



South Hampstead

*High School*

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GDST

JOB APPLICATION INFORMATION

# Junior School Music Teacher

FROM SEPTEMBER 2021

PART TIME 0.2







South Hampstead High School – an independent day school of 900+ pupils, including approximately 265 girls in the Junior School and over 140 in the Sixth Form – welcomes girls aged 4 to 18 from across London. It is a very popular school and entry is competitive at all ages. Established in 1876, it is one of 25 schools and academies belonging to the Girls' Day School Trust. Located in leafy Hampstead, with the buzz of central London's cultural life close at hand, the school is very well served by public transport and there are excellent local amenities nearby.

At the Junior School, girls achieve the highest academic standards. We encourage girls to approach the world with curiosity and creativity, to express their views and feelings, and to develop a real joy for learning - they are proud of their school and value kindness and laughter, fun and friendship. Visits, trips, speakers and special events ensure that life is rich, busy and varied. Girls love music, drama, sport and art and they take part in everything they do with wholehearted enthusiasm.

Working at South Hampstead is stimulating, challenging and fun. Pupils are intelligent and inquisitive, energetic and engaging. We offer competitive salaries, generous employee benefits – including opportunities for sabbaticals – and a warm, supportive environment. There is a strong emphasis on Continuous Professional Development and on supporting teachers to engage with leading education research.

#### THE GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

South Hampstead High School was the ninth school to be established by the Girls' Day School Trust (GDST) in 1876.

Today, the GDST is the leading network of independent girls' schools in the UK.

Since its foundation in 1872, the GDST has been at the forefront of education for girls and a strong voice in promoting opportunities for young women. Through the Alumnae Network, this continues after the girls leave school.

*“When I first stepped through the doors here, I knew that it was a very special place to be – the wonderful atmosphere, dedicated staff and energetic girls, who are such a pleasure to teach.”*

— South Hampstead Teacher

#### AIMS & ETHOS

At South Hampstead we believe that education should be a truly enriching experience. We believe in the power of knowledge as a tool for thought and creative endeavour, and a source of lifelong inspiration and curiosity.

In and out of the classroom, we want our pupils to explore the big questions; debate and discussion lie at the very heart of a South Hampstead education. We aim to create abundant opportunities for creative output and to encourage pupils to take risks. In our teaching, we do what we know works and put research and reflection at the heart of our professional development. Teaching is a noble profession and our staff are central to our success.

We aim to provide outstanding breadth of opportunity in our curricular and co-curricular programme and to open our pupils' minds to a myriad of possibilities. We believe that involvement in school life is a key factor in our pupils' happiness. But it's not just about taking part; we aim to instil in pupils a sense of purpose, pride and determination and the belief that they can compete on the biggest of stages.

We aim to create a warm, tolerant and kind community where girls can be themselves and make friends for life. We want them to play their part in our community and in the community beyond South Hampstead. The 21st century is a time of unique opportunities and challenges; we have a critical role to play in preparing our young women to live and thrive, work and lead in tomorrow's world.

#### TEACHING & LEARNING APPROACH

South Hampstead follows a curriculum that equips each girl with the means to develop her intellectual abilities as well as her personal and social values. Students are able to explore a deep and expansive body of knowledge, and to discover their strengths and interests via a broad, balanced range of academic, cultural and aesthetic subjects.

Pupils are intelligent, inquisitive, confident, energetic and talented. The programme of work helps to ensure that each girl is thoroughly prepared for the next stage in her life, whether it is transition into the Senior School, higher education or adulthood.

South Hampstead students love to learn. The store we set by the power of ideas is evident in the quality of the conversation, both inside and outside the classroom.

Our teaching is known for its rigour and its passion. In-depth subject knowledge and expertise are givens for all our teachers, but equally important is an innate ability to inspire the very best from each student, both as scholars and as individuals. With a colourful mosaic of enrichment opportunities available – academic societies, national competitions, leadership roles, independent learning projects, incredible speakers and exciting trips – every girl has the freedom to direct her learning and to flourish. Our ambition each year is that our pupils leave us as assured, adaptable, inspired individuals, ready to make their mark on the world and lead happy, successful lives.



*“Throughout the school, pupils are highly motivated, articulate and have strongly developed skills for learning... they are self-aware, reflective and show initiative.”*

— ISI Report

## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

We are proud to be a busy, buzzy school with a lot going on. Each week there are well over 100 co-curricular activities for the girls to get involved in, before, during and after school. Regular guest speakers, a comprehensive enrichment programme, local and international trips, leadership opportunities and charitable endeavours combine to provide an exceptional range of experiences beyond the classroom.

South Hampstead has a well-established reputation in the creative arts. We welcome writers, poets and artists in residence and put on ambitious concerts and performances. Speaking up and speaking out is encouraged from the earliest years: we have an in-house debating coach and a strong track record in a range of public speaking competitions.

In sport, girls have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities, both as part of a team and as an individual – there are over 65 sporting clubs and teams to join, with state-of-the-art facilities both on site and at our nearby 4-acre sports ground. Our aim is to cultivate a positive attitude towards recreational and competitive sport, developing the skills and team spirit needed for a lifetime enjoyment of sport.

## PASTORAL CARE

Our school is lit up by the attributes that matter most here – thoughtfulness, open-heartedness, respect, courage and honesty.

At South Hampstead we aim to encourage every girl to discover her own aspirations and to run her own race with regards to her progress and achievements. We make sure every girl is thriving: supported, making good progress and feeling fully involved in school life.

Mistakes are learned from and successes are shared: each girl is encouraged to consider how she engages with feedback and to communicate her own strengths. There's plenty of experience on hand from older pupils: buddies and peer mentors provide a friendly face and practical advice, and a fun programme of intra-house activities regularly mixes the year groups, creating a real sense of togetherness and community.

Our programme of PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) prepares girls to go out into the world with confidence, inner strength and high self-esteem, ready to face challenges. There are also regular evening talks for parents, often reflecting the topics taught in class and as well as other issues on the minds of parents. We have a full-time nurse and counselling provision – it's completely normal for girls to sign up for sessions on any issue they like, completely free from any stigma. We understand how to educate girls, setting the feminist agenda and guiding well-rounded, well-grounded individuals to be the female leaders of the future.

# The Junior School

South Hampstead Junior School is a happy community of pupils, parents and staff, working together to provide an environment in which girls strengths are allowed to flourish. The girls achieve the highest academic standards at age 11 and almost all go on to the Senior School, one of London's most popular and successful selective, independent girls' schools.

However, this is only one aspect of our school. We encourage girls to approach the world with curiosity and creativity, to express their views and feelings, and to develop a real enjoyment of learning. As a result they are proud of their school and value kindness and laughter, fun and friendship.

Life at the Junior School is rich, busy and varied. Visits, trips, speakers and special events are built into our curriculum and girls are provided with outstanding opportunities to develop their interests in a wide range of areas. They love music, drama, sport and art and they take part in everything they do with wholehearted enthusiasm.

# The Role

We are seeking an exceptional Music teacher to be responsible for Reception and KS1 Music in the Junior School. Working closely with the Director of Music to ensure that our youngest pupils experience a high standard of teaching and learning. To contribute to the co-curricular life of the school, including oversight of the KS1 choir.

Start date September 2021

## *Main Responsibilities*

### **TEACHING AND LEARNING**

- Provide a high standard of teaching and learning to the youngest Junior school pupils.
- Encourage and nurture pupils' potential, creating a love of music and equipping them for musical life in KS2.
- Plan and rehearse music for a range of concerts and performances throughout the year including the Harvest Festival, the Nativity and the KS1 Summer Concert.
- Continuously review the delivery and development of the music curriculum, ensuring that it is effective in meeting the needs of pupils and that best practice is adopted.
- Able to monitor, evaluate and review own practice, celebrating excellence.
- Monitor pupil progress, maintain records, and provide feedback to Director of Music, class teachers and parents (end of year report).
- Be a good communicator who is happy to speak in front of parents at concerts or at parents' evenings; have a sense of humour and the ability to motivate others- both pupils and staff.
- Communicate directly with parents over questions regarding music in Reception and KS1.
- Accompany assemblies and individual performances, where scheduling allows.
- Assist with the Year 1 strings project, liaising with the Director of Junior Music and the visiting music teachers involved.
- Contribute to the wider life of the School, as requested by the Head of Junior School.

### **PASTORAL**

Work with colleagues to create a positive culture of pupil welfare and behaviour, including taking an active role in pastoral matters, by:

- Supporting and contributing to the school's responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare and well-being of pupils.
- Being aware of school safeguarding procedures and taking appropriate action within these procedures when necessary, working with colleagues and external agencies and services.
- Maintaining good order and discipline among the pupils and safeguarding their health and safety both when they are authorised to be on the school premises and when they are engaged in authorised school activities elsewhere.
- Leading and participating in Assemblies.

### **APPRAISAL**

Participate in arrangements made by the GDST for the appraisal of her/his performance training and development of self and others.

### **FURTHER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT**

- Review own practice in collaboration with the Director of Junior Music.
- Participate in arrangements for her/his further training and professional development.
- Maintain professional knowledge and best practice.

### **DISCIPLINE, HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Maintain good order and discipline among the pupils and safeguard their health and safety both when they are authorised to be on the school premises and when they are engaged in authorised school activities elsewhere.

### **STAFF MEETINGS**

- Participate in meetings at the school which relate to the curriculum for the school or the administration or organisation of the school, including pastoral arrangements.
- Regular meetings with the Director of Junior Music

### **GENERAL**

Adhere to the policies of the school and the GDST, as published in the Staff handbook and Notes of Guidance for Schools as amended from time to time, in particular policies relating to the safeguarding of children.

### **SUPPORTING THE WORK OF THE GDST**

Develop strong, positive relationships with GDST colleagues, contribute to collaborative work across GDST Schools and support other staff in participating in GDST work, in order to develop and share best practice.

All school staff are expected to:

- Work towards and support the school vision and the current school objectives outlined in the School Development Plan.
- Maintain high professional standards of attendance, punctuality, appearance, and conduct. Demonstrate positive and courteous relations with students, colleagues, parents and any external personnel.
- Adhere to school and GDST policies, as amended from time to time, and as set out in GDST Council Regulations, ORACLE and GDST circulars.
- Contribute towards organising, participating in or delivering on the school's programme of extra-curricular activities.





Music Teacher

- In accordance with GDST policy, provide cover for absent colleagues by supervising and so far as is practicable, teaching pupils.
- Participate in meetings at the school which relate to the curriculum or the administration or organisation of the school, including pastoral arrangements, or for any purpose as reasonably decided by the Head.
- Carry out lunchtime duties – supervising pupils at lunch, as reasonable.
- Attend all relevant parents' meetings, which may take place in the evening.
- Support pupils and colleagues by attending some school productions, functions, trips and events as appropriate, and contributing, where possible, to the wider life of the school.
- Carry out such other associated duties as are reasonably assigned by the Head.

#### REVIEW AND AMENDMENT

This job description should be seen as enabling rather than restrictive and will be subject to regular review.

#### APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To apply please go to the [GDST Recruitment Portal](#) or via the [GDST website](#) and complete the online application.

Closing date is Thursday 3rd June 2021.

It is the post-holder's responsibility to promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young persons for whom s/he is responsible, or with whom s/he comes into contact. You will adhere to and ensure compliance with the school's Child Protection Policy Statement at all times. If in the course of carrying out the duties of the post the post-holder becomes aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in the school s/he must report any concerns to the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead or to the Headmistress. Candidates should be aware that they will be asked to undergo a DBS check.

**PERSON SPECIFICATION**

**QUALIFICATIONS**

A recognised teaching qualification (e.g. PGCE, QTS)	Essential
Degree in education	Desirable

**EXPERIENCE/KNOWLEDGE BASE**

Experienced musician/teacher of primary aged children	Essential
Able to accompnay Grade 6 music students	Desirable
Experience of the Kodály method of teacher	Desirable

**KEY SKILLS/PERSONAL QUALITIES**

Ability to enthuse and inspire children in their musical education.	Essential
Ability to write accurate and informative reports	Essential
Sense of humour	Desirable
Flexible, organised, calm under pressure, able to use initiative, excellent communication skills, reliable team-player	Essential

**CIRCUMSTANCES**

Able to offer extra-curricular activities and occasionally work out of hours	Essential
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