



The Purcell School  
*for young musicians*



TEACHER(S) OF ACADEMIC MUSIC AND MUSICIANSHIP

Full-time or Part-Time  
for September 2021 to August 2022

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES



## INTRODUCTION

Celebrated throughout the world as a centre of musical excellence, The Purcell School is the most vibrant, exciting and exhilarating place to work or study. We are a close-knit community dedicated to nurturing some of the world's most talented young musicians and we recognize the unique privilege it is to work with these incredibly gifted students.

Our students are the liveliest, most committed and self-motivated young people you could hope to meet. Every day, the School's corridors echo with the sound of extraordinary music as our students prepare for one of the 150 concerts we present every year, both here at School and in the most prestigious venues in London.

It is a working environment quite unlike anywhere else! We want our students to be challenged and inspired by every aspect of their experience here, and we support and encourage staff to achieve this. Academic classes are small, behaviour is excellent and the opportunities for innovative and creative teaching practice are limitless.

If you are committed to providing an outstanding student experience and prepared to play a full part in the life of this extraordinary place, The Purcell School offers you the opportunity to join an exceptional team, serving truly exceptional students in a totally unique environment. I very much hope you will consider making an application to join us.

Kind regards,

**Paul Bambrough**  
Principal



## ROLE DESCRIPTION

### Teacher(s) of Academic Music and Musicianship

We are seeking an inspirational teacher(s) capable of delivering the highest standards of teaching and learning through exceptional classroom practice.

Successful teachers at The Purcell School are committed, industrious and open to development, not only within the confines of the classroom but within the wider musical and boarding life of the School as well. We seek to appoint teachers who are confident and warm, who possess charisma and who recognise that organisation, open-mindedness, structure, clarity, diligence and a sense of vision are vital ingredients in a successful life as a teacher.

The Academic Music Department offers a unique programme of study, which forms an important part of every Purcell students specialist musical education. Analysis and aural awareness are at the heart of everything we do, and specialist training in these areas is a core component for every student. Purcell students achieve exceptional grades in Music, and nearly all go on to study the subject at either conservatoire or university.

In Years 6 to 9, students study a series of set works, which form the basis of creative and analytical projects designed to expand their general musical knowledge and inform their practical instrumental studies. In year 10, students sit the Cambridge IGCSE exam, and in Year 11, they undertake an intense harmony course (in preparation for the Sixth Form) and an in-depth study of larger scale works. In addition, there is an introductory course in Music Technology.

In the Sixth Form, students work towards the Cambridge Pre-U qualification in Music and have lessons in analysis, music history, harmony and composition. Students who intend to apply to university to read Music are prepared for entrance examinations and interviews. Each year, a number of students go on to read Music at university, including Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard and SOAS.

The school's Musicianship Programme runs in tandem with the above. In Years 6 to 8, pupils attend two Musicianship classes per week: these small-group classes include opportunities to explore music theory and analysis from aural and practical perspectives. From Year 9, students can choose from a range of electives (including advanced analysis, grades 6 - 8 music theory, keyboard skills, arts award and conducting), all designed to complement their instrumental studies, and their core aural, analysis and exam classes. All students attend a weekly choir rehearsal.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The post(s) are initially offered on a fixed term (one academic year) basis with the possibility to extend/become permanent according to need.

The salary will be based on the School's salary scale, according to the successful candidate's experience.

Children of staff are not eligible to be educated at the School except through the normal admissions and audition process.

The post is subject to a probationary period. All posts are subject to regular appraisal.



## HOW TO APPLY

If you wish to apply, please complete the School's Application Form (available on our website) and send it with a supporting Personal Statement to the Principal as soon as possible. Please do not send a separate curriculum vitae. Closing date for applications is **Monday 1st March at 10am**

**Please state clearly if you are interested in a full-time or part-time position on your application form.**

Personal statements should outline your experience, subject knowledge and evidence your achievements. If you have a specific area of specialism or industry experience, please demonstrate how this enables you to create inspirational lessons. The Personal Statement is your opportunity to tell us how your skills and experience, both within your subject and beyond, can contribute to an outstanding student experience.

**Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an online interview week commencing 22nd March, 2021** at which you will have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have. Interviews will explore subject knowledge, pastoral experience, the ability to relate appropriately to students and a willingness to contribute to the whole School community. Candidates will be required to bring evidence of identity and qualifications to the interview.

Applications should be made to the Principal, Paul Bambrough, and sent by email to **recruitment@purcell-school.org**

## CHILD PROTECTION

The Purcell School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. All applicants should read the School's Child Protection policy, which is available on our website, and are required to declare any criminal convictions or cautions, or disciplinary proceedings related to young people. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including records checked and processed through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Purcell School is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes application from appropriately qualified people regardless of gender, marital status, sexual orientation, race, ethnic origin, colour, nationality, religion, disability or age. Candidates will be assessed against relevant criteria only (i.e. skills, qualifications, abilities, experience) in selection and recruitment.



# JOB SPECIFICATION

**The Purcell School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment**

## **JOB TITLE: TEACHER OF ACADEMIC MUSIC AND MUSCIANSHIP**

- All members of staff are ultimately answerable to the Principal.
- Your line manager is the Head of Academic Music

This job specification sets out the duties of the post at the time of drafting. Specific responsibilities are as follows:

### **FOR ALL TEACHING STAFF**

- To carry out teaching commitments as agreed with the Deputy Principal
- To participate in the School's appraisal scheme
- To support and implement the School's behavioural policy
- To monitor students' attendance at lessons and to liaise with the Deputy Principal or the Instrumental Timetabler when difficulties arise
- To assist in providing cover for absent colleagues
- To supervise students during internal and external examinations
- To supervise students during breaks on a duty rota
- To attend assemblies
- To attend the weekly staff meeting and other relevant meetings by arrangement
- To attend Parents' Evenings
- To participate in School Inset meetings
- To contribute to the School's extra-curricular and/or boarding provision
- To assist occasionally at whole school events

### **FOR ALL STAFF**

- To promote the aims and values of the School
- To support and protect the interests of the students
- To support colleagues in their work
- To ensure the smooth-running of the School and the well-being of the School community
- To act in accordance with the current legal requirements, School policies and guidance on the safeguarding of children and young people
- To undertake such administrative and supervisory duties as may be required
- To follow the procedures and policies set out in the Staff Handbook
- To promote equality by actively protecting staff and students from discrimination
- To comply with current Health and Safety regulations and best practice

## PERSON SPECIFICATION

### Experience & Knowledge

A first degree in Music or closely related subject

Qualified teacher status

Experience of outstanding classroom teaching at all levels

Experience of group and/or aural or choir training

Excellent knowledge and/or experience of delivering outstanding practical musicianship classes;

Experience of conducting and/or experiencing of teaching group keyboard harmony classes;

Evidence of continued professional development

Good ICT skills and an understanding of how ICT can facilitate outstanding teaching and learning

### Ability & Skills

The ability to promote an interest in Academic Music within the context of an international specialist music school

The ability to develop students' ability to use Musicianship (SP) effectively and confidently for practical communication

The ability to establish a safe and purposeful working atmosphere that supports learning and in which students feel secure and confident

The ability to promote positive relationships in the classroom and beyond

Effective and systematic classroom management

### Personal Attributes

An ability to inspire students of all levels and abilities

Enthusiasm, energy and imagination

Willingness to play a full part in the life of the School

Commitment to student success

Personal warmth and the ability to connect with students in a meaningful way

An ability to work as a positive member of a team