



The Purcell School
for young musicians



Junior Composer in Association

One Year, Part Time From September 2024



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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'P. Bambrough'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping 'P' and 'B'.

Paul Bambrough
Principal

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Junior Composer in Association

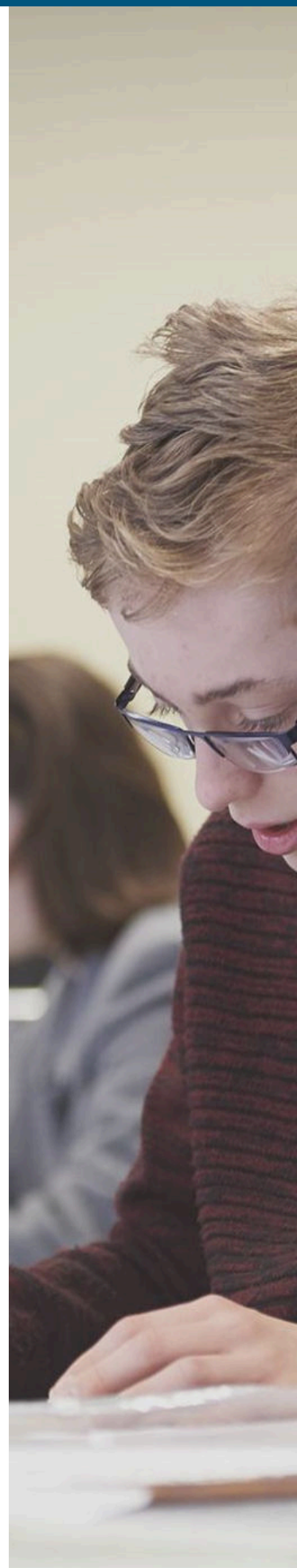
The Purcell School created this special scheme in 2022, thanks to the generous funding of the Sue Knussen Composers' Fund. This role is approaching its third year and has been developed in exciting new directions by two brilliant young professional composers, Joseph Howard (2022-23) and Michael Small (2023-24). We are offering an opportunity for a composer to join us part time for a year beginning in September 2024. The successful candidate will be postgraduate or older and in the early stages of their composing career. They will work closely with teenage students under the direction of Alison Cox, Head of Composition and Paul Hoskins, Director of Music, and in consultation with Robert Saxton, Composer in Association. The purpose of the post is to support existing composition projects and to conceive, propose and facilitate new creative projects which will enrich the life of the school and the experience of our students. The School is open minded about the nature of proposals and will be interested to explore ideas with shortlisted candidates. This is an opportunity to develop your own practice, and the successful candidate will have a convincing plan to make the most of it.

We can offer you:

- An extremely stimulating creative environment. Our students aged 11-18 are exceptionally gifted. All study composition in class and many of them specialise in composition as a first or second study, going on to the finest universities and conservatoires in the UK and overseas. There are frequent performances and projects run and organised by students themselves.
- A strong group of colleagues with a passion for music and for teaching. You will learn about music education and work with young people at a very high level.
- Excellent facilities including composition suites, studio, concert instruments and rehearsal spaces.
- The chance to curate concerts, projects and events featuring students' work alongside your own and other music that interests you.

You will offer us:

- Energy, imagination and exceptional expertise as a composer with an infectious passion for contemporary music.
- Proposals for innovative projects in which you will take a lead, drawing out our students' creativity and modelling excellent professional practice in curation, composition, rehearsal and performance.
- New sounds, be it your own, or music by composers that we have not yet encountered.
- Knowledge and experience of current opportunities in Higher Education.
- A network of friends, colleagues and peers in the music profession in the UK and/or abroad.
- An affinity with young people and interest in education.



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The post is for one year from September 2024.

The salary will be £5,000 for a commitment of around 36 days per year on site, with some remote working.

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

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. Please do not send a separate Curriculum Vitae. Closing date for applications is **Monday 15th April 2024**.

Personal Statements should outline your experience, subject knowledge and evidence of your achievements. The Personal Statement is your opportunity to tell us how your skills and experience can contribute to an outstanding student experience.

Candidates will be required to bring evidence of identity and Right to Work in the UK to the interview.

We will review applications as they are received so please send in your application sooner rather than later.. Please note that the School reserves the right to appoint a candidate or withdraw the post before the closing date for applications.

Please submit your application by email to 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: Junior Composer in Association

All members of staff are ultimately answerable to the Principal.

Your line manager will be the Head of Composition.

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

FOR THE ROLE:

- To carry out your commitments as agreed with the Director of Music and the Head of Composition.
- 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 or Instrumental Timetabler when difficulties arise.
- To attend relevant meetings by arrangement.
- To contribute to the School's extra-curricular provision.

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 and Knowledge:

A first degree in music or closely related subject

Sufficient achievement as an early-career composer to show outstanding potential

Some experience of engaging imaginatively with audiences, students and other musicians or teenagers

Ability and Skills:

The ability to promote an interest in composition within the context of an international specialist music school

The ability to promote positive relationships in the classroom and beyond

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

Personal Attributes:

The 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