SUNNINGDALE SCHOOL

Sunningdale, Berkshire
Tel: 01344 620159
www.sunningdaleschool.co.uk

SUNNINGDALE
SCHOOL



DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Welcome

I am delighted to invite you to apply for the role of Director of Music at Sunningdale. Music is central to our vibrant school life at Sunningdale. Our exceptional department not only nurtures talent but also fosters a deep appreciation for music among all pupils. Our boys thrive in a rich musical environment, exemplified by their achievements and growing enthusiasm. We invite applications from passionate and talented individuals who are committed to inspiring young musicians and enhancing our music program. Together, we can continue to build on our strong legacy of musical excellence and academic achievement within our school.



About Sunningdale

Sunningdale is a highly regarded boys' boarding prep school, about 45 minutes from Central London. With a rich heritage and a commitment to academic excellence, we deliver a holistic education that fosters both intellectual and personal growth. Our expansive grounds provide an inspiring environment where pupils engage in various activities, from sports to the arts. The school's facilities are state-of-the-art, supporting a thriving community that values tradition, innovation, and inclusivity. At Sunningdale, we believe in nurturing every child's potential, ensuring they leave equipped to face the challenges of the future with confidence and resilience.





Music at Sunningdale

At Sunningdale, music is central to school life. Almost all our boys play at least one instrument, with many taking two or even three. We have several boys who have reached Grade 8 and two who have passed their diploma. In the next year, we have five boys who we expect to be awarded music scholarships at Eton, Harrow and Winchester.

We have a wonderful Chapel Choir and a Training Choir, which, together, comprise a quarter of the school. We have an orchestra, bassoon ensemble, quartet, woodwind band, rock bands and more.

Our music department has achieved recognition as a Virtuoso Music Teaching Centre and we are fortunate to have an exceptional group of instrumental music teachers.


THE 8TH NEW TALENT FESTIVAL
HAS AWARDED

Certificate of Virtuoso Music Teaching Centre Award

TO

Sunningdale School

FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING MUSIC

Patricia Rozario
PROFESSOR PATRICIA ROZARIO
Professor of Singing
Royal College of Music

FRASER GORDON
Head of Woodwind
Royal Academy of Music

TIM JOHNSON
Precentor and Director of Music
Eton College

PROFESSOR JO COLE
Professor of Cello
Royal Academy of Music

JOHN HUTCHINS
Head of Junior Academy
Royal Academy of Music

Nicola Eimer
NICOLA EIMER
Professor of Piano Accompaniment
Royal Academy of Music

Kathron Sturrock
KATHRON STURROCK
Professor of Piano
Royal College of Music

Steven Wilkie
PROFESSOR STEVEN WILKIE
Professor of Violin
Royal Northern College of Music

AMY YUAN
Artistic Director
New Talent Festival

HOSTED BY
OFFICIAL PARTNERS
ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC
conservatoria
RNCM ROYAL NORTHERN COLLEGE OF MUSIC
GUILDHALL SCHOOL

The Opportunity

At Sunningdale, we are seeking a dynamic leader to maintain and build on the current outstanding provision. Music is not just an enrichment activity; it is a vital pillar of our school culture. The successful candidate will have the chance to nurture musical excellence in our talented pupils, many of whom are already achieving remarkable success in their musical journeys. By fostering a supportive and inspiring environment, you will lead our ensembles, prepare pupils for scholarships, and manage a vibrant music curriculum, ensuring that every child's potential is realised. There will also be plenty of opportunity to contribute to the wider co-curricular life of the school but the focus is certainly on the music department.



Key Responsibilities

The Director of Music will play a pivotal role in shaping young musicians at Sunningdale. Responsibilities include leading music education across all year groups, teaching class music, and organising instrumental lessons to foster talent and creativity. The role also encompasses managing peripatetic staff, running the Chapel Choir and various ensembles, and coordinating concerts and services throughout the academic year. Additionally, the Director will assist with the annual musical, prepare boys for scholarships, oversee exams and timetables, and ensure compliance with safeguarding and health and safety expectations to create a nurturing environment for all pupils. The successful candidate will need to be able to play the organ in Chapel.



Ideal Candidate

The ideal candidate for the Director of Music role at Sunningdale will demonstrate musical excellence and strong keyboard skills, with a proven track record in teaching and ensemble direction. They will be committed to nurturing the talents of young musicians and preparing them for scholarships at prestigious institutions. The candidate should possess exceptional organisational abilities, warmth, and energy, fostering collaboration within the school community. A passion for school life and a dedication to enhancing the musical culture at Sunningdale are essential. This position offers an exciting opportunity to impact the lives of pupils through music education and performance.



Safeguarding Commitment

Sunningdale School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment, ensuring a safe environment for our pupils. To uphold our high standards, the successful applicant will undergo appropriate child protection screening, including checks with past employers and a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check. Our robust safeguarding policies and procedures are designed to protect the well-being of every child, fostering a nurturing and supportive atmosphere where young musicians can thrive and develop their talents, both personally and musically.



Work-Life Balance

The Director of Music at Sunningdale School enjoys a structured and supportive work-life balance, recognizing the importance of both professional commitments and personal well-being. With one full day off each week, this role allows the director to manage their diverse responsibilities while also engaging fully in the vibrant school community. The director will be involved in evening events and other musical engagements, underscoring the school's commitment to fostering a rich musical culture. This flexible approach ensures that the director can maintain their passion for music while nurturing their personal life, making it an ideal opportunity for dedicated professionals.

Accommodation may be provided for the successful candidate.



How to Apply

Please conact the main school office for an application form. This should be accompanied by a letter to the Headmaster, outlining the reasons why you think you are a suitable candidate for this role. You should also include an up to date Curriculum Vitae which details any musical and teaching qualifications.



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