**PERIPATETIC TEACHER OF UPPER STRINGS**

This position is for a self-employed teacher of Upper Strings to assist in building up the string teaching in both the Dixie Grammar Senior & Junior Schools, including teaching individual lessons and participating in the schools’ ‘Wider Opportunities’ string scheme with Year 3.

Music is an essential part of the life of the Dixie Grammar School. In the Senior School the Music Department is housed in a separate Music School, which has 3 teaching rooms (including a keyboard room, a computer suite, 2 practice rooms and an instrument store) and at the Junior School a new purpose built Music School is due to open in Autumn 2017 including a dedicated classroom and a practice room.

All pupils receive at least 1 hour of class Music teaching per week up to Year Nine and there is an excellent take-up for GCSE and A level Music. There are a large number of extra-curricular ensembles and activities and a busy concert schedule across both the Senior and Junior Schools. ABRSM exams are held twice a year and students are also entered for Rock School and LCM Musical Theatre exams. A team of visiting staff provide tuition on all orchestral instruments, guitar, drums, singing and theory.

Peripatetic staff are appointed on a self-employed basis (full details are in the term of agreement between the school and teacher) supported by the Music Staff and are assisted with the selection of pupils and timetabling. Since 2011 we have also run a ‘Wider Opportunities’ String scheme for all Year 3 pupils and this will be expanded from September to encompass a similar Brass and Woodwind scheme for Year 4 pupils. Under the direction of String tutors Year 3 pupils spend 1 hour per week learning violin or ‘cello with instruments provided by the school.

We seek to appoint a teacher of Upper Strings whose role will include delivering the String scheme which will be paid at a rate of £37:50 per hour and to build up the number of string players. Other teaching hours will depend upon the number of pupils who opt for individual tuition – numbers at the Junior school are not yet finalised. A minimum of 32 lessons are given per year and the current school rate is £16:50 per half-hour lesson (20 min lesson pro rata where applicable). No charge is made for the use of rooms etc.

Parents sign an annual contract with the visiting teacher agreeing to pay termly in advance and to give at least a term’s notice if lessons are to be discontinued. Although the teacher is therefore independent the Director of Music and Teacher i/c of Music at the Junior School keep a ‘watching brief’ on lessons and will assist with selection of pupils, time-tabling etc. where necessary. Parents of pupils having lessons also pay an annual fee of £5 to the school which allows us to provide a practice diary, keep a stock of strings, reeds, spare music etc.

12 July, 2017