

**Teacher of Music**

**MPS – UPS3 dependent on experience**

**Required September 2019**

**Full or part-time**

# The School

Joseph Swan Academy is an 11-19 secondary school serving nearly 1200 students in central Gateshead. The school is entering an exciting new phase having recently joined the Emmanuel Schools Foundation. Joseph Swan Academy is the fifth school within the Foundation, which seeks to contribute to economic regeneration, prosperity in the north-east, and quality of community life through its work with young people. Our schools exist to impart wisdom to the next generation by educating young men and women in a culture which prioritises the pursuit of knowledge and the development of character. We serve communities of students, staff and parents who hold many different religious and ideological positions who unite around our core beliefs and core values, which are underpinned by our Christian ethos.

We value academic excellence, but we hold personal best to be of far greater importance. It is our experience that by developing a strong work ethic, holding a growth rather than fixed mind-set, and being provided with outstanding tuition, students may go on to achieve considerably more than they might have imagined possible. We seek to be intentional about character education, our aim being that our students will, in the future, become servant-hearted leaders. Students starting here encounter consistent rules, role models and traditions, which help them feel part of the Academy community and to begin to take responsibility for others.  As students grow older we expect more of them and in the Sixth Form expect our students to take on at least one formal leadership role in the Academy as well as beginning to serve in the wider community.

As part of ensuring rapid school improvement, Joseph Swan Academy will be working closely with Emmanuel College, which is one of the very best non-selective, co-educational, comprehensive schools in the country. Emmanuel College has a history of excellent academic results with a 2018 progress 8 figure of +0.52 and at A Level 68% of all grades at grade A\* to B. We believe working together will ensure similar academic outcomes for the students at Joseph Swan Academy in the coming years. Joseph Swan Academy will maintain its own distinctive identity as it partners with Emmanuel College, benefitting from the College’s experience and the educational leadership capacity across the Emmanuel Schools Foundation.

Whilst applying to this position means you will be initially appointed to teach at Joseph Swan Academy, there may be future opportunities to work, by mutual agreement, in our other schools, including at Emmanuel College. We are committed to an extensive, high quality programme of professional development and to provide opportunities for career progression. As such, this opportunity is ideal for ambitious educators who aspire to future senior leadership and will benefit from input through our National Teaching School designation.

# Department

The music department comprises two full-time members of staff. In addition, we are privileged to work with an experienced team of instrumental teachers who provide lessons for over 100 students in the student body each week.   
   
Music forms part of each day at Joseph Swan in assemblies, curriculum music lessons, co-curricular groups and individual lessons.  Music is central to many of our annual events, of which the most significant are our Remembrance Concert, held each year and involves over 150 musicians and singers from around the Gateshead area as well as our Presentation Evening and Summer Concert which takes place in the school.  Many students choose to play or sing in the diverse Academy ensembles, including a string group, choir, a wind band and various other groups whose repertoire this year alone has ranged from Elgar to Take that and everything in between.  Music activities routinely take place after school hours and sometimes on an evening.  A welcome development has been the increasingly close working of the Music department with the Durham Army Cadet Force Band, resulting in some breath-taking concerts for the community.  Preparation for major concerts and performances often places considerable demands on students and staff.

Most students receive a curriculum music lesson each week throughout Key Stage 3, with many students opting to take advantage of the free instrumental lessons and instruments on offer at Joseph Swan Academy.   Students who take up the instrument are also expected to follow Associated Board or Trinity exam syllabus.

# Curriculum Summary

All students at Key Stage 3 receive one lesson of music per week and are given a practical approach to music making with an option to specialize in drums, guitars or Ukuleles, keyboards and singing and cover music characteristics within this. Students are given the option of taking GCSE music at Key Stage 4 with all students achieving the highest grades last year. All students who learn to play an instrument are expected to take either an ABRSM or Trinity exam on their chosen instrument and Grade 5 Music Theory lessons are given to students wanting to further their opportunities.

# Person

We are seeking to recruit educators who may have a range of educational experience. We therefore invite applications from teachers who may have reached the upper pay threshold, as well as those who are newly or recently qualified.

We seek to appoint an outstanding musician capable of inspiring young people to achieve excellence in performance, composition and the academic study of music.

The current music teachers are enthusiasts for their subject, as indeed are all our departmental teams. However, whilst your own subject knowledge will be of a high order, your natural gift will not prevent you understanding the mental or physical blocks that may prevent some from making progress. You will be able to inspire confidence and engender a can-do attitude in students of all abilities.

You will be suitably qualified and experienced to teach up to A Level and will be able to demonstrate sufficient mastery of your instrument(s). Experience of conducting and leading, public performance and accompanying are all desirable in the successful candidate.

The successful candidate will also be able to work under pressure with other colleagues and will balance a demonstrable excellence as a musician with genuine humility and a desire to serve others. There will be a passionate belief that music is for everyone.

Our non-denominational Christian ethos underpins the delivery of both the examined and non-examined curriculum however there is no requirement that individual teachers should subscribe to any faith. Honesty and personal integrity characterise the relationship of our teachers with their students as they work with school leadership to ensure Christian principles are an integral part of all learning within the academy. High academic standards, safety from bullying and drugs, a culture of character first and personal best, and respect for each child as an individual are pivotal to creating a culture conducive to high quality teaching and learning.

**Standard Responsibilities for all Teachers**

**All teachers are responsible, through their head of department, to the Principal for:**

1. **Creating the very best opportunities for learning and the pursuit** with a particular emphasis on:

* carrying out effective planning and instruction ensuring that teaching and learning is differentiated and thus suitable to stretch all students in every teaching group
* providing appropriate homework and class work tasks for students that will promote effective learning and ensure rapid progress
* marking work, providing honest but motivational feedback to students and ensuring that feedback is acted upon

1. **Striving for the personal best achievement of every child with a particular emphasis on:**

* supporting students effectively in their preparation for internal and external examinations
* Communicating effectively with parents by providing clear, accurate and informative information to through the Academy reporting system, and at other times as necessary.
* Providing timely, accurate information regarding any concerns regarding academic progress to their Head of Department

1. **Developing students' character** with a particular emphasis on:

* cultivating responsibility for learning and intellectual discipline
* promoting exemplary standards of discipline, deportment and dress within and beyond the classroom in line with the Academy discipline policy
* Providing students with quality opportunities for servant hearted leadership

Joseph Swan Academy is committed to the safeguarding of children and all staff are expected to ensure that the Academy is a safe and secure environment for our students. All applicants are referred to the Safeguarding Statement which is to be found within the Policy section of the Joseph Swan Academy website.

**Please note that this detail is indicative and can be amended, updated or replaced as felt appropriate at any time and in order to remain in line with any future legal requirements or expectation.**