

**London College of Music Examinations**

# **Early Learning**

**Requirements for Recorded Exams:  
Stages 1-3, Pre-preparatory**

**Valid from:**  
Spring 2020 until further notice

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## 1. Overview

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, London College of Music Examinations is offering recorded alternatives in order to assess the work candidates have prepared for the Spring 2020 exam session.

The following exam alternative provides the opportunity for the assessment of musical performance, whereby candidates upload a video file of their performance, rather than attending an examination venue. Performances are assessed by trained LCME examiners, using the same standards and criteria as are used for face-to-face, live exams. This offers candidates a reliable, independent, regulated assessment of their performance standard, while benefitting from the flexibility allowed by the submission process.

Please note, LCME is currently offering recorded alternatives for Step exams and grades 1-7 in Music Theatre. We aim to be able to offer grade 8 and diploma recorded exams in the near future.

## 2. Entry Details

Candidates entered for a face-to-face exam may choose to switch to a recorded exam at no additional cost. Once candidates have recorded their exams, they can be uploaded via the LCME website. Please see *submission guidelines (page 3)* for details.

## 3 Recorded Exam Requirements

### 3.1 Early Learning: Individual - Stages 1-3

#### Stage One

- 1. Candidate introduces themselves
- 2. Speak a nursery rhyme or sing a song from memory. Movement and gesture may be included in the performance.
- 3. EITHER (a) Perform a prepared descriptive animal mime to show an observation of animal movement.  
OR (b) Perform a short elementary piece on any instrument.

#### Stage Two

- 1. Candidate introduces themselves
- 2. Speak a nursery rhyme or poem of similar standard or sing a song from memory. Movement and gesture may be included in the performance.
- 3. EITHER (a) Perform a prepared mime to show an occupation or a sequence of events, to demonstrate mood (such as happy or sad)  
OR (b) Perform a short elementary piece on any instrument.

#### Stage Three

- 1. Candidates give a simple, personal introduction of themselves . The candidate may use one or two family photographs or a favourite possession as stimulus.
- 2. EITHER (a) Speak a poem, action rhyme or nursery rhyme of their choice.  
OR (b) Sing a nursery rhyme or a simple song.
- 3. EITHER (a) Act a brief drama speech in character (maximum 10 lines).  
OR (b) Speak a contrasting second poem, action rhyme or nursery rhyme of their choice.  
OR (c) Perform an elementary piece on any instrument.

#### Assessment

Performances are assessed according to the same standards and criteria as for LCME's face-to-face exams. Refer to the details listed under Performance, in the section *How marks are awarded* in the relevant syllabus.

#### Submission

Please see *submission guidelines* (page 4).

## 3.2 Pre-preparatory - Piano & Recorder

A recorded submission alternative for candidates who have entered for Pre-preparatory exams

### **Component 1: Exercises** **(30 marks)**

Candidates play all of the exercises (as outlined in the LCME syllabus)

### **Component 2: Studies/ List A Pieces** **(30 marks)**

Candidates perform any two of the pieces from List A

### **Component 3: List B Pieces** **(40 marks)**

Candidates perform any two of the pieces from List B

### **Weighting for examination components**

Exercises	Studies / List A Pieces	List B Pieces
30 %	30 %	40 %

### **Assessment**

Performances are assessed according to the same standards and criteria as for LCME's face-to-face exams. Refer to the details listed under Performance, in the section *How marks are awarded* in the relevant syllabus.

### **Submission**

Please see *submission guidelines* (page 4).

## 4. Submission Guidelines

1. Music which is published with an accompaniment must be performed with that accompaniment. The accompaniment can be performed live on a piano/ keyboard or a backing track may be used.
2. Candidates must supply details of the pieces they are performing (titles and composers) verbally before each piece. Candidates are not required to submit scores of any pieces performed.
3. Each piece must be recorded in a single, uninterrupted take.
4. Performances must be recorded using a static camera, which should be positioned in such a way as to show the performer clearly.
5. The recording device's microphone must be of sufficient quality to allow assessment of all aspects of the performance, including tone quality, dynamic range, etc.
6. The microphone should be positioned in such a way as to ensure good sound balance between candidate and accompanist (if applicable).
7. When uploading a file to the website, the file must be either avi, flv, wmv, mov or mp4 format and should not exceed 150MB . The file must be labelled clearly with the candidate's name.
8. When completing the file upload on the LCME website, candidates must declare that the performances in the video are that of the candidate named on the submission.