



Knowledge Exchange Framework

KEF3

Institutional Context

Template

**For submission to Research England by
12:00pm (noon) on Wednesday 29 March 2023
Max words: 500 - plus 120 word plain English summary**

Submission method

All narrative statements must use the relevant KEF3 template, in MS Word format, and be submitted via the SharePoint link provided to the nominated KEF contact. Further information is provided in the [KEF3 narrative guidance](#).

Institutional Context narrative statement

Research England contact information – will not be published

Please confirm the main point of contact for Research England to use in the management of the KEF results and queries relating to any of the narrative statements. Please nominate one single, primary contact point but you may add additional email addresses to be copied into any communications we send.

Institution name	Royal College of Music
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A maximum of 500 words and up to 5 diagrams or images may be included, plus an additional 120 words for the plain English summary. All images must have alternative text descriptions provided via the MS Word 'alt text' feature. Please refer to the [narrative guidance](#) for detailed information about the permitted formatting.

This template uses an embedded table to contain all textual and infographic elements of your submission, please do not edit the format of the templates or add additional rows to the tables.

Published contact point

Email contact address (to be published)

Please provide an email address to be published which will act as a general institutional point of contact for anyone seeking more information about the institution's KEF results for any perspective.

We recommend the use of a generic institutional email address that will not be subject to personnel changes.

research@rcm.ac.uk

Summary

Summary

Please provide a short (max 120 words) introduction to your institution. This will be displayed as part of the KEF dashboard with your KEF results.

The Royal College of Music (RCM) provides music education and professional training at the highest international level to over 900 students from more than 50 countries. As a specialist conservatoire, the institution's teaching and research strengths include performance, composition, composition for screen, conducting, music education, performance science, and arts in health. Through a commitment to the transformative power of music and its own founding principles of excellence, advocacy and access, the RCM is engaged in sharing its musical expertise with beneficiaries at local, national, and international levels. RCM was ranked as the global top institution for performing arts in the 2022 QS World University Rankings by Subject.

Institutional context

Context

Please provide a brief statement (max 500 words) containing contextual information about the institution that is common across all perspectives. The information provided may be anything that the institution considers relevant to the KEF such as mission, economic context, institutional strengths, history, or any particular knowledge exchange focus.

Up to five diagrams or images may be included. All images must have alternative text descriptions provided via the MS Word 'alt text' feature. Please refer to the narrative guidance for detailed information about the format of the statements.

As a world-leading institution with a civic mission, the RCM aims to be a relevant and persuasive advocate for music locally, nationally, and globally. An outward-facing ethos is core to all areas of the RCM's work, building on our founding principles of access and excellence. The RCM has a vision to be an institution whose work changes lives – through performance, research, community initiatives and global collaboration.



Image courtesy of [Sparks](#)

The RCM is a specialist HEI with teaching and research expertise in performance, composition, composition for screen, musicology, music education, performance science, and arts and health. Our current student population totals 923, of whom 52% are undergraduates, 43% are postgraduate taught (Masters or ArtDip), and 5% are doctoral students. The RCM student body is highly international, with 52% international students from 50 different countries. The College also runs a Junior Department which provides training for 300 talented young musicians aged 8-18 on Saturdays. A thriving programme of Learning and Participation activities provides musical opportunities for over 750 local children each year.

Public performance is core to the College's work and there are over 500 public events each year at the College, as well as many events in external venues and in collaboration with industry partners. During the pandemic the number of in-person concerts contracted, but it was during this period that the College was able to mobilise its digital expertise in livestreaming, reaching global audiences through digital channels. A significant expansion and re-development of the RCM estates completed in 2020 has provided two new performance venues, a new RCM Museum, cutting-edge research facilities, and a cafe. With many of these facilities open to the public, the RCM is now a cultural destination in 'Albertopolis' alongside its neighbours which include the V&A Museum and the Science Museum. The RCM's location in this vibrant cultural quarter of London has enabled interdisciplinary collaborations with organisations such as Imperial College, the Royal College of Art, and the Royal Albert Hall.

The RCM is embedded in the local and national cultural ecology through strong research networks and industry/employer partnerships. Synergies with the profession are further reinforced through the institution's 300+ visiting professors who are active professionals in the music industry. The RCM's rates of progression to employment and further study on completion of the undergraduate programme exceed the national average. The RCM was the most highly ranked UK conservatoire offering music as a single subject in the 2021 Research Excellence Framework, scoring highly on our overall research environment and the impact of our research.

Following participation in the Knowledge Exchange Concordat in 2021, the RCM is now engaged in a programme of KE development that recognises the institution's wide range of activities and strengths in public engagement while clarifying shared civic purpose across the institution. The refreshed Strategic Plan (2022) affirms the continuing importance of pre-tertiary provision and community engagement in the RCM's KE work, and identifies new commercial opportunities arising from our new facilities that build upon existing partnerships with the cultural and corporate sectors.

Data Protection

Under the UK Data Protection Legislation, where an individual person is identifiable this constitutes personal data. Institutions are responsible for verifying that any individuals named or pictured in the narrative statements are made aware and have agreed to their name/image being shared with Research England for the purpose of being published on the KEF website and being processed by UKRI and NCCPE for reporting and analysis purposes.

Submission of the narrative statements to Research England will act as confirmation that appropriate privacy information has been provided to the individuals by the institution.