



Instructor of Bagpipes (Visiting Music Instructor, up to two days per week)

The High School of Dundee is seeking to appoint an enthusiastic Instructor of Bagpipes to join its thriving and well-established Music Department from Monday 7 December 2020, or as soon as possible thereafter. The successful candidate will be expected to deliver the learning of practice chanter and bagpipes in one-to-one lessons, as well as assist the Pipe Major (Full-time) and Drum Sergeant (0.75FTE) in the training of ensembles involving Pipes & Drums or chanters. Additionally, there may be the opportunity to contribute to other co-curricular activities that the department offers.

The School

The High School of Dundee was established in 1239. Today the School is a flourishing co-educational independent school for pupils aged 3 to 18. There are currently some 1,050 pupils at the School.

The School is situated in the city centre of Dundee, only ten minutes' walk from the railway station. Working at The High School offers the opportunity to be part of a vibrant and welcoming community, committed to academic excellence and the highest standards of pastoral care for its pupils. The development of excellence in the education offered to the pupils is the underlying purpose of activities undertaken by all staff.

The High School of Dundee is committed to the safeguarding and welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child-protection screening appropriate to this post, including checks with past employers.

The Post

The High School Pipes and Drums form part of the school's co-curricular Music programme and have a growing reputation for the high quality of their performing. The Instructor of Bagpipes should work in close collaboration with the Pipe Major with the aim of strengthening this reputation by thorough and effective rehearsal and tuition. He or she will need to teach chanter and bagpipes and prepare pupils for any school ensemble in which they take part, including the regular programme of public performances and external competitions.

The Instructor of Bagpipes will give individual lessons within the Music Department from L3 to F6, following our Pipe Major's Teaching Programme. Pupils may be presented for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher Music examinations, both as course awards and as free-standing units. In addition, pupils may need to be prepared for PDQB exams.

The successful applicant should have an extensive knowledge of and be an expert practitioner in the bagpipes. In addition, he or she should be able to tune a Pipe Band and perhaps step in as pipe major of any school band if required. The successful candidate is likely to be required to be present at Pipe Band Competitions to assist tuning and preparing the High School Band(s). The successful candidate will be required to instruct theory of music as well as the other aspects of musicianship required for pupils to have a full understanding of the instrument, its practice and repertoire.

The ability to work as part of a large and enthusiastic team is essential.

The Role

To provide pupils with a rounded musical education through the medium of the pupil's instrument and the range of the instrument's repertoire.

Main Responsibilities

- To instruct 30-, 45- or 60-minute music lessons to pupils as requested by the Director of Music.
- To set an example of high standards to pupils by demonstrating chanter- or bagpipe-playing in lessons as appropriate.
- To provide a considered programme of study tailored to each individual pupil that allows for continuity from lesson to lesson.
- To provide music lessons with a regularity that can be considered reasonable by the Director of Music; at least 30 regularly-spaced lessons should be instructed to each pupil each session.
- To ensure that each pupil is aware of his or her practice requirements for the next lesson and is following those requirements.
- To prepare pupils to perform in concerts and in other public events.
- To prepare pupils for PDQB, SQA and/or other public exams as appropriate.
- To write reports to parents or guardians at least twice a year on each pupil's progress.
- To speak with the parents or guardians of all pupils at the annual Music Parents' Evenings.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Qualifications and Professional Bodies	Must possess a qualification in the taught instrument (or one of the taught instruments in cases where more than one instrument is required to be taught) to at least degree level or hold a BA or equivalent in academic music. However, candidates without these qualifications who nonetheless possess extensive experience working at a high professional level may be considered.
Skills and Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in instructing individual lessons, general musicianship and musical games. • The ability and desire to emphasise the encouragement of basic musical skills, physical ease with playing musical instruments and the enjoyment of performing, through individual or group tuition and ensemble playing. • The ability to instruct initial musical development, working imaginatively with pulse, rhythm and pitch to lay the musical foundations for tuition in musical instruments playing in subsequent years. • The ability to instruct advanced musical development, encouraging concert-going and careful listening to expand and enhance pupils' musicianship. • The ability to explore all elements of music, including note-reading and theory, in an active and stimulating fashion. • An understanding of the place of music in a school such as the High School of Dundee and the ability to support it in his or her instruction.
Personal Attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting the highest professional standards of dress, punctuality and politeness and being prepared to demand the same of his or her pupils. • Must have an ability to relate well to both pupils and other teaching, instructing and administrative members of the Music Department and the School and communicate effectively, both in speech and writing, with parents as necessary. • Have an exemplary attendance record in his or her present and previous employment. • Have the ability to keep matters relating to the school and its pupils confidential. • The possession of a valid driving licence is not a requirement of being a Visiting Music Instructor.

About the Music Department

Staffing

The Music Department is currently composed of a Director of Music, three full-time academic teachers, eight full-time instrumental instructors, eleven visiting music instructors, and a Music Department Administrator. The academic teaching covers all school years from Ante Pre-school to F6, with Music an obligatory subject up to F2, taught by specialists throughout. The department offers instruction in all orchestral and band instruments, recorder, piano, guitars, organ and voice.

Accommodation and Resources

The department is currently housed in the Margaret Harris Building, and has: four academic classrooms (including an IT suite and sound-engineering room); an extensive library of scores, parts, CDs, DVDs and LPs; eleven rooms for individual music instruction; and one large rehearsal hall. In addition, the school has a performance hall with Yamaha C5 piano, and performs two major concerts per session in the Caird Hall, Dundee's civic auditorium and a premier recording venue for orchestral repertoire. The school is in the process of converting the adjacent disused Post Office Building into a new centre for the Performing and Visual Arts.

Attainment

The department enters approximately 150 pupils for ABRSM practical exams each session. Typical pass rates since 2012 are 99%, with 55% of candidates achieving Merit or Distinction. In SQA Music and Music Technology Exams at National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher, the department achieved a 100% rate of A grades (60% at Band 1) in the 2017 exam diet with 37 candidates. Since 2014, over 95% of pupils taking SQA Music exams have achieved an A grade.

Activities and Concerts

Approximately half of the pupils at the High School receive individual instructions on one or more instruments and voice. The following groups rehearse weekly: Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonia, Chamber Orchestra, String Sinfonietta, Little Heifetz and Tutti Strings; Symphonic Band, Concert Band and Big Band; Competition Pipe Band, F4-F6 Pipe Band, F1-3 Pipe Band, Junior Years Pipe Band; several Wind, Brass, Guitar and Percussion Ensembles; Cantabile, L6-7 Choir, L4-5 Choir, Girls' Choir and Boys' Choir. Chamber music includes a variety of string, woodwind and brass groups. Jazz is encouraged.

Among the wide range of performances, the larger ensembles of pupils perform at two major concerts each year in the Caird Hall. In 2019-20, the pupils performed (among many other pieces): Mozart's "Jupiter" Symphony, Corelli's "Christmas" Concerto, music from the film "Mary Poppins", music from Disney's "Frozen", Bon Jovi's "Livin' On A Prayer", and Lady Gaga's "Poker Face". In addition, we were preparing for a performance by pupils in F4-6 of "Grease" and a whole evening programme for our choirs, bands and orchestra based on a theme of "The Olympics", both of which were sadly cancelled due to the COVID-19 lockdown. There is a regular programme of evening concerts and weekly performance platforms, as well as two evening ensemble concerts in the summer. Concerts are given from time-to-time outside school, including an annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee. There is a house music competition and solo performance competitions. The Junior and Senior Years put on a musical alternately each year: "Aladdin" in 2019 by the Junior Years, and in 2018, "Fiddler on the Roof" by the Senior Years. Our Competition Pipe Band began the 2020 Competition season very promisingly with a second place in our category at the Scottish Schools' Pipe Band Championships before competitions ceased, and we entered a second band in the non-RSPBA section of the same competition.

Several of the school's pupils at any one time are members of the National Youth Orchestras of Scotland and the National Youth Choirs of Scotland. Former pupils include Ricky Ross of the band Deacon Blue, singer KT Tunstall, and classical pianist Christina Lawrie.

Additional Information

Salary will be according to the High School of Dundee salary scales which are above the national rate.

A completed application form, accompanying letter together with a full CV and the names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of **two** referees, should be emailed to the Rector, Mrs L A M Hudson at:

rector@highschoolofdundee.org.uk

Or posted to:

Mrs L A M Hudson, Rector, High School of Dundee, Euclid Crescent, Dundee, DD1 1HU.

Closing date for applications is **Wednesday 18 November 2020**



**HIGH
SCHOOL**
OF DUNDEE

**Application
Form
(Academic staff)**

This form should be typed or completed in black ink. Your application should be returned together with a full curriculum vitae and a letter in support of your application addressed for the attention of the Rector, Mrs Lise Hudson. Completed applications should be emailed to: the PA to the Rector, Miss Marcia Doig, High School of Dundee. Emailed applications are preferred and should be sent to rector@highschoolofdundee.org.uk

Post applied for	
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Full name with title			
Home address			
Postcode			
Telephone number(s) Day			
Evening			
Mobile			
Email			
Qualifications	Details of Qualification <small>(If an Honours Degree, class of Honours should be given)</small>	Date(s) Awarded	Awarding Body
General Teaching Council for Scotland Reference No.	<p>“You should be registered or eligible for registration with the General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTCS). Please refer to its website for further information at: http://www.gtcs.org.uk/registration/register-of-teachers/independent-schools-registration.aspx”</p>		

GTCS Professional Update Please give date your professional update is due	
Present post Establishment Date of appointment Current Salary Main responsibilities	
Previous posts held and reasons for leaving.	

<p>Reason for applying for this post.</p>	
<p>Please give details of any voluntary or other activities/ responsibilities</p>	
<p>Is there any further information about which the High School of Dundee should be aware in considering your application for this post? Please continue on another sheet if necessary.</p>	
<p>Please indicate where you saw this post advertised.</p>	
<p>Do you have the right to work in the UK?</p> <p>Are there any restrictions on your right to work in the UK?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Note: All employees are obliged to provide original documentary evidence of their right to work in the UK, prior to commencing employment</p> <p>No</p>

Please provide details of 2 referees. Please note referees must not include family members/spouses/partners or be related in any way. One referee should be your present or most recent Employer. By giving us these details, you are consenting to us contacting them for a reference.

<u>First Referee</u>	
Name	
Address	
Telephone Number	
Email Address	
<u>Second Referee</u>	
Name	
Address	
Telephone Number	
Email Address	

Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme (PVG). The appointment will be made subject to the candidate satisfying checking procedures through Disclosure Scotland's **Protection of Vulnerable Groups Scheme (PVG)**. The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 does not apply to this post by virtue of the rehabilitation of offenders act 1974 (exclusions and exceptions) (Scotland) order 2003. You must declare all convictions.

In the light of my possible employment by the High School of Dundee I confirm that I am prepared to obtain membership of the PVG Scheme. I confirm that I have never been convicted of any criminal offence, nor is any such prosecution pending. I have no objection to the High School of Dundee carrying out a check with the PVG Scheme to verify that fact.

Medical Record

In the event of my application being successful, I understand I will require to complete and submit a Medical Questionnaire to the School's Medical Officer and may be required to undertake a medical examination.

I confirm that the information given in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, true and complete. I understand that any false or misleading statement may be sufficient cause for rejection or, if employed, dismissal.

Signed:

Date

The information provided will be held in accordance with the Data Protection Act