

Additional Information for Music Applicants

Music at Oakham

Music is flourishing at Oakham, and recent years have seen a revitalisation of both the music curriculum as well as the development of an ambitious programme of practical music-making. The department has a strong profile within the School, as well as regionally and nationally. In addition to the academic music curriculum, hundreds of individual lessons are taught each week, covering a wide range of instruments and styles. Oakham typically supports over 40 music award holders (scholars and exhibitioners), and pupils who pass ABRSM Grades 6 to 8 with merit or above also benefit from a discounted tuition scheme which recognises this achievement and their contribution to School music-making.

Oakham's vibrant performance programme usually includes up to 80 concerts each year, encompassing weekly lunchtime recitals in Oakham Parish Church, informal solo concerts, chamber music, visiting professional concerts and an ambitious series of major instrumental and choral concerts in Chapel. Music theatre productions (accompanied by pupil bands) occur regularly for different age groups, and have included *Singin' in the Rain*, *Chicago*, *Sister Act*, *The Addams Family* and *Cabaret* in recent years. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, most School [concerts](#) and [recitals](#) are now filmed and shared online.

The School currently runs four choirs and a community choral society, two orchestras, two wind bands, a big band as well as many training ensembles and chamber groups. There are two well-established annual competitions for Singing and for Piano Duets. There are termly ABRSM exams, as well as annual visits for LCM Music Theatre and Rockschool exams.

Oakham's music-making also extends beyond the confines of the School. The pupils regularly give concerts outside Oakham in both local venues as well as prestigious national locations. A modern tradition of annual Gala Concerts involves large numbers of musicians performing annually in major performance venues in either Birmingham, Cambridge, Nottingham or Oxford, as well as annually within the Brandenburg Choral Festival in London. The School has a commitment to overseas tours, with European music trips taking place most summers. Many leading pupil musicians are members of national and regional ensembles, and there have been notable pupil successes in national composition competitions in recent years (including those run by the BBC Proms, Royal Opera House and Aldeburgh Music).

Our pupils and staff make a strong cultural contribution to the county, and our concerts are well-supported by the local community. We also work regularly with our key feeder schools, many of whom we welcome to Oakham in large numbers every October for a Prep Schools' Music Day.

Further information about the department and recent pupil achievements can be found online by browsing the School's website. The termly Arts Calendar can also be found [here](#), which gives an excellent overview of the programme of performances each term.

The School

Oakham School was founded by Archdeacon Johnson in 1584 and is now one of the largest co-educational Boarding and Day Schools in the country. It has 1,050 pupils ranging in age from 10 - 18 years, of whom 50% are boarders, accommodated in 10 Boarding Houses and 6 Day Houses.

All pupils at Oakham have the opportunity to learn where their strengths and passions lie and to explore the opportunities ahead of them. The School offers the choice of the IB Diploma and A-levels, supplemented by the Pre-U and BTEC, for Sixth Form pupils, and GCSEs and IGCSEs in the Middle School. Pupils are taught how to learn for themselves so that they will be equipped with the tools for being successful citizens in 2030.

Oakham's excellent teaching and highly motivated pupils deliver consistently impressive results. Oakhamians move on to a wide range of excellent Higher Education destinations (including music colleges) both across the UK and overseas.

Pupils also benefit from exceptional learning resources: well-equipped classrooms, a university-standard library, state-of-the-art Science and Design Technology facilities, 40 acres of outstanding sports pitches and a theatre and art gallery. The newly built Faculty of Social Sciences and proposed extensions to the Music and Drama facilities reflect Oakham's ongoing commitment to providing the very best learning environment for students.

Oakham is a caring community where pupils learn how to be independent, thoughtful and responsible young adults who are ready to take on the challenges of life beyond School. The comprehensive structure of pastoral care, at the heart of which is the supportive House system, is designed to provide support tailored to the age of pupils at every stage of their Oakham journey.

The arts have a strong tradition at Oakham that embraces excellence and enthusiasm, professionalism and participation.

Interview

Candidates will be invited to visit the music department to teach a short lesson for 20 minutes, perform a solo piece, and have an interview with the Director of Music and the appropriate Head of Faculty. Further details will be forthcoming if you are shortlisted.

Making an application

Short-listed candidates who wish to apply for this post should send a covering letter and an application form (available on the Oakham School website under 'Job Opportunities') by e-mail to:

Mr Peter Davis, Director of Music, Oakham School, Chapel Close, Market Place, Oakham, Rutland. LE15 6DT

Tel: 01572 758526

E-mail: pd@oakham.rutland.sch.uk

Many music teachers find that their Employment History is too lengthy to complete on the Oakham School application form, and we are happy for this to be outlined on a CV instead.

The closing date for applications is noon on Monday 30 May.

Under current legislation, we are required to advise applicants that this appointment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure with the Disclosure & Barring Service. Details of any criminal record (spent or unspent, due to exemption from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974) must be disclosed at interview. Only relevant convictions and other information will be taken into account so disclosure need not necessarily be a bar to obtaining a position at Oakham School.