

## **Music Applicant Advice**

*Below is some advice from Emily who is currently studying Music at St Hugh's, we hope you find it helpful!*

### **Interview Advice**

For two of my interviews, I was given a text containing an article about music and a score of a random piece of music. When I went into the interview room, expecting to get quizzed on their facts and intricacies, I was very surprised when the tutor simply said, "tell me about the text" or "text me about that piece of music on your score". No questions, no pointers. Your interview may not be the exact same, but my point is that most importantly, the tutors wanted to get to know me, rather than my knowledge of music. They weren't interested in finding out whether I knew the home keys to all 9 Beethoven symphonies, (I could probably name one), instead they wanted to see how I thought about music. They wanted to see where my interests in music lay and whether I was able to engage in a conversation about music.

They are interested in you as a person, and much less interested in your knowledge of your subject, so let your come personality through. Lead the conversation as confidently as possible and comment on what interests you most. The tutors will follow what you're saying; they may ask questions, but their intention in those questions is to draw out even more of what they can see you have to give.

In terms of the audition during the interview process: it is really nothing to be anxious about! If you are someone interested in performance, the audition is a great opportunity to showcase your talents so enjoy it! If you are not interested in performance, then don't worry! The tutors are merely interested in checking you can get some sort of meaningful sound out of an instrument – they are not in any way expecting a professional recital. I was, and still am, a terrible performer, and it in no way made any difference to me being accepted into the university to study music.

**Good Luck!**