

Dover Grammar School for Girl Applicant Information

Part-Time Teacher of Music

Required from September
MPR/UPR



Dover Grammar School for Girls is an Outstanding Grammar School which fosters excellent academic standards combined with a strong and caring community. It is also an innovative school where staff are encouraged to look constantly at various ways of improving every aspect of our work. To summarise, it is a place where students can enjoy the very best education.

Dover Grammar School for Girls is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our students, so the interview will include questions relating to child protection.

Members of the interview panel have undergone Safer Recruitment training. This post is exempt from the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and an enhanced DBS check will be required prior to appointment.

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 [dggs_info](#)



Dover Grammar School for Girls

Applicant Information



Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the post of Part-Time Teacher of Music. This is an exciting opportunity to join the team at one of Kent's highest performing grammar schools. Dover Grammar School for Girls is a selective school with 688 girls in Key Stage 3 & 4 and a co-educational sixth form of 224 students. We have been oversubscribed for many years and have been twice rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted.

We all currently find ourselves in a very unusual time which is not ideal when recruiting to such a crucial role in the school and I also appreciate that this may not be easy for applicants. Therefore, it is important that I try to give you a feel for the school. I will provide a brief summary of the school below, to give you a virtual window into our DGGs community. I also wish to direct you to our school website, www.dggs.kent.sch.uk, where we have several videos and information that may help to familiarise you with our expectations, standards and ethos.

Dover Grammar School for Girls is an inclusive, selective school with over 100 years' experience of providing education for our local community. We are highly respected within the local community and are committed to providing top quality teaching and learning in an inclusive and high performing learning environment. We have been oversubscribed for many years and remain a popular choice with parents and students alike.

In 2020 93% of students achieved Grade 5 or above in English and Mathematics at GCSE and the percentage of students achieving grades 9-7 was 46%. At A Level, 62% of all grades achieved were at A* to B. In Music, 83% of students achieved Grade 5 or above at GCSE level, with 50% of students gaining grades 9-7.

The school's Progress 8 score has historically been significantly positive. Although we are extremely proud of our students' past achievements, we recognise that there will always be areas for improvement, and, each year, we firmly believe that we can do even better. We are now therefore looking for an enthusiastic, innovative and forward-thinking Teacher of Music to join our successful and dedicated team.

Our students are bright, articulate, fun to be with, and, rightly, expect that their teachers will share and encourage their aspirations. As teachers, we all offer students every possible opportunity beyond the classroom with a wide range of extra-curricular activities, support and pastoral care. We offer wellbeing support and aim to develop not just the academic abilities of our students but also to give them the confidence, life skills and personal qualities and values to succeed in a fast moving and competitive world.

Our foundations are built upon our vision tri-colon which is 'Building Character, Fostering Respect and Achieving Success'. We also practice 5 Character Values which we believe underpin good citizenship and are the qualities which we wish to celebrate within school. These were decided upon after consultation with the staff and students alike, the values represent what we as a community value in each other and are central to our ethos and practice. You can read more detail on our website regarding the vision tri-colon and Character Values of Mutual Respect, Intellectual Curiosity, Compassion, Courage and Moral Purpose.

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The successful applicant will join a department that is striving to increase numbers at GCSE and post 16 in this current climate. We are seeking an outstanding practitioner who is able to teach at all Key Stages as well as ensuring the policies and practice deliver 100% 5+ at GCSE. The successful candidate must also be able to support those who find the subject more challenging whilst also stimulating and stretching the brighter students. This post requires an ambitious, innovative, hardworking individual who is committed to working with other departmental staff and to give our students the confidence and knowledge to reach their highest potential.

This particular post becomes available at an exciting time in our drive to ensure students can take part in a whole school enrichment programme, our Building for Future Growth programme, which will also give students opportunities to have a more creative outlet. We would therefore be looking for the successful candidate to have plenty of ideas in order to make a full contribution to this key area of development.

We are looking for a dynamic and forward-thinking individual who will be able to balance the demands of managing the day-to-day teaching and improve the opportunities available to our students and wider community. The successful candidate must demonstrate professionalism, be able to work on their own initiative as well as working as a team member, and have a positive, collaborative and 'can do' approach.

This post requires an innovative hard working individual who is dedicated, diligent and flexible, have the ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines in an accurate and effective manner.

We are a diverse yet united group of individuals working together to ensure that our students, parents and the local community are provided with the highest academic standards. We work hard, but we enjoy what we do. If you share our passion, energy, enthusiasm and determination to ensure the progress of our students, and to maintain and further develop a high achieving department of professional colleagues within this close-knit environment, then we look forward to receiving your letter of interest and completed KCC application form, which can be downloaded from our website and Kent Teach. To assist you in this process we have included a job description, person specification and a statement from the Music Department.

The closing date for receiving your application is midday, Friday, 14th May with interviews taking place once candidates have been shortlisted, week beginning 24th May.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R.C.F. Benson', followed by a small horizontal line.

RCF Benson
Headteacher

Dover Grammar School for Girls

Person Specification

Required

- Qualified Teacher Status
- Education to degree level in an appropriate subject
- Evidence of successful and innovative teaching
- Strong subject knowledge
- ICT proficiency
- Energy and enthusiasm
- Highly organised
- Evidence of commitment to Continuing Professional Development
- Evidence of commitment to extended learning for students beyond the classroom

Desirable

- Evidence of contribution to whole school development
- Knowledge and understanding of current educational issues
- Experience as a form tutor, including academic monitoring and support
- Experience of teaching in a selective school
- Evidence of networking within and beyond school
- Evidence of providing extra-curricular activities

Dover Grammar School for Girls

Subject Teacher Specification



Academic Excellence

- Monitoring, assessing, recording and reporting effectively and on time
- Preparing students for the appropriate public examinations
- Having an awareness of teaching groups' abilities and a commitment to add value

Personal Fulfilment

- Participating in training and development activities
- Attending and taking assemblies

High Quality Teaching & Learning

- Promoting positive attitudes to students, parents and colleagues
- Planning, preparing, teaching and marking appropriate work
- Participating in arrangements for own and others' annual performance review
- Reviewing teaching methods with a real focus on how girls throughout the school and 6th form boys learn in each lesson
- Reviewing and amending schemes of work/programmes of study as appropriate
- Maintaining good order in the classroom at all times with regard to agreed school procedures
- Supervising students before, during and after school and ensuring supervision duties are undertaken promptly and professionally
- Communicating and consulting with parents, colleagues and outside agencies as necessary

High Quality Environment

- Ensuring teaching rooms are conducive to learning, are tidy and are left in the correct manner for colleagues
- Utilising display space to inform, challenge and celebrate the subject

Commitment to the school, the local and the global community

- Covering for absent colleagues where necessary
- Encouraging and supporting the students as they develop as young people and citizens of the future

Dover Grammar School for Girls

Music Department



Students achieve well in Music at DGGS, with 100% of students achieving a grade 4 or above and 16.6% of students achieving a grade 8 or 9 in 2020. We have recently set up a new A Level course. Those students who choose to take Music as an option make great ambassadors for the department, promoting Music to the rest of the school and within the wider community. Our students go on to study a wide range of subject areas at university, including Music and Music Production.

Throughout KS3, students are taught in form groups following a planned curriculum that is in line with the National Curriculum released this academic year. We facilitate a peripatetic instrumental programme with the number of students taking up this opportunity growing year on year, and many of these students follow one of the graded music examinations programs. Alongside this, we have a full extra curricula programme with 3 choirs, a school orchestra/band, and a set of smaller ensembles that changes year on year, dependent on the performing forces available. We have a minimum of three school performances across the year, including the Christmas Carol Service at Charlton Church, and we often get invited to participate in other concerts within the wider community. We offer extra support sessions for GCSE and A Level students', theory workshops, and intervention groups, and have a link to the Deal Festival and NYJO.

The Music department is located centrally within the school, in its own external building, and consists of one main teaching room, equipped with 15 computers with access to keyboards and an interactive whiteboard, two good sized practice rooms for instrumental lessons, a large instrument store room, and a department office. We teach one period a week in year 7-9, with three periods taught at GCSE and five periods for A Level, where some of these may be timetabled as double periods.

Staffing

The Music Department currently has 1 full time member of staff and 1 part time member of staff, including an Assistant Head of KS3.

Curriculum breakdown

In KS3, students follow a specially designed curriculum, following the expectations set out in the new National Curriculum for Music. This has a focus on student's developing their skills alongside the knowledge and context part of the course, and developing their ability to critically appraise. At GCSE, students follow the Edexcel course, and we move to the OCR course at A Level.