



## **Horris Hill**

Horris Hill is an independent, boarding and day, academically selective prep school, for some 130 boys aged 4-13, set in 65 glorious acres on the outskirts of Newbury. Our boys successfully move on to many of the most prestigious independent senior schools in the country and the school has an enviable record of academic success. The School has been evolving rapidly over recent years, for instance through the opening of the Lower School in September 2019. The School has recently become part of the Forfar Education group of schools. This is an exciting development that will bring significant new investment and practical support to assist the School's growth and evolution.

### **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

We are seeking, for January 2022 or as soon as possible, an outstanding Director of Music to lead teaching and performance across the school. We welcome applications from a wide variety of candidates: you may be a seasoned teacher seeking a stimulating new environment, or a younger teacher seeking a first leadership role, or even switching to teaching from another musical career. You will have a passion for music and working with exciting, motivated children, have outstanding performance skills on piano (and ideally organ) as well as competency in accompaniment and significant experience leading choirs and instrumental ensembles. In addition, you will have excellent organisational skills, for leading the team of peripatetic instrumental teachers and managing performances. Whilst teaching will initially be to classes in the 7-13 age range, we will mould the role around the strengths and enthusiasms of the successful candidate; this could include teaching Games, another academic subject and teaching younger boys. Opportunities to take on further school leadership roles may be available for a suitable candidate; we would also be highly supportive of an outstanding but as yet unqualified teacher seeking to gain a PGCE qualification.

Besides music, the successful candidate will bring enthusiasms for many other aspects of school life such as sports and extra-curricular provision, and will want to contribute fully to a busy full time boarding school. This usually includes a commitment to teaching on Saturdays during term, in return for generous holidays.

The Music Department is housed in modern, purpose built premises comprising a chamber performance arena equipped with a grand piano and 23 practice rooms. Most boys learn a musical instrument and take part in a variety of vocal and instrumental ensembles. In Summer 2020 the school opened a new, state of the art theatre, in which we aim to set new standards in prep school performing arts.

Accommodation may be available, especially in return for a fuller commitment to our boarding provision.

## **Job Description**

The job description below contains an outline of the typical functions of the job but may not be an exhaustive list of all possible job responsibilities, tasks, and duties. We will mould the exact job specification to the experience and enthusiasms of the successful candidate, but the core elements of the role will include most of the following:

- Develop and deliver quality programmes of class music in Years 3-8, invigorating this aspect of school life; we are interested in promoting the best of traditional prep school music teaching and learning, allied to exciting, more modern practice
- Manage the Music School to make efficient use of the quality space and ensure tidiness and organisation
- Act as musical consultant for School theatrical productions
- Organise music trips and activities inside and outside school such as concerts, performances, workshops
- Develop strong links between Horris Hill and the music departments of senior schools to which we regularly send boys
- Prepare outstanding pupils for music scholarship examinations to senior schools
- Write formal reports to parents twice a year for all pupils, covering all progress in Music
- Attend parent-pupil discussion meetings
- Ensure that lessons are properly prepared and delivered
- Ensure that the school's Marking Policy is adopted and that all other school policies and procedures are complied with
- Ensure that work set in prep sets is of an appropriate length and challenge.
- Encourage pupils to take a pride in their work with regard to presentation and content.
- Create an environment conducive to good teaching and learning in the rooms used for teaching the subject. This should include displays and up-to-date pupils' work.
- Where possible, create cross-curricular links with other subjects.
- Adopt a range of teaching methods in the delivery of the teaching of the subject.
- Ensure the safety and well-being of children at the School by adhering to and complying with the School's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy at all times. Horris Hill School is committed to safeguarding children and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all employees, workers and volunteers to share this commitment.
- Attend training and staff INSET sessions organised by the School.
- Adhere at all times to Health and Safety legislation, and all school policies and procedures, to ensure their own safety and that of colleagues as well as pupils and visitors.

## **Person Specification**

### **Skills and Qualifications**

- Outstanding, experienced classroom practitioner
- Qualifications relevant to the teaching of Music
- Evidence of commitment to CPD
- Commitment shown in other areas
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Strong organisational skills

## Personal Characteristics

- Must be a dependable and flexible team player
- Highly motivated, hardworking and passionate about teaching
- Innovative and a creative thinker, able to inspire children in and out of the classroom
- Strong interpersonal skills when working with children, colleagues and parents
- Ability to prioritise effectively and balance competing pressures
- Desire to be fully involved in the life of the school
- Commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children

## Appointments

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and questions will be asked at interview to assess the suitability of candidates to work with our children. A copy of the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy is available to download from the School's website.

All appointments are subject to a satisfactory enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service check (including a check against the Children's Barred List) and other pre-employment screening. This includes receipt of at least two references satisfactory to the School, medical fitness, qualifications check where relevant for the post, the right to work in the UK, an identity check and a self-declaration of disqualification by association. Please see the enclosed Safer Recruitment Policy for further details.

All appointments are made in accordance with our Equality policy and applicants should let us know of any special needs they may have.

## Recruitment Process

Candidates are required to submit a completed application form together with a supporting letter outlining the extent to which they can demonstrate their ability to do the job and meet the criteria indicated. You should provide details of two referees and one must be your current or most recent employer. We intend to take up references prior to interview unless specifically requested not to. An application pack can be downloaded from the school website [www.horrishill.com/vacancies](http://www.horrishill.com/vacancies). Please submit all applications to [hr@horrishill.com](mailto:hr@horrishill.com).

**Applications will be considered as they are received and interviews arranged with suitable candidates, therefore early applications are encouraged.**

Employment will commence, subject to the satisfactory completion of all pre-employment checks, from January 2022 or as soon as possible.

## Further Information

If you require any further information please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Debbie Power, HR & Compliance Manager on 01635 30323 or email [asstbursar@horrishill.com](mailto:asstbursar@horrishill.com)