



September 2023

Head of Academic Music

UPPINGHAM



From the Headmaster, Dr Richard Maloney

Music is a core part of the Uppingham experience. Our pioneering history as a leading music school is well-known, and Uppingham's present-day performance and ensemble work is in a very good place. The whole school community values our musical tradition and is proud of what our pupils and staff achieve.

Equally important is music education in the academic context. Many of our students want to explore music in depth and do so at GCSE and A level. As our current incumbent, Peter Clements (who is also the School Organist), leaves us to take up a Director of Music position in Oxford, we are looking for someone dynamic to build on his success.

Our ideal is to employ a dedicated professional, possessed of energy and ambition, who is willing to innovate and empower pupils and staff to achieve great things. We have first-class musical faculties for teaching and performing which, in the right hands, can be used to set an agenda for music education nationally and internationally.

I hope you find this a challenge you want to take on. You will find the facilities wonderful, the people fantastic, and our ambition unparalleled. We aim for Uppingham to be the very best school and want only the very best people to work with us.

I look forward to meeting you.

Dr Richard Maloney
Headmaster

Music at Uppingham

The Academic Music department sits within the wider music faculty, which is led by the Director of Music.

For pupils who strive to excel in music as part of a rounded education, Uppingham offers the best music provision of any non-specialist music school in the country. Music is quite simply a way of life at Uppingham. For any pupil with a passion for music, in any form – whether jazz or classical, polyphony or hip-hop – we offer boundless inspiration, opportunity and encouragement. We celebrate and support individual excellence and mass participation – catering to the musical ambitions and abilities of all pupils.

Throughout its history, Uppingham has been associated with music-making pioneers – and that spirit of adventure and vitality is sustained today by our internationally renowned director of music and our inspirational teaching team of professional musicians. Their work is enriched and extended by visiting world-class performers who support our wide-ranging programme of masterclasses and workshops.

Our pupils have access to no fewer than three music schools, equipped with state-of-the-art music technology and professional-quality performance spaces. Music-making runs through the whole community at Uppingham. Everyone who plays an instrument is encouraged to take a full part in group music-making, whether as part of major ensembles or orchestras (Concert Band, Symphony Orchestra, Jazz Orchestra, Wind band), or in specialist groups such as the Chamber Orchestra, String Ensemble, Pipe band, Percussion Ensemble, Guitar Ensemble or Wind Ensemble. Additionally, there are numerous choirs, including the Chapel and Chamber Choirs, Concert Choir, Paul David Studio Singers and various pupil-led close harmony groups. The pupils have a vast range of performance opportunities at all levels, from our weekly Lunchtime Concerts and regular Faculty concerts, Scholars' concerts and Jazz Jam evenings to our annual Recital Competition, Music for Remembrance, Advent Carol Service, sell-out Jazz Cocktails and Canapés concert, symphonic orchestral concert and summer musical showcase. Whilst most of our performances happen in and around Uppingham, we shall next term additionally be giving performances in London and Saffron Hall and, in the summer, the Chapel choir will tour to Italy.

In every musical endeavour, we challenge pupils to develop independence and self-discipline; to explore their own artistic identities. Our pupil-led orchestras, bands, ensembles and choirs stage regular professional-calibre performances, which never fail to leave audiences stunned by their quality and virtuosity.

Academic Music at Uppingham

Teaching in the Academic Music department is delivered by an experienced team of three specialist colleagues.

In the Fourth Form (Year 9) Music is offered alongside a range of creative subjects in a carousel; pupils may study it for half a term in the first six months of the year, and then again for a longer period in the second half of the year. The Fourth Form curriculum is designed to enthuse and challenge all of our pupils, from the highly able performers to those who arrive with very little previous musical experience. Constructed around the fundamental performing, composing and analytical skills, the curriculum allows pupils to build confidence, develop creativity, and hone critical skills. Pupils engage with musical styles and genres as diverse as Samba, jazz and film music. They additionally have the opportunity to make use of the School's extensive music technology resources, working in our studios to create, produce and record their own tracks.

There are currently around 50 pupils opting for Music GCSE, following the Edexcel course. At A level there is a set of pupils in each year group studying Music (Eduqas) and Music Technology (Edexcel). A significant proportion of A level Music or Music Technology pupils choose to pursue music in higher education.

The academic music classrooms within the music schools are well resourced and provide good creative spaces for teaching at the highest level.



About the role: Head of Academic Music

The Head of Academic Music is responsible for the strategic leadership, development and realisation of academic music teaching at Uppingham, with responsibility for guiding, supporting and appraising the teachers in the department and for the effective deployment of the department's financial, material and human resources.

The Head of Academic Music ensures that Uppingham's academic music teaching is creative and inspirational, keeping staff abreast of educational developments so that the most innovative courses are chosen, planned and delivered. Ultimately, we aspire to a teaching culture in which pupils of all ages and aptitudes are enthused, inspired, nurtured, stretched, and supported.

The Head of Academic Music leads the quality assurance of educational provision by monitoring teaching and learning, observing lessons, evaluating the department's performance and actively addressing the underperformance of pupils.

The Head of Academic Music has a particular responsibility to promote academic music at Uppingham, to pupils, parents, prospective parents, School visitors and feeder prep schools.

The Head of Academic Music reports to the Deputy Head Academic and is a member of the Heads of Departments committee.

For candidates with the right skills, it may be possible to combine this position with the role of School Organist.

About the person

We are looking for an outstanding teacher, visionary leader, and an experienced professional who will not settle for less than excellence.

The appointee will be a strong, dynamic and inspirational character with unimpeachable subject knowledge, strong degree(s) and exemplary classroom management skills. A track record of first rate teaching and a rapport with pupils is vital. The ability to inspire others, communicate well, and to lead and work as part of a team are essential.

An appreciation of the wider life of a seven-day-week boarding school is a prerequisite, along with a willingness to take part in the boarding and extracurricular programme.

Teaching at Uppingham

Remuneration and Benefits

The School has its own salary scale for qualified teachers, which is reviewed annually. The scale starts at £33,000 and progression is possible to £60,000. Part time teachers are paid on a pro rata basis of the pay rate they would receive if employed full time in the same post. The School offers an extensive range of benefits including a school fee discount scheme for children of staff, free gym membership, subsidised medical scheme, excellent pension scheme, and Sodexo benefits including discounts in thousands of retail outlets, restaurants, cinemas and holiday providers.

All members of staff are expected to live within reasonable distance of the School so that they can contribute to boarding school life easily and effectively. Assistance with reasonable removal expenses is provided. School property is sometimes available initially, at a subsidised rate, for those who wish to rent, and some partly furnished flats are provided for those coming straight from university or overseas. Most staff prefer to buy their own houses in due course, and there is a wide range of property available in the town and surrounding villages.

One of Uppingham's great community strengths is dining in house. Each day teaching staff are invited to lunch in a boarding house; a genuine pleasure in the midst of a busy week.

Life in Rutland

Rutland – England's smallest county – is a beautiful part of the country. Uppingham town has two maintained primary schools and an 11-16 community college. There is a sixth form college in Oakham. Oakham School (six miles), Stamford School and Stamford High School (eleven miles) are independent schools which, between them, offer day education to boys and girls from eight plus; local parents and/or the schools concerned provide car or coach transport. There is a good GP surgery in the town. There is a considerable community of young children within the area.

The town is situated between Leicester and Peterborough. Nottingham, Northampton and Birmingham are also relatively close. Cambridge can be reached in 50 minutes and Oxford in an hour and a half. London is an hour by train from Corby, Kettering or Peterborough. Peterborough and Leicester have excellent shopping centres. Leicester, Nottingham and Birmingham all enjoy first-class theatre and concert facilities.

The next steps

Closing date:
Thursday 26 January 2023, 9.00am

Interviews:
Wednesday 1 February 2023

Informal enquiries about the post may be made to the Deputy Head Academic, Ben Cooper (01572 820607 or DHA@uppingham.co.uk). Informal enquiries about Music at Uppingham more generally may be made to the Director of Music, Andrew Kennedy (01572 820695 or ajk@uppingham.co.uk).

Applications must be made on the School's application form, which can be obtained via the School website or from hr@uppingham.co.uk.

Completed applications should be returned to hr@uppingham.co.uk or by post to:
HR Department, Uppingham School,
High Street West, Uppingham, Rutland LE15 9QE

Uppingham School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Successful candidates must be willing to undergo full screening in accordance with Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE), including an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check. Issues relating to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils will be explored at interview.

At Uppingham School, we value a truly inclusive, fair and equal work environment for all. Opportunities to work at Uppingham School are open to all, at all levels. We want to further increase the diversity of our workforce and actively encourage and welcome applications from candidates who have black, Asian, and minority ethnic backgrounds.





Uppingham School
Uppingham, Rutland LE15 9QE
United Kingdom

Switchboard: +44 (0)1572 822216
HR: +44 (0)1572 820647

hr@uppingham.co.uk
www.uppingham.co.uk

UPPINGHAM