



Head of Music : TMS/UPS plus TLR 2b, £4,786

Full time, permanent

The School

Gordano School is a large and highly successful 11-18 comprehensive secondary school approximately eight miles outside Bristol. This includes a thriving Sixth Form of over 350 students that is strongly integrated into the school and offers significant opportunities for Post-16 teaching in over 30 courses. We are the sole secondary school serving the popular town of Portishead, and benefit greatly from being a central part of our community.

We view education as something bigger than just academic achievement. We have a record of considerable academic success, but believe that an education should be about preparing young people for their future lives in a complete sense. As well as consistently positive Progress 8 and Level 3 Value Added outcomes at GCSE and A Level respectively we place great emphasis on student leadership, an unparalleled extra-curricular programme and student progression to their next steps in a wide range of academic and vocational routes.

We value our membership of the Lighthouse Schools Partnership, the North Somerset Teaching Alliance and our role as a Teaching School in delivering high quality support and development for colleagues, both new to the profession and more established. Our size allows regular opportunities for progression into leadership roles.

We were judged Outstanding in all categories in our last Ofsted inspection, but, just as importantly, seek to be a very happy school community with a big heart. This has never been more evident than in the last year, where we have been incredibly proud of the response of our brilliant staff, children and families in response to the Covid pandemic.

1. THE VACANCY

We are seeking an inspirational, well-qualified and highly motivated Head of Music on a full time contract to lead our Music provision both within and beyond the classroom. The role demands someone with real conviction about the role of Music in education, a strong track record in the classroom, and who has the experience and commitment to lead in the delivery of the high quality and broad extra-curricular programme, including musical direction for school productions.

2. THE CREATIVE ARTS TEAM

- Jonny Hill - Head of Faculty & Head of Art and Photography Department
- Danielle Orlans - Head of Drama Department
- VACANCY - Head of Music Department
- Emily Absalom (maternity cover) - Dance Subject Leader & teacher of Drama
- Rachel Bradley - teacher of Art
- Belle Day - teacher of Drama and Music
- Verity Eastwood-Dewing - Creative Arts technician
- Paula Embury - teacher of Art (part time)
- Martin Humphries - teacher of Music
- Karey Keane - teacher of Art (part time)
- Dan Lewis - teacher of Art (part time)
- Paula Warford - teacher of Art (part time)

3. THE CREATIVE ARTS CURRICULUM

The Faculty benefits from highly motivated and professional teaching teams and committed students who enjoy their learning. Teachers in this Faculty work extremely hard and promote both

curricular and extra-curricular success for young people and are very proud of a strong reputation to deliver high quality events and showpieces. The signature event in the calendar for the Creative Arts Faculty is traditionally the whole school production that wholly unites our subjects. The Faculty benefits from a wide range of specialist accommodation in each of the five subject areas. Art has a suite of four classrooms with two additional spaces for sixth-form studies. Dance has a specialist dance studio which is attached to the main hall, the location for our annual concerts, showcases and whole school production.

4. THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The Music Department at Gordano School is energetic, active, and very successful, both in the classroom and in the breadth and variety of extra-curricular ensembles and activities available to students. It currently consists of 2 full-time music teachers, a part-time music technician, a creative-arts technician and nine instrumental staff from North Somerset Music Service who teach in the six dedicated individual practice rooms, each with its own piano.

Music has three main teaching rooms, a recording studio, a specialist IT suite with Sibelius 8 and Cubase Pro 10 and multiple small practice rooms. Music teaching takes place in the three main teaching rooms, with A level classes additionally having full access to computers running Sibelius & Cubase Pro in the 'sonic laboratory'.

All rooms are equipped with a piano, a set of Yamaha keyboards and a stereo system. In addition there is; an excellent range of tuned and untuned percussion, drum kits, marching band equipment and djembes, bass guitars, guitars, amplifiers with all the associated leads and cabling, Clavinova pianos, a Yamaha grand piano, an organ and two accordions, two sets of class ukuleles, and a set of steel pans.

Our KS3 music curriculum focuses on developing pupils' musical understanding by studying the conventions and engaging practically with music from a wide range of contexts, practical skills acquisition and understanding features of the elements of music. Lessons are fun, engaging and involve ensemble playing, sequencing (Bandlab), singing, percussion and listening tasks. At GCSE and A Level Music the Edexcel Specification is followed. We have two classes per year at GCSE and classes of four students on average for A Level but signs of increased numbers for September 2021. Most years some students will go on to study Higher Education courses in Music.

There is a huge range of music taking place throughout the week with 10 directed ensembles such as the Orchestra, Concert Band, Choir, Jazz Band, Barbershop, Barbieshop, Year 7 Choir, Brass Ensemble, Wind Ensemble & String Club. In addition to this, there are also rock bands and other smaller chamber groups, ensembles and pupil led groups.

Our musical events are a vibrant celebration of music making in the community and a highlight for everyone involved. Major concerts take place at Christmas with a Carol Service at St Nicholas' Church and a concert in the Main Hall. In our Spring concert, we performed Faure's Requiem that also featured all our flagship ensembles and were set to perform Vivaldi's Gloria before school closures. Music for the one of the school's signature events - The Whole School Production - is almost entirely delivered by students. Our Summer Creative Arts Festival is a cross faculty event involving our five subjects that ends with a fun and informal Jools Holland style music showpiece that presents an additional opportunity to perform.

5. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

The successful candidate will:

- be an excellent classroom teacher with a very strong understanding of effective teaching and learning in Music
- be able to lead a high quality Music curriculum across the age range 11-18
- lead in the delivery of extra-curricular Music opportunities and productions
- be able to enthuse, engage and motivate students and teachers
- be a strong team player in the Creative Arts Faculty and beyond
- Show flexibility, innovation and intelligence in responding to the needs of the pupils and School as a whole

Gordano School offers an excellent benefits package including contributory pension scheme, a comprehensive employee assistance programme and benefits (offering discounts on shopping), cycle to work scheme and on-site parking. As a Teaching School we also offer support to staff looking for career progression.

For more information including an application form, please visit www.gordanoschool.org.uk

Applications should be submitted with covering letter and application form (curriculum vitae optional) to the Headteacher, Mr Tom Inman by:

Closing date: 9am Friday 26th February 2021

Interview date: Monday 8th March 2021

****Early applications are encouraged. Gordano School reserves the right to interview and appoint prior to the closing date of the advertisement, should the School be able to identify an appropriate candidate.***

Gordano School supports Equal Opportunities Employment.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. Enhanced DBS checks are required for all successful applicants.
