



Job Description – Oboe Teacher (VMT)

THE SCHOOL

As you learn more about us, I hope you will discover that King's is a truly wonderful environment in which to teach, work and learn, with pupils who are inquisitive, creative and eager to learn, on a campus which is well-resourced and recently renewed, and alongside other dedicated staff whose expertise, care and commitment lie at the foundation of everything we do.

King's is one of the most successful schools in the world, and our vibrant and caring community is a special place to learn and grow for boys aged 7-18 and girls aged 16-18. With over 1,500 pupils and 400 staff, we are located in one of the most attractive and peaceful parts of London, opposite 1,140 acres of countryside of Wimbledon and Putney Commons and just a short walk from the picturesque Wimbledon Village.

Our school was founded in 1829 by Royal Charter as the junior department of the university, King's College London, and as such, intellectual aspiration and a progressive spirit are our heritage. Today, we offer an education of the whole person, in Mind, Spirit and Heart, the enduring ethos of our foundation. Our guiding mission is to look outwards, to the world beyond school, and to life at 25: we look to the lives we are preparing our young people to lead, so that when the time comes, they are ready to forge the pathway they choose, and to make a purposeful impact.

We aim for each of our pupils to enjoy an exhilarating adventure of learning and to pursue academic excellence within a fun, caring, welcoming environment. Academic outcomes at A level, IB and GCSE consistently place King's amongst the very top schools nationally and globally, with over half of A level and IB grades at A* or equivalent last summer.

Supporting our pupils to grow strong in spirit, in the shared values and qualities of character that will ground them, is equally important at King's. Kindness, respect and support for one another, a broad-minded outlook and a commitment to inclusivity, are central to our community, as is the co-curriculum, which enables pupils to develop broad skills and resilience as well as to discover lifelong passions through clubs and societies, CCF, Duke of Edinburgh, sport, the arts, and community partnerships.

The next few years will be a very exciting time for us as we enter the next chapter of the school's strategic development, and as we seek to strengthen our community in preparation for our 200th anniversary in 2029. We hope you consider joining us for this adventure.

For more information about King's please see our website - www.kcs.org.uk

THE DEPARTMENT

The Music department at King's comprises six full-time members of staff as well as forty visiting instrumental teachers. Music is an important part of the school curriculum and is studied by a healthy number of pupils for GCSE, A Level and as part of the International Baccalaureate Diploma. Each year pupils go on to read Music at university, often at Oxbridge. Strong emphasis is placed on participation in the many musical activities of the school. Our aim is to create an atmosphere where pupils feel welcome to join in any suitable group and, whilst we aim for the highest possible standards of performance, we foster the enjoyment of making music together.

Instrumental tuition is offered on all orchestral instruments as well as: piano; jazz piano; organ; saxophone; drums; orchestral percussion; and classical, electric and bass guitar. Music Technology is offered as an individual study. Singing lessons are also available and candidates are regularly prepared for choral and organ scholarships to Oxford and Cambridge. In recent years, pupils at the school have won a number of such awards.

Music Scholarships are awarded for entry into the Senior School at 11+, 13+ and 16+.

The main instrumental groups are the symphony orchestra, chamber orchestra, big band and wind orchestra, which all perform to a high level. Every two years, the chamber and symphony orchestras perform at a major concert venue. In the past, these have included Cadogan Hall, St John's, Smith Square and the Amaryllis Fleming Concert Hall at the Royal College of Music.

Choral music has a particularly strong tradition at the school and the auditioned chamber choir, which includes a number of pupils from both senior and junior schools, performs regularly both in school and at major venues such as St Paul's, Winchester, Chichester, Southwark and Canterbury Cathedrals and St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. In the past few years there have been tours to Ireland, Paris, Spain and Italy as well as CD recordings. There is a senior choir, coro, for boys and girls as well as a lower school choir and two further auditioned vocal groups for different age pupils.

A full programme of chamber music is offered throughout the school. There are currently numerous string quartets, two piano trios, a wind trio, a saxophone quartet, jazz groups and a brass quintet. There is an annual chamber music weekend with first-class tutoring. Pianists are well catered for at King's and regularly perform concertos with the symphony orchestra, as well as performing in dedicated piano concerts and masterclasses. As well as an inter-house Music competition for soloists, there are also annual competitions on piano, organ, strings, singing, woodwind and brass.

THE POST

Required from September 2024.

We are seeking to appoint an experienced oboe player to teach throughout the junior and senior schools for one day a week. They will join a large and thriving departmental team, working within a dynamic wind and brass section. The successful candidate will teach approximately eight individual lessons per day, with the possibility of a beginner group too.

There may be opportunities for the successful candidate to be involved with some sectional coaching within the orchestras. The teacher of oboe will report in the first instance to the head of wind and brass and, ultimately, to the director of Music and, in addition to their instrumental teaching, will:

- Set high standards to all pupils
- Liaise with parents as necessary, writing reports as required
- Prepare pupils for playing in concerts and examinations

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential:

- A good degree in Music from a well-respected university or conservatoire
- Proven ability as a performer, ideally as both a chamber musician and orchestral player
- Proven ability as an inspiring teacher to pupils, both beginners and up to and including diploma level
- Excellent communication, organisation and listening skills
- Competent IT skills
- Able to establish a good rapport with parents, pupils and staff alike

The following would be advantageous:

- Prior experience of working in a school environment

APPLICATIONS

To apply for this role, please register your details online via our website **www.kcs.org.uk** (under useful information / career opportunities). Once you have registered your details with us, you can apply for vacancies by logging into the candidate area using your email address and chosen password. Please include a covering letter with your application addressed to Mr Daniel Phillips, director of Music.

Closing date: Wednesday 5th June 2024 at 9am

Interviews: Thursday 13th June 2024

As part of the interview process all candidates will be required to teach a lesson, which will be observed by the head of department. Preparation work in advance of the lesson will be required, and details will be provided prior to interview.

The interview process may be staged and we may choose to appoint prior to the closing date.

King's is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. Any offer of employment will be subject to the receipt of an enhanced DBS check, satisfactory references and medical clearance. At King's we embrace inclusion and fairness in the workplace: diversity is to be celebrated and as such we strive towards a fully immersive culture of inclusion, diversity and equality.

