

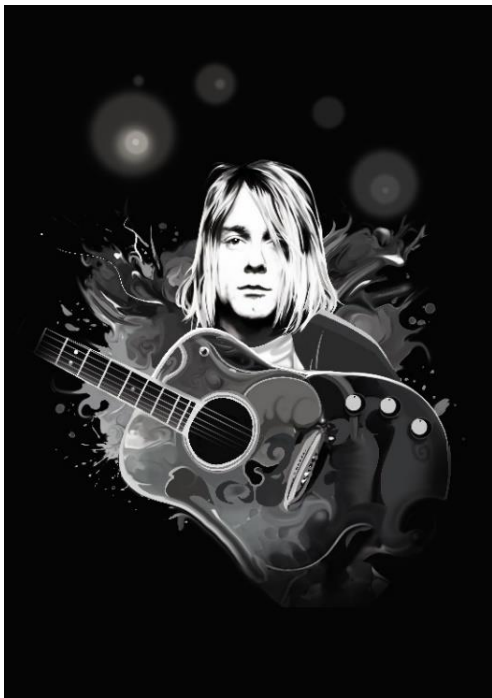
ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC MUSEUM EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME INFORMATION PACK

Kurt Cobain Unplugged: The story behind one of music's most iconic guitars

Educational Programme

3 June – 18 November 2025

Jennifer Tsang, Learning & Participation Officer



This Educational Programme from the Royal College of Music Museum is a limited offering, available during the **Kurt Cobain Unplugged** Special Exhibition period from 3 June to 18 November. It comprises a guided tour or storytelling journey through the Museum Gallery, showcasing the Museum's permanent collection, in addition to the Special Exhibition Gallery featuring the *Kurt Cobain Unplugged* exhibition, allowing participants to explore 500 years of music history. Highlights include instruments ranging from the oldest known guitar ([Belchior Dias, Lisbon, 1581](#)) to Kurt Cobain's iconic Martin D-18E guitar.

**Original Artwork by Chris Tomlin*

These elements are integral to the learning objectives tailored for school-age groups, suitable for Key Stages 1 to 5, and aligned with the subject aims of the National Curriculum. Each workshop will include listening to music examples from various eras and genres, concluding with an interactive activity in the Museum's Education Space, the Weston Discovery Centre.



Why visit the Royal College of Music Museum?

The Royal College of Music Museum houses one of the richest collections of music-related objects in the UK and Europe. Visit us to discover the oldest guitar in the world, and explore our fascinating displays of musical instruments, paintings and objects that cover more than five centuries of music-making.

We aim to create a vibrant space for learning and support the understanding of music through our objects and stories. Through our range of activities and resources for schools, we use our heritage collections as a springboard for creativity and inspiration for young people.

Our Education Programmes for schools have been co-created by Education professionals and teachers and are supported by talented Royal College of Music students.



How to book?

Educational Programme Booking Form

- Date: Every Tuesday & Thursday
- Time: 1pm - 2pm
- Capacity: Minimum 10 students and Maximum 16 students per group
- Supervision: Year 1-6; 1:6
Year 7-13; 1:10
- Tickets: £3.5 per student, Educators and Group Leaders are free of charge

To book the Educational Programme, please fill out the form in the box above or from the link below. You will receive an email once your session is confirmed. We sponsor a portion of the Educational Programme for local state schools each academic year, please indicate your request on the booking form if applicable.

<https://forms.office.com/e/mfpVRWCqQ0>

Please do not hesitate to contact jennifer.tsang@rcm.ac.uk for further information.

Learning Objectives and Outcomes	Outcomes	National Curriculum Subject Aim
Key Stage 1 (Year 1-2) Explore How would you play the instruments?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify various types of musical instruments from the RCM Museum Collections and the <i>Kurt Cobain Unplugged</i> special exhibition. Demonstrate an understanding of musical instruments from two distinct instrument families: Strings and Keyboard. 	The national curriculum for music aims to ensure that all pupils: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated
Key Stage 2 (Year 3-6) Discovery When were the instruments made?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise musical instruments in the RCM Museum and the <i>Kurt Cobain Unplugged</i> special exhibition by their historical context. Demonstrate an understanding of the creation dates of the instruments and their significance in music history; before and after 1940. 	
Key Stage 3 (Year 7-9) Expressive Where does music come from?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the historical and cultural origins of musical instruments in the RCM Museum and the <i>Kurt Cobain Unplugged</i> special exhibition. Explore the concept of music's origins and discuss its evolution over time. 	
Key Stage 4: GCSE (Year 10-11) Connect How does music and the development of musical instruments impact our daily lives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflect on personal connections to the RCM Museum musical collections and the <i>Kurt Cobain Unplugged</i> special exhibition, drawing insights from the historical significance of specific instruments. Assess the impact of music and the development of musical instruments on contemporary life and culture. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to gain an aural knowledge of some of the great musical output of human civilisation recognise links between the integrated activities of performing, composing and appraising and how this informs the development of music engage with and appreciate the diverse heritage of music, in order to promote personal, social, intellectual and cultural development
Key Stage 5: A-level (Year 12-13) Apply How do music and the development of musical instruments influence musical culture and society?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate musical knowledge with historical insights by evaluating the significance of specific instruments within the RCM Museum's collections and the <i>Kurt Cobain Unplugged</i> special exhibition. Engage in a critical analysis of how music and the evolution of musical instruments shape and influence cultural and societal dynamics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> appraise contrasting genres, styles and traditions of music, and develop understanding of musical contexts and a coherent awareness of musical chronology engage with, and extend appreciation of, the diverse heritage of music in order to promote personal, social, intellectual and cultural development

Useful Information

Payment methods

- Credit or debit card payments are accepted at the Royal College of Music Museum.
- Invoice's may be provided with the confirmation email upon selection in the booking form. Invoices should be paid within 30 days. If exceeded, the Museum will not accept any further bookings with your school until the invoice is paid.
- The Museum do not accept cash payment for Educational Programmes.

Cancellation Policy

The Museum understands that sometimes plans change. If you need to change your booking, please contact us as soon as possible at museum.info@rcm.ac.uk . We can't guarantee that we can accommodate all requests, but we will work with you to facilitate any changes.

If you need to cancel your booking, rather than change your date, the following rates apply:

- 4 weeks' notice, no charge
- 2 - 4 weeks' notice, 50% charge
- less than 2 weeks' notice, full charge

The RCM Museum reserves the right to cancel or reschedule due to unforeseen circumstances. Where possible, we will rearrange your visit, and if cancellation is necessary, we will offer a refund. Please note that we do not accept liability for any additional costs incurred.

Where we are

Royal College of Music Museum
Prince Consort Road
London
SW7 2BS

Getting to the RCM: <https://www.rcm.ac.uk/visit/discover/>

Access Information: <https://www.rcm.ac.uk/visit/accessinformation/>

