

**Position: Self-Employed Visiting Music Teacher of Violin and Viola**  
**Salary Range: £44 per hour**  
**Normal hours: Currently half a day per week, dependent on student take-up**

**Closing Date: Monday 9th May 2022 12pm**  
**Interviews week beginning 16th May 2022**

### **The Music Department**

Music is central to life at St John's School. Our visiting music teachers play both a paramount and vital role in developing boys' learning experiences from Years 3-8. All boys enjoy one period of curriculum music weekly, as well as opportunities to learn instruments individually, in pairs, or in threes. There is a thriving instrumental programme at the School, with a large majority of pupils learning an orchestral instrument.

In terms of co-curricular provision, the output is both inclusive and extensive. Our musicians are versatile and committed, the School takes great pride in its music. Current ensembles include:

- Junior, Senior, and Chamber Choirs
- String Ensemble
- Cello Ensemble
- Viola Ensemble
- Wind Band
- Brass Band
- Percussion Ensemble
- Beginner and Advanced Woodwind Chamber Ensembles
- Tabla Collective
- Intermediate and Advanced Guitar Ensembles
- Junior and Senior Recorder Consorts

These ensembles perform regularly at both internal and external concert locations, including Merchant Taylors' Hall in Central London and Merchant Taylors' School. Alongside strong results in practical examinations such as ABRSM and TCL, St John's School provides extensive performance opportunities in concerts and festivals, both in and out of school.

### **Main Duties:**

A Visiting Music Teacher has the underlying responsibility of encouraging pupils to learn by making the instrument taught both interesting, accessible, and enjoyable. The pupils' success in skill, understanding, and progress depends vitally on the quality of teaching provision offered. Main responsibilities include:

- Planning, preparing, and teaching lessons to pupils from complete beginner to advanced, ensuring that learners develop correct technique, learn to read notation and play by ear, and are supported in their general music development (e.g. aural, theory and sight-reading skills).
- Planning, preparing and teaching in line with the specifications and current syllabus of the major examination boards, such as ABRSM, TCL, and RSL.

- Ensuring that all pupils are working at an appropriate level and pace, embedding differentiation in both individual and small-group settings.
- Setting purposeful practice assignments weekly, communicating them to parents by means of a practice diary, and using these and other means to monitor the progress of pupils.
- Identifying and communicating appropriate performance targets for pupils, such as festival entries, concerts, and exams.
- Consulting the Head of Music as necessary regarding any concerns of pupil progress and engagement.
- Keep accurate records of attendance at lessons.
- Writing reports at stipulated times in the academic year
- Conducting co-curricular activities and/or assisting with school concerts, as agreed with the Head of Music.
- Communicating successes and concerns with parents directly and fostering a good working relationship with parents of pupils taught.
- Managing own invoices and payments of invoices for lessons taught, directly with parents of pupils taught.
- Working collaboratively with colleagues to promote the subject within the School.
- Offering support to pupils and speaking with parents as necessary to review pupils' progress.
- Completing administrative tasks necessary to the effective running of the department in a timely fashion.
- This list is not exhaustive, the role of the Visiting Music Teacher is varied. At the heart of this role should be a fundamental enthusiasm for both the instrument and the opportunity to work with young people.
- Instrumental lessons are 30 minutes in length and each pupil should receive on average, 30 lessons each year, divided between three terms and timetabled by the School. Pupils receive solo, paired, or small-group lessons as appropriate to their needs.
- It is important to inform both the Head of Music and the School Office if you are unable to attend, so students can be informed in good time and lessons can be rescheduled if possible.

**Person Specification:**

- Excellent facility, appropriate qualifications, and extensive experience in teaching instrument(s).
- Motivation and desire to work with pupils aged 7-13 and encourage every pupil to develop their musical skills to their full potential.
- An approachable, empathetic and enthusiastic person, capable of inspiring confidence in all persons they encounter in the workplace.
- Ability to work flexibly and self-sufficiently to fulfill the requirements of the post; prioritise; work calmly under pressure and respond positively to change.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, with very good written and spoken English.
- Excellent organisational and time management skills; competency in the use of ICT for administration and teaching purposes.
- An understanding of the expectations, ethos, and aims of a busy Prep School.
- Committed to the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and young people.

**How to Apply**

Further information about the School may be viewed on the website: [www.st-johns.org.uk](http://www.st-johns.org.uk).  
The workings of the School are regularly chronicled in 'The Lamb'  
[www.st-johns.org.uk/the-lamb](http://www.st-johns.org.uk/the-lamb)

An application form may be downloaded from the website.

A fully completed application form, together with a covering letter, should be sent by email to: [office@st-johns.org.uk](mailto:office@st-johns.org.uk)

Email is very much the preferred method of receiving applications and receipt of an application will be acknowledged as soon as possible.

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