



Perrott Hill

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

SUMMER 2026



Job description

Director of Music

Responsible to The Headmaster via the Deputy Head

Salary

Competitive and dependent on experience. Staff are invited to join the school's private pension scheme; Staff receive a generous fee remission for any of their children attending the school.

Contract:

This is a full-time permanent contract although part-time would be considered.



Introduction

We seek an outstanding Director of Music with the passion and ability to inspire pupils and to lead an inclusive, ambitious and high-profile Music department. This role, which is available from Monday 20 April 2026 (Summer Term 2026), would equally suit an experienced practitioner or an ambitious candidate ready to take their first step into departmental leadership.

This role is full-time and permanent. In lieu of teaching on Saturday, full time members of staff have a half day during the week; this is arranged in discussion with the Headmaster. The role will also involve some evening and weekend commitments associated with rehearsals, concerts, services and productions.

Music is integral to Perrott Hill life and pupils are encouraged to perform, compose and listen across a wide range of styles. The Director of Music will lead the teaching of Music from Nursery to Year 8, oversee the co-curricular programme (choirs, ensembles and orchestras) and coordinate the peripatetic instrumental and vocal teaching provision.

The school

Perrott Hill has approximately 130 pupils. The school was founded in 1946 and was registered in 2020 as a private company, with a Board of Directors and a Board of Governors. The school is a member of IAPS and the Boarding Schools' Association, and features regularly in the Good Schools Guide and the Tatler Schools Guide, among others. The school has been recognised nationally in recent years, including being shortlisted for Small Independent School of the Year (Independent Schools of the Year Awards 2023), winner of the Belonging and Inclusion Initiative Award (BSA Awards 2024), finalist for Most Inclusive Prep School (Best Schools Awards 2024), and listed as one of Tatler's Top Prep Schools (2024 and 2025). Perrott Hill is part of the Perrott Hill Education Group.

Perrott Hill is a co-educational, day and boarding preparatory school situated in beautiful rural surroundings four miles from Crewkerne in South Somerset. The original 19th century house is Grade II listed and forms the centre of the school, housing the Hoskyns Library, Grundy Hall, School Office, Marketing and Admissions Office, Headmaster's Study, Surgery and two classrooms. It is also home to the girls' and boys' dorms and common rooms. The majority of teaching takes place in purpose built classrooms to the west. The Pre-Prep sits securely within the converted stables of the main house and surrounds a soft play courtyard and covered outdoor play area. There are a multitude of facilities available, including a sports hall, theatre, forest school, climbing frame, all-weather surface and beautiful grounds and gardens. The emphasis is very much on an inclusive school for children aged 2-13.

The school site, which covers 28 acres, has been carefully developed over the past few years. As well as the usual sports pitches, there is an all-weather pitch, a large sports hall with changing rooms, a heated outdoor pool and a 220-capacity theatre. In 2016, a new eco-build Music School was opened, followed by a new science suite and



Tinker Lab. In recent years, the school buildings have been extensively refurbished in order to further develop the academic accommodation, and there are several acres of woodland which provide a home for our fully-equipped forest school.

There's no doubt that the school site helps to instil a very special sense of identity within the community, and the staff, parent and pupil bodies are welcoming, enthusiastic and full of a natural ease and warmth; the school holds the retention of a true family ethos dear. There are girls' and boys' boarding houses in the main house, with five sets of staff and families living onsite, as well as three graduate residential assistants. Alongside this is a desire to achieve the very best and, as such, the school has an excellent record of academic and scholarship success. In short, Perrott Hill combines extremely high standards of academic and pastoral care to encourage and stretch children according to their individual needs and strengths.

The post

The Director of Music will:

promote enthusiastic learning through engaging and creative teaching that aims to inspire the children;
 set a first rate example to all pupils;
 promote the aims, values and ethos of the school, including the upholding of excellent manners;
 teach the pupils in your care according to their individual educational needs, thus incorporating differentiation and, where appropriate, Assessment for Learning;
 plan and deliver Music lessons that develop musical skills in performing, composing and listening across the age range;
 carry out the normal duties of all teachers as set out in the Staff Handbook and as directed by the Headmaster;
 ensure personal understanding and implementation of the school's policies;
 maintain ongoing professional practice such as would ensure the best progress for pupils and successful inspections when they occur;
 ensure all Health and Safety obligations are adhered to, including within rehearsal and performance spaces;
 oversee the use and storage of music resources and the care and maintenance of instruments (in liaison with the Bursar);
 engage positively with the school's Professional Development and Review programme;
 attend occasional whole-school events such as prize givings and sports day (one Saturday a year in June) at the request of the Headmaster;
 perform any other duties as may be reasonably expected by the Headmaster;
 at all times, exercise responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children for whom s/he is responsible, or with whom s/he comes into contact in a manner compliant with the School's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. If in the course of carrying out the duties of the post the post holder becomes aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in the School, s/he must report any concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.



Specific responsibilities:

lead and develop a clear, progressive Music curriculum from Nursery to Year 8, including schemes of work, assessment and reporting;
 provide inspiring practical lessons that make effective use of the Music School and performance spaces;
 lead the school choir(s) and coordinate vocal work across the school;
 direct the school orchestra and ensembles, creating opportunities for children of different abilities to take part;
 plan and coordinate rehearsals and performances across the school year, including concerts, services and events such as the Perrott Promenade;
 coordinate the annual House Music / singing competition;
 accompany and support school assemblies and services as required, including leading hymn practice when required;
 coordinate ABRSM (or equivalent) examinations and performance opportunities for individual musicians, as appropriate;
 liaise with the Head of Drama and positively support any drama productions requiring music;
 line manage and support the peripatetic instrumental and vocal teaching team and assist with recruitment as required;
 coordinate instrumental and vocal lesson timetables, working closely with tutors to minimise disruption and to ensure pupils can balance commitments;
 liaise with the Bursary regarding departmental matters, including music ordered through the school, hours worked by peripatetic staff and billing arrangements;
 prepare and manage the department's budget and inventory, and oversee the ordering of resources and maintenance of instruments;
 prepare the department for inspection and contribute to whole-school development, attending relevant meetings and events as required.

Person specification:

Applicants must have a good honours degree in Music (or a related discipline) and relevant experience teaching Music across the primary/prep age range;
strong practical musicianship is essential, including the ability to accompany confidently on the piano/keyboard and to lead ensembles;
excellent communication skills, a good sense of humour, compassion and the ability to feel part of a larger family are essential;
a well developed sense of responsibility and self-motivation is a must, alongside a commitment to safeguarding and to the wider life of the school (including boarding and extra-curricular activities).

The post begins in the Summer Term 2026. Start date: Monday 20 April 2026 (with InSET dates immediately prior to the start of term, as applicable).

Applications will only be accepted from candidates completing the school's own application form in full. CVs will not be accepted in lieu of a completed application form without good reason, although they may be included to support it. The Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Staff Code are sent out with each request for an application form and completion of the form is taken to constitute having read and fully subscribed to both documents in their entirety. An Equal Opportunities Policy is available upon request.

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and therefore all convictions, cautions and bind-overs, including those regarded as spent, must be declared;

Applicants should be aware that all posts in the school involve some degree of responsibility for safeguarding children, although the extent of that responsibility will vary according to the nature of the post;

The successful applicant will be required to complete an Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service; We will seek references on shortlisted candidates before interview and may approach current and previous employers to verify particular information. Applicants should indicate on their application form in the appropriate place if they do not want referees approached without their specific permission to do so; If a shortlisted applicant is currently working with children, on either a paid or voluntary basis, the relevant employer/organisation will be asked to disclose disciplinary offences, including disciplinary offences relating to children or young persons (whether the disciplinary sanction is current or time expired), and asked also if the applicant has been the subject of any child protection allegations or concerns and, if so, the outcome of any enquiry or disciplinary procedure. If a shortlisted applicant is not currently working with children but has done so in the past, that previous employer/ organisation will be asked about the above matters. Where neither current nor previous employment has involved working with children, a shortlisted applicant's employer will still be asked about their suitability to work with children, although they may, where appropriate, answer 'Not applicable' if the applicant's duties have not brought them into contact with children or young persons;

Applicants should be aware that provision of false information is an offence and could result in the application being rejected or summary dismissal if the applicant has been appointed, and possible referral to the police and/or the Department for Education's Children's Safeguarding Operation Unit.





How to apply

Please email your letter of application, completed application form, the names and contact details of two referees and a recent passport style photograph to reception@perrotthill.com (FAO The Headmaster).



Invitation to interview

If an applicant is invited to interview, this will be conducted in person, and the areas which it will explore will include suitability to work with children.

All candidates invited to interview must bring documents confirming educational and professional qualifications that are necessary or relevant for the post (e.g. the original or certified copy of certificates, diplomas etc). Where originals or certified copies are not available for the successful candidate, written confirmation of the relevant qualifications must be obtained from the awarding body.

All candidates invited to interview must also bring with them:

- a current driving licence including a photograph;
- a passport;
- a full birth certificate;
- a utility bill or financial statement showing the candidate's current name and address;
- National Insurance number;
- where appropriate, any documentation evidencing a change of name.

Please note that originals of those documents above not relating to qualifications are necessary. Photocopies or certified copies are not sufficient.

Conditional offer of appointment:

Pre-appointment checks

Any offer to a successful candidate will be conditional upon:

receipt of at least two satisfactory references;

verification of identity and qualifications;

a clear check of the Department for Education's List 99;

a satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service Enhanced Disclosure;

verification of any professional status (such as QTS Status for teachers);

(for teaching posts) verification of successful completion of statutory induction period (applies to those who obtained QTS after 7 May 1999);

Appropriate overseas checks for those who have previously worked abroad;

verification of medical fitness;

signed a confirmation slip that they have read and understood the child protection policy and Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025;

completed a staff suitability self-declaration form (disqualification by association);

undergoing safeguarding training. For the appointment to be confirmed as permanent, satisfactory completion of the probationary period must be achieved.

Online searches will form part of the recruitment process to comply with safer recruitment practices and in order for the school to select suitable employees.

For the appointment to be confirmed as permanent, satisfactory completion of the probationary period must be achieved.

PLEASE NOTE:

Where a candidate is:

found to be on the DBS barred list or is subject to a Prohibition Order issued by the Secretary of State; and/or

found to have provided false information in, or in support of, his/her application; or

found to be the subject of serious expressions of concern as to his/her suitability to work with children, the facts will be reported to the Police and the DBS/ NCTL.

