



Collaborative Pianist

Start date: September 2026

The School and the Senior Management Team are strongly supportive of Music and recognise the important role it plays in the intellectual and creative life of the whole School community. Brentwood School Music Department balances inclusive, nurturing education with high-level training, featuring a successful partnership with the Junior Guildhall and benefiting from being an 'All-Steinway' School. Through a Specialist Music Programme and an International Music Competition, the department offers tailored, professional opportunities to students while hosting over 80 public performances annually.

Job Purpose

The Collaborative Pianist will serve as the artistic performance partner for the Brentwood School musical community, providing world-class collaborative support that bridges the gap between individual practice and professional stagecraft.

Working at the heart of the Specialist Music Programme (SMP) and across the wider co-curricular offering, the post-holder will provide high-level piano accompaniment that elevates the standard of every performance, from informal concerts to flagship recitals. By delivering consistent, expert coaching and reliable rehearsal support, the Collaborative Pianist will empower gifted young musicians to reach their full potential, ensuring that Brentwood fulfils its ambitions as a premier destination for integrated specialist training.

Hours

8:30 am – 5.00 pm (3 days per week, term time only), several evenings are required for concerts each month and this time is taken in lieu in agreement with the line manager. This is inclusive of at least 8 one-to-one private piano lessons per week.

Report to

Head of Music

Contacts

Head of Brentwood School of Music, Artistic Director of Specialist Music, Director of Music (Prep School), Head of Performance, Head of Academic Music, Music Teachers, VMTs, Performing Arts Administrators

Department

Music

Key Responsibilities & Accountabilities

- To work with students with a high level of skill and support the development of students from the age of 9 to 18, although primarily with ages 11–18
- To provide high-quality piano accompaniment for students across:
 - Specialist Music Programme (SMP) recitals and assessments
 - Public exam performance examinations
 - Chamber concerts
 - Lower School recitals
 - Chapel services
 - Whole School Key Events (e.g Speech Day, Open Day etc)
 - External concerts and outreach performances
- To coach musicians on the Specialist Music Programme and support the musical development of each musician
- To manage the annual Steinway-Day concert and develop our relationship with Steinway as an 'All-Steinway School'
- To contribute to the wider musical life of the department and champion the 'music for all' philosophy
- To teach up to 10 young pianists in a one to one setting with weekly 40 minute piano lessons.
- To provide accompaniment for all school ABRSM examinations (three sessions per year)
- To encourage and coach pupil pianists to take on the role of accompanist as appropriate

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Personal Specification

- Professional pianist with relevant degree and suitable performing experience
- Passion for work as a collaborative pianist and for inspiring young musicians
- Willingness to develop as a teacher as well as a performer
- Ambitious musician committed to ongoing personal development
- Ability to work with students and build a professional rapport with them, while maintaining an appropriate level of safeguarding
- Ability to work as part of a team and proactively organise their own time

Safeguarding

In essence, Operational staff are the “eyes and ears” of the school and play a crucial role in early detection and should ensure that concerns are passed on to the appropriate person immediately.

Awareness and Vigilance:

- Being aware of and alert to signs and indicators of abuse, neglect, or other safeguarding concerns.
- Understanding that children may disclose concerns to any trusted adult, not just teachers.
- Remaining vigilant in all areas of the school, including corridors, playgrounds, and communal areas.

Reporting Concerns:

- Knowing the school's safeguarding policies and procedures for reporting concerns.
- Understanding the importance of reporting any concerns, no matter how small, to the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) or another appropriate person.
- Recognising that we all have a part to play in safeguarding children.

Creating a Safe Environment:

- Contributing to a positive and supportive school environment where children feel safe and listened to.
- Maintaining professional boundaries with students at all times.

Specific safeguarding responsibilities (in addition to those of any teacher)

- To follow the safeguarding code of conduct for all staff regarding physical contact, which should be the minimum required for care, instruction or restraint. Physical contact, when used for instruction, should only take place in a safe and open environment, the extent of the contact should be made clear and undertaken with the permission of the student. It should only be used if other options for demonstration to keep students safe are not possible;
- If teaching a student one-to-one, to ensure that this is with the permission of the parent and that the Director of Performing Arts (or relevant Head of Department) is aware of when, where and why the session is taking place. The teaching should take place in a location which is visible to other staff;
- To ensure that any contact with students, for example, arranging a teaching session or rehearsal, including one-to-ones, should be transparent and using school email;
- To follow the School's Social Media policy and IT acceptable use policy at all times. If they take a photo of a student for legitimate school use on a personal device (and there is no other means of taking the image), this should be uploaded straight away to the google drive and then deleted from the personal device. Visiting Music Teachers and Lamda teachers should use the google form available from the Music department to record any use of their personal devices (and to then confirm deletion of the image or recording) following requests to film a practice or performance from a parent or exam board;
- To ensure all students understand how to prevent injury to themselves and others (for example getting on and off stage) and how to use any equipment, including any props, safely;
- To supervise changing rooms or other spaces used for changing (which need to be suitably labelled and supervised to prevent access to children changing by visitors or other teachers or students) actively and visibly and, when not in the changing room, being available outside the door. This is to prevent any form of child on child abuse, including bullying, as well as to prevent students taking photos or recording each other whilst changing;
- To take accurate registers of pupils at rehearsals and performances;
- To follow the protocol for the supervision of students at after school or weekend rehearsals or events;
- To follow the Trips and Visits and Transport policy if taking music or drama students off site;
- To ensure that all students follow the School Behaviour policy at all times.

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To find out more about this role, please contact recruitment@brentwood.essex.sch.uk who will put you in touch with the Head of Brentwood School of Music, Florian Cooper, and Head of Music, Chris O'Leary



Brentwood School

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