



Headmaster: A P Mead MA (Hons) (Oxon)
Deputy Head: K B Catchpole BSc (Hons)

Lytchett Minster School

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Head of Music **Full time (part-time will also be considered)** **TLR 2.3 £7,368** **Permanent contract** **Required from September 2023**

Thank you for your interest in the post of Head of Music at this school. This post represents an outstanding professional opportunity for an enthusiastic, well-qualified and inspirational teacher of Music to lead our successful department. Music, media, dance and drama are fabulous, vibrant areas within the curriculum, ensuring a vital place for creativity in young people's learning. They are also areas rich in the use of rapidly developing technology and learning how to use these to great artistic effect is tremendously important also. The combination of creativity and technology is very exciting and opens up great areas for students to explore intellectually as well as preparing them for future careers. At a time when government policy seeks to emphasise a traditional academic curriculum, we are pleased to retain our Performing Arts focus. At the heart of this, however, is an unswerving focus on children and their learning – and the high quality teaching and support that facilitates and inspires that.

This information aims to give you an insight into the culture of the school and the specific role being advertised. Full details including application forms and general school details can be found in the Vacancies section on the school website.

This post represents an excellent opportunity for a well-qualified, ambitious and experienced teacher who has a successful track record of teaching GCSE and A-Level Music and who is now interested in developing his or her career further.

The Performing and Creative Arts Department

Teachers and technicians form a committed team and the faculty is friendly and supportive. There is a good balance of age, experience and enthusiasm and an ethos of teamwork and collaboration and an ambition among faculty members to challenge students to the full potential of their ability. For Music A level the department is rated top of the table of Dorset Schools based on the last few years ALPS scores. Over recent years students have progressed to top national institutions such as the Royal College of Music and the Royal Northern College, with others continuing their musical studies at Russell Group Universities. At GCSE, results are again strong, with a large number of students gaining the highest grades.

The current structure of Music includes a Head of Music together with two other teaching staff and a Performing Arts Technician. Housed in a new state-of-the-art purpose built Arts Block, the Music Department enjoys first rate facilities well adapted to the needs of the 21st century.

At Key Stage 3 each class receives three sixty-minute lessons per fortnight in Year 7, and two per fortnight in year 8 and 9. Lessons are based on the National Curriculum and these are supported by the department's own scheme of work. An appointee with suitable experience will have the option to teach some A level in addition to KS3 classes.

Over 200 of our students have instrumental lessons each week provided by a team of visiting teachers and many take Associated Board examinations each term. The department runs a wide range of extracurricular groups each

week: Junior Choir, Junior Band, Senior Choir (SATB), Senior Band, Orchestra, Brass Group, Senior Jazz Band, Junior Jazz Band, Gospel Choir, Ukulele Orchestra, Steel Pan Band, Folk Group and various Rock Bands. These groups are shared between the Head of Department, the Assistant Music Teachers and peripatetic staff, with some run by students.

As can be imagined, from this sort of solid base, the department has developed a strong tradition of concerts and shows and collaborates each year with the Drama Department to mount productions of real quality. In addition to numerous internal concerts and events such as Battle of the Bands, various school groups also perform in the community. We are committed to providing exciting opportunities for our students. In recent years this has included performances of Faure's 'Requiem' and Vivaldi's 'Gloria' by our school choir and orchestra. We also organise regular visits to Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra concerts, West End Musicals, and the Royal Opera House.

The successful candidate will work alongside dedicated, friendly, cooperative and supportive teams who are committed to making our students' experiences first-class and to take us on to the next stage of our development. The department is committed both to the timeless aspects of good teaching and to a willingness to innovate and explore new directions. The dominant ethos of the department is one of team work and co-operation. Sharing resources, ideas and approaches is central to its success.

The department has an excellent reputation for the extra-curricular programme it offers: students and staff are committed to this aspect of their work and the annual whole school production is a real highlight of the school calendar.

Post Details

This is an exciting opportunity is available for a knowledgeable and skilled specialist Music teacher eager to develop his/her career in an exceptionally well equipped department within an outstanding and attractive school to lead the Music team. We seek a colleague who will inspire students of all ages and abilities, to enjoy and understand Music. The successful candidate will work alongside a dedicated, friendly and supportive team, all of whom are committed to both the timeless aspects of good teaching and a willingness to explore new directions. The dominant ethos of the department is one of team work and co-operation. This is a full-time role, but part-time would also be considered for the right candidate. The successful candidate will be required to teach all aspects and ability ranges of Key Stage 3, 4 and 5 Music.

Assisted by the Music Admin Assistant, the Head of Music will have oversight and management of the team of peripatetic music teachers, including recruitment.

At the heart of every post within the school is a very strong teacher, well qualified, enthusiastic and energetic, capable of inspiring and challenging students across all of the Key Stages. The successful candidate will be familiar with all aspects of Music teaching as well as the latest developments and initiatives. They should also be able to demonstrate a genuine love and enjoyment of the subject. An abiding commitment to the very highest standards of academic performance and the ability to sustain good discipline within their area is essential. We pride ourselves on our strong induction systems which new colleagues always value highly. All employees at Lytchett Minster School receive a thorough and personalised programme of induction and support. We also have well developed performance management systems.

Schemes of work are provided for all year groups but also allow a degree of flexibility; colleagues are welcome to adapt and change these to incorporate their own ideas.

All teaching staff will be expected to support our lunchtime duties scheme.

Person Specification

Essential:

- Qualified Teacher Status and a degree or equivalent in a relevant subject
- A first-class knowledge of Music (across a range of specialisms) to support students' learning

- A proven track record in producing good results at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5
- Knowledge of a range of strategies to promote good progress and attainment in Music
- A genuine enthusiasm for young people and an ability to engage them in learning
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to work co-operatively as a team member
- Good oral and written communication skills

Desirable:

- Experience of teaching across all abilities and Key Stages through a range of media
- A thorough understanding of national education policies and guidelines relating to Science

With all of our appointments, we look for excellent teachers who:

- understand the importance of their role as tutor
- ensure that all our students feel valued as individuals, have a real and meaningful sense of their own worth and can aspire to the best that they possibly can be
- enjoy working closely with colleagues, are able to argue a convincing case, are able to listen carefully to their views and are content to rest with, and promote, collective decisions
- are motivators, inspirers but tough enough to establish clear expectations
- have a holistic view of education that values the role of extra-curricular school life by promoting the development of the whole child and a willingness to get involved in and help provide a wealth of opportunities to students
- are eager to innovate and develop their careers

All employees at Lytchett Minster School receive a thorough and personalised programme of induction and support.

If you would like to informally discuss this post prior to applying, please contact Andrew Mead, Headteacher at meada@lytchett.org.uk. If you wish to apply for this role, please complete the online application form at <https://lytchett.careers.eteach.com/#/>. In the letter of application, you will need to demonstrate that you possess the above qualities and give a clear statement of the particular contribution you would be able to make to the school. You should also refer to your areas of expertise in the field and any previous relevant experience.

Please note that Lytchett Minster is committed to safeguarding & promoting the welfare of children & young people. All appointments made are subject to an Enhanced DBS check.