

Frequently Asked Questions for Diploma in Music Production (DMP)

1. Why did City College opt out of the EduTrust certification scheme?

Ans: The EduTrust certification scheme is a voluntary scheme administered by the Council for Private Education (CPE) [www.cpe.gov.sg]. The certification would allow a private education institution to enrol international students.

City College obtained the certification for the years 2010 to 2013. With the certificate City College was able to accept international students into our programme.

From 2014 onwards, the management of City College had decided to focus our resources to serve local students (Singaporeans), hence the school decided to opt out of the EduTrust scheme. The decision would allow us to free up administrative resources and time so that we could devote more attention to providing more effective and relevant programmes for Singaporeans at a lower cost, which would then translate to more affordable pricing for you.

2. Is the Diploma accredited by a university?

Ans: There is no formal academic accreditation body for private institutions in Singapore. All full-time course had to be approved by the CPE [www.cpe.gov.sg] and the courses would have to fulfil the guidelines by the CPE.

If City College were to obtain accreditation from foreign universities, we would have to pay significant sums of accreditation and branding fees to those universities.

We consulted industry practitioners to understand the key factors for our graduates to gain employment upon graduation. We found that the main important element would be the portfolios (actual work and experiences) of our graduates, and not so much of the academic qualifications.

Hence, we decided to focus our resources to allow students to build at least 3 portfolios in the course of their studies with us, because that is what matters.

3. Why is Beep Studios involved in the programme?

Ans: As the needs of the creative industry is evolving at a very fast pace, we want to ensure that skills and attitudes to be taught for the DMP is relevant. Therefore SODE had partnered with Beep Studio to design and deliver the programme. The programme director, Mr. Kevin Foo is not just a former music producer who had previous industry experience but he is still active in the music industry. This is to provide up-to-date skills and networking opportunities for the students.

4. Is SODE equipped physically to deliver the programme?

Ans: Apart from well fitted training rooms, SODE also houses a recording studio and a 1,000 square feet sound stage.

5. Why is DMP significantly cheaper compared to other courses out in the market?

Ans: We value dreams and aspirations. We understand the risks and the commitments involved when a Singaporean chose to continue his/her education outside mainstream education. Hence, we work very hard to trim the parts of private education programme which do not value add to the student directly. (e.g. promotion expenses, expensive locations).