



# STREATHAM & CLAPHAM

PREP SCHOOL

GDST  
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

## Job Application Information

Music Teacher  
(part-time)

From January 2025



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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a unique opportunity to join Streatham & Clapham Prep School as a two day a week music teacher to work alongside our Director of Music who is moving into a part-time role.



The successful candidate will work alongside the existing Director of Prep School Music to support them in maintaining and developing the already strong profile of SCPS music within and beyond the school.

They will work alongside the strong team of visiting instrumental and singing teachers, to support in delivering a diverse and ambitious programme of concerts, events and trips which take place in school as well as in the local and wider community.

We are looking for someone with a contagious passion for Music who prides themselves as an accomplished and versatile musician and who inspires students in their music-making and the joy of musical events. They will have a commitment to the benefits of music education in all students' lives and be experienced in guiding students at all levels, from novices to those with ambitions to study Music longer term as they move into the adult world.

Using their own and the school's wide musical network of teachers and performers, the successful candidate will build on the school's reputation as a lively music hub and centre of outstanding musical achievement.

The post-holder is responsible to the Deputy Head Pastoral. The post commences from January 2025.

# ABOUT US

We are one of the UK's leading private girls' schools, educating pupils from Nursery through to Sixth Form. Pupils prosper in a vibrant setting that provides challenge and width of opportunity. They thrive on account of the school's family ethos, and draw strength from the school's rich social and cultural mix.

Streatham & Clapham High School is an independent, academically selective school for girls aged 3–18 with over 870 pupils across the Prep and Senior Schools. The Prep School is located in spacious buildings with outstanding facilities in Streatham Hill.

The Senior School inhabits a four-acre site focused on an impressive 1930s building in a delightfully tranquil and leafy oasis of south London. Founded as Brixton High School in 1887 by the Girls' Public Day School Trust, it is one of the Trust's earliest member schools, and we are proud of our heritage and founding principles of breadth, fearlessness, inclusivity, and a focus on developing every individual to achieve their potential, and this is articulated in our motto: Towards Wisdom Unafraid.

SCHS holds true to its founders' mission, and we are proud of our exciting and challenging curriculum, with a commitment to innovative teaching and excellent relationships across the community.

School life embraces a broad range of sporting, artistic, social, and cultural opportunities in an environment specifically created to inculcate the values of independent learning, responsibility for others and the enjoyment of challenge.

The school has first-class facilities, providing an environment that enables pupils to develop their interests and strengths both inside and outside the classroom.

The best outcomes and experiences for the girls are at the heart of all that we do, characterised by a warm, supportive, and positive culture. This helps build pupils' confidence, self-fulfilment, resilience, and happiness.

A richly diverse culture underpins this with kindness, generosity, opportunity, and social responsibility, combining a global outlook with a sense of local belonging.

The School is part of the GDST, the leading network of independent girls' schools in the UK, founded in 1872.

The Head is a member of HMC and GSA. The Head of the Prep School is a member of IAPS. The GDST is a founding member of the International Coalition of Girls' Schools.

For more information, please visit the school website [www.schs.gdst.net](http://www.schs.gdst.net).

# PREP SCHOOL (IAPS)

We are proudly inclusive of a range of academic abilities and judge success by development and progress. Our promise is that every girl will exceed beyond expectation.



The Prep School, whose Head is in membership of the Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS), offers an inspiring and challenging academic education for its pupils in a lively, vibrant, and supportive environment. The family ethos of Streatham & Clapham High School enables the staff to know, value and nurture each pupil as an individual.

The school celebrates diversity and draws strength from its rich social and cultural mix. The aim is to create a safe, happy, and secure learning environment so that each child achieves her or his maximum potential in all aspects of school life and daily endeavour. When pupils move on, the school wants them to be confident, responsible global citizens with a love of learning and a desire to contribute positively to society.

The school's priority is always for the individual child, and it seeks to encourage both academic and personal development through structured, meaningful, and enjoyable activities. The school's pupils thrive in a family atmosphere where learning is fun; each day has exciting opportunities that encourage each pupil to develop her own strengths and nurture her extra-curricular interests.

The academic ethos of the school is firmly underpinned by its strong and supportive pastoral care, which enables its pupils to feel secure in trying new activities and to understand that making mistakes is part of their learning journey. The principles of care, courtesy and respect are central to the school, and it is through these values that all members of the school community thrive.

# AIMS AND ETHOS

Our vision is to be unrivalled in empowering our young women to discover, nurture and project their unique identities and character. Our purpose is to enable every girl to achieve beyond the bound of expectation on a daily basis, across the spectrum of endeavour.



The school offers its pupils an inspiring, enlightened, and intellectually challenging education in a lively, vibrant, and warmly supportive environment. The school's family ethos enables us to know, value and nurture each pupil as an individual and we are determined that all members of the school community should be inspired to outperform expectations daily.

The pursuit of excellence is the school's defining feature. It nurtures pupils to attain success and self-awareness across the widest spectrum of activity, extending far beyond the 'academic' horizon. The school's pupils, whether very able or late developers, discover their unique identity and achieve beyond the realms of expectation.

Intrinsic to pupils' success are the school's expert and alert pastoral systems. The care extended to all pupils enables them to make outstanding progress, both academically and in their personal development. They mature into confident, accomplished and well-adjusted young women, prepared for the challenges of university education and their future careers, rooted in our core values of kindness, respect, integrity and compassion.

- We nurture, not coerce, excellence
- We are a family, not a factory, school
- We celebrate difference through our diverse community, drawing strength from all that is great about London
- We have an unstinting commitment to innovation; we do not stand still but are trailblazers
- We draw strength from being part of the GDST family of schools, being pioneers in, and the shapers of, girls' education.

# PASTORAL CARE

“Pupils are highly respectful of each other and exhibit qualities which reflect their concern for justice.” ISI Report, 2019



Our pastoral care and personal development are of paramount importance and involve all children and adults who participate in the daily life of the school. We place strong emphasis on the creation of a supportive atmosphere, and we encourage our girls to strive to achieve their personal, social, and academic goals.

From the chef in the dining room to the PE teacher on the playing field, all of our staff know our girls. Each teacher offers his or her girls day-to-day support and communicates frequently with parents, through an informal chat at the end of the day or via email, a phone call, or a note in the girl's diary.

We encourage our girls to take a 'can do' approach to their school lives and find that pastoral care encourages character-building.

The girls become increasingly familiar with facing challenging situations with greater confidence when they apply the personal strategies they have been encouraged to adopt to their daily lives.

On entry to the school, each girl is allocated to one of four Houses. This creates four, smaller 'family' units within the school community to which the girls develop a strong affinity.

Older girls play a responsible role whilst remaining accessible and familiar to other children. They are then better equipped to develop and foster relationships and to find the causes of conflict and seek appropriate responses.

# ACADEMIC LIFE

All children from Nursery to Year 6 benefit from specialist language, music, and PE lessons. Our curriculum is independent, engaging, and inspiring.



The Prep School aims to ensure that all learners benefit from a rich, broad, balanced curriculum presented in an interesting, exciting, and imaginative manner with opportunities for first-hand experience, practical work, investigation and learning through play.

Children are confronted with relevant experiences both inside and outside the classroom which provide opportunities to observe, investigate, experiment, and predict. A variety of technological, creative and aesthetic skills is also developed.

We have rigorous academic standards and focus on the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science and Computing. We also expand our girls' minds by teaching specialist subjects such as PE, Music, French and coding.

All of the lessons on our Prep school curriculum are carefully crafted and presented in accordance with each girl's learning styles. We personalise the learning experience of every girl so each can understand and articulate her own specific goals.

# LIFE BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

“Being part of the GDST network and IAPS gives us a competitive opportunity to play with schools from across the country.



The Prep School has its own site and enjoys close links with the senior school. Pupils benefit from outstanding facilities, far larger than one might expect in a primary school. These include a well-resourced library, full-sized Sports Hall, all-weather sports surface, excellent Science, Computing, Art and PE facilities, an Outdoor Learning Space, and a great deal of space, both inside and out.

We have an extensive co-curricular programme made up of clubs and societies. These offer our girls a diverse range of activities to pursue their interests and inspiring further achievement beyond the classroom and range from the arts to quizzes, debates, and dance.

Our clubs and societies provide an ideal foundation for girls to develop a life-long love of learning for its own sake; a principle that lies at the heart of the ethos of both the Prep and Senior schools.

# ROLE DESCRIPTION

## The Department

The Music Department celebrates the musical ability of all students and provides opportunities for pupils to play a range of instruments and to receive specialist tuition from visiting instrumental and singing teachers. All students are encouraged to become actively involved in different forms of music-making, both individually and in ensembles. An exciting programme of concerts, trips and events takes place both in school and in the local and wider community.

Within the classroom, music learning develops students' critical skills, including their ability to listen to and appreciate a wide variety of music. All students from Nursery to Year 6 are taught music as a timetabled curriculum subject and the programmes of study are centred on the key skills of performing, composing and listening.

Students at all stages of the curriculum have access to excellent spaces and resources. At the Senior School, the Music Department has a range of percussion instruments, including a large set of Djembe drums, Tabla and Samba drums. Our Assembly Hall used for concerts, has a grand piano and a stage space which is ideal for building pupils' confidence as they become young performers. Pupils at the Prep School have access to a wide range of musical opportunities and groups, including: Orchestra, Choir (Keystage 1 and 2), Ukulele Group, Piano Duet club, Recorder consort, whole class violin lessons for all pupils in Year 3, as well as theory and aural / musicianship clubs.

In recent years, SCPS choir and musicians have combined with other GDST schools to take part in the 'Sing Up' event. Musicals and productions are an important part of the Prep offer and each year the Music and Drama team work together to prepare productions with Year 2, 4 and 6. At Christmas, the school holds their annual Carol Service with performances from all choirs and the orchestra (across both the Prep and Senior Schools). In the Spring Concert, advanced students perform concerti with the orchestra, most recently including a performance of J. S. Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 4, Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 23 and Vivaldi's Double Cello Concerto, accompanied by the Baroque Ensemble. Prep girls join this event (as well as the Summer Musical evening) and have the opportunity to perform alongside their Senior peers.

Music students at SCHS regularly move on to study music at university, with one student recently doing so at Oxford University. The music department is proud to have performers as members of both the National Youth Orchestra and Choir.

## Key Tasks and Responsibilities

- Teach EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Music inspiring and promoting excellent attainment in music.
- Exemplify in their own practice the skills of teaching and learning typified by lead professionals and ensure that good practice is modelled daily.
- Implement and deliver stimulating and challenging schemes of work for each year group and promote excellence in teaching and learning to ensure all students develop their potential and are equipped for life beyond school.

- Keep up to date with developments in the subject area and education in general to ensure that best practice is adopted within the department.
- Ensure lesson delivery is effective in meeting the needs of all students.
- Contribute to the broader life of the school by supporting and leading curricular and co-curricular events such as school productions and activity days.

### Co-curricular Activities

- Actively promote a love of music and music-making as well as excellence in music performance for both performers and audiences throughout the community of the school, beyond the immediate physical and timetabled confines of the department.
- Develop and lead enrichment activities, including a suitable programme of trips, visits, workshops, concerts or tours, to stimulate interest in music.
- Lead and rehearse the musical element of school productions, examination groups and ensemble pieces.
- Provide music for assemblies.
- Plan, prepare and rehearse music for school and appropriate external events including concerts, services, open days, prize giving, assemblies etc.
- Contribute to the planning of school events requiring music.

### Marketing & External Links

- Actively promote the department within the school community to encourage students' interest in the subject area.
- Contribute to the positive promotion and marketing of the school and the GDST in the local and wider community.

### Monitoring, Evaluation & Assessment

- Ensure that individual students' progress is regularly assessed, recorded, and reported and used to inform future teaching.
- Monitor students' work to ensure high standards are maintained. Advise pupils and parents on progress, giving clear guidance for improvement, assessing, recording and reporting as required in accordance with the School's procedures.

### General Requirements

- Work towards and support the school vision and the current school objectives outlined in the School Strategic Ambitions.
- Contribute to the school's programme of co-curricular activities.
- Support and contribute to the school's responsibility for safeguarding students.
- Work within the school's health and safety policy to ensure a safe working environment for staff, students, and visitors.
- Work within the GDST's Diversity Policy to promote equality of opportunity for all students and staff, both current and prospective.
- Maintain high professional standards of attendance, punctuality, appearance and conduct and build positive, courteous relations with students, parents and colleagues.

# PERSON SPECIFICATION

## Skills Required

- Accomplished and versatile musician.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to work collaboratively and cooperatively, encourage and motivate.
- Decision making skills: the ability to solve problems and make decisions.
- Teamwork: the ability to work collaboratively with others.
- The ability to plan time effectively and organise oneself well.
- Confident user of IT and technology.
- Effective behaviour management skills and discipline, both inside and outside the classroom.
- Familiarity with or a willingness to learn about colourstrings and Kodaly method appealing
- Ability to use a range of teaching strategies to meet the needs of all students.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing, with colleagues, school-based staff, governors, GDST and external bodies.
- Ability to play the piano and take classes in ukulele and/or recorder would be beneficial.

## Knowledge Base

- Excellent professional and subject knowledge and understanding.
- Understanding of national curricular requirements of the subject.
- Up to date with professional developments in the subject and other aspects of education.

## Attainment

- Qualified teacher status.
- Experience as a subject teacher covering EYFS-Year 6
- Experience of organising or participating in co-curricular activities.

## Attitude and Approach

- Ability to enthuse children and adults.
- Possess a positive attitude and approach to change and development.
- Flexible and firm with the ability to know when to be either.
- Enjoy rising to the challenges inherent in a school environment.
- Commitment to the safeguarding of children and young people.
- Lifelong learner.

# HOW TO APPLY

Any candidate wishing to seek additional information about the post or to discuss any related matter should contact the HR & Recruitment Manager, Mrs Angela Bolton via email: [a.bolton@schs.gdst.net](mailto:a.bolton@schs.gdst.net).

Applications should be received no later than midday, 10 October 2024. All candidates should use the following link to apply and include a covering letter addressed to the Head of Prep, Mrs Helen Loach.

[https://my.corehr.com/pls/gdstrecruit/erq\\_jobspec\\_version\\_4.jobspec?p\\_id=037588](https://my.corehr.com/pls/gdstrecruit/erq_jobspec_version_4.jobspec?p_id=037588)



Interviews will take place shortly there after, though the school reserves the right to appoint an exceptional candidate at any stage of the application process. All candidates invited to interview must bring original documents confirming any educational and professional qualifications that are necessary or relevant for the post (e.g. the original certificates). If original certificates 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:

- An original passport and/or other appropriate document proving your eligibility to work in the UK
- One other form of identification, such as a driving licence or birth certificate
- Two other documents, such as utilities bills, TV licence, bank, building society or credit-card statements confirming your current address
- Documents confirming your educational and professional qualifications

Please note that candidates must bring originals of the above documents. Photocopies or certified copies are not acceptable.

# TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

The role will attract a competitive salary in line with qualifications and experience, and the successful candidate will also be entitled to an interest-free season ticket loan and free lunches during term time.



Any offer to a successful candidate will be conditional upon:

- receipt of at least two references, satisfactory to the school (if not already received), prior to appointment
- verification of identity and qualifications
- a satisfactory DBS Disclosure at the enhanced level
- satisfactory completion of any pre-employment checks as relevant such as an online search and those to check whether you are registered for or prohibited or restricted from practicing certain professions or roles
- where the successful candidate has worked or been resident overseas in the previous five years, such checks and confirmations as the school may require in accordance with statutory guidance
- (for teaching posts) verification of medical fitness in accordance with DfES Circular 4/99 - Physical and Mental Fitness to Teach of Teachers and Entrants to Initial Teacher Training
- satisfactory completion of the probationary period

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