

Head of Music

Required September 2021

The Directors of the Gardener Schools Group have established Maida Vale School in the conviction that there exists an opportunity for a different kind of independent secondary school in London - academically demanding but with a modern approach to selection criteria, the flexibility of the curriculum and recognition of creativity and talent. We are now looking to appoint a Head of Music.

If you are a well-qualified, experienced, enthusiastic, and imaginative practitioner, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to help establish a modern and pioneering Music Department in a School which is seeking to be a front runner in educational practice in London. The ideal candidate will provide positive and dynamic leadership in all areas relating to the teaching and learning in Music. The ideal candidate will be able to teach Music and Music Technology to A Level, have strong piano skills and the ability to lead orchestral ensembles and choirs. The Music Department follows the Edexcel GCSE specification.

The School opened in September 2020 with 53 of Year 7, 8 and 9 Pupils. The school will grow to full capacity over the next 5 or 6 years with circa 600+ pupils 11-18.

The School operates its own pay scales and will offer salary commensurate with experience and the nature of this role. There is opportunity to develop and take on additional management roles, academic or pastoral, for the right candidate and we would welcome applications from those seeking to develop leadership experience.

Location

Gardener Schools Group took the rare opportunity to acquire a large Victorian school building in residential Maida Vale. The School has undertaken a fit-out program in the past twelve months, and it is equipped with modern, cutting edge facilities including Science laboratories, an arts and graphics department, design technology and CAD CAM suites, computing lab, music department, restaurant and Parent Café, theatre, dance and drama studios, flexible teaching suites and meeting rooms. The use of Information Technology will be given great importance within the School and the Digital Curriculum will be a core component of the education of Maida Vale School pupils.



Curriculum

As the School grows, we will offer a full range of GCSE and A level subjects. The curriculum is structured around a two-year Key Stage Three, a three-year GCSE programme and flexible timetabling. The School pursues excellence in all areas whether examinable or not.

The School's aim is to provide a rich and broad education to all pupils whatever their specialism. Whilst we aim to achieve the highest academic results for each pupil, we do not serve as an examination "factory".

An extensive extra-curricular programme is in place. This consists of sport, creative activities and curriculum extension sessions. We include guest speakers and workshops to inspire the pupils. Residential and other school visits are encouraged, making the optimum use of the resources and facilities available locally, nationally and internationally.

Pastoral

The ethos of the School is that of a family and social hub, giving emotional support and security to all pupils and employees. Each pupil receives individual attention both educationally and pastorally. The approach emphasises the partnership with Parents; their involvement, with Parents often spending time in school, is part of the ethos of Maida Vale School. As the school matures, vertical tutor groups will add to the family approach.

Requirements for the position

- A good degree in an appropriate subject and a recognised teaching qualification
- Demonstrate the management capabilities to develop and build a vibrant and successful department
- The ability to lead orchestral ensembles and choirs and to accompany performers with strong piano skills
- Ability to teach Music and Music Technology to A Level.

The successful candidate will have the opportunity to:

- Work with fantastic and engaging pupils
- Enjoy an inspiring new building
- Supporting the development of an exciting new sixth form provision
- Take part in extra-curricular trips and visits
- Take a leading role in developing the subject area further.



The successful candidate will have:

- Qualified Teacher Status and an appropriate degree
- The ability to motivate pupils and achieve excellent examination results
- A passion for Music and the ability to share this with young people
- Excellent classroom management skills
- Excellent organisational skills and the flexibility to take on new technical challenges.
- The capacity to work collaboratively as part of a team
- Commitment to, and experience of, using a range of teaching styles and methods including ICT. Classrooms are equipped with Interactive Screens. The Microsoft suite of Apps are used to support learning across the School
- Offer extra-curricular activities in a range of activities supported by other members of staff until the school and department grows permitting further appointments.
- A willingness to participate in the wider co-curricular life of the school and to commit to extracurricular clubs before and after school.

Role of a Teacher at Maida Vale School

- To set high expectations which inspires motivate and challenge pupils;
- To use data to promote good progress and outcomes for pupils;
- To plan and teach well-structured lessons;
- To adapt teaching through differentiation to respond to the strengths and weaknesses of all pupils;
- To use the school's assessment policy to make accurate and productive use of assessment;
- To use the school's behaviour policy to manage behaviour effectively to ensure a good and safe learning environment;
- To fulfil wider professional responsibilities including acting as a personal tutor, duties, staff meetings, and school events;
- To take an active role in managing own personal professional development

Accept any other reasonable duties and responsibilities as may be requested by the Headmaster.



Staff Development

The School is committed to staff development and the position will provide a good springboard for further promotion within the school and beyond. All staff will be encouraged to attend INSET courses and will be provided with ample professional development opportunities.

Appointments

The School is committed to staff development. All staff will be encouraged to attend INSET courses and will be provided with ample professional development opportunities.

All appointments are made in accordance with our equal opportunities policy and applicants should let us know of any special needs they may have. Maida Vale School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Successful candidates must be willing to undergo full screening in accordance with Keeping Children Safe in Education, including an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check. Issues relating to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils will be explored at interview.

Applications must be made on the School's application form, which may be obtained via the School website. <https://www.maidavaleschool.com/about-us/join-our-team>

Please submit a completed application form together with supporting letter of application and details of two referees. One referee should be able to comment on your teaching skills, and one from your current or most recent employer. References will be taken prior to interview. You must provide original documents as proof of identity at interview.

Completed applications should be emailed to hmpa@maidavaleschool.com or posted to Mr Steven Winter, Headmaster, Maida Vale School, 18 Saltram Crescent, London, W9 3HR.

Closing date: Midday on Monday 26th April. Suitable applicants will be contacted by telephone and invited to attend an interview week beginning 3rd May.

