

JOB TITLE: **TEACHER OF MUSIC**

## REIGATE GRAMMAR SCHOOL INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Role commences: **September 2024**

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## REIGATE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

**Alderman Henry Smith founded Reigate Grammar School in 1675. For over 345 years, young people have been educated on the same site, in the heart of Reigate, a historic market town in the east of Surrey at the foothills of the North Downs in an area of outstanding natural beauty.**

RGS is a leading HMC independent co-educational day school. It is a highly successful, happy and exciting school, which aims to provide a broad and balanced education to boys and girls that will prepare them for the modern world. The school song, *To Be a Pilgrim*, reminds our students that they are on a journey of noble purpose, to have an impact and to make the world a better place. We aim to educate the whole child and offer a broad range of experiences for all. We are an inclusive school and, built upon the vision of our founder, are committed to social mobility and the provision of bursaries through wider access and a supportive Reigatian community.

**“Happy Kids Great Results”** Good Schools Guide 2019

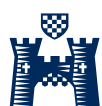
Reigate Grammar School caters for over 1050 students aged 11 to 18. Another 600 students are educated at Reigate St Mary's Preparatory and Choir School and Chinthurst School, RGS's junior and nursery schools – both recently shortlisted for UK Independent Prep School of the Year. RGS offers the very best academic education with equal prominence placed on the arts, sport and a rich extra-curricular programme. RGS has a distinctive educational philosophy and a strong ethos of pastoral care underpinning a well-rounded education. The House system has some clearly defined aims: for everyone to feel part of a team; to allow leadership to be nurtured; talent to shine; confidence to surge; teamwork to flourish; and competitive spirit to develop. In the school's academic culture of intellectual freedom, the structure of the curriculum means that students receive a strong grounding in core subjects but

can elect to pursue any area of interest. In the elective curriculum, one student may learn to trade stocks while another deepens their understanding of French literature. It is a challenging and balanced education, equipping students for the opportunities and demands of their future lives and allowing them to explore their personal passions.

The first line of the school's most recent ISI report asserts that 'the quality of the students' achievements and learning is exceptional': the first co-ed day school to achieve this rare accolade. RGS' approach to teaching and learning melds expert teaching knowledge with a modern, innovative approach to pedagogy with a judicious use of technology. Inspirational and personalised teaching and learning is at the centre of the vision and requires expert teachers. The school is one of a small number of world-class schools to have been a global pioneer in High Performance Learning, focusing on the development of global citizens, advanced performers and enterprising learners.

Outcomes at RGS are world-class with 86% of GCSE entries graded at 9-7 in 2023. A Level results are equally impressive, with over 95% of entries graded A\* to B. 96% of our A Level students went on to Oxbridge, Russell Group and other top universities and medical schools. In 2019, RGS was named Independent School of the Year for Wellbeing and Pastoral Care at the TES Awards – the most important element of any great education – and also received the award of School of the Year for Community Outreach; in 2020 RGS was named Public School of the Year 2020-2021 by Tatler, the school Oscars; in 2021 RGS was named School of the Year in the UK Social Mobility Awards; and in 2023 RGS is a finalist in the Independent School of the Year Awards for Contribution to Social Mobility.

Shaun Fenton, Headmaster, acknowledged as one of the outstanding educational leaders in this country, was elected Chairman of HMC in 2018-2019 and most recently awarded an OBE by Her Majesty the Queen for Services to Education.







## JOB DESCRIPTION

### THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

RGS is well known for its strong musical tradition which begins in the classroom and extends through numerous co-curricular opportunities. This vacancy is an exciting opportunity for an inspiring teacher and musician to join this extremely successful and vibrant department and continue to build on its enviable reputation.

In the Lower School, students study music as part of the core curriculum. The topics studied are many and varied and introduce students to all aspects of musical life including the use of technology in music.

Study at GCSE and A Level is strong with students demonstrating consistent academic excellence and passion for the subject. GCSE Music is popular with somewhere between twenty and thirty students opting each year. The curriculum further develops performance, composition and analysis skills building a strong foundation for success at GCSE and on towards A Level. We are proud to attract high level musicians to study at A Level both internally and externally.

All students are encouraged to join an ensemble and, as such, we aim to provide a rich and diverse range of opportunity for all interests and levels of ability. Several RGS students are members of the National Youth Choir, National Youth Orchestra and the junior departments of the Royal College of Music and the Royal Academy of Music. The school boasts a symphony orchestra, Sinfonia, two string orchestras, two swing bands, six choirs, a concert bands, wind ensembles, guitar ensemble, percussion ensemble, brass ensemble, student-led rock bands and many chamber groups. We host a busy calendar of thirty or so concerts a year; this year we are at the O2 for our annual London performance and we also have an exciting tour schedule both in the UK and abroad. Our cathedral-style choir sings Matins and Evensong each week and frequently sing at churches and cathedrals around the country and collaborate with Oxbridge college choirs.

The Music School is housed in a purpose-built block of three teaching rooms (two of which contain a suite of Macs), a recording studio, recital room and eleven practice rooms. The departmental team consists of four class teachers, Music School manager and twenty-five peripatetic staff.

### The Post

We seek an excellent part-time teacher to join this department from September 2024, a full-time role may be available for a candidate offering a strong second subject.

The successful candidate will be line-managed by the Director of Music and will need to work closely and positively with all the music staff in a busy and ambitious department.

The following is a non-exhaustive list of likely skills and qualifications of the successful candidate:

- Music degree (university or conservatoire).
- A high level of subject expertise, and high performing standards in chosen musical field.
- Passion for music education, and the personal qualities to deliver this, building a good rapport with other staff, and with students of all ages and abilities.
- Keenness to set high expectations for themselves and for students, in curricular and co-curricular music.
- A proven ability to be well-organised and efficient in day-to-day work.
- Willingness to take a significant role in the large programme of co-curricular music, and enthusiasm to bring new ideas and initiatives.
- Willingness to contribute to, implement and uphold whole school policies and initiatives.
- Strong keyboard skills, and the willingness to accompany students in rehearsals, concerts and exams would be advantageous.
- Likely role:
- Teaching Music to all ages and abilities, from Year 7 to A Level. Potential to teach Music Technology A Level.
- Supporting students' work in composition, specifically using Sibelius, MuseScore and Logic Pro for individual compositions.



Taking a significant role in co-curricular music, depending on the candidate's skills and experience, possibly to include: directing large and small choral and instrumental ensembles, supporting other large ensembles, accompanying individuals and groups, taking a lead in other areas of musical interest, for example:

- Music Technology and recordings
- ABRSM exams and their preparation
- Musical Theatre productions
- Composition projects
- Improvisation

Working with the other full-time music staff to provide:

- aural and theory training
- organise logistics for the programme of concerts and events
- provide support or extension sessions for academic musicians where appropriate
- maintain and update the department's resources
- contribute to the department website and social media
- ability and willingness to work with the team in supporting the day-to-day set up and smooth running of departmental events and concerts
- project a positive image of the department.

The successful candidate will hold a relevant degree from a good university and be able to demonstrate a high level of subject expertise, the highest academic standards and the ability to enthuse students of all ages. A teaching qualification and experience of the UK education system are desirable.

All staff are actively involved in the co-curricular life of the school, and we encourage staff to share their passions with our pupils. Applications are especially welcome from staff who are able to support with a range of Outdoor Education programmes (including CCF and DofE), MUN, Public Speaking, Enterprise, or our busy Sport (especially Netball and Swimming), as well as from colleagues showing a commitment to lead and contribute to other specific areas of our extensive co-curricular programme.



**REIGATIANS:**  
A CARING COMMUNITY  
WHERE CHILDREN CAN  
BE THEIR BEST AND DO







## FURTHER INFORMATION

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Reigate Grammar School has its own salary scale which is substantially above the national scales.
- All teaching staff are automatically members of the pension scheme run by the Teachers' Pensions Agency which is transferable between all UK schools.
- Children of teaching staff may be educated at Reigate Grammar School, Reigate St Mary's Preparatory and Choir School or Chinthurst School at substantially reduced rates. Candidates are invited to enquire about this at interview.
- Lunch is provided free of charge during term time.
- All staff have access to the school swimming pool and fitness room at designated times, free of charge.
- Successful applicants will be required to make an enhanced disclosure by the Disclosure and Barring Services and to complete an online Pre-Placement Medical Questionnaire.
- All shortlisted candidates will be required to complete a **Suitability to work with children: self-declaration form**. This form must be completed, signed and returned to HR prior to the interview taking place.

### SAFEGUARDING

This role will involve contact with children. Reigate Grammar School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. All applicants should read the school's safeguarding policy (available on our website) and are required to declare any criminal convictions, cautions or disciplinary proceedings related to young people. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Services. Full details are given on the application form.

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Reigate Grammar School is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from appropriately qualified persons from all backgrounds. We are dedicated to creating and sustaining an environment that values individuality and

difference and celebrates the diversity of both staff and pupils by fostering perseverance, tolerance and integrity. We believe in equal opportunity for everyone, irrespective of age, disability, gender, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or socio-economic background. Candidates will be assessed against relevant criteria only (i.e. skills, qualifications, abilities, experience) in selection and recruitment. We know that more diverse teams are stronger teams, and that the more inclusive we are, the more our staff and pupils will feel a sense of belonging and will thrive.

### APPLICATIONS

Applicants are asked to complete the Teaching Application Form and Supplementary Form (which are also available on our website) and send them with a supporting statement addressed to the Headmaster as soon as possible and by **Wednesday 7 February 2024, 9.00am** at the latest. Please do not send a separate curriculum vitae. Applications will be considered in the order in which they are received, and the school reserves the right to make an appointment prior to the closing date. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for interview.

Within your application letter we would be grateful if you could indicate where you saw this position, whether it was from the TES or another source.

Applications should be addressed to The Headmaster and sent (by letter or by email) to the address below.

Mrs Dawn Holmes  
Head of Human Resources  
Reigate Grammar School  
Reigate Road, Reigate, RH2 0QS

01737 222231

[hr@reigategrammar.org](mailto:hr@reigategrammar.org) | [www.reigategrammar.org](http://www.reigategrammar.org)

The 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.



## SCHOOL LOCATION AND DIRECTIONS

The RGS campus is on its original 1675 site in the historic market town of Reigate within an area of outstanding natural beauty. Adjacent to junction 8 of the M25, the school is also easily accessible from central London by train.

The school benefits from excellent facilities, including:

- A new £8m Sixth Form and Learning Resource Centre at the heart of the campus
- Drama studios and Music school
- Swimming pool
- 32 acres of sports ground with two floodlit all-weather hockey pitches, rugby, cricket and football pitches

The school is currently within the planning phase for the construction and development of a state-of-the-art sports centre on the town centre campus.

### DIRECTIONS:

#### By Road

Reigate Grammar School and Reigate St Mary's Preparatory and Choir School are situated on the south side of the A25 about a quarter of a mile east of Reigate town centre, between Reigate and Redhill.

RGS postcode RH2 0QS  
RSM postcode RH2 7RN

Chinthurst School is situated in Tadworth, just north of junction 8 of the M25 close to the A217

Postcode KT20 5QZ

#### By rail

The school is approximately ten minutes' walk from Reigate station which is well served by direct trains from London Victoria, East Croydon, Guildford and Dorking. Frequent connections to Redhill station (about one mile away) allow access to Crawley, Horsham and towns to the south along with Nutfield, Godstone and Tonbridge to the east.

### WHAT3WORDS

**Main Reception:** cabin.fire.brave

