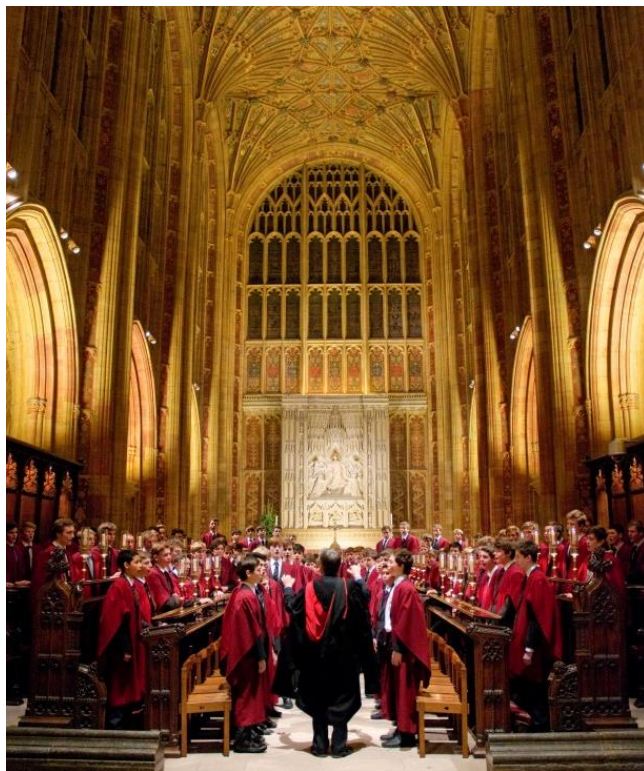


## SHERBORNE

### Sherborne School gap year Choral and Organ Scholarships

Sherborne School Choral and Organ Scholarships run from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 15<sup>th</sup> July each year. The weekly commitment involves singing/playing in both the school's and the Abbey's choral music, which includes **four choral services each week in Sherborne Abbey**, assisting with the smooth running of the **Music School on a daily basis**, and some administrative support. Weddings, funerals, and any extra services beyond the four regular services carry their own fees.

**Accommodation is provided in the town** and all meals during term are available in the school **Dining Hall** which has a reputation for the quality of its food. **A subsistence allowance of £147 per week is provided throughout the scholarship period**, with school holidays generally being free of commitments with the exception of singing/playing in services during the week before Christmas, including Christmas Day itself, and singing in services during Holy Week which ends after Eucharist on Easter Day.



Sherborne School is one of the country's leading independent boys' boarding schools. Founded by Royal Charter in 1550, the school has roots going back to the origins of the See of Sherborne in 705. The town of Sherborne itself is steeped in history. Prior to the Norman Conquest it served as the seat of the Saxon bishops and for almost 350 years there was a

cathedral church on the site of the present Abbey – situated in the very heart of the town. Towards the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> Century a Benedictine monastery, now the site of Sherborne School, was established in Sherborne and the Abbey remained a monastic church until the time of the Dissolution in 1539. Today the Library, Chapel, and Headmaster's rooms, which adjoin the Abbey Church, are all modifications of the original buildings.

The school has a strong reputation for its outstanding musical provision. Considerable numbers of pupils take GCSE & A level Music and Music Technology with several going on to read Music at university, and at least one going to Oxford or Cambridge most years with in many cases a Choral or an Organ Scholarship. The large TTBB 108-strong Choir, and a Chamber Choir which consists of many ex-cathedral and collegiate choristers, sings twice weekly in Sherborne Abbey. The 2015 ISI Inspection stated that 'Choral Singing is of very high quality, particularly in its development of young male voices'. Orchestral music is joint with two other schools such that the first Symphony Orchestra plays to a high standard in venues such as the Sheldonian Theatre and St John's Smith Square. Chamber music is a particular strength, with success in national competitions, and jazz has enjoyed something of a renaissance over the last decade with Caribbean bi-annual tours being a particular attraction.

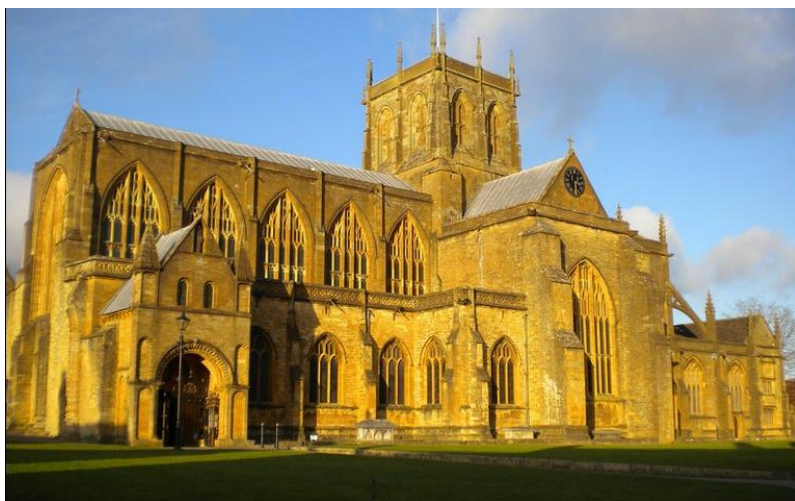


The Music School, which won a RIBA Architecture Award, was opened in 2010 and provides thirteen sound-proofed practice rooms, three ensemble rehearsal rooms, two jazz/rock studios, two classrooms equipped with PC composing workstations (Sibelius and Cubase) which are currently being replaced with Apple computers (Sibelius and Logic), a Recording Studio with an Amek mixing desk and a 120 seat concert hall with a variable acoustic. Such is the rate of musical expansion within the school that a much-needed extension to the building is in the Five Year Plan. Within the Music School there is a fleet of high quality pianos, also purchased in 2010, now on a rolling programme of re- placement. The three manual Abbey organ is by Gray & Davison, rebuilt in 2005 by Kenneth Tickell, and in the 400 seat Chapel there is both a 1986 two manual neo-classical tracker instrument and a three manual Hauptwerk virtual organ.

The department was rated 'Number One Independent School for Music' by The Week in 2016.

Sherborne Abbey Choir is made up of twenty-four boy choristers and fourteen gentlemen who contribute to the Sunday pattern of worship. The full choir rehearses weekly on a Friday evening from 7.30pm until 8.45pm. There are two choral services each Sunday during term time. The Abbey and School enjoy a close relationship, with much of the school's worship taking place in the Abbey as the school is too big for its own chapel of some 400 seats.

Choral and Organ Scholars are expected to be good sight-readers as the repertoire of both choirs is wide and varied and in both cases rehearsal time is limited. The work at Sherborne School may be tailored to the strengths of the successful candidate. It is expected that successful choral candidates will be drawn from those singing with courses such as the Eton Choral Course, and who will go on to sing as choral scholars at Oxford and Cambridge Colleges or other similar universities and colleges. Organ Scholars will tend to have had similar experience with similar ambition.



## Auditions and Interviews

### Choral Scholarships

The audition involves presenting two contrasting solo pieces and being given some unprepared sight-reading. An accompanist is provided, as is rehearsal time with the accompanist. If performance on an instrument is also being offered, which is strongly recommended, time will also be given for rehearsal/practice. Interviews will take place with one of the Deputy Heads of the school and then with the Director and Assistant Director of Music. When possible an opportunity to meet the current Choral Scholars is provided when seeing the accommodation.

### Organ Scholarship

The audition involves presenting two contrasting pieces and being given some prepared sight-reading (perhaps a Magnificat, with about twenty minutes preparation time), some unprepared sight-reading, and playing a hymn at sight before briefly improvising on the same hymn. Half an hour or so will be provided for familiarisation of the Abbey organ and to register the two pieces. Interviews will take place with one of the Deputy Heads of the school, with the Director and Assistant Director of Music of the school and the Director of Music in the Abbey. When possible an opportunity to meet the current Organ Scholar is provided when seeing the accommodation.

## Safeguarding and Child Protection

As Sherborne School is registered to ask 'exempted questions' under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, successful applicants will be subject to a criminal record check from the **Disclosure and Barring Service** before the appointment is confirmed. This will include details of cautions, reprimands or final warnings; further details are available upon request. This post is also subject to receipt of two satisfactory written references, one of which must be your current/last employer.

**Post-holder's Responsibility:** you share with all School staff the responsibility to promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young people for whom you are responsible, or with whom you come into contact. In doing so, you are expected at all times to adhere to and ensure compliance with the **School's Safeguarding (Child Protection) Policy**. If you become aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in the School, you must report any concerns to the School's Designated Safeguarding Lead (Child Protection Officers).

**Medical Report:** Employment, volunteer placements or Choral/Organ Scholarships are conditional upon the provision of a medical report which satisfies the Senior School Doctor.

## Interview Travelling Expenses

Sherborne School recognises that candidates invited to interview can incur costs. A Policy on Interview Expenses sets out the parameters for reimbursement of reasonable costs incurred and is designed to be fair and transparent in its application.

At the direction of the Headmaster or Bursar the terms of this policy may be varied but variation will not apply unless agreement has been given prior to attending interview.

### **Travel reimbursement**

- Mileage will be reimbursed for candidates attending interview from outside a 30 mile radius of their home post code to DT9 3AP, Sherborne School, as determined by AA Route Finder Mileage
- Mileage will be reimbursed at 40 pence per mile up to a capped limit of £75.00 maximum.
- Train or Coach journeys (economy ticket) will be reimbursed where more economical than driving or if the interviewee does not drive
- Flights UK and travel to and from airport –by prior agreement
- Flights International and travel to and from airport – by prior agreement, usually following an initial skype/telephone assessment of candidates suitable to attend interview.

### **Accommodation**

- Accommodation will be offered to candidates who are required to be at the School before 10am and are required to travel for more than 2 hours from home
- Where accommodation is being provided the School will cover the cost of the accommodation and breakfast for the interview candidate only.
- Interview candidates will be responsible for covering the cost of any additional charges incurred (evening meal, telephone call, newspaper etc).

## **Method of Application**

Please complete and return to the Recruitment Manager (contact details below) a Sherborne School Application Form. Please do not send in a curriculum vitae. Applications received that have sections crossed through marked 'see attached cv' will be returned.

In the event of any queries please contact:

Mrs Samantha Belgeonne  
Recruitment Manager  
Sherborne School  
Abbey Road  
Sherborne  
Dorset DT9 3LF

Tel: 01935 810502

Email: [hr@sherborne.org](mailto:hr@sherborne.org)

Closing date for applications:

**9.00am Tuesday 24 April 2018**

Start date:

**1 September 2018**