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**NORTHAMPTON SCHOOL** *for Boys*

**PART TIME (0.4) TEACHER OF MUSIC (MPS/UPS)**

For SEPTEMBER 2021

Northampton School *for Boys* is an independent academy for boys aged 11-18, with a mixed Sixth Form. There are presently 1640 students on roll, of which 523 are in the Sixth Form (including 181 girls). The school has Teaching School status and was graded as Outstanding in all aspects of its latest Ofsted inspection.

Music is a great strength of the school with consistently outstanding examination results including +0.5 at A Level in 2017. The school is also renowned for its exceptional extra-curricular programme, particularly in music, dance, drama, art and sport. NSB was awarded the overall title of national ‘Educational Establishment of the Year’ for 2017.

**COURSES**

Y7 & 8 Mixed ability groups follow the KS3 National Curriculum for 1 1/2 hours each week. Towards the end of Year 8 students choose to specialise in 2 subjects from Music, Art, Photography Drama and Dance.

Y9 Mixed-ability groups follow a course specialising in 2 subjects from Music, Art, Photography Drama and Dance.

Y10 & 11 Students can opt to specialise on one of the Art forms they have been taught in Year 9 leading to GCSE accreditation. There is currently one group in each Year, with an average class size of 14.

Y12/13 Edexcel Music is studied as a full A Level. We currently have 30 pupils across both year groups studying music.

Many former students have gone on to study Music at various UK Conservatoires,

Oxbridge and other Russell Group universities.

This September will see twelve of the current Year 13 cohort commencing study at

some of the top UK Music Conservatoires and Universities to study Music.

**STAFFING**

There are currently two full-time members of staff teaching curricular music alongside one part-time member of staff. They are supported by 20 peripatetic instrumental teachers, a Music Administrator and a Music Technician.

**ACCOMMODATION/RESOURCES**

There is a Music Suite housed within The Cripps Hall, a purpose built complex containing all of the Expressive Arts teaching areas (apart from Dance – which has a separate purpose built studio) as well as a 400 seat, professional standard theatre. The music area consists of:

* a large music teaching/performance room, generally used for teaching KS3 & 4 classes. It is fully equipped with electronic keyboards and a host of classroom percussion from Samba drums to African djembes.
* a second KS3 teaching room which is fully equipped with 30 computers running both Sibelius and Cubase. SOW at KS3 alternate each term – one class participating in a more technological centric topic whilst one class focuses on practical music making.
* a dedicated A Level teaching room which is equipped with 20 computers running both Sibelius and Cubase.
* a recording studio and recording live room, equipped with a computer running the same software as in the other classrooms and linked to both the live room and A Level classroom.
* 9 practice/teaching rooms of varying sizes – all have been recently renovated and pianos upgraded. All rooms have been recently upgraded and house Kawai pianos.

**INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS**

These are available to all students on a wide range of instruments including all brass, woodwind, strings and percussion, guitar, piano, voice and drum kit. Students pay a contribution to all lessons. There is a remissions policy. Currently over 300 students receive weekly lessons at school, with others being taught at the Northampton Music School (NMPAT)

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

The following groups run weekly at the school, being coached by members of the full-time and visiting staff: -

* 2 Wind Bands (with approximately 50 students in each)
* Symphony Orchestra (with approximately 60 students involved)
* Junior String Orchestra (Stringfellas)
* 3 Big Bands
* Saxophone Ensemble
* 2 Percussion Ensembles
* 2 Choirs
* Jazz Vocal Group
* Guitar Quartet
* Guitar Ensemble (Major Fret)
* Low Brass Ensemble (Metalworks)

In addition, students are very pro-active in setting up other ensembles on their own, including a number of very proficient rock bands.

In recent years, Symphonic Winds (our senior wind band) has received Platinum and Gold Awards, at Regional and National level, in the National Concert Band Festival, and “Outstanding Performance” Awards in the National Festival of Music for Youth. Big Band has also received similar Platinum and Gold awards in the National Concert Band Festival, as well as “Outstanding” Awards in the National Festival of Music for Youth. We tour regularly with the Big Band and just before the first lockdown, in February 2020 we toured Los Angeles. Whilst there we performed at the Hard Rock Café on Hollywood Boulevard, Bob Cole Conservatoire of Music and a local High School in Santa Clarita. In previous years we have been several times to Florida and New York.

The Orchestra has received “Highly Commended Performance” Awards at the National Festival of Music for Youth, being one of 6 groups invited to perform at the national event regularly over the last few years. Symphonic Winds, Big Band, Jazz Vocal Group have all featured in the Schools Proms at the Royal Albert Hall. Jazz Vocal Group and Male Force (our senior male voice group) have also been invited guest performers at the Singposium Conference.

* We often combine with the other areas of Expressive Arts in mounting major productions. We had just finished a production of The Wizard of Oz prior to the first lockdown having also put on productions of The Sound of Music, Chicago, Oliver! Les Misérables, Fiddler on the Roof, West Side Story, Beauty and the Beast and Evita.

**ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE**

The school has an established and well-funded programme of residencies, with professionals from the wider musical world visiting school to work with our students on a range of projects. Recently pupils have had the chance to listen and discuss technique with Anna Markland (former Young Musician of the Year) in a piano masterclass, perform with Alex Ridout (current winner of the BBC Young Jazz Musician of the Year), we hold an annual workshop with the students from Trinity Laban Conservatoire and also have links with other top professional players. We held workshops and a concert with NYJO (National Youth Jazz Orchestra) recently and have similar workshops planned in the coming months.

**IN-SERVICE**

The school has an established policy of professional development – both for individuals and teams. Both in-house and external expertise is used to develop skills and experience.

**Applicants for this post should:**

* have the ability to teach Music from Key Stage 3 to A Level
* working knowledge of Music Technology
* be strongly committed to extra-curricular Music
* be committed to high standards of academic achievement

The governors actively seek ways in which to attract and retain good teachers. This has resulted in, among other things: meals provided prior to Parents’ Evenings; tea/coffee provided free-of-charge in the staff-room at break and lunch-time plus wellbeing opportunities and support. Please see this [**https://www.nsb.northants.sch.uk/page/?title=Employee+Benefits&pid=347**](https://www.nsb.northants.sch.uk/page/?title=Employee+Benefits&pid=347)

Northampton School *for Boys* is an equal opportunities employer, and the school is a no-smoking environment. The school has a strict uniform policy with an office dress code for Sixth Form students. It is therefore expected that staff will also follow the same high standards.

**It may be possible for Newly Qualified Teachers to commence when their training course finishes, for the last three weeks until the end of term in July 2021 in order to learn about the school before taking up the post formally on 1 September 2021.**

**Completed application forms and a letter of application should be returned to the Headmaster’s Office by 9am, Wednesday 26th  May with interviews on Friday, 28th May.**

R. Bernard

Headmaster

May 2021