

BENEFITS OF JAMES INDUSTRY ACCREDITATION

Why JAMES Accreditation 'Brings Value' to the institution, the course, students and parents.

Benefits to the Institution

JAMES Accreditation helps a course stand out amongst comparative courses, because it:

- Provides confidence that a course has been reviewed by industry and is relevant to preparing graduates for working in the industry.
- Has been assessed by practicing professionals and thereby has industry recognition of being 'highly relevant and fit for purpose'.
- Gives assurance that a course can prepare graduates with the technical, aesthetic, mental and emotional strengths, plus the business skills that they will need for a career in our industry.
- Proves a course has relevant industry links for QAA inspections.

Benefits to the Course Team

JAMES Accreditation delivers direct connection with Industry that the students will expect to work in and provides:

- Opportunities for course leaders to tap into latest work practices and technologies.
- An assurance that course content is as up-to-date and as relevant as possible.
- Access to industry practitioners in the form of student masterclasses, guest lectures and other events, otherwise not readily available.
- JAMES' regional meetings where course leaders and lecturers are invited to attend events held in industry locations, allowing an opportunity to experience industry at work. A few examples of past locations are AMS Neve in Burnley, the British Sound Library Archive in London and Parr Street Studios in Liverpool.

Benefits to the Students

JAMES Accreditation is a sign of quality and gives confidence of Best Practice by assuring that:

- Students' wellbeing, including emotionally and mentally, is part of the course structure.
- Students' health, particularly protection from hearing loss is part of the course and institution practice.
- Students have options to attend industry-run Summer Schools and achieve recognition from JAMES' annual student 'Outstanding Achievement' awards.
- Students have access to a JAMES Graduation Certificate and inclusion on the JAMES employer database.

Benefits to the Students' Parents and Sponsors

JAMES is independent and as such is impartial; we are not supported by individual hardware or software suppliers. Our accreditation process is carried out with the information that the institution deemed appropriate to provide and is not based on specific technology that could be favoured by the JAMES accreditation body.

JAMES Accreditation gives access to a wide network that includes:

- Facilities and resources.
- Other institutions and courses, where best practice can be shared and confirmed.
- A professional network of practitioners.
- Employers' recognition of courses that are awarded by industry and consistent with industry and employment needs.

What Happens During a JAMES Accreditation?

A one-day inspection visit is arranged. During the visit, assessors will:

- Tour the facilities.
- Interview the technical support team.
- Visit the library and review the academic support systems.
- Speak with students (and graduates) from each year that the course runs.
- View student course work and assessment documentation.
- Meet with the full course team to discuss the course and questions raised by the inspection.
- Provide initial feedback and recommendations. Each assessor completes a report which is reviewed by the JAMES Accreditation panel after which a confidential report/formal awards and recommendations are made.

JAMES Accreditation is a registered PSRB Professional Statutory Regulating Body.

JAMES is comprised of music and media industry professionals who bring specialist knowledge and experience to The JAMES Course Accreditation Scheme, careers advice and specialist support for universities, students and parents.

www.jamesonline.org.uk