



MOUNTVIEW

MA/MFA MUSIC DIRECTION

CANDIDATE'S BRIEFING FOR IN-PERSON INTERVIEWS

What to prepare for your interview

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Your interview will take place in-person at Mountview in Peckham. As musical direction is such an individual and personal set of skills, meeting candidates is a priority for this course. You should expect it to last approximately one hour. Your interview will take the following structure:

1. Prepare two pieces to play on the piano. One of these should be a classical piece that shows dexterity, control, and good finger and pedal technique; the other should be a musical theatre piece. This will ideally be a musical theatre overture, or a substantial dance break (ie. at least three pages of music), which shows a sense of the orchestration and stylings of the music in your realisation of that at the piano. Each piece should have a duration of no longer than three minutes. We may not have time to hear the entirety of pieces that are longer than this.
2. After you have played your two prepared pieces, you will be given a short extract from a song and a complete song to sight-read. These will be contrasting periods and styles of music. You are not expected to play every note on the page, but rather to give a musically coherent, harmonically and stylistically accurate reading of the song, which a singer could comfortably work with in a class or audition context.
3. You will then coach a singer on the interpretation of a song for approximately ten minutes. Mountview will supply the singer, and they will bring a song to work on. You should focus on supporting the singer in their interpretation of both music and lyric text as if you were musical directing the number for the show or coaching the singer for an upcoming audition. While singing technique advice on placement and breathing can support this process, you are not expected to give the singer a technical lesson.
4. The final fifteen minutes will be an interview where you will be asked questions on your previous studies as experience, as well as aspirations for the future. There are no 'wrong' answers, and this allows us to see how you might benefit from the Mountview MD training, as well as for you to get a more detailed idea of how the course works and integrates with life at Mountview. This will also be a chance for you to ask any questions you have. You may also wish to bring examples of work (such as orchestrations or backing tracks) that you feel support your application.

After your interview day, we aim to confirm the result within two weeks. All results are communicated via email to the applicant by the Admissions Team. Results cannot be confirmed over the phone. You will then receive your official offer letter by email following which you will have two weeks to respond to your offer and if accepting, pay a £1,000 deposit.

Application for the MFA is by the same process as the MA.

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Additional information

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Mountview is committed to providing a supportive environment for applicants during their time with us. We understand that auditions can be a source of stress and anxiety for many people and we aim to support our applicants through this process. Our Student Welfare Manager works with the Admissions Office to ensure that any applicant who discloses a need for support or adjustments can participate fully with the audition experience.

If you have any access requirement or have any further questions please contact:

Admissions
admissions@mountview.org.uk · 020 8829 0037

Be prepared...

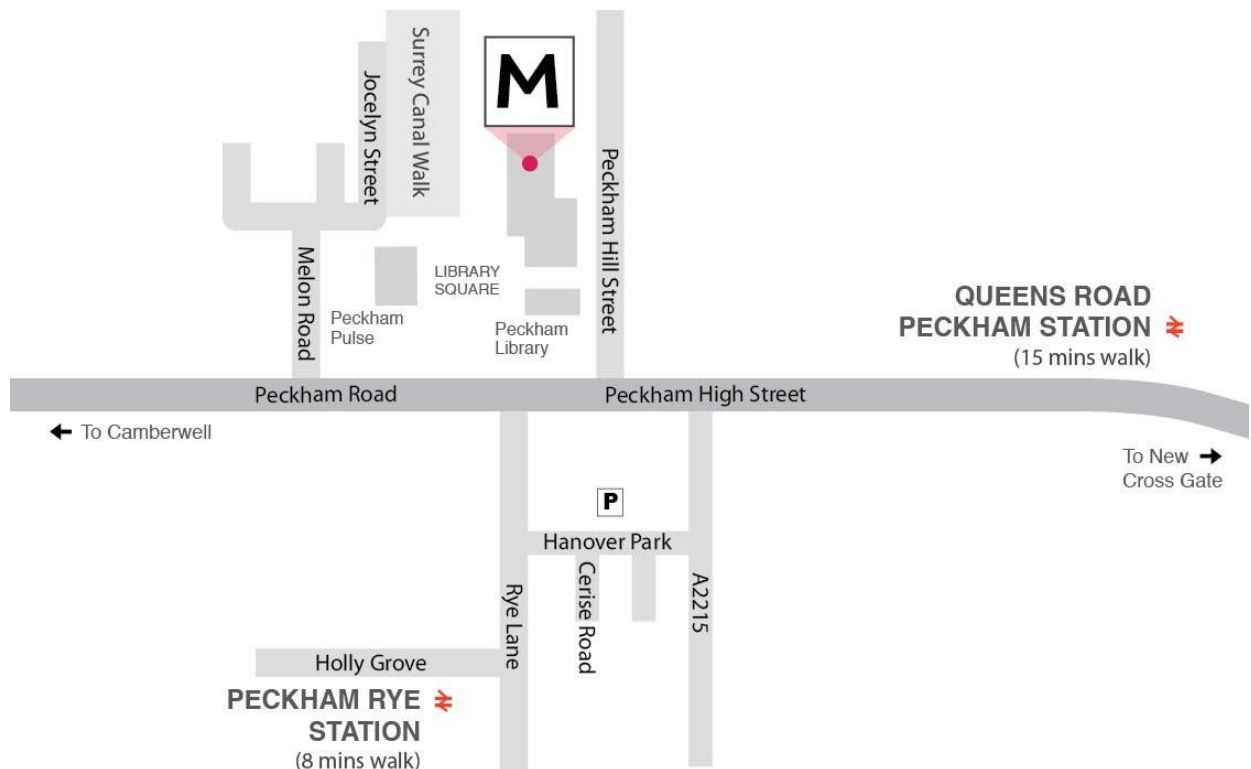
Please ensure that:

1. You allow plenty of time to get to the site (the auditions will start promptly at the time stated on your audition offer letter). If using public transport in London, it is advised that you check the Transport for London website (tfl.gov.uk) for any travel updates that may affect your journey.
2. You are sufficiently prepared and warmed up.

Getting to Mountview

Mountview
120 Peckham Hill Street
London SE15 5JT

Note: Mountview's entrance is on Library Square



Transport links

Mountview is well served by the Transport for London (TfL) Overground train and bus networks. Further information about travel by bus, train or tube can be found on the TfL website: [Transport for London – plan your journey](#)

By train

Peckham Rye station has four services per hour to London Bridge (12 minutes) and two services per hour to Victoria (15 minutes). In addition, the Thameslink service serves major central stations including Blackfriars and St Pancras International. National Rail services link up to TfL's networks from Gatwick, Heathrow, Luton, Stansted and London City airports.

Parking

Mountview has very limited parking for disabled patrons only which is booked on a first come, first serve basis. This must be booked in advance by emailing admissions@mountview.org.uk. A public pay-and-display car park can be found behind the Aylesham Shopping Centre.

Confirmation

To confirm your audition deadline date, please complete the confirmation form in your audition invite email.

If we have not received confirmation from you, the audition date will be withdrawn and requests for a further date will count as a reschedule. If you turn up for an audition without confirming attendance, we will not be able to audition you.

Please be aware that you will only be able to **reschedule your audition once**. In your reply e-mail, please state the audition dates that you can make (these are posted on [our website](#)) and we will endeavor to place you in one of these audition dates.

If you need to reschedule your audition date more than once, or you do not attend, you will need to pay the full audition fee again to book another audition date. This will be payable over the phone or by bank transfer and we will only issue you with another audition date once this has been paid.

You will not need to re-submit another application.

We look forward to seeing you at your audition.