
PYP Music Teacher (Junior School)

Job Description

Position:	PYP Music Teacher
Starting date:	August 2022
Responsible to:	Junior School Principal, Director of Performing Arts, and PYP Coordinator
School section:	Junior School
Main Working Relationships:	JS Principal, Director of Performing Arts, PYP Coordinator, Teachers, Students and Parents

Overall Purpose of this Post:

ISB seeks to appoint a PYP Music specialist. This post holder will form part of a very successful and dynamic Junior School Music Team. Teaching across the Junior School, the appointee will be expected to continue the outstanding work being done by the current team. This role represents a wonderful opportunity to work in a vibrant and well-established music department, alongside passionate and conscientious colleagues. Furthermore, Basel is a hub of artistic activity, with a lively concert scene across multiple genres.

As one of our Junior School Music Teachers, the appointed teacher will have two main areas of responsibility:

1. To teach PYP Music across the Junior School, supporting all students to make appropriate personal and academic progress based on an individualised approach to holistic education.
2. To be an integral part of the ISB's co-curricular music programme, with a particular focus on Junior School performing ensembles.

ISB Philosophy and Objectives:

It is expected that all teachers will become familiar with the school mission, working to promote these in all aspects of their role.

“We all want to learn more;
We all do it in different ways;
We all have fun learning;
We all help.”

Effectiveness as a PYP Music Teacher

The teacher should:

- Deliver a full PYP Music curriculum to students across the Junior School (EC1 to Grade 5).
- Be an outstanding classroom practitioner, using a mixture of innovative and traditional teaching methodologies to enable students to reach their musical potential.

- Incorporate a plethora of classroom activities and musical skills, including performance, composition, listening and reflecting.
- Model lifelong learning and a lifelong love of music to students and colleagues.
- Encourage strong student engagement, agency and performance through music education within the PYP framework.
- Be a strong collaborator and communicator, liaising regularly with the other Junior School music teacher on both curricular and co-curricular matters.
- Plan and prepare lessons in relation to individual students' needs and the PYP curriculum (liaising with grade level teams and the PYP Coordinator where appropriate).
- Become familiar with the PYP curriculum guidelines and work towards their successful implementation.
- Be able to demonstrate, as a minimum, basic classroom piano skills (strong keyboard proficiency is desirable).
- Have experience with music technology, and display a willingness to use this as a significant teaching tool.
- Prior pedagogical experience in using the Orff and/or Kodaly methods is desirable.
- Encourage creative and critical thinking and expression of ideas.
- Evaluate and record student progress, and provide feedback that is designed to motivate the students.
- Contact parents through written reports and other formal and informal means, as required.

As a key member of the ISB Co-curricular Music Programme

The teacher should:

- Galvanise students and encourage their participation in co-curricular performing ensembles with an enthusiastic approach.
- Have experience directing both instrumental and choral performing ensembles. (String/orchestral experience is desirable.)
- Model good performance practice through a mixture of singing, instrumental playing and conducting.
- Assist with the Junior School musical production, ISB Choral Extravaganza, Songfest, and other co-curricular music events at the Junior School throughout the academic year.
- Exhibit compassion and encouragement towards our young musicians.
- Collaborate with Music Department colleagues across the whole school (a team of five teachers in total).
- Liaise with teachers, parents, and the Arts Booster Club to organise logistics for concerts and other events.
- Consistently show willingness to go above and beyond, taking initiative and offering assistance where appropriate.

Professionalism

The teacher should:

- Work with colleagues in a co-operative spirit
- Give and accept constructive suggestions for improvements
- Refrain from public criticism of the school or colleagues, and communicate any concerns through the appropriate channels
- Show tact and discretion in dealing with school matters, and remain calm and objective if difficult situations arise
- Respect confidentiality
- Be punctual in meeting all time obligations and deadlines, with regard to all aspects of the role, including the production of reports, arrival at school and lessons, classroom supervision, duties, meetings etc
- Fulfil the [Expectations of Teachers at ISB](#)

Other Responsibilities:

- All teachers at the International School Basel are also expected to **contribute to the holistic life of the school through their involvement in our Activity Programme** and participation in our thriving school community.
- All teachers are expected to be a Homeroom teacher should that be required by the School.
- Carry out additional activities, as requested, in line with the general expectations of this job description.

Updated: November 2021