



The Purcell School  
for young musicians



## TEACHER OF PSYCHOLOGY

Part-time (Initially circa 0.2)

From September 2021

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES



## INTRODUCTION

Celebrated throughout the world as a centre of musical excellence, The Purcell School is the most vibrant, exciting and exhilarating place to work or study. We are a close-knit community dedicated to nurturing some of the world's most talented young musicians and we recognize the unique privilege it is to work with these incredibly gifted students.

Our students are the liveliest, most committed and self-motivated young people you could hope to meet. Every day, the School's corridors echo with the sound of extraordinary music as our students prepare for one of the 150 concerts we present every year, both here at School and in the most prestigious venues in London.

It is a working environment quite unlike anywhere else! We want our students to be challenged and inspired by every aspect of their experience here, and we support and encourage staff to achieve this. Academic classes are small, behaviour is excellent and the opportunities for innovative and creative teaching practice are limitless.

If you are committed to providing an outstanding student experience and prepared to play a full part in the life of this extraordinary place, The Purcell School offers you the opportunity to join an exceptional team, serving truly exceptional students in a totally unique environment. I very much hope you will consider making an application to join us.

Kind regards,

**Paul Bambrough**  
Principal



## ROLE DESCRIPTION

### Part-time teacher of Psychology

We are seeking an inspirational teacher capable of delivering the highest standards of teaching and learning through exceptional classroom practice. The successful candidates will join a highly motivated team of academic teachers.

Successful teachers at The Purcell School are committed, industrious and open to development, not only within the confines of the classroom but within the wider musical and boarding life of the School as well. We seek to appoint teachers who are confident and warm, who possess charisma and who recognise that organisation, open-mindedness, structure, clarity, diligence and a sense of vision are vital ingredients in a successful life as a teacher.

Following consultation with our students about curriculum choices at A level, we seek to appoint a teacher of A level Psychology from September 2021. This is an excellent opportunity for an inspiring and enthusiastic teacher to establish a new course for Sixth Form students who have expressed a keen interest in pursuing this subject. The successful appointee will have the opportunity to deliver their choice of A level course and will be supported to develop this new course from a single Year 12 group in 2021-22 (c.02 teaching contract) to a cohort of both Year 12 and 13 in 2022-23 onwards (c.0.4 teaching contract). It is important to us that the new candidate can (as far as possible) commit to establishing the course over its first two years, as a minimum. The School will commit to meeting the resourcing needs for this new curriculum area and will support you to ensure the new course is a success and flourishes.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This is a part-time (circa. 0.3) post from September 2021

The salary will be based on the School's salary scale, according to the successful candidate's experience.

Children of staff are not eligible to be educated at the School except through the normal admissions and audition process.

All members of staff are expected to contribute fully to the School's extra-curricular and/or boarding provision.

The post is subject to a probationary period. All posts are subject to regular appraisal.



## HOW TO APPLY

**If you wish to apply, please complete the School's Application Form (available on our website) and send it with a supporting Personal Statement to the Principal as soon as possible.** Please do not send a separate curriculum vitae.

Personal statements should outline your experience, subject knowledge and evidence your achievements. If you have a specific area of specialism or industry experience, please demonstrate how this enables you to create inspirational lessons. The Personal Statement is your opportunity to tell us how your skills and experience, both within your subject and beyond, can contribute to an outstanding student experience.

We are currently considering whether interviews will be virtual or on site. Whichever platform is used it will be an opportunity to meet key staff, and to lead a small tutorial. Interviews will explore subject knowledge, pastoral experience, the ability to relate appropriately to students. Candidates will be required to produce evidence of identity and qualifications prior to the interview.

Applications should be made to the Principal, sent by email to [recruitment@purcell-school.org](mailto:recruitment@purcell-school.org) or by letter to:

Mrs Shirley Clark, *Principal's PA*  
The Purcell School, Aldenham Road, Bushey, Hertfordshire, WD23 2TS

**The School reserves the right to withdraw the vacancy if necessary.**

## CHILD PROTECTION

The Purcell 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 Child Protection policy, which is available on our website, and are required to declare any criminal convictions or cautions, or disciplinary proceedings related to young people. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including records checked and processed through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Purcell School is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes application from appropriately qualified people regardless of gender, marital status, sexual orientation, race, ethnic origin, colour, nationality, religion, disability or age. Candidates will be assessed against relevant criteria only (i.e. skills, qualifications, abilities, experience) in selection and recruitment.



# JOB SPECIFICATION

**The Purcell School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment**

## **JOB TITLE: TEACHER OF PSYCHOLOGY**

- All members of staff are ultimately answerable to the Principal.
- You report to other members of staff in the following capacities:
  - As teacher of Psychology, to the Head of 6th Form and/or Deputy Principal

This job specification sets out the duties of the post at the time of drafting. Specific responsibilities are as follows:

### **FOR ALL TEACHING STAFF**

- To carry out teaching commitments as agreed with the Line Manager and/or Deputy Principal
- To participate in the School's appraisal scheme
- To support and implement the School's behavioural policy
- To monitor students' attendance at lessons and to liaise with the Deputy Principal or the Instrumental Timetabler when difficulties arise
- To assist in providing cover for absent colleagues
- To supervise students during internal and external examinations
- To supervise students during breaks on a duty rota
- To attend assemblies
- To attend the weekly staff meeting and other relevant meetings by arrangement
- To attend Parents' Evenings
- To participate in School Inset meetings
- To contribute to the School's extra-curricular and/or boarding provision
- To assist occasionally at whole school events

### **FOR ALL STAFF**

- To promote the aims and values of the School
- To support and protect the interests of the students
- To support colleagues in their work
- To ensure the smooth-running of the School and the well-being of the School community
- To act in accordance with the current legal requirements, School policies and guidance on the safeguarding of children and young people
- To undertake such administrative and supervisory duties as may be required
- To follow the procedures and policies set out in the Staff Handbook
- To promote equality by actively protecting staff and students from discrimination
- To comply with current Health and Safety regulations and best practice

# PERSON SPECIFICATION

## Experience & Knowledge

A first degree in Psychology or closely related subject

Qualified teacher status

Exemplary knowledge and understanding of the concepts and skills essential for student success

Thorough knowledge of the requirements for A Level specifications

Evidence of continued professional development

Good ICT skills and an understanding of how ICT can facilitate outstanding teaching and learning

## Ability & Skills

The ability to use an imaginative range of teaching strategies to promote high expectations and high levels of challenge

The ability to use assessment for learning to improve teaching and learning

The ability to establish a safe and purposeful working atmosphere that supports learning and in which students feel secure and confident

The ability to develop appropriate learning resources and to contribute to the department's Schemes of Work

The ability to promote positive relationships in the classroom and beyond

Good communication, planning and organisation

Effective and systematic classroom management

## Personal Attributes

An ability to inspire students of all levels and abilities

Enthusiasm, energy and imagination

Willingness to play a full part in the life of the School

Commitment to student success

Personal warmth and the ability to connect with students in a meaningful way

An ability to work as a positive member of a team