The RCS Brass department works with professional partners in the national companies to give students access to unrivalled side-by-side learning opportunities.

Choose to study here and you could benefit from mentoring schemes with the **BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra**, **Scottish Opera** and **Scottish Chamber Orchestra**, perform onstage in the world's largest winter music festival **Celtic Connections**, or work with professional players from the **Royal Scottish National Orchestra**.

These industry links, combined with 90 minutes of one-to-one tuition each week, collaborative performing opportunities across the arts, and the individual nurturing given to each student offers you a distinctive learning experience like nowhere else.
Excellent graduate employment success, with many of our students obtaining employment with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Scottish Opera and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra.

Undergraduate music students can take advantage of learning within this unique Scottish conservatoire and undertake a module within traditional music, enabling you to broaden your repertoire, musicality and ensemble arrangement practices.

Your studies
You will get a real sense of the professional world on the programme. As well as weekly classes in orchestral, ensemble and solo repertoire, individual tuition on your principal instrument and additional performance study, there are also many performance opportunities, often in professional settings.

Your performance folios will also include orchestral, chamber, recording, new work and concerto classes.

As the programme progresses, you are given more credits of your own choice. These may be taken as added academic modules, cross-school modules or by being involved in more performance-based activities.

Performance
From first year, your studies will revolve around performance. Using the Mondays and Fridays at One concert series, as well as a host of other programmed concerts, you will have the opportunity to perform frequently.

Students can take part in symphony, wind, opera and chamber orchestras, and a diverse range of ensembles including the RCS Big Band and RCS Brass. Our ensembles give concerts regularly throughout Scotland and have also performed internationally with recent concerts including playing alongside Nicola Benedetti and conducted by Sir James MacMillan.

Mentoring schemes
We have excellent partnerships with all of the national companies and brass students are given the best possible start to their performing careers, with opportunities to participate in public performances, TV broadcasts, and worldwide tours with Scotland's major orchestras and ensembles. We currently run mentoring schemes with:

- BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra
- Scottish Chamber Orchestra
- Royal Scottish National Orchestra
- Scottish Opera
- Red Note Ensemble

“We are proud of our dynamic learning environment which gives students many diverse performance opportunities from day one.”

Head of Brass: John Logan
Our graduates
Many of our graduates hold orchestral positions including:
- Christopher Gough Principal Horn, Royal Scottish National Orchestra
- Kyle MacCorquodale Principal Bass Trombone, Hallé Orchestra
- Andrew McLean Associate Principal Horn, Royal Scottish National Orchestra
- Martin Murphy Associate Principal Horn, Royal Scottish National Orchestra
- Cillian Ó Ceallacháin Principal Trombone, Scottish Opera
- Tom Poulson Co-Principal Trumpet with the Vasteras Sinfonietta, WorldBrass and Stockholm Chamber Brass
- Martin Wright Principal Fifth Horn, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra
- Paul Klein Principal Horn, Ulster Orchestra
- Neil Gallie Second Trombone, Ulster Orchestra
- Johnny Durrant Sub-principal Horn, Orchestra of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden

How to apply
Before you apply, please go to rcs.ac.uk to read full details on the music programme you wish to apply to, and the application and admissions processes.
The application deadline is 1 October and, for US applicants only, 1 December.
All applications must be made through the UCAS Conservatoires online admissions service:ucas.com/conservatoires
Our institution code is R58 and you’ll find the specific programme code on rcs.ac.uk

Entry requirements
Entrance to RCS is based on talent, potential and ability. We are looking for students who display outstanding potential, dedication and ambition.

BMus academic entry requirements
- Scottish Highers - 3 passes (grade C or above)
- A Levels - 2 passes
- International Baccalaureate - minimum score of 24 with 3 subjects at Higher Level
- Recognised equivalences

We offer a flexible approach to students taking Highers over more than one academic year and/or who achieve their qualifications in more than one sitting.
Within the minimum academic entry requirements, the subjects recommended are:
- Music at Higher, Advanced Higher or Advanced level or equivalent

English at Higher, Advanced Higher or Advanced level or equivalent

Postgraduate academic entry requirements
- Honours degree (at least 2.2), or its overseas equivalent in a subject area relevant to the demands of the programme

For more specific entry requirements, including language requirements, please visit rcs.ac.uk

Your audition
We want you to enjoy the audition process and use the opportunity to discover more about RCS and see if it is the right place for you.

Most auditions take place on campus, however we do offer some internationally. Please see rcs.ac.uk for more details. You can also audition via a video recording, please see our website for what to prepare.

At your audition you will be asked to perform one piece of music from a prescribed list and one piece of your own choice. A full list of your instrument’s selected pieces can be found at rcs.ac.uk. Scales, arpeggios and sight-reading may be requested also and this is at the discretion of the interview panel.

Full details on the audition process are available at rcs.ac.uk

Tuition fees and scholarships
Tuition fees can be found at rcs.ac.uk/fees as well as information on financial support and scholarships.
Junior Conservatoire
The Junior Conservatoire of Music programme is for talented and committed young people aged 11-18 who are passionate about music and want to develop their skills and techniques.
Junior Conservatoire students benefit from one-to-one tuition from RCS expert teaching staff, performance classes and the opportunity to play in a variety of ensembles every week.
Find out more at rcs.ac.uk/junior

Short Courses
We offer a range of short courses and summer schools for people who wish to develop their skills and passion for music.
To see what courses are on offer this year, please visit rcs.ac.uk/shortcourses

Contact us
If you have any questions about your application, please contact us at admissions@rcs.ac.uk and we’ll be happy to help you.

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