



The Purcell School  
for young musicians



## TEACHERS OF FRENCH (Maternity Cover)

Full time

From April 2022 for two terms

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

### Teacher of French

We are seeking an experienced teacher with outstanding knowledge of French language and culture, capable of delivering the highest standards of teaching and learning through exceptional classroom practice. The successful candidates will join a small but highly motivated team of MFL teachers, with responsibility for the French teaching in the school from Year 7 to Year 13 in the dedicated French classrooms

French (Years 7-9) and German (Year 9) are taught as compulsory subjects in the curriculum. They are options at GCSE and A Level. While a modern language is not a core subject at GCSE, the uptake at Year 10 is consistently strong. The two languages are not set against each other, allowing some students to take both at GCSE if they wish and in the Sixth Form too. The Edexcel specifications at both GCSE and A Level serve our students well, offering academic rigour and an overview of the culture of the target language countries.

The department has high expectations and considers that a methodical acquisition of grammar and vocabulary, combined with much speaking and listening, is essential in training successful linguists. The department has a history of success with students of all abilities, partly due to our class sizes which are ideal for language teaching.

In our international school community, where languages are at the core of our working life, we have little difficulty persuading our specialist musicians of the importance of language learning, not only as a means to a qualification but also as a useful skill for their future professional life. In recent years, we have seen increasing numbers of students who wish to study outside the UK, so languages are definitely valued as a life skill. We are proud to be going against the national trend, with buoyant numbers of students opting for a language at the Purcell School; a consequence, undoubtedly, of our students' cosmopolitan view of life and genuine curiosity to discover other cultures.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

We are looking for either one full-time to join us at the beginning of the summer term (20th April) through to the end of the December 2022.

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. Closing date for applications is **Sunday 20th February, 2022.****

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.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for interview on **Friday 4th March** at which you will have the opportunity to meet key staff, see around the school and will be asked to teach a lesson. Interviews will explore subject knowledge, pastoral experience, the ability to relate appropriately to students and a willingness to contribute to the whole School community. Candidates will be required to bring evidence of identity and qualifications to the interview.

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

## 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 FRENCH**

- All members of staff are ultimately answerable to the Principal.
- Your line manager is the Head of MFL

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 Head of MFL
- 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 Vice Principal 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 French 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 GCSE and 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 promote an interest in French within the context of an international specialist music school

The ability to develop student's ability to use French effectively and confidently for practical communication

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

The ability to promote a knowledge and understanding of the life and culture of French speaking countries

The ability to promote positive relationships in the classroom and beyond

Effective and systematic classroom management

The ability to prepare an annual French Department budget and keep an accurate record of expenses

## 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