

Industry Experience Programme

A structured, practical alternative to traditional music-industry work experience. Students work inside a real commercial recording and production studio, developing hands-on skills in recording, production, mixing, music technology and creative careers — in small groups, with professional guidance.

Music Production · Recording · Technology · Creative Careers

Starcity Studios is a working commercial recording and music production studio. Because our facilities are used by professional artists, producers and commercial clients, we cannot provide unrestricted individual week-long placements or allow students to observe confidential client sessions. Instead, we offer a structured small-group programme where students experience a professional studio environment, use professional equipment and develop real, applicable skills across recording, production, mixing, technology and the wider music industry.

AGE RANGE

13 - 18

No prior studio experience required

GROUP SIZE

Max 6

Small group structured sessions

LOCATION

**Sutton,
Surrey**

20 mins from London Victoria

FORMAT

3 or 5 Days

12 or 20 hours total

What Students Gain

PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

PRACTICAL SKILLS

Hands-on experience with recording, production, mixing and music technology in a professional studio environment.

CAREER AWARENESS

A clear understanding of the roles, skills and career pathways that exist across the music and creative industries.

CREATIVE OUTPUT

Students work towards tangible music or audio projects they can discuss, develop and present after the programme.

PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Students learn inside a real commercial recording studio, using the same equipment as professional artists and producers.

CONFIDENCE

Build confidence using professional equipment, software and making real creative decisions in a supported environment.

PROGRESSION

Identify next steps into further education, training, music projects and creative opportunities relevant to each student.

OPTION 01

3-Day Programme

£90

per student · 12 hours total

Covers Days 1, 2 and 3 — Studio Introduction, Drum Recording Workshop and Digital Music Production. Ideal as a focused creative industry taster.

OPTION 02

5-Day Programme

£150

per student · 20 hours total

Full programme across all five days — covering the complete studio workflow from recording through to mixing, mastering and music for film. Recommended for maximum depth and creative development.

Maximum group size: 6 students per cohort. Programmes are delivered as structured group experiences, not individual client-session placements.

DAY 01

Introduction to the Studio, Equipment & Business

- How a professional recording studio operates
 - Studio roles and music-industry careers
 - Microphones, signal flow and monitoring
 - DAW introduction and navigation
 - Preparing and running a recording session
 - Professional studio etiquette and client awareness
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DAY 02

Recording Live Instruments — Drum Workshop

- Setting up a drum kit for recording
 - Microphone selection and placement
 - Recording with different microphone setups
 - DAW and audio channel preparation
 - Gain staging and recording
 - Critical listening and playback review
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DAY 03

Creating Digital Music — Production, VSTs, Sampling & AI

- MIDI and virtual instruments
 - VST instruments and effects
 - Sampling and beat construction
 - Arrangement and sound design
 - Responsible use of AI in music creation
 - Developing an original production idea
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DAY 04

Audio Mixing & Mastering

- EQ and frequency management
 - Compression and dynamics processing
 - Reverb, delay and stereo image
 - Balancing and automation
 - Introduction to preparing music for release
 - Mastering concepts and final delivery formats
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Creating Music to Film

- How music and sound support visual media
- Choosing mood, tempo and instrumentation
- Creating a soundtrack for a short visual sequence
- Synchronising music and audio to picture
- Reviewing and presenting the finished work
- Programme reflection and next steps discussion

Benefits & Learning Outcomes

WHAT STUDENTS LEAVE WITH

● Understand the basic workflow of a professional recording studio.	● Develop practical experience with microphones, recording equipment and a DAW.
● Understand core principles of music production, mixing and mastering.	● Experience recording a live instrument and working with recorded audio.
● Create or contribute to an original music or production project.	● Understand careers across recording, production, engineering and creative media.
● Develop confidence using music technology and communicating creative ideas.	● Identify next steps in education, training and creative development.

Students completing the programme may leave with practical project work, written feedback on their development, a clearer understanding of relevant career pathways and a **Starcity Industry Experience completion certificate**.

Accessibility & Individual Requirements

INCLUSIVITY

ACCESSIBILITY

Starcity aims to make the programme accessible to a broad range of learners. We can discuss individual requirements in advance, including communication preferences, learning needs, sensory considerations, visual access and use of assistive technology. Please tell us about any requirements when enquiring.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

The programme is designed for young people aged 13–18 with an interest in music, music production, recording, music technology or creative careers. No previous studio experience is required. Students do not need to be performers — interest in the technology and business of music is equally valid.

SCHOOL & COLLEGE FUNDING

Schools and colleges may have work-experience, careers, enrichment or student-support funding available. Speak with your Work Experience Coordinator, Careers Lead, Music Department or Student Services team. Students aged 16–19 may be eligible for the 16–19 Bursary Fund.

If the cost of the programme is a barrier, the following organisations offer bursaries and funding specifically for young people pursuing music, arts and creative industry opportunities.

01 **Sutton Music Trust**

For eligible students based in Sutton who are experiencing financial barriers to music education and enrichment opportunities.

suttonmusictrust.org.uk/smt-bursaries

02 **National Youth Arts Trust**

Bursaries of up to £1,000 for talented young people aged 12–25 who cannot afford arts and creative opportunities.

nationalyouthartstrust.org.uk/what-we-do/bursaries

03 **Young Sounds UK**

Funding of £100–£2,000 for exceptional young musicians, producers, composers and songwriters to access professional opportunities.

youngsounds.org.uk

04 **Your School or College**

Ask your Work Experience Coordinator, Careers Lead, Music Department or Student Services team whether funding is available for work experience, careers or enrichment activities. Many schools hold discretionary budgets for exactly this purpose.

05 **16–19 Bursary Fund** (if you are aged 16–19)

Ask your school or college whether you are eligible for support through their 16–19 Bursary Fund, which can be used toward work experience and enrichment costs.

gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund

01 Get in Touch

Email us with the student's age, school or organisation, preferred dates and whether you are interested in the 3-day or 5-day programme. Please mention Starcity Industry Experience in your subject line.

02 Discuss Requirements

We will discuss the programme, group size and any access or individual learning requirements before confirming a place. Every cohort is confirmed in advance to ensure the session is properly prepared.

03 Confirm the Cohort

Programmes are designed for small groups, with a maximum of 6 students per cohort. Once the group is confirmed, dates are locked in and preparation begins.

04 Attend Starcity Studios

Students take part in structured practical sessions in our professional studio environment in Sutton, Surrey — 20 minutes from London Victoria by direct train.

GET IN TOUCH

Starcity Studios

Email: info@starcitystudios.co.uk

Phone: 07914 629478

Web: www.starcitystudios.co.uk

Please mention Starcity Industry Experience when contacting us.

Find Us

2 Sutton Court Road
Sutton, Surrey, SM1 4SY

20 minutes from London Victoria
by direct train