ACCREDITATION (UK)

ABRSM graded exams for Theory of Music, individual instruments and singing (excluding Practical Musicianship) are accredited in England by the Office of the Qualifications and Examinations Regulator (Ofqual) and the corresponding regulatory authorities in Wales (DCELLS) and Northern Ireland (CCEA). They are part of the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF), a scheme for recognizing skills and qualifications in the UK education system.

Within the QCF, qualifications are organized according to difficulty (Level) and size (Credits), as illustrated below in relation to ABRSM graded exams:

| ABRSM | QCF Level | QCF Credits |
|-----------|---------------------|-------------|
| Practical | | |
| Grade 1 | Level 1 Award | 6 |
| Grade 2 | Level 1 Award | 9 |
| Grade 3 | Level 1 Award | 12 |
| Grade 4 | Level 2 Certificate | 15 |
| Grade 5 | Level 2 Certificate | 18 |
| Grade 6 | Level 3 Certificate | 22 |
| Grade 7 | Level 3 Certificate | 27 |
| Grade 8 | Level 3 Certificate | 32 |
| Theory | | |
| Grade 1 | Level 1 Award | 2 |
| Grade 2 | Level 1 Award | 3 |
| Grade 3 | Level 1 Award | 5 |
| Grade 4 | Level 2 Certificate | 7 |
| Grade 5 | Level 2 Certificate | 9 |
| Grade 6 | Level 3 Certificate | 12 |
| Grade 7 | Level 3 Certificate | 17 |
| Grade 8 | Level 3 Certificate | 21 |

ABRSM exams are listed on the Register of Regulated Qualifications – http://register.ofqual.gov.uk.

Ofqual became the independent regulator of qualifications, exams and assessments in England on 1 April 2010. Further information about accreditation can be found at www.abrsm.org/accreditation and www.ofqual.gov.uk.