*PgDip/MMus (Orchestral Performance)
Birmingham Conservatoire*

## **Additional costs for this course**

We have provided you with a breakdown of the essential costs and the optional costs which are dependent on your budget.

Please note that your marks are not a reflection of how much you spend, so a student who spends less than the estimated costs won’t be marked down, compared to a student who spends more.

### **Equipment and consumables**

On average you’ll spend about £1,500 on equipment related to an instrument that you may use whilst studying. You’ll then need to budget about £2,000 on instrument repairs/service although you may spend less than this amount dependent on your instrument.

Some students choose to purchase a new instrument. We recommend you budget about £5,000, although this depends on the type of instrument you are buying.

You'll spend about £500 on music which you may require, although most of the resources you’ll need are available within the Conservatoire and our library.

For your performances you’ll require special concert dress. You’ll need to budget about £250 to purchase all the necessary garments.

In addition to the above costs there are other optional fees you may want to budget for. In addition to your timetable, you may want to budget £200 for coaching, as well as CBSO Youth Orchestra fees which may cost you up to £500.

**Professional association membership**

We recommend you become a member of the [ISM](http://www.ism.org/) (Incorporated Society of Musicians) for £15 per year and/or [Musicians Union](http://www.musiciansunion.org.uk/Join) for £20 per year.

Any other professional association membership fees may cost you about £200, although this is an optional cost.

## **Laptops and Software**

It is not essential for you to purchase your own laptop (PC or Mac), as you can also borrow a laptop from the university or use one of our shared computer rooms. Laptops may be borrowed for free for up to six hours and may be found at the following locations: Curzon building, Millennium Point, Parkside building, the School of Jewellery and Margaret Street (Birmingham School of Art). Most students do prefer to have their own laptops, and we suggest you allow about £300 to £1,200 for this, dependent on your preferences and budget. Apple also offer a discount on laptops for UK students: [go to Apple for Education for more details](http://www.apple.com/uk_edu_5000618/shop).

You’ll also be provided with a free account for [Lynda.com](http://www.lynda.com/) worth £227.40.

Microsoft Office 365 and 1TB of OneDrive cloud storage space is provided free to all students.

### **Printing**

Our on-campus print shop can produce high-quality prints for your portfolio, assignments and dissertation on an at-cost basis.

In previous years, students have budgeted up to £200 for printing, although you can reduce print costs by submitting assignments online.

**Field trips**

For general travel costs throughout the course we suggest a budget of £200. Many students live within walking distance of the Conservatoire so you may not spend this amount.

We encourage you to attend as many concerts as possible. A budget of £100 is sufficient, although you may get student discounts.