



# QUEEN MARY'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Academic in purpose - Generous in approach - Enterprising in spirit - International in outlook



# Information Pack

Head of Music

Required from September 2026

Permanent, Full Time or Part Time

MPR/UPR plus TLR 2C

Queen Mary's Grammar School  
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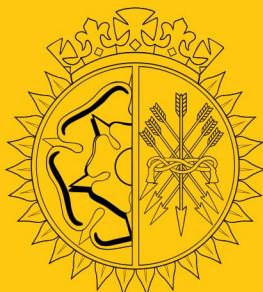


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# Welcome

Queen Mary's Grammar School was founded in 1554 by Mary Tudor. We have been shaped by our past and are proud of our traditions, but we are also confident of an exciting future as we help to shape the new educational landscape with our partners in the Mercian Trust.

Queen Mary's is an academically selective school. It is our aim to support pupils to achieve their full academic potential. We value the life of the mind and want to pass on a love of learning.

Outside the classroom, we offer a range of life-enriching opportunities: time at our Field Centre in Wales; membership of our thriving Combined Cadet Force; individual and team sports; foreign exchanges and travel; participation in music, debating and public speaking and many other activities. We believe that achievement and enjoyment go hand in hand.

We equip our pupils to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing world. Most choose to go on to higher education. Through partnership between School, pupil and parents, we aim for the examination success that will open doors to the very best universities and international employers. It is our mission to attain excellence in all that we do.

Our House system celebrates the four pillars of school life at Queen Mary's: an academic focus, an international ethos, an enterprising spirit and a sense of community. We enjoy our social, cultural and ethnic diversity and recognise our many privileges. We are keen to share what we have - experience, expertise, enthusiasm - both with those who live on our doorstep and those from further afield.

To do so is very much in the spirit of our motto *quas dederis solas semper habebis opes*: it is what you give that you will keep as eternal riches.

Richard Langton

Headmaster

# About Us

Queen Mary's Grammar School is an invigorating and rewarding place to work: the pupils are intelligent and committed to study; the staff are friendly and forward looking. It is more than just a place of work – it is a thriving community, proud of its past and confident of its future. In March 2023, it was recognised as 'Outstanding' in all areas by Ofsted.

There are currently almost 1400 pupils on roll, including over 500 in the Sixth Form. The School has an outstanding academic record and regularly features at the upper end of the national league tables. In 2025, 68% of GCSE grades were 7-9 and 70% of A Level grades were A\*, A or B. We are especially proud of our value-added scores, which regularly place us among the top schools in the country for progress. We do not rest on our laurels, but encourage all our pupils to realise their full potential.

In June 2011, the School converted to Academy status and we have undertaken a series of exciting building projects since then, including a new Sixth Form Centre, science labs and a humanities wing, music and PE refurbishments, extensions to existing English and maths classrooms, as well as a new dining room and reception. We were a founding member of the Mercian Multi Academy Trust (along with five other schools) in January 2018. Over the past few years, we completed projects to add additional capacity through the building of extra science rooms, a humanities block and a sixth form study annexe.

The School encourages an enterprising and international outlook: trips, expeditions and exchanges have gone all over the world in recent years, as well as a wide range of vibrant and formative educational visits and experiences closer to home such as theatre visits, visiting speakers and the mental health ambassadors programme. We are proud to appear in Ross Morrison McGill's recent book *Just Great Teaching*, showcasing our mental health work.

We want our pupils to lead happy and fulfilled lives. Learning here is not just about passing exams, but about enjoying the life of the mind. We also encourage all our pupils to take part in a wide range of enrichment activities in music, sport, the Combined Cadet Force and at our Field Centre on the Afon Mawddach in Southern Snowdonia. We have been named in the Top 100 cricket schools by the *Cricketer Magazine* for the second year in succession.

Our pupils come from diverse backgrounds, but they all thrive on the sense of support, encouragement and care that characterises Queen Mary's.

# Benefits of working at Queen Mary's Grammar School

- teach gifted and intelligent students who have a real motivation to succeed
- a thriving and expanding school that achieves examination success, particularly at GCSE level
- professional autonomy in the classroom – you are encouraged to teach in a style that suits you and your subject
- a Headmaster and Senior Leadership Team that operate an open-door policy to support colleagues personally as well as professionally
- we take our mental health seriously, considering workload and staff wellbeing
- a dedicated induction programme for new staff and ECTs to ensure you are supported at whatever stage of your career you join us
- opportunities to play a role in the wider life of the school, including involvement in the CCF, music, debating, drama, coaching of sports teams and other trips and opportunities, such as visits to Farchynys (our Welsh field centre)
- career progression – many of our current middle and senior leaders are “home-grown” promotions from within.

## Find out more

You can find out more about our school at <http://www.qmgs.walsall.sch.uk>.

Please contact Mrs N Turner (SLT Administrator) if you would like to discuss the role further via email; [n.turner@qmgs.merciantrust.org.uk](mailto:n.turner@qmgs.merciantrust.org.uk)

# The Music Department



Up until December 2025, the music department was led from 2012 by brass specialist Mr Vause. Mr Vause left at Christmas to relocate with his family to the North-West of England and we are looking for an inspirational Head of Music to build upon his legacy. For the remainder of the academic year, the department is being led by teachers of music, who work alongside a further part time music specialist and 10 visiting instrumental teachers.

We have an extensive list of extra-curricular musical activities including: an orchestra, whole school choir, smaller choral group, skiffle group, jazz band, intermediate concert band, sax ensemble and clarinet ensemble. There are strong links with the local music service and many of our pupils play in their ensembles. The department is very busy and puts on various concerts each year; video highlights can be found on You Tube (search QMGS Music).

All year 7 pupils (180) learn an instrument as part of their curriculum music lesson, with a significant number opting to continue into year 8. Pupils in years 7- 9 have one 50-minute music lesson per week and almost 200 pupils pay to have extra peripatetic music lessons.

We offer Edexcel at GCSE level and although class sizes are traditionally quite small, results are extremely good, with pupils opting to continue at A-level receiving lessons at one of our partnership MAT schools. A pleasing number of sixth form students pursue music related courses after they leave the school.

## Accommodation



The music department was redeveloped in 2015 and consists of 1 main classroom with 5 adjoining practice rooms, a departmental office and a music technology studio. The main classroom has 15 computers running Musescore software. The peripatetic music lessons take place in a different area of the school.

The department is very well resourced with a huge stock of brass and woodwind instruments. We also have enough keyboards for 1 per pupil in a standard class, 30 djembes, 3 drum kits, 20 guitars (acoustic, electric and bass) and 3 electric pianos. The main school hall has a Yamaha grand piano where most extra-curricular rehearsals take place.

# The Role

<b>Job Title:</b>	<b>Head of Music</b>
<b>Start Date</b>	September 2026
<b>Grade / Salary:</b>	MPR/UPR Plus TLR 2C
<b>Contract</b>	Permanent. Full Time or Part Time  For Full Time Candidates: The ability to teach a second subject would be an advantage

## Outline of the role:

To strategically manage the music department, including oversight of the curriculum, teaching and learning, peripatetic provision and extra-curricular opportunities. To be an exceptional music practitioner, capable of inspiring staff and young people as part of the music offering at the school.

## The successful candidate will:

- provide strategic leadership of the music department, setting high standards and encouraging a high level of performance and expertise
- consistently plan and deliver highly effective lessons to all key stages and support colleagues to do the same.
- develop and embed a department-wide ethos and vision that can be articulated by all relevant staff
- be a key contributor in relation to the ‘Queen Mary’s experience’ – offering extra-curricular opportunities through the oversight of the music programme, including the orchestra, ensembles and other musical groups
- run and contribute to termly music events, including the Christmas Concert, Spring Concert and Summer Arts Festival
- oversee the peripatetic music provision, liaising with staff and organising timetables and payments
- organise, staff and oversee the Year 7 instrumental project, optimising take up of additional lessons and extra-curricular opportunities
- ensure exciting and diverse curriculum which students enjoy, making sure that they are “academically ambitious and accessible to all”
- identify and implement opportunities for co-curricular activities and cross-curricular links to be drawn with other subjects
- manage and monitor the deployment of teaching and material resources, including those necessary for blended learning, to meet the needs of the curriculum
- ensure that academic standards are maintained and set appropriate targets to raise standards of achievement in the department at all levels for all students, including vulnerable learners
- deliver and model high-quality teaching and improve standards of learning and achievement for all students through monitoring
- be the first point of referral for managing the behaviour of students within the department and takes all available action to assist, which could include: holding Head of Department detentions, where appropriate.
- ensure that feedback is provided for students in accordance with the whole-school and department’s feedback policies
- prepare reports and meets regularly with the Headmaster, Curriculum Deputy Head and/or SLT line manager as appropriate

- keep abreast of current developments within the curricular area, through subject-specific CPD and professional subject associations
- review new specifications and examinations to ensure suitability for Queen Mary's students, disseminating of appropriate information within the department
- seek to promote the department and wider school through digital technology and links with the appropriate professional community
- oversee the department's approach to the blended learning curriculum, including its use of MS Teams and other relevant software/applications
- hold departmental meetings as a two-way channel of communication with members of the department, keeping other communication channels open at all times, and regularly communicates with the SLT line manager and/or Curriculum Deputy Head
- manage the departmental budget using the appropriate Mercian Finance tools
- determine external examination entries for the curricular area in accordance with the School policy for entry
- oversee the delivery and administration of non-examined assessments in the department, where applicable
- set, moderate and analyse internal examinations and tests as required
- take part in the half-termly Curriculum Group meetings and liaises with other departments
- be a team leader for the purposes of the professional growth process
- induct, guide and coach ECTs, new colleagues to the school and, in conjunction with ITT mentors, students on teaching practice
- promote and maintains a programme of staff development for all members of the department, including peer-observation through the lesson observation programme and keeping abreast of subject specific CPD opportunities. These could include wider reading, research projects, subject knowledge enhancement, online materials and attendance at external courses
- supervise the work of any support staff in the department and liaises with colleagues working in the SEND department as appropriate

#### **Person Specification:**

- The ability to teach a second subject would be an advantage for full time candidates
- You will be an experienced and skilled music classroom teacher with a proven track record of academic success and curriculum impact
- You will be able to lead and conduct musical groups, including the orchestra and other ensembles
- You will be passionate about the academic rigour of the subject and all that the subject entails
- You will be committed to diversity and representation in teaching and learning
- You will be a well-qualified graduate with QTS and possess excellent subject knowledge, capable of delivering the subject from Key Stage 3 to A Level.
- You will have a commitment to the ethos of the school and a willingness to contribute to extra-curricular activities
- You will be positive and enthusiastic in your approach to teaching, departmental management and working in the school
- You will have good oral and written communication skills, as well as excellent digital literacy
- You will have the ability to work as part of a team and to develop and maintain positive relationships with teaching and associate staff, as well as students
- You will be willing to be involved in the pastoral life of the school as a tutor
- You will be suitable to work with children. This job is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure.

Please be aware that candidates submitting generic applications, which make scant or no reference to the school, will not be shortlisted.

# The Mercian Trust

Queen Mary's Grammar School is a Founder Academy of the Mercian Multi-Academy Trust.

As one Trust we share a common purpose. We call it our social mobility and social justice mission to change our communities through the very best equitable education. When we get this right, it enables our children and young people to fulfil their potential, thrive in the world of work, and make a positive contribution to the local, national and international community.

Put simply, our common purpose is to increase opportunities and improve outcomes for our students. We are particularly committed to students who are under-served and under-resourced. We prioritise those who have special educational needs and disabilities, or who are more likely to face discrimination for whatever reason.

It is this common purpose that fuels everything we do. We deliver impactful, sustainable and ethical continuous school improvement in our schools to ensure the children and young people in the communities we serve learn in the very best and most inclusive schools.

We are deeply rooted in the communities we serve (which are the education investment areas of the West Midlands). We adopt a pioneering spirit and look to lead the sector with innovative solutions to the problems our students and families face.

We are proud of our achievements so far:

- Our selective schools are the most successful in the country at increasing the number of local disadvantaged students passing the entrance test and joining our grammar schools.
- Our St Matthew's campus in Walsall Town centre has brought new investment and innovation to the town and is home to our Alternative Provision Free School for students at risk of exclusion from Mainstream education. the campus is home to our Studio School where students can take a more technical or vocational route to university and employment - and also the home of our Digital Skills Hub connecting schools with employers and our students with industry professionals.
- Our social mobility and social justice mission goes beyond traditional education and training. We are proud to have hosted the region's first Youth Suicide Awareness and Prevention Conference at Villa Park, building on our pioneering work in youth mental health.
- Our innovative multi-disciplinary team of clinicians and allied health professionals support our vulnerable students, reducing clinical assessment waiting times from nearly 12 months to just 2 weeks.
- Our social mobility and social justice mission is both what we do, and who we are. We exist to enable all our students to fulfil their potential, thrive in the world of work and make a positive contribution to their local, national and international community.

# Location

Queen Mary's Grammar School  
Sutton Road  
Walsall  
West Midlands  
WS1 2PG

Tel: 01922 720696  
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Queen Mary's Grammar School is located on the Sutton Road, in the leafy south of the town and close to the centre of Walsall. Travel to the school is very convenient, being approximately 10 minutes' drive from both junctions 7 and 9 of the M6.

There are good bus links from Birmingham to Walsall (with the 51 and X51 buses) and there is a direct train route to Birmingham from nearby stations in the town centre, Bescot Stadium and Tamebridge Parkway.

The close proximity of Walsall, Wolverhampton and Birmingham City Centre provides excellent access to shopping, leisure facilities, museums, cinemas and a wide range of nightlife.

House prices in Walsall are also very competitive compared to the Midlands as a whole and there is a range of good local primary schools and nurseries for those with young families seeking to move close to Queen Mary's.

You are very welcome to visit the school. Please contact Mrs N Turner at [n.turner@qmgs.merciantrust.org.uk](mailto:n.turner@qmgs.merciantrust.org.uk) to arrange a visit.

*Queen Mary's Grammar School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and all applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service. Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment Policies can be found on our website.*