



## Teacher of Music: TMS/UPS

Full time, permanent  
From 1 September 2024

### The School

Gordano School, part of the Lighthouse Schools Partnership, is a large and successful 11-18 comprehensive secondary school approximately eight miles outside Bristol. Our school includes a thriving Sixth Form of approximately 350 students that is strongly integrated into the life of the school and offers significant opportunities for sixth form 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 wholeheartedly believe that a student's education should be about preparing young people for their future lives in the complete sense, developing our young people's key skills and behaviours that set them up for a successful future pathway. As well as consistently strong outcomes at GCSE and A Level, we place great emphasis on the opportunities available to our students including developing student leadership across our student body, offering an unparalleled extra-curricular programme and ensuring clear guidance for students when considering progression to their next steps of their educational journey

We pride ourselves on high-quality support for colleagues at all stages of their career through internal and external CPD, including our membership of the Lighthouse Schools Partnership, with staff involved in a range of developmental opportunities across schools in the Trust as well as supporting staff in bespoke training such as completing different levels of the NPQ programmes. We maintain significant involvement in Initial Teacher Training and deliver a comprehensive ECT induction in association with the Five Counties Teaching School Hubs Alliance and Ambition Institute. Our very large staff body allows regular opportunities for progression into leadership roles at all levels.

Importantly, beyond the wider experiences on offer to our student body, we seek to be a very happy school community with a big heart. This has never been more evident than through our recent work in delivering our core principles of 'Dream big, do your best, give back', fostering a community filled with kindness and respect.

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, discounted on-site gym membership and on-site parking.

### 1. THE VACANCY

We are seeking an ambitious and inspiring Teacher of Music to contribute to our Music provision both within and beyond the classroom. Our Music Department is extremely well thought of in North Somerset and enjoys a reputation for excellence, innovation, and vitality. This permanent, full-time post provides an excellent opportunity to join a thriving school for either a newly qualified or experienced teacher. The postholder will engage in regulated activity.

The successful candidate will have:

- Evidence of enthusiastic and outstanding classroom teaching
  - The ability to teach GCSE and A Level Music to a high level
  - Experience leading an inspirational singing provision, with the ability to direct the school choir, production chorus, and promote singing more broadly in the school community as an advantage
  - Piano competency sufficient to accompany choral rehearsals as an advantage
  - Good ICT skills, with familiarity of Sibelius, Cubase and BandLab as an advantage
  - Knowledge of Edexcel specifications as an advantage
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## 2. THE CREATIVE ARTS TEAM

- Jonny Hill - Head of Faculty & Head of Art and Photography Department
- Martin Humphries - Head of Music Department
- Joe Rumming - Teacher of Music
- Danielle Orlans - Head of Drama Department
- Caroline Gaze - Dance Subject Leader
- Hannah Holt - Head of House and Teacher of Dance
- Rachel Bradley - Teacher of Art
- Belle Day - Teacher of Drama
- Verity Eastwood-Dewing - Creative Arts technician
- Hollie Fawcett - Teacher of Art (part time)
- Kay Keane - Teacher of Art (part time)
- Dan Lewis - Teacher of Art (part time)
- Paula Warford - Teacher of Art (part time)
- Iain Hawkins - Music technician
- Logan Jennings - AV technician
- Lou Blundell - Headteacher & Teacher of Music
- Carolyn Tipler - Deputy Headteacher & Teacher of Music

## 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, two part-time music teachers (also SLT), a music technician, an AV technician, a creative-arts technician, and eleven instrumental staff from West of England Music and Arts who teach in the six dedicated practice rooms, each with its own piano.

Music has three main teaching rooms, a recording studio, a specialist IT suite with Sibelius Ultimate and Cubase Pro 10/12 and multiple small practice rooms (totalling ten possible break-out spaces). 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 their own dedicated space which is not timetabled for teaching purposes: the 'Sonic Laboratory'.

All teaching rooms are equipped with a piano, drum kit, PA system, a set of Yamaha keyboards, and a class set of ukuleles. In addition there is an excellent range of tuned and untuned percussion, multiple drum kits (one good quality electric), marching band equipment and djembes, bass guitars, guitars, amplifiers with all the associated leads and cabling, Clavinova pianos, a Yamaha grand piano, two electric organs, and a set of steel pans.

Our KS3 music curriculum focuses on developing pupils' musical understanding and preparing every student for a life of musical appreciation and engagement, as well as equipping anybody who wishes to take GCSE Music (regardless of previous private instrumental tuition) with the prerequisite experiences. We build practical skills in singing, keyboard, ukulele, percussion, and computer-based sequencing (Bandlab) through exploration of six umbrella topics: 'Stepping Up: Band Skills', 'Music of Today', 'Music Through Time', 'Musical Migration', 'New Directions' and 'Stepping On'.

We explore the ingredients of various important musical epochs while building instrumental competencies, musical vocabulary, listening skills, and a providing heaps of fun! Lessons are engaging, practical at their heart, and involve a combination of listening, performing and composing tasks. At GCSE and A Level Music the Edexcel Specification is followed. We have two classes per year at GCSE and per year at A Level. 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 ensembles ranging the school Orchestra, Choir, Jazz Band, String Band, Brass Band, Flute Club, Barbieshop vocal group, Year 7 Choir, Junior and Senior Guitar Clubs, and Drumline. In addition to this, there are also rock bands and other smaller chamber groups, ensembles and pupil led groups. We deliver trips every year to see either the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, the BBC National Orchestra of Wales or the Welsh National Opera.

Our musical events are a vibrant celebration of music making in the community and a highlight for everyone involved. Major concerts take place at the end of each big term with a Carol Service at St Nicholas' Church and concerts in the Main Hall at Christmas and Easter. The pit band for one of the school's signature events - The Whole School Production - is almost entirely delivered by students (most recently 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame'). 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. Each event features over 100 students from Year 7-13.

## 5. APPLICATIONS & CLOSING DATE

**Closing date for applications: Midnight, Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024**  
**Interviews: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024**

***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.**

We are committed to creating a diverse and inclusive workplace and welcome applications from all suitably qualified candidates, particularly those from under-represented groups.

### **Safeguarding Statement**

The Lighthouse Schools Partnership - Gordano School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all in its community to share this commitment. Suitability to work with children and young people will form part of the selection process. As part of the shortlisting process an online search will be carried out. All appointments will be subject to vetting, including an enhanced DBS check.

A copy of the Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy, Disclosure Policy and Recruitment Policy can be found on the Lighthouse Schools Partnership website.

Please note that for all roles that require regulated activity it is an offence to apply if you are barred from engaging in regulated activity.

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