



January 2020

Dear Candidate

Thank you for your interest in the post of Teacher of Music at St Martin's School. I do hope on the strength of the information available that you choose to apply.

St Martin's is a school that champions music; creative arts are something the school considers to be one of its greatest strengths, and upon visiting the school it is not difficult to see why. Our outstanding music department comprises three full-time teachers and a technician, and students throughout years 7-9 enjoy one lesson per week, after which it becomes optional at GCSE and A-level.

Just some of our facilities include:

- a brand new iMac suite with the latest music software
- a full samba kit
- a full set of African drums
- three class sets of iPads
- three class sets of keyboards
- a large number of both digital and upright pianos
- a class set of xylophones
- an array of auxiliary percussion
- several electric and acoustic drum kits
- three classrooms
- four practice rooms
- a music studio, and
- an instrument store.

However, it is the vast number of students who take part in musical activities on a daily basis that really set us apart. GCSE and A-level Music are hugely popular at St Martin's. We currently have forty-one students studying music in year 10 alone, and our year 12 class is double the national average size. Results are also very impressive. Last year, several students achieved a grade 9 at GCSE, and some of our year 13 cohort are now studying the subject at prestigious universities across the country.

We have a thriving extra-curricular programme at St Martin's, with an average of three ensembles taking place each day. Some of these ensembles include: the Orchestra, Jazz Band, Junior and Senior Choirs, Steel Pans Ensemble and Percussion Ensemble. We put on termly concerts to an exceptionally high standard displaying both our ensembles and our hugely talented soloists, and we are very much looking forward to going on tour to Tenerife in October 2020.

We are also very proud to collaborate with our outstanding drama department to produce two outstanding musicals per year, one for students in years 7-9 and one for students in years 10 and above, providing opportunity for our student band to perform. Past productions have included: Les Misérables, Miss Saigon, In the Heights, Made in Dagenham, Aladdin and we will stage Sister Act in February 2020.

Above all, St Martin's is a happy and friendly place to work, no two days are ever the same and staff take pride in the school at which they teach. We are also one of the few state schools in the country to offer subsidised on-site accommodation to staff members, with priority given to newly qualified teachers. Other benefits of working here include a purpose-built department, a variety of wellbeing initiatives such as a personalised CPD calendar and a staff choir, an 'outstanding' sixth form (Ofsted 2019) and a superb NQT induction process.

I do hope this has given you a flavour of life in the St Martin's Music Department, and that this is something you would like to be a part of. I look forward to reading your application and would welcome any queries in the meantime. I can be contacted via e-mail mharris@st-martins.essex.sch.uk or phone 01277 238300.

Yours sincerely

Max Harris
Head of Music