

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Director of Performing Arts

Reporting to: Senior Deputy Head and Headmaster

Purpose of the Job:

Dumpton School enjoys an outstanding reputation as a very happy, nurturing, yet aspirational environment. We have superb facilities for the Performing Arts, including a state-of-the-art Recital Hall, suite of practice rooms and purpose built Assembly Hall/Theatre. The School wants to further strengthen its offering in this area, and has recently created a Performing Arts Faculty encompassing the subjects of Music, Drama and Dance. This vital role will be responsible for overseeing all aspects of the Performing Arts within the school. The School places considerable importance on our 'Performing Arts for all' ethos, and the role will be key in maintaining and strengthening the breadth and quality of the Performing Arts throughout Dumpton.

Main Duties:

The role of Director of Performing Arts will depend to a certain extent on the individual strengths of the successful candidate; however, the main duties are as follows:

The Performing Arts Curriculum and Co-Curriculum

- To help ensure every Dumpton child discovers the joy of the Performing Arts
- To provide vision and leadership for the Performing Arts provision at Dumpton, taking responsibility for the Performing Arts strand of the School Development Plan
- To ensure that all pupils at Dumpton have the opportunity to perform regularly
- To oversee the Performing Arts curriculum throughout the school, with the support of the other Performing Arts teaching staff
- To plan and teach Performing Arts lessons across the Prep School (Y3-Y8) alongside the other Prep School Performing Arts teaching staff
- To lead all co-curricular Music, including ensembles, orchestras, bands or choirs
- To organise our key concerts and recitals each year, including the Carol Service in the Minster
- To oversee all other stage performances, supporting and contributing where required
- To nurture our culture of singing at Dumpton, where every child and adult finds joy in singing together
- To encourage as many pupils as possible to try learning an instrument in their time at Dumpton
- To support the development of potential Music, Drama or Performing Arts scholars at Dumpton
- To accompany music in assembly, and during concerts, exams and other performances

Management and Administration of the Faculty

- To manage all other teachers in the Performing Arts Faculty, including the Prep School Performing Arts teachers, and the Pre-Prep Music Teacher
- To manage the peripatetic visiting teachers - both instrumental teachers and LAMDA teachers
- To oversee, with the support of the School's Administration Department, the weekly instrumental music lesson timetable
- To oversee, with the support of the School's Administration Department, the organisation of after school LAMDA sessions
- To oversee, with the support of the School's Administration Department, the organisation of the Music and LAMDA examinations at Dumpton
- To organise the Performing Arts calendar events, ensuring there is timely communication for pupils and parents

Health & Safety:

- To comply with all health and safety procedures as required by the School.

Child Protection:

- All staff share the responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and must adhere to, and comply with, the School's Child Protection and Welfare Policy.

Person Specification
Director of Performing Arts

The successful candidate will have strong leadership experience in the Performing Arts, either as a Head of Department, Director of Music or equivalent. They are likely to be a dynamic, enthusiastic and driven individual, with a tangible passion for the Performing Arts, and a proven ability to inspire others. Essential and desirable attributes for the role are as follows:

Essential Attributes:

- A proven track record as a Music teacher with a passion for the Performing Arts
- A desire to ensure that every child discovers the joy and benefit of the Performing Arts and to provide performance opportunities for all
- An extensive subject knowledge and the ability to implement, develop and oversee an engaging Performing Arts curriculum across the school
- A confident pianist able to accompany both groups and individuals in all situations
- A confident conductor/director of performance groups
- An excellent communicator and administrator
- An ability to oversee a wide variety of performances ranging from lunchtime concerts to major school productions and performance events
- An ability to work accurately and calmly, and show resilience under pressure
- An ability to work collaboratively with colleagues within the School and with key contacts in other organisations
- A proven ability to work as a member of a team, as well as a leader and manager of staff
- An excellent sense of humour
- A willingness to contribute to the wider co-curricular and pastoral life of a busy Prep School
- Absolute commitment to the highest standards of professional behaviour and, promote the welfare and safeguarding of children

Desirable Attributes:

- Experience teaching Drama or Dance
- An accomplished pianist/organist
- An accomplished performer in their own right
- Proficient in the use of music technology
- An experienced choral director or conductor

FURTHER INFORMATION:

- Based at Dumpton School, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 7AF
- The school week is from 8.15am to 5.45pm Monday to Friday
- Competitive salary, and other benefits include significant discount (75%) off school fees for children
- Applicants must undergo a DBS check and the school must be in receipt of satisfactory references before employment can commence.
- The closing date for applications is 9am on Thursday 6th May 2021 and applications should be submitted electronically to headspa@dumpton.com
- Interviews are expected to take place on Tuesday 11th May 2021
- The role will ideally commence in September 2021, although a January 2022 start is possible for the right candidate