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**Sedbergh Preparatory School**

# job description

# Singing teacher

**Safeguarding of Children**

**Safeguarding the welfare of children is of the highest priority to Sedbergh School. Every employee of the School has a responsibility to:**

* **Protect children from abuse**
* **Be aware of the School’s safeguarding procedures**
* **Know how to access and implement the required procedures**
* **Keep a sufficient record of any significant complaint, conversation or event**
* **Report any matters of concern to the Designated Safeguarding Lead**
* **Attend annual in-service training provided by the School**

# General

Sedbergh School, founded in 1525 by Roger Lupton, Provost of Eton, is an Independent Co‑Educational Boarding School. The Headmaster is a member of the Headmasters’ and Headmistresses’ Conference.  Set in the spectacular Yorkshire Dales National Park, the School also benefits from fast motorway and rail access to the rest of the UK.

The School is a vibrant, demanding and supportive community, which encourages pupils and staff to be involved in as broad a range of activities and interests as possible. Music, Art & Drama are especially strong, and the School has a national reputation for Sport. Sedbergh School has its own Prep School located approximately ten miles away at Casterton and this is where the position will be based.

**Job Description and Person Specification**

We are seeking a dynamic, flexible and caring practitioner, who has excellent interpersonal, performance and teaching skills and who is comfortable and experienced in working with children up to 13 years of age. Starting young children on their musical steps is one of the most rewarding aspects of this role and we are seeking a special individual who will nurture young talent through the early years of music making, encouraging and ensuring that children enjoy learning and have fun, whilst developing key musical skills and securing excellent technique.

The ability to teach a variety of styles is crucial, with a solid grounding in classical training and to be able to prepare pupils, as necessary, for ABRSM graded examinations, which are held each term at the School. Pupil participation in assemblies and concerts is warmly encouraged. Singing is an important part of Sedbergh life, both at the Preparatory and Seniors Schools. Choral singing is a particular strength, with pupils regularly gaining places in the National Youth Choirs of GB. Pupils have the opportunity to take part in vocal masterclasses, everyone participates in weekly hymn practices and young singers enjoy an annual *Big Sing* event held at Casterton.

Currently we have a need for a full day of singing teaching on a 1:1 basis and there is the opportunity to build this up. The School has a number of choirs, including a Senior Chamber Choir which tours each year and a Boys’ Choir for Cambiata voices. Lessons rotate throughout the school day. You will join a team of like-minded, enthusiastic professionals who are incredibly supportive, and our children are a joy to teach.

A Music Degree with performance modules or a qualification from a recognised Music Conservatoire is desirable and experience of working with this young age group, particularly with beginners and the changing and developing voice, is crucial. Flexibility is key in a busy boarding environment, as is a willingness to work both independently and as part of a wider team. A willingness to participate in concerts with pupils and other staff, would be welcomed.

**Music at Sedbergh School**

Music at Sedbergh is a vibrant and integral part of school and community life. We have an outstanding team of visiting music teachers, all of whom are dynamic and inspirational. Pupils win places in national ensembles and many from the Senior School advance to read Music at University and Conservatoire. The school has strong links with other musical organisations including the National Children’s Orchestra, Pro Corda and RSCM – all of which hold regular courses at Sedbergh. Music was identified as outstanding and one of the major strengths of the School in a recent ISI Inspection Report.

Music is incredibly important within the Preparatory School and we have a wealth of concerts throughout the year, which instrumental music teachers are encouraged to participate in, to support their pupils and lead ensembles. Highlights of the School’s musical year include a vibrant House Music Competition, Formal Carol Service, Christmas, Easter and Summer Concerts, Christmas and Summer Productions, Exeat and Half Term Concerts, regular Church Recitals and Tours. There are weekly Music Assemblies and many informal performance opportunities, including in the classroom, where children are encouraged to perform for and with their peers, in a fun and supportive environment.

At Casterton, Sedbergh Prep School we are fortunate to have musical facilities rarely seen in many Senior Schools. A purpose-built musical facility houses 16 practice/individual teaching rooms, computer suite, orchestral percussion room and music classroom. There is a wide range of School instruments for pupils to borrow. Children take part in a plethora of musical ensembles from orchestras and wind band to chamber groups, they can join one or more of our six choirs. Music Theory Club during Activity Time is popular and children work towards the ABRSM Grade 5 Theory examination each year. The School is always buzzing with the sound of music making.

Both Prep and Senior School musicians are encouraged to work towards ABRSM grades, and examinations take place every term at both Schools. The Prep School has a 100% pass rate and many of our children achieve Merits and Distinctions.

**Health & Safety**

The successful applicant must be fully conversant with the School’s Health & Safety Policy and report any breaches of the policy to their Line Manager.

**Reporting**

The Singing Teacher will report directly to the Director of Music in Sedbergh Prep School.