptance email to the School. Information and instructions regarding this will be provided with the formal offer letter, together with the relevant programme Terms and Conditions, Fees Policy and course summary document.

### **Enrolment**

Rambert School is a Member School of the Conservatoire for Dance and Drama, and students who are admitted to the MA Dance Research for Professional Practitioners become registered students of both the School and the Conservatoire. Students of the MA Dance Research for Professional Practitioners are therefore bound by the policies and procedures of the Conservatoire for Dance and Drama and local Rambert School policies. Please see the MA Dance Research for Professional Practitioners Terms and Conditions for further information.

It is a registration requirement that all students of the MA Dance Research for Professional Practitioners complete and submit a Conservatoire for Dance and Drama Registration form to Rambert School at the point of enrolment on the programme.

### **Unsuccessful applicants**

A candidate who is not offered a place should normally expect to hear either within two weeks of receipt of their application if they have been successful in meeting the Stage 1 criteria.

If a candidate progresses to Stage 2 and is offered an interview, they will normally receive at least two weeks' notice of the interview date and location (either in person at the School, or online). The final outcome of their application confirming whether a place on the programme is being offered will normally be communicated via email to the candidate within two weeks of the date of the interview.

Candidates who are not offered a place are allowed to apply again for the following academic year's entry. Feedback can be obtained upon request from final stage candidates only.

### **False, fraudulent or misleading information provided by applicants**

Rambert School and the Conservatoire for Dance and Drama reserves the right to refuse admission to the MA Dance Research for Professional Practitioners or, if already registered, terminate registration if information provided by an applicant is fraudulent, inaccurate or incomplete.

Rambert School and the Conservatoire for Dance and Drama expect that all information provided to them by applicants will be complete, true and accurate, with no misleading omissions or inaccuracies. Any submission of fraudulent, inaccurate or misleading information on the application, or the omission of relevant information, will result in the immediate cancellation of the application and/or the withdrawal of any offer made. Where information comes to light that an application may contain false, fraudulent or misleading information from a successful applicant who has already registered as a student on the MA Dance Research for Professional Practitioners programme, the student's registration may be terminated and student status withdrawn, or the student may be subject to disciplinary action.

### **Criminal Records**

Rambert School and the Conservatoire for Dance and Drama have a responsibility to provide a secure, safe environment for staff, students, visitors and others, and must balance this alongside any legal requirements, such as those to protect vulnerable individuals. Rambert School and the Conservatoire will process any information relating to a criminal record in line with the Conservatoire for Dance and Drama's policy on disclosure of criminal records, which is published on the Conservatoire's website at the following link:

<http://www.cdd.ac.uk/policies/student-related-policies/>

**Applicants to the MA Dance Research for Professional Practitioners are not required to disclose any specific details regarding a criminal record until and unless requested to do so by the School.**

However, where an applicant has voluntarily indicated they may have a relevant criminal conviction they wish to disclose, in accordance with the Conservatoire's [Criminal Records Policy](#) at the point of making an offer to an applicant Rambert School may request further information about the conviction, in order to establish whether any additional support may be required by the individual.

Having a criminal record is not a bar to studying on a Conservatoire programme with Rambert School, and the School welcomes applications from all individuals. Applicants should note that the School has some programmes that require an enhanced DBS check, and in certain cases whilst not preventing an individual from training with Rambert School, this may preclude them from undertaking certain pathways.

Rambert School and the Conservatoire will not request any specific details about an applicant's criminal record; no such information will be requested until the point where it is necessary in order for the student to be able to undertake regulated activity<sup>1</sup> as part of the programme (which will not normally be the case for students on the MA Dance Research for Professional Practitioners).

Convictions which are deemed spent under the terms of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, should not be disclosed by applicants under any circumstances. However, where successful applicants become registered students of Rambert School and the Conservatoire, if they wish to undertake modules and/or placements which involve the need for an enhanced DBS check (i.e. teaching modules or modules where you are likely to be working in unsupervised environments with minors or vulnerable adults), applicants should be aware that spent convictions deemed as 'exceptions' under the terms of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 may be disclosed.

For independent advice and support regarding criminal convictions, applicants may wish to contact the charity [UNLOCK](#) who also have the following tools and guidance:

[The Disclosure Calculator](#) (for calculating when convictions become spent)

['Is it spent?' poster](#) (with information about when convictions become spent)

### **Admissions Appeals and Complaints**

If a candidate feels they may have grounds for an appeal or complaint about the admissions process, they should follow the Admissions Complaints and Appeals Procedure below.

In accordance with the Conservatoire for Dance and Drama's Admissions, Appeals and Complaints Policy, an applicant may submit an appeal or complaint regarding the admissions process by following the Admissions, Appeals and Complaints Procedure that can be found at the following link:

<http://www.cdd.ac.uk/policies/student-related-policies/>

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<sup>1</sup>[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/550197/Regulated\\_activity\\_in\\_relation\\_to\\_children.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/550197/Regulated_activity_in_relation_to_children.pdf)