

## ADMISSIONS POLICY – SEPTEMBER 2025 ENTRY

### 1. Overview and Mission Statement

1.1 Academy Breakin' Convention (ABC) is the UK's first Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performance and Production Arts specific to Hip Hop Theatre for 16 – 19 year olds. The course fills a gap in professional pathways for new artists who have a passion for hip hop culture, want to work in the creative industries and gain a formal qualification. The full-time course provides young creatives with the opportunity to have high-quality training in all areas of hip hop culture through a theatrical lens as well as develop as emerging professionals. Students will train intensively in our performance elements (Hip Hop Social Dance, Popping, Breaking and Emceeing) and production elements (DJing, Graffiti and Music Production), developing transferable skills and networks for a lifelong career. As a student of Academy Breakin' Convention you will also be a Big Creative Training Student.

1.2 This policy has been written with reference to and complies with the [DfE's School Admissions Code, September 2021](#).

### 2. Admissions Authority

2.1 Academy Breakin' Convention's Admissions Policy will be clear, fair and transparent, based on the School Admissions Code and associated legislation.

2.2 Academy Breakin' Convention operates as its own admissions authority. Our Admissions Policy is published on our website at [academybreakinconvention.com](http://academybreakinconvention.com). This information will include how many places will be offered in the offer year, the minimum academic requirements for entry, and how places will be allocated if the Academy is oversubscribed. It will also include details of how Academy Breakin' Convention will operate its waiting list.

### 3. Planned Admissions Number (PAN) and Capacity

3.1 The capacity of Academy Breakin' Convention is 20 in September 2025, and this is our published admissions number for September 2025 entry.

3.2 In 2025-2026, Academy Breakin' Convention will run 1 group of 20 learners, in the following course

Subject	Year Group	Number of Students
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Academy Breakin' Convention  
Sadler's Wells East  
101 Carpenters Rd  
London E20 2AR

[academybreakinconvention.com](http://academybreakinconvention.com)

UAL Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performance and Production Arts	Year 12	20
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#### **4. Minimum Entry Requirements**

- 4.1 Applicants must be between the ages of 16-18 on 31 August 2025.
- 4.2 Applicants must have at least 5 GCSEs at grade 4-9 including English / Maths (or equivalent). Those students who have not achieved a GCSE Grade 4/Grade C in English Language or Maths will be required to study these qualifications alongside the course.
- 4.4 Prospective students will be offered places on a conditional bases until they receive their GCSE results.
- 4.5 Interested applicants who have taken iGCSEs or other alternative qualifications should contact the school to discuss what our equivalent minimum expectations are.
- 4.6 Academy Breakin' Convention reserves the right to make contextual admissions in the event of learners showing clear enthusiasm and skill in their subject.
- 4.7 In-year admissions and admissions of those outside the stated age group are at the discretion of Academy Breakin' Convention.
- 4.8 Students progressing internally must meet the minimum entry requirements, securing at least a pass for their diploma and GCSE English Language at Grade 4. Places are subject to agreement with tutors and a careers progression interview.
- 4.9 All students will be expected to enrol on our programme of study comprising a minimum of 585 guided learning hours for their UAL qualification, plus additional hip hop skills sessions in performance (breaking, hip hop social dance, popping and emceeing) and production (Djing, Music Production, Graffiti), wellbeing and self-development. Those students who have not achieved a GCSE Grade 4/Grade C in English Language or Maths will be required to study these qualifications alongside the course.
- 4.10 At the point of application, students must receive at least a 'pass' in one element of their application (video or written component) to be successfully shortlisted and invited to audition and interview for the course.

#### **5. Recruiting with Integrity**

- 5.1 The recruitment process should include assessing each young person and making justifiable and professional judgements about the learner's potential to successfully complete the qualification. This includes checking the learning outcomes and assessment criteria of all units. Such assessment must identify, where appropriate, the support that will be made available to the learner to facilitate access to the assessment.
- 5.2 Where the recruitment process identifies that the learner may not be able to demonstrate attainment and thus gain achievement in all parts of assessment for the course, this must be communicated clearly to the learner and options given as to whether to proceed with application to the course or not.
- 5.3 Academy Breakin' Convention will ensure that learners and parents receive the appropriate assistance and are aware of:
- A) the range of options available, including any reasonable adjustments that may be necessary, to enable the demonstration of attainment across all required assessment
  - B) any restrictions on progression routes to the learner as a result of not achieving certain outcomes.

## **6. Equality and Diversity**

- 6.1 Academy Breakin' Convention, in operating admission arrangements, will do everything it reasonably can to enable every student to perform at their best, and in making acceptance decisions will not discriminate between students on grounds of gender, disability, faith, ethnicity, or sexual preference.
- 6.2 Academy Breakin' Convention will work with the local authority to provide education to students who cannot attend due to medical conditions, and students who are returning to education. Re-integration plans will be implemented as required.

## **7. Application Process**

- 7.1 Students or parents/guardians may explore the course on our website by visiting [www.academybreakinconvention.com](http://www.academybreakinconvention.com). Our prospectus is also available on the website to view, or you may request a copy by post.



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- 7.2 We strongly recommend visiting Academy Breakin' Convention during an open day before applying. This will enable applicants to understand the way in which ABC works but is not a requirement for admission.
- 7.3 Applicants should apply online for the course. Applicants will be expected to submit two parts to the application:
- A) 1 minute video of you performing at least 1 of the 7 ABC elements (Breaking, DJing, Emcee, Graffiti, Music Production, Popping and Social Dance)
  - B) A written submission of max. 150 words to the question; 'What do you hope to develop at Academy Breakin' Convention?'
- 7.4 Applicants will be judged against assessment criteria by a range of specialist judges and will be given a fail/pass/merit/distinction grade for their application. (see Appendix A, B).
- 7.5 All shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an audition day for the course. This is to establish the applicant's aptitude and talent.
- 7.6 Academy Breakin' Convention will admit students who are able to demonstrate:
- A) Meeting the entrance criteria
  - B) Aptitude and talent
  - C) A clear commitment to their progression post-course and a determination to study, practice and succeed
- 7.7 Academy Breakin' Convention will admit students with an Educational Healthcare Plan. This is dependent on an assessment of being able to meet the learner's needs and the learner meeting the minimum entry requirements.
- 7.8 Once applicants have auditioned, Academy Breakin' Convention will discuss the candidates and award places. Decisions to offer a place will be based on the criteria set out in paragraph 7.6.

- 7.9 Successful applicants will be informed via an offer letter detailing any conditions (for example achievement of grades to meet eligibility criteria).
- 7.10 In the event of over-subscription candidates not chosen will be placed on a reserve list and informed of their place on the list in order to enable them to evaluate their options (see section 7 below).
- 7.11 Unsuccessful applicants will also be informed via letter. Brief feedback will be provided on request to unsuccessful applicants.
- 7.12 Applicants offered a place must formally accept the offer within 14 days of the date of the letter or the offer may be withdrawn.
- 7.13 Academy Breakin' Convention reserves the right to withdraw an offer of a place where information received from a third party who works with the applicant or a disclosure is made that leads the Academy to believe that the student may be of a risk to others or requires specialist intervention or an environment that will better meet the needs of the young person. Third parties may include:
- A) Youth offending officers
  - B) Social worker or key worker
  - C) Police officer

## **8. Oversubscription criteria**

- 8.1 In the event of the course being over-subscribed by learners of equal ability and potential, places will be allocated based on the following criteria:
- a) looked after children and previously looked after children who have ceased to be looked after due to an adoption, child arrangements or a special guardianship order having been made in respect of them. Applicants must meet the minimum entry requirements.
  - b) In receipt of income support in their own right
  - c) Students who in Year 11 of secondary school were eligible for and receiving free school meals

d) Students who for medical or social reasons need to access education at the Academy. Evidence supporting the applicant's case will need to be submitted with the application. This should be in the form of a letter from a medical specialist or social working setting out the precise reasons why the student needs to access the Academy.

e) A pass in GCSE Maths and English. In the event a candidate needs to complete GCSE study during the provision, this will increase workload with an additional 4 hours of maths and 3 hours of English every week. In the event a student needs both subjects, this would not be possible for admission as it is a wellbeing concern.

f) Distance from the Academy measured by a straight line measured from the front door of the applicant's home to the main gate of the school

8.2 The final criteria (distance) will always be utilised in the event of a tie-breaker. In the case of flats or multiple occupancy measurement will be taken from the main entrance of the building. If this results in a tie, places will be allocated randomly and this process overseen by someone independent of Academy Breakin' Convention.

## **9. Waiting List**

9.1 It may be that some applicants do not receive their predicted grades or decide not to attend Academy Breakin' Convention. We will therefore establish a waiting list, with applicants prioritised in line with our over-subscription criteria.

9.2 Applicants' places will be held on the waiting list until such time as they are offered a place or they request in writing to be removed from the waiting list.

9.3 The waiting list will remain open to 30th September each year.

## **10. Late Applications**

10.1 Applications received after the deadline will only be considered should places remain after the consideration of all applications received on or before the deadline.

## **11. Admissions Appeals**

11.1 The objectives of the admissions appeals procedure are to ensure that:

a) applicants are able to have concerns about the admissions process heard

- b) the Academy's admissions appeals procedures are clear
  - c) throughout the process of admission the proper procedures are followed
- 11.2 If an applicant is not offered a place after the review and the applicant believes that this is because the admissions procedure has not been properly and fairly applied, they may appeal in writing to the Head of the Academy. Appeals may be made by post or email.
- 11.3 This letter must refer to the admissions criteria and should detail the reasons for the appeal. Appeals must be received in writing within 20 days of the date of the review decision letter.
- 11.4 Academy Breakin' Convention will write acknowledging receipt of the appeal. If the Head of Academy is not satisfied that the appeal is made on an allowable basis (i.e. failure by the Academy to follow its published admissions procedure) the letter will say this and there will be no further consideration of the matter.
- 11.5 If the appeal is allowable the Head of Academy will decide whether to:
- A) uphold the original decision to refuse a place, or
  - B) refer the application back to be considered afresh.
- 11.6 The decision of the Head of Academy will be communicated in writing within 20 days of the appeal.

## APPENDIX A: ASSESSMENT CRITERIA, VIDEO SUBMISSION

	MIND	BODY	SOUL
<b>MARK - 0</b> Unclassified/ Unsuccessful	Limited demonstration of the MIND criteria.	Limited demonstration of the BODY criteria.	Limited demonstration of the SOUL criteria.
<b>MARK - 1</b> Pass/Beginner	Basic demonstration of the MIND criteria.	Basic demonstration of the BODY criteria.	Basic demonstration of the SOUL criteria.
<b>MARK - 2</b> Merit/ Intermediate	Developed demonstration of the MIND criteria.	Developed demonstration of the BODY criteria.	Developed demonstration of the SOUL criteria.
<b>MARK - 3</b> Distinction/ Advanced	Fluent demonstration of the MIND criteria.	Fluent demonstration of the BODY criteria.	Fluent demonstration of the SOUL criteria.

## APPENDIX B: ASSESSMENT CRITERIA, WRITTEN SUBMISSION

	<b>Aspect</b> (point) <i>Have they identified "What" specific things they want to focus on?</i>	<b>Basis</b> (example) <i>Are they aware of what/how they want to "develop"?</i>	<b>Contextualise</b> (explain) <i>Why this point is relevant to "Academy Breakin' Convention"?</i>
<b>MARK - 0</b> Nothing worthy of credit	None seen	None seen	None seen
<b>MARK - 1</b> Limited (pass)	Limited demonstration	Limited demonstration	Limited demonstration
<b>MARK - 2</b> Developing (merit)	Some/good demonstration	Some/good demonstration	Some/good demonstration
<b>MARK - 3</b> Advanced (Distinction)	Excellent demonstration	Excellent demonstration	Excellent demonstration





**ACADEMY  
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CONVENTION**

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## APPENDIX C: TIMETABLE OF ADMISSIONS PROCESS FOR SEPTEMBER 2025 PLACES

Date	Relevance
Sept 2024 and ongoing	Applications open  Open evening for prospective applicants and opportunity to meet Academy Team
February 2025	Audition places awarded & letters sent
March 2025	Audition Days take place at Academy Breakin' Convention
April 2025	Places on course awarded & letters sent
Two weeks after offer	Successful candidates accept places
Two weeks after audition	Unsuccessful candidates notified
Two weeks after audition	Waiting list candidates notified
April – July 2025	Keep in touch transition sessions
August 2025	GSCE results; enrolment; waiting list process for unfulfilled places
September 2025	New intake starts at Academy Breakin' Convention

Last updated	Next review	Person responsible
July 2024	July 2025	Niquelle LaTouche