



OUNDLE

School

Visiting Music Teacher

Oundle School was established in 1556 and is one of the country's leading co-educational boarding and day schools. The School has 840 boarding and 280 day pupils, with 260 day pupils aged 4 – 11 attending Laxton Junior School. The School has a turnover in the region of £40m and a staff of 600. The School prides itself on being associated with the best in modern independent school education. This would not be possible without the invaluable contribution made by the dedication, hard work and professionalism of the support staff functions.

The Music Department is very strong with approximately 8 full time staff and 45 part time staff and is renowned for the quality of its teaching of music. Visiting Music Teachers are employed on a part-time basis by Oundle School.

The purpose of the role is to provide high calibre instrument lessons for pupils, to enable them to perform musically to the high standards expected by the School and to achieve their full potential in music examinations and concert performances as appropriate. This will be primarily achieved through one-to-one lessons, and assistance with ensembles and coaching as required. Visiting Music Teachers are responsible to Heads of Instrument on a daily basis.

Oundle School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Successful applicants will be required to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.



Role details

Working within the Music Department, the role holder will report to the Head of Instrument.

The Music Department is housed in an old Georgian Rectory, now the Gascoigne Building, near the centre of the School and the town. The Gascoigne Building provides an attractive and well-equipped environment for music education. The School has a fleet of 54 pianos, its own Music Library, and the chapel has 3 organs: a three manual instrument, built in 1984 by Frobenius of Denmark, a 5-stop continuo organ by Johnson and a Copeman Hart instrument, built in 2000.

The Music Department presently consists of the Director of Music, Head of Academic Music and School Organist, 5 Heads of Instruments specialising in Wind & Brass, Strings, Piano, Singing, Music Production, an Academic Music Teacher, supported by a team of part-time visiting instrumental teachers and two Administrators.

Around 900 instrumental lessons are given each week. All pupils are encouraged to play in instrumental groups and to sing in choirs as soon as they reach a reasonable standard. Instrumental Ensembles are tiered in terms of ability. At present, the largest ensembles include Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, Chapel Choir, Schola Cantorum, Chamber Choir, Junior Choir, Wind Orchestra, Concert Band, two Jazz Orchestras, CCF Marching Band, the Pipers, Drum Corps. Many smaller ensembles flourish in addition to these through all instrumental families, such as rock bands, ukulele group, via percussion, wind, and brass ensembles, through to string quartets and a host of chamber music making.

All groups are given frequent opportunities to perform in concerts, services or social functions in and out of School throughout the year. There are competitions during the year for solo instrumental and ensemble performance, solo singing and House part and unison singing. The Department is involved with many productions in the School's Stahl Theatre, ranging from incidental music for plays, to full length musicals. There is a biennial concert given in Hong Kong, and there are links with Oundle Music Trust which encompasses the Oundle for Organists summer school. Alexander Technique is important and the department was instrumental in the ground breaking initiative Violinists in Balance that was developed alongside the Conservatoire in Utrecht. The School has a partnership with the Royal College of Music, giving Oundle musicians unique access to the College's professors and facilities. A number of linked events take place annually. Recent tours have included Chamber Music to Prague, the Jazz Bands to open the Montreux Jazz Festival, and musicians travelling to give concerts in the Far East.

Music is taught in classes to all first and second forms (11 – 13 years). Pupils in the Third Form choose to study the subject as one of three practical choices out of six. GCSE and A Level Music is delivered to good numbers, along with a 6th form Diploma course option. The Music School has good facilities for technology in music and these play an important part in studio work, the music tech academic options and compositional work for GCSE/A level. There are popular, weekly classes in theory and aural training.

The School offers music scholarships for entry at 11+, 13+ and 16+ and a number of Music Exhibitions. We have around 100 pupils holding music awards. Award holders are reviewed annually.

The main duties and responsibilities of the role are listed below. Please note these are not exhaustive but highlight the main tasks.

- Provide high calibre instrument lessons to pupils.
- Demonstrate appropriate techniques to pupils and use a range of different learning styles to encourage and foster learning.
- Enable the pupils to perform musically and to achieve their full potential in music examinations, competitions and concert performances as appropriate. This will be primarily achieved through one-to-one lessons and coaching ensembles.
- Enter pupils as appropriate for Public examinations and competitions.
- Timetable and plan lessons.
- To carry out pupil assessments and provide written reports and assessments as requested by the School.
- To carry out administrative tasks in relation to the role.
- To carry out any other duties commensurate with the post as may be reasonably required by the Head of Instrument or Director of Music.

Person Specification

Short-listing will be based on the following specification, which candidates should bear in mind when preparing their application and completing the application form to ensure that their application and suitability reflects the essential requirements of the role.

Qualifications	Essential	Desirable	Method of assessment
Performance Diploma or Music degree	●		Application form Interview
Ability to teach to a Diploma standard if required	●		
Teaching Qualification		●	
Skills and Experience	Essential	Desirable	Method of assessment
Previous Teaching experience of 1:1 and small group sessions	●		Application Form Interview Assessment Exercise References
Working knowledge of IT such as email and Word	●		
Professional playing experience	●		
Working with pupils	●		
A love for learning	●		
Strong links with the wider music industry (eg. exam boards, conservatoires, artistes, agents, ensembles, national ensembles)		●	
High profile as a performer		●	
Willingness to participate in school concerts		●	
Knowledge and experience of working in boarding schools		●	
Working knowledge of notation software		●	
Good keyboard skills		●	
Personal qualities	Essential	Desirable	
Team Player	●		Application Form Interview Assessment Exercise References
Good verbal and written communication skills	●		
Efficient and highly organised	●		
Enthusiastic approach in all dealings with pupils, colleagues and parents	●		
Evidence of ongoing development in their passion for learning and teaching	●		
Empathy and understanding towards different learning styles and approaches	●		
A wide range of interests to be able to interact and engage with pupils across the School		●	

Every job description in the organisation will be subject to a review on an annual basis at the time of the annual appraisal meeting and may be reviewed as a result of a change in strategic direction or operational requirements. It is the shared responsibility of the role holder and their line manager to ensure that job descriptions are kept up to date.

Information for applicants

Start date	1 September 2026 (Subject to pre-employment checks).
Hours of work	Hours of work will vary according to pupil needs but it is estimated to be 2 and half days per week (up to 8 hours per day). All meal breaks are non-working hours and unpaid.
Working weeks	This role is to work Term time only, which is 33 weeks per annum (paid for 37.47 weeks, to include entitlement to holiday pay).
Contract term	Permanent, subject to a 10-month probationary period.
Remuneration	You will be paid £38.37 per hour. You will be paid each month through the year.
Annual leave	Holidays are not to be taken during Oundle School term time. 24 days' paid holiday in each complete holiday year, plus seven public holidays. This is pro-rata for part-time staff. There is a requirement to work any Bank Holiday when the School is in operation (currently the first May day).
Other	We also offer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent working conditions • Group Personal Pension Plan • Life Assurance scheme • BUPA Wellbeing Expenses Plan • Access to some discounted tickets to the Stahl Theatre and Music Productions • Access to the swimming pool, health centre and sports facilities • Cycle to Work scheme • Free light lunch available for staff during School term times • Free car parking (subject to availability) <p><i>Some of the above are non-contractual</i></p>

How to Apply: Candidates should complete our online application form, found at www.oundleschool.org.uk/vacancies

For more information, please contact the Recruitment team:

Email: recruitment@oundleschool.org.uk

Telephone: 01832 277 193

Candidates should familiarise themselves with the School's recruitment and associated policies on the School website.