



TEACHER OF MUSIC September 2016

Whitgift has an extremely strong reputation for the range and quality of its music. The successful candidate for this post will be expected to inspire boys to reach new levels of attainment and to show the commitment and leadership to make Whitgift an undisputed centre of musical excellence.

The Department

The Department is run overall by the Director of Music. There is also a Head of Academic Music, a Director of Orchestral Music, a Director of Choral Music, two Music Teachers and two Music Administrators. Additionally, there are four Graduate Music Assistants and approximately 30 peripatetic staff.

The Department is housed in purpose-built accommodation which includes a 300-seat Concert Hall, teaching rooms, offices, a recording studio, practice rooms and a Music ICT Suite with 16 Mac computers running Sibelius, GarageBand and Logic Express. More than 500 boys learn a musical instrument at the School and more than 30 musical activities are scheduled each week.

Music is taught weekly to all boys in Years 6-9 and the curriculum includes projects involving composition, performance, listening and music technology. The Edexcel GCSE course is studied and there are usually around 20 students in each of Years 10 and 11. In the Sixth Form, students can opt for a wide variety of pathways and there are currently boys taking Edexcel Music AS and Music Technology AS.

		2015	2014	2013
GCSE	A* - A	88%	81%	52%
AS Level	A - B	*	75%	100%
A Level	A* - B	100%	100%	100%
IB (Higher Level)	7 – 6	*	67%	*

(* Course did not run that year)

A Level students regularly move on to study Music either at university or conservatoire, and in recent years there has been a number of choral and organ scholarships.

Whitgift offers an impressive and extensive range of co-curricular musical activities. These include Symphony Orchestra, Concert Orchestra, First Year Orchestra, Whitgift Chamber Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Chamber Choir, Barbershop Group, Choral Society, First Form Choir and Big Band, together with three string orchestras, numerous brass ensembles and a variety of chamber music groups.

Boys have the opportunity to participate in more than 40 concerts each year. Many concerts take place in exciting venues which, in recent years, have included Cadogan Hall, the Royal Albert Hall, the Royal Festival Hall, Goodwood House, the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, Leeds Castle, Addington Palace and Westminster Central Hall, as well as the Fairfield Halls in Croydon. The repertoire for these concerts often includes large-scale works, such as Mozart's Requiem or Mahler's Fourth Symphony and major chamber, orchestral or choral works. The Chamber Choir have also recently sung at St Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Southwark Cathedral, Trinity College, Cambridge and the Ritz Hotel. There is also a tradition of performing operas and musicals with recent performances including Jesus Christ Superstar, Carmen, The Producers, Spamalot and currently Sweeney Todd. There are numerous chamber concerts and lunchtime recitals, Award Holder Concerts and the annual House Music competition. The School also stages a biennial International Music Competition, attracting applicants from over ten countries and offering full scholarships to the winners. Tours abroad in recent years have seen choirs, orchestras and chamber groups visit Romania, Italy, Spain, Hungary, Germany and Japan; tours to Costa Rica, Venice and Asia are planned for the near future.

Music scholarships are awarded annually by audition and the School's reputation for music assures a high quality of candidate. All new boys who do not already learn an orchestral instrument have a term's free tuition within the School's instrumental scheme during their first year.

Current Vacancy

The successful candidate will be a well-qualified graduate with a broad range of musical interests. A high level of keyboard skills is desirable, and the ability to sing or play one or more other instruments is essential. Music Technology skills are required and familiarity with the Edexcel AS and A2 course and with Apple Logic software would be beneficial. The main bulk of duties will be teaching KS3 and GCSE Music and the successful candidate must be able to demonstrate confidence and ability in these areas. There may be the possibility of some AS and/or A2 Music teaching.

The successful candidate must be someone who is confident, proactive and reflective about their teaching, has excellent communication skills, is capable of contributing positively within a team and is committed to raising attainment through excellent teaching and learning.

The post could suit both newly qualified teachers and those seeking a more challenging post. The successful candidate would be directly responsible to the Head of Academic Music and would be expected to take a full and active role in a vibrant Department. Duties will include:

- teaching a full academic timetable;
- keyboard accompaniment;
- helping to prepare/conduct a wide range of musical ensembles;
- attending Departmental Meetings;
- helping organise the music at School Assemblies;
- attending Parents' Evenings;
- helping to represent the Department at Open Mornings.

Above all, we are looking for an adaptable and flexible colleague who will cheerfully embrace the stimulating challenges that are part and parcel of life at this exceptional school. The Music Department is a close knit community and the successful candidate can expect a warm welcome and unflagging support.

As a Boarding School, stimulating opportunities may be available for the right candidate to contribute to the pastoral care of students as a Boarding Tutor, both resident and non-resident.

Contact

Please feel free to contact Mr Alan Weakley on 020 8688 9222 or e-mail aew@whitgift.co.uk if you have any questions or would like to know more.

Conditions of Service

The salary will be on the Whitgift Foundation scale (substantially above national scale) according to qualifications and experience. Accommodation may be available. Assistance is offered towards removal expenses etc., up to £1,000 in total.

All staff are required to make a significant contribution to the co-curricular life of the School and this is reflected in the salary offered. A strong commitment to the pastoral and house system is also anticipated.

As a result of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996, employers now have to verify that new recruits who are not British Nationals are eligible to work in this country. Therefore, any such candidate who is offered a post will be asked to forward a photocopy of their passport and/or visa with their letter of acceptance. It is normal practice for the School to ask for copies of degree certificates and other qualifications at the same time.

Whitgift School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening including checks with past employers and the Disclosure & Barring Service.

Candidates for this post should apply via our website at www.whitgift.co.uk/vacancies.

Closing date for applications: Please apply as soon as possible.