

# Vacancy

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Teacher of Music



Prior Park  
Gibraltar



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“ I have never worked anywhere that so sincerely values fostering good human beings. I had assumed before coming here that talk of holistic education was good marketing, but it is the aim of this school. It feels very special to work here. ”



# Message from the Headmaster

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Thank you for taking an interest in the role of Teacher of Music at Prior Park School, Gibraltar. We are excited to see how the successful applicant for this role will bring forward their ideas and energy to support our Music Department.

We hope that you find this brochure helpful and informative, but, should you require any further guidance, please do contact our HR team who will be happy to assist further.

We look forward to receiving your application.

**Peter Watts, Head, Prior Park, Gibraltar**

## **Mission Statement:**

*To steward a thriving family of communities with love for the young people they serve at their heart: communities which cultivate creativity, foster integrity, and transform lives.*

## **Our Values:**

Curiosity • Generosity • Courage





# The School

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Set in a stunning location, high up on the Rock and overlooking the bay, Prior Park School is a vibrant, caring community with an ambition as boundless as our view. Prior Park School is Gibraltar's first independent, coeducational, Catholic/Christian day school for children aged 11-18.

Since our opening in 2016, we have gone from strength to strength, growing considerably in size; achieving outstanding academic outcomes whilst being awarded Beacon Status by the Council Of British International Schools for our extra-curricular provision. Now is an exciting time to join our flourishing community.

“PPSG has a really strong sense of community. The students appreciate their teachers. Kindness is visible in the little day to day actions I have observed many times here from students and staff. Charity is also a huge part of our ethos. Celebrating Mass in such a beautiful church is a real privilege and having that religious foundation means a great deal to me. There is no sense of exclusion even if you are not a Catholic.

I know that if I need advice or support I can ask for it. Few schools also have such an amazing view and Gibraltar is a unique environment to teach in. Our student and staff body is diverse and that is very exciting and stimulating.”

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# Prior Park Schools

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Prior Park Schools is a family of Christian schools based in Bath and Gibraltar. Together, the Schools offer education for pupils aged between 3 and 18. Since the establishment of Prior Park College in 1830, the family has grown, with The Paragon School joining in 2006, and Prior Park School Gibraltar being opened by Prior Park Schools in 2016.

The Schools' Mission is to steward a thriving family of communities with love for the young people they serve at their heart. These vibrant communities cultivate creativity, foster integrity, and transform lives.

Across three sites, the Schools educate over 1100 young people of all faiths and none. The values underpinning the Mission and the Schools' educational offerings are Curiosity, Generosity, and Courage. The Schools believe that quality education changes lives and that outstanding schools are engines for positive social transformation.

Our Schools provide excellent teaching, equipping our young people to leave for a variety of exciting destinations. The success of what the Schools do in the classroom is intertwined with their co-curricular offerings. The young people undertake a wide variety of activities, which, in addition to being fun, challenge them to persevere to succeed. We work together imaginatively and courageously to hone the skills our young people need to forge their place in the world.

Prior Park Schools (PPS) have long been renowned for the quality of their pastoral care. Grounded in the love that sits at the centre of our Mission, our pastoral ethos allows young people to feel safe and secure to challenge themselves, to learn who they want to be, and to discover the difference they want to make.

Each of the Schools' Heads are supported by a Leadership Team, who together lead the day-to-day educational business of their respective schools. The Board of Trustees provides governance and support for the Heads and their schools via a number of Advisory Committees which include Local Boards for each of the schools, the Finance, Audit, Investment & Risk Committee (FAIR), an Education Committee and Safeguarding.

The Executive management of the schools is devolved to the Prior Executive Board (PEB) which comprises the Heads of each constituent school, The Director of Operations & Finance, the Director of Development, and the Head of Compliance. The PEB drives the strategic development of PPS, ensuring that it is on track to deliver its Vision and thereby remains a market leader in independent education.

More information about our schools can be found at [www.priorparkschools.com](http://www.priorparkschools.com)

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# The Person

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This is an exciting opportunity to contribute to the development of a successful, dynamic and progressive Creative and Performing Arts Faculty in beautiful and inspirational surroundings. The post is a full-time position and would suit a teacher with experience at Secondary level or a suitably qualified NQT.

The successful candidate will assist in the delivery of GCSE and A Level Music, driving forward what has become a very popular and successful faculty. The ability to teach their specialism up to A Level is essential.

## *Skills*

- Be an outstanding teacher, with exceptional subject knowledge
- Excellent communication skills and the ability to build relationships with students, parents and colleagues
- Excellent planning, administration, and time management skills
- The ability to work to deadlines

## *Experience*

- Educated to degree level with Qualified Teacher Status
- Evidence of a commitment to continuing professional development

## *Personal Qualities*

- Leading by example with honesty and integrity
- Be able to take the initiative
- Have a good sense of humour and be flexible and adaptable

We welcome applications from both experienced and newly qualified teachers.

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# The Department

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The Music department is an ever-evolving hub of expression, performance, and creativity at Prior Park Gibraltar. Equipped with passionate staff, a growing range of musical-based facilities, housed across two sites to cultivate all forms of student expression. Music is popular amongst all pupils due to the staff's specialisms, skill-driven lessons, support, and conceptual approach to teaching the subject. Music is taught throughout KS3, becoming an optional subject at KS4 & KS5 with various co-curricular clubs across the school. The Music department offers a wide array of co-curricular opportunities from, the School of Rock, to a whole school choir, with regular performance opportunities throughout the year, to trips overseas, germinating a long-lasting love of music beyond all academic walls. Many students choose to continue studying Music at university and beyond. There is currently one part-time teacher within the department.

The average set sizes are:

KS3 - 20 Students

KS4 – 3-6 Students

KS5 – 1-2 Student

## Curriculum and Results

All students have the opportunity to study music in years 7-9, where they develop foundation skills in the appreciation of music styles and the use of instruments and music software.

There are mixed-ability groups in each GCSE year, following the AQA Music specification.

Most of our GCSE Musicians continue their study in the discipline, continuing with AQA Music for A Level.

	GCSE 9-5	A LEVEL A* - B
2019	100%	-
2022	100%	-
2023	100%	100%

*NB: There are no results available for 2020 and 2021 due to the cancellation of exams and the use of Centre Assessed Grades / Teacher Assessed Grades*

## ***Resources and Accommodation***

The department is spread across two sites. The larger site is based within GAMPA (Gibraltar Academy of Music and Performing Arts ) and equipped with a large, flexible open-plan classroom, an interactive whiteboard, with easy-to-access resources, keyboards, and a range of musical instruments from percussion and xylophones to whole class ensembles. The main site boasts a fully equipped Mac suite, a recording studio with MIDI keyboards, Pro logic, & Garage band facilities. An electric drum kit, bass, and electric guitars with speakers, amplifiers, a choir organ, and a large school piano. Private music lessons are also available to students to pursue current and new musical interests, from piano and guitar to singing. In addition to the plethora of physical departmental resources, there is a wide variety of online services available to students, allowing them to further their learning beyond the department's walls.

Teachers utilise Microsoft 365 software, in particular, Microsoft Teams, in the delivery of lessons and in the monitoring and tracking of pupil progress. All students in the department bring personal learning devices to lessons and use this as their normal way of working. Additionally, all teaching staff are issued Acer laptops with digital pens to help with their teaching. Prior Park Schools use Office 365 as our learning platform, and all teaching staff are expected to have, or be working towards, the Microsoft Innovative Educator award. At present, we use PowerPoint and Teams as our main learning tools, with other Office 365 apps as required, e.g., Word, PowerPoint, and Excel. Teaching staff within the department also have access to the department's facilities, Premier Pro, and more.

## ***Extra-Curricular Activities and Trips***

We believe it is vital to promote interest and enthusiasm for the subject beyond the specifications' constraints, engender intellectual curiosity, and develop the capacity for independent thought.

Students are exposed to numerous opportunities and encouraged to enter local music-based events and or competitions, including the school's own Winter Arts Showcase and Summer Arts Showcase. In addition to the above, the Music Department regularly invites practising musicians to share their expertise with the students through workshops and/or talks to bring the subject to life further and offer wider enrichment opportunities.





# The Position

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## ***Main Responsibilities and Tasks***

### ***Teaching and Learning***

- Plan, deliver and review academically challenging and inspirational lessons
- Contribute significantly to the development of the Geography provision at Prior Park
- Ensure lessons meet the needs of individual students in accordance with advice from the SENCO Medical team, and House staff
- Assessing, recording, and reporting on the development and attainment of students in line with department policy
- Organising and participating in subject focused extra-curricular activities

### ***Continuing Professional Development***

- To ensure up to date knowledge of educational issues and trends
- To identify training needs in consultation with the Head of Department
- To participate in the induction programme as required by the Deputy Head

### ***Parents***

- To prepare academic reports, provide subject information to parents, attendance at Parents' Evenings and response to subject related parental enquiries

### ***General Duties***

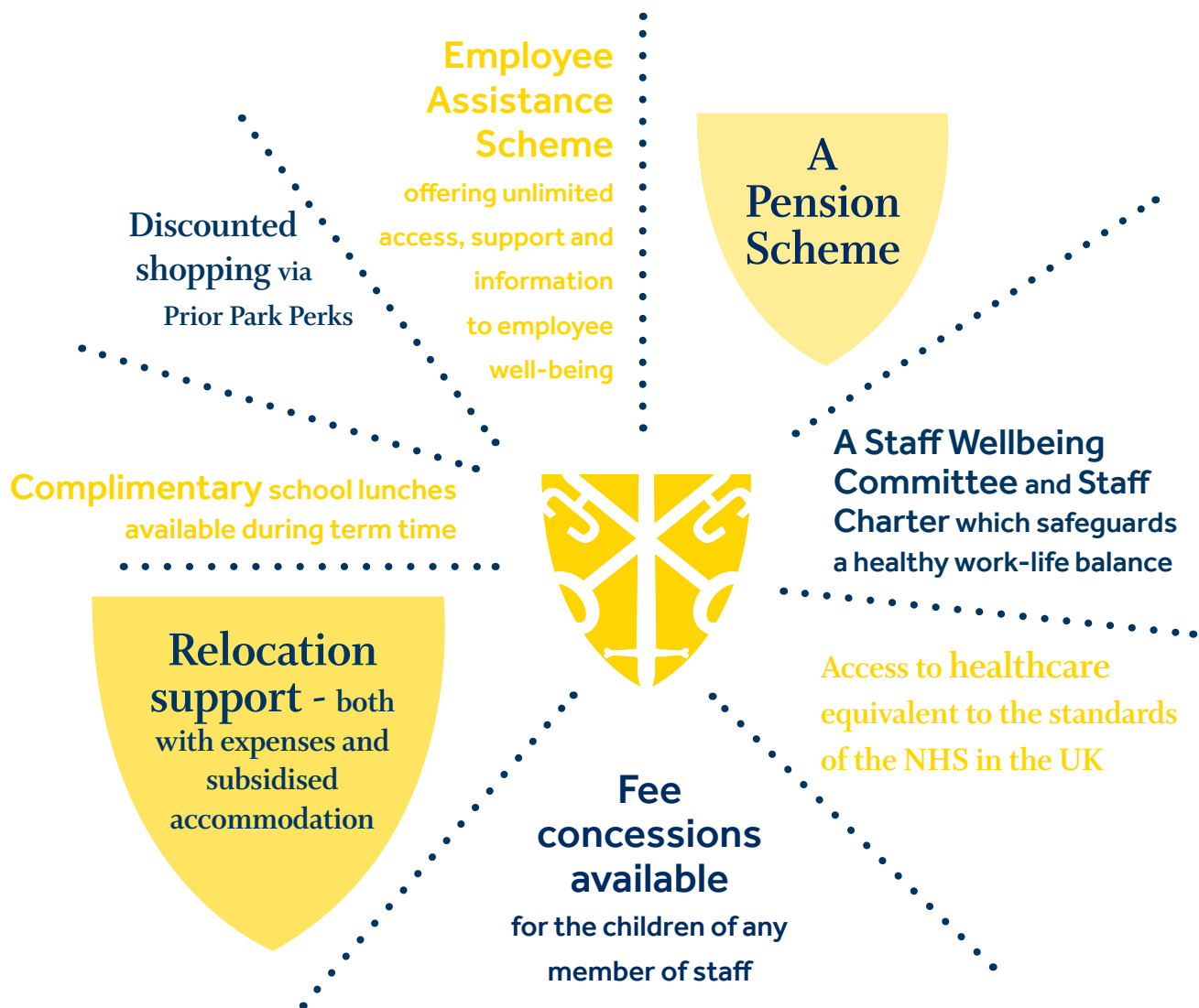
- To contribute to the extra-curricular programme of the school, which may include evenings and weekends
- To act as a House tutor in being part of a team reporting to a Housemaster/ Housemistress and making a full contribution to House associated events
- To adhere to and implement the school's behaviour policy
- Participate in the system of cover for absent colleagues
- To be familiar with the Common Room Handbook and school guidance policies
- To ensure that Health and Safety procedures are followed

Please note this list is not exhaustive and other additional, reasonable tasks falling within the capabilities of the post holder may be required, depending on the needs of the College.



# The Benefits - Why Prior Park School Gibraltar?

There is an extensive induction programme for all new colleagues and we encourage ongoing professional development through generous CPD provision at a school, department and individual level. Individual support and coaching for career progression, internally and externally, is provided by members of the Senior Management Team. Apart from working in an inspiring environment and making an important contribution to our School community, we also offer a range of personal benefits, these include:



# The Benefits - Why Gibraltar?

Reasons why it's great to live and work in Gibraltar

## Local Economy

Gibraltar has many strengths to support economic growth; an enviable quality of life; a World Heritage site; a high quality University; a strong Education sector and a well-qualified workforce. Forecasts suggest continued confidence in the area with ongoing growth and investments for the next few years.

## Culture

For its size, Gibraltar is a vibrant and cosmopolitan city with plenty of independent shops, restaurants and cultural attractions. Start your day with brunch in an artisan bakery, take a dip in the Mediterranean on one of its six beaches and finish by taking the cable car to the top to see the sunset on three countries and two continents.

## Quality of life

The sun shines for 73% of the year and the immediate surroundings provide an incredible range of leisure and cultural activities. Summers are warm and the winters mild, with outside dining a realistic proposition every month of the year. Employment rates are well above the UK average and public services and transport links are excellent. Surrounded by beautiful Spanish and Moorish architecture and stunning countryside, it has something for everyone, making Gibraltar one of the most desirable places in Europe to live and work.

## Transport

With the city centre being fairly compact and largely pedestrianised, it's easy to walk around the city to visit its most popular attractions. Given its small size, nowhere is too far to walk, but the local bus routes make exploring quick and easy. Gibraltar is also fully equipped with its own international airport providing a regular timetable of flights to many parts of the UK and to Morocco. Across the frontier with Spain, Seville, Malaga, Cordoba, Ronda and Morocco are all within a few hours' drive.

## Surrounded by nature

With an array of National and Natural parks both in Gibraltar and Andalusia, and the local city parks makes for a very attractive, green environment. We are surrounded by the sea and great beaches and yet the nearby mountains in Spain make it possible to ski on snow in the morning and then ski in the Med in the afternoon. The Strait is a major migration zone for both birds and aquatic mammals with sightseeing trips for both locally available

## Staff Quote

“The climate & lifestyle. I have 3 children and raising them here is absolutely the right choice for my family. At weekends we explore the Andalusian coast, there is an abundance of stunning places to visit and walks to do. Living on the Med means we have more hours of light and excellent climate, we can BBQ in the 'winter' months and in the summer, we spend our holidays in Southern Spain and Portugal, my children love the water parks and long days at the beach. My children have fantastic opportunities available to them, they do weekly afterschool activities such as sailing, kayaking and flamenco dance lessons. Aside from the lifestyle opportunities in Gibraltar we feel this is a safe place to raise children.”





# The Process

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To apply for this role, please complete our application form which can be downloaded from the school website <https://www.priorparkcollege.com/pps-vacancies>

Applications should be emailed to the HR Department: [recruitment@priorparkschools.com](mailto:recruitment@priorparkschools.com)

**Closing date for applications is midday on 1 March 2024**

Interviews to be held on 12 March 2024

References of those invited to interview will be taken up.

For an informal chat or to answer any questions relating to this position, please contact:

**[recruitment@priorparkschools.com](mailto:recruitment@priorparkschools.com) or 01225 835353 (HR – option 4)**

## Child Protection

Prior Park Schools is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the school is therefore permitted to ask job applicants to declare all convictions and cautions (including those which are "spent" unless they are "protected" under the DBS filtering rules) in order to assess their suitability to work with children.

## Data Protection

In the course of employment at Prior Park Educational Trust, staff may have access to confidential information relating to pupils and their families and are required to exercise due consideration in the way they use such information. Staff should not act in any way which might be prejudicial to the School's interest. Information which may be included in the category covers both the general business of the school and information regarding specific individuals. A strict code of confidentiality must be adhered to at all times. The School is registered under the Data Protection Act 2018 and operates under policies that meet General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). Staff must not at any time use the personal data held by the school or disclose such data to a third person.





**Prior Park**  
Gibraltar



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