



**MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL**  
INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL FOR BOYS 7 - 18 AND SIXTH FORM GIRLS



## **Information Pack**

### **Teacher of Bassoon**

Closing date: Midday, Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February

Early application is strongly encouraged

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## Introduction from the Master, Helen Pike

Magdalen College School is a remarkable place. We are now well into our sixth century, and our former pupils include scholars, war heroes, musicians, Olympians, two Nobel Prize laureates, a Hollywood film director, and a saint. Our success in public examinations, in securing places at top universities, and in an astonishing array of extra-curricular pursuits ensures that we continue this proud tradition. We do so by nurturing the individual potential of each of our pupils, and above all we believe that learning is as fun as it is fulfilling.



Magdalen College School was founded in 1480 by William of Waynflete: schoolmaster, bishop of Winchester and Lord Chancellor of England. Being of humble origins, Waynflete was determined that others of ability should be given the opportunity to learn, to serve and to prosper as he did. And so MCS offers a transformative education in our global university city, the community to which we contribute.

We attract and retain the best staff and MCS is a stimulating, welcoming and thriving environment in which both to learn and to work.

A lot happens at MCS. The various sections of our website ([www.mcsoxford.org](http://www.mcsoxford.org)) including the recent [News](#) will give you an impression of our school.

Thank you for your interest.

*H. C. Pike*

## Teacher of Bassoon

### General Information

#### The School

Magdalen College School, founded in 1480 by William of Waynflete, is one of the country's leading independent day schools. It is situated in an enviable location at the heart of Oxford beside the River Cherwell.



#### The Role

Magdalen College School is seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and experienced Bassoon Teacher to join its Music department from April 2020.

The Teacher of Bassoon will be responsible to the Master through the Director of Music for the proper discharge of his or her duties. Further information on the post is attached.

#### Application Process

Candidates should submit the Application Form for Peripatetic Staff which can be found on the Job Vacancy link of the website ([www.mcsoxford.org](http://www.mcsoxford.org)). To access [click here](#). This should be emailed, together with a cv and covering letter of application, to the Recruitment Officer, Mrs Sarah Hunter ([applications@mcsoxford.org](mailto:applications@mcsoxford.org)). All documentation should be sent as soon as possible but by midday on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2020. Interviews will be held in early March and shortlisted candidates will be contacted by telephone. The school's preferred method of communication is by email and it will not be necessary to send a hard copy of the documents by post. **References may be taken up in advance, although this does not necessarily mean that a candidate will be called for interview. If you do not wish references to be called for at this stage, please make that clear on the reference section of the application form.**



## The Department



The Music Department is a thriving department with a wealth of talented musicians and an exciting musical programme. The Director of Music leads a team consisting of a Head of Instrumental Music, an Assistant Director of Music, two full time Music Teachers, a part-time accompanist, a full time Administrator, a Waynflete Interns and 38 visiting instrumental teachers.

In academic music lessons, we follow the Edexcel music course for GCSE and A level, and the department achieves outstanding results in public examinations. In 2019, pupils achieved 100% A\*-A at A level, and at GCSE 100% gained grade 9-7. Music is taught for two periods per week in years 7 and 8 and is an optional subject (with three periods per week) in year 9. Most pupils learn an instrument during their time at MCS - some at school and some privately. There are over 450 instrumental lessons each week and many pupils reach Grade 8 or Diploma level by the time they leave the school. Every year a number of pupils go on to university to read Music (currently 6 in the U6th) and a number of pupils gain organ and choral scholarships to Oxbridge colleges each year.

There are over 35 ensembles, which run each week and approximately 70 concerts given each year, ranging from informal Teatime Concerts to high-profile choral and orchestral concerts in The Sheldonian Theatre and other venues in the city of Oxford. Ensembles include:

- 4 Orchestras (1 Junior School Orchestra and 1 String Orchestra)
- 6 Choirs (including Close Harmony groups)
- Wind / Brass / Percussion / Guitar Ensembles
- 2 Jazz Bands
- Numerous chamber groups

The Symphony Orchestra currently has 85 players and recent repertoire includes Tchaikovsky's *Symphony No. 5* and Dvořák's *Symphony no. 9*. The department regularly takes pupils on tour to Europe, the most recent being to Italy in 2019.

The department is housed in the Quinn building, but has practice rooms across the school site. We currently run Sibelius 8 software on the network, which can be accessed from computers across the school site.





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### **The Candidate**

We are looking for a charismatic musician who can teach the bassoon to pupils throughout the school. We currently have a good number of players of all standards and ages, including four in the Symphony Orchestra. The school has a well-stocked instrumental collection, which includes a number of bassoons, mini-bassoons and tenoroon. We currently have one day of bassoon teaching and there is scope for the successful candidate to assist with the running of a variety of wind ensembles.

Candidates short-listed for interview will be asked to teach an observed lesson when they come to the school. They will also be required to bring with them the necessary ID documentation and degree certificate(s), all of which must be originals. Further information on the observed lesson and documentation required will be provided with the invitation to interview.

### **Benefits**

Instrumental teachers are on a contract and therefore receive holiday pay in addition to their hourly pay, which is currently at £34.90. The school subscribes to the Teachers' Pension Scheme, in which all teaching staff are auto enrolled – there is, of course, an opt out, should this be preferred.

Instrumental lessons are 40 minutes long and the timetables are organised by the Music Administrator and posted on the school portal. Instrumental teachers receive lunch at the school if they are teaching in the morning and the afternoon.

Please note that MCS is an inner-city school, with limited parking. We therefore cannot guarantee a car park space for any instrumental staff.

The school has a fully equipped gym which is available for staff use, and staff may also enjoy access to the University of Oxford's Rosenblatt Swimming Pool. Tennis courts are available, and there is a comprehensive programme of staff sports clubs, including football, climbing, yoga, Pilates, and badminton. Staff also have the opportunity to join choirs and music groups, and to get involved in drama productions.

Staff are encouraged to make use of the Senior Common Room within and after the school day, as an area for relaxation and shared discussion outside departments. There is also a quiet room located close to the SCR where staff can work and study. Tea and Coffee are served in the SCR at morning break, and cakes and cut fruit are available in the SCR at the end of the school day. Staff socials, guest nights and Master's Drinks are regular features of each term.



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## **Safeguarding Policy**

Magdalen College School is committed to the safeguarding of pupils, and any offer of employment will be subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure, the receipt of satisfactory references, the school's pre-employment medical questionnaire and sight of relevant original ID documentation and degree certificate(s).