

# HIGHGATE

## THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

### **Teacher of Music (part-time, 0.4)** January 2019



An able and inspiring teacher of Music is required for the Junior School at Highgate, starting in January 2019 or from November 2018 if available.

The successful candidate will demonstrate an understanding of the place of music in a school such as Highgate and support it in his/her teaching. They should also demonstrate a love of music and an enthusiasm for communicating this passion to pupils aged 7 - 11.

The person appointed should be both able and willing to teach music at Key Stage 2, following specially tailored Schemes of Work that draw upon the Kodály principles of developing musicianship. Excellent keyboard skills would be an advantage. Each week pupils in Year 3 – 6 receive 75 minutes of Music, during which musicianship, composition, performance and listening skills are taught and developed. Co-curricular responsibilities may include running the Junior School's Informal Concert Series, conducting a choir or an ensemble, and supporting the drama department in their musical productions.

Each week a number of musical ensemble rehearsals and around 300 individual music lessons take place in the Junior School. All pupils enjoy regular musical performance opportunities throughout the academic year at school and perform to a consistently high standard. Some pupils attend Saturday classes at the Guildhall School of Music and the Royal College of Music, and have gained places and scholarships with the National Children's Orchestra and Pro Corda.

Teachers at Highgate enjoy a welcoming, comfortable and exceptionally well-resourced environment and are provided with significant assistance from a range of support staff. Salaries are competitive.

### Main Responsibilities

While the specification of the post can be fashioned to complement the strengths of the successful candidate, the role is expected to include many or all of the following responsibilities:

- To teach Key Stage 2 Music on a 0.4 timetable
- To assist the Head of Junior Music in the day-to-day running of the Junior Music Department
- To be based in the Junior School and actively contribute to the school's co-curricular music programme through running events and ensembles as directed by the Head of Junior Music
- To set an example of consistently high standards and expectations of pupils through good discipline and positive behaviour management in class
- To prepare pupils to perform in concerts and in other public events, such as Harvest Festival, Christmas services and end of term concerts and events



The day-to-day life at the School requires someone who is willing to be flexible and adaptable. While flexibility in working hours is required, extra hours will be expected and accrued at evening (and occasional weekend) concerts and other events. Normal school holidays are taken with the standard expectation that the work has been completed within term time.

### PERSON SPECIFICATION

The successful candidate will be a music graduate with strong keyboard skills. The candidate will be creative, resourceful and hard-working, and will have a flexible approach to the wide variety of working situations the role encompasses. They will enjoy working in a close-knit department and with pupils across the age range of the Junior School (aged 7 – 11 years). The candidate will be an excellent communicator and will adhere to high personal and professional standards.



Highgate School is committed to the safeguarding and welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to this post, including checks with past employers and the DBS.

The Principal of the Junior School, Mr Mark James, or the Head of Junior Music, Mrs Ruth McCreath will be happy to answer any questions on [jsoffice@highgateschool.org.uk](mailto:jsoffice@highgateschool.org.uk) or [ruth.mccreath@highgateschool.org.uk](mailto:ruth.mccreath@highgateschool.org.uk).

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## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Please complete the on-line application form and attach a full curriculum vitae, including the names, addresses, telephone numbers and email contacts of two referees.

**Closing date: 8:00am on 24 September 2018 but applications will be considered as they are received.**

### Criteria for the post of Teacher of Music (Part-time, 0.4)

*(To be read in conjunction with the details of the post)*

#### 1 Essential professional criteria

Criteria	How will these be tested?
A good honours degree in Music or equivalent (eg Conservatoire/Music College)	Original degree certificate(s) Questions about subject specialisation Opportunities at interview to discuss techniques for teaching set topics
Experience of teaching academic lessons, either as an employed teacher or during a teaching placement	A 25-minute lesson to be taught to a Key Stage 2 class
Experience in working with children aged 7 – 11	A 25-minute lesson to be taught to a Key Stage 2 class A 25-minute individual instrumental lesson to be taught to a Junior School pupil Opportunity to recount experience and expertise at interview
Excellent communication skills, both generally and in particular when communicating musical ideas	Two panel interviews; lesson (as above)
Proficient keyboard skills	A 25-minute lesson to be taught to a Key Stage 2 class A 25-minute individual instrumental lesson to be taught to a Junior School pupil Opportunity to recount experience and expertise at interview
The ability to use ICT fully in the teaching of Music, or a willingness to learn the skills	Observed in the lesson Opportunities to recount experience and expertise at interview
Sympathy with and knowledge of fundamental British values	Question to test this at interview
The ability to establish good relations with colleagues and pupils	Opportunities at interview to recount experiences where these skills have been demonstrated Questions which referees will be asked as part of the confidential reference request
Awareness and understanding of safeguarding and welfare of children	Questions at interview to test attitudes towards and knowledge of children's safeguarding and welfare Questions which referees will be asked as part of the confidential reference request

## 2 Desirable professional criteria

Criteria	How will these be tested?
A teaching qualification (eg PGCE, GTP)	Original certificate
Experience of teaching successfully at Key Stage 1 and 2 level	Opportunity at interview to recount experience of teaching and of successful strategies used in Verification of a candidate's employment history
A willingness to be involved in the wider life of the department (eg Musical Productions, visits) and school	Opportunities at interview to recount experience of running or participating in such activities or to give ideas for these
Wind/brass playing skills	Opportunities at interview to recount experience of these skills

### PERSON SPECIFICATION

Highgate seeks to appoint teachers who will have the following proven qualities, or the potential to develop them. At interview, candidates will have the opportunity to demonstrate or give an account of these attributes.

- The energy, dynamism and stamina to contribute fully to the life of a busy co-educational independent day school.
- Willingness to contribute to the extensive range of activities provided for pupils and to support them in their co-curricular pursuits.
- Capacity for industry and initiative in both independent work and as part of teams of colleagues in academic work, pastoral care, sports and co-curricular activities.
- Profound and continuing interest in the academic subject / s to be taught.
- The depth of knowledge and agility of mind to allow flexibility in lessons, adapting delivery as appropriate in the light of pupils' responses.
- Empathy with pupils across the age and ability spectrum at Highgate and the ability to implement a range of teaching strategies to cater for each individual pupil.
- Awareness and understanding of matters relating to the personal, social, health and emotional development of Highgate's pupils.
- General knowledge of Child Protection issues and good practice, particularly relating to professional obligations on safeguarding the welfare of each child and avoiding guarantees of confidentiality in any disclosure.
- Capacity to deal sensitively with problems raised by pupils, in line with Highgate's pastoral policies and sanctions system, working in partnership with Highgate's designated staff i/c pastoral care.
- Ability to create effective rapport and a sound relationship with pupils, earning their respect and trust but maintaining proper professional boundaries by not deliberately courting popularity or friendship.
- Willingness and ability to liaise effectively and professionally between pupils, staff and parents when required, making accurate records of these exchanges.
- Patience and thoughtfulness to see any issues that may arise with pupils, parents or colleagues from a variety of perspectives.
- The ability to de-fuse difficult situations using different strategies such as careful listening, sensitive use of humour, praise and recognition where due, utilising the School's reward system.
- Retention of a sense of perspective and, on occasion, the invaluable ability to laugh at oneself.