

# THE Leys

Role	Assistant Director of Music
FTE	FT
Employment Status	Maternity cover
Start date	September 2025 or November 2025
Closing Date	14 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Interview Date(s)	21/22 May 2025

## The Role

This is an exciting opportunity for an exceptional musician to join a thriving Music Department as Assistant Director of Music from September 2025 on a maternity cover.

The successful candidate will be a versatile, creative and adaptable musician who not only has a proven track record as a teacher of academic music but is also a piano accompanist of high quality. The successful candidate will be expected to teach academic music across the age range (including GCSE and A Level) as well as play a full role in the extra-curricular life of the department. There are opportunities to lead a range of ensembles, and for a suitable candidate there may be the opportunity to oversee and develop the provision of academic composition at GCSE and A Level.

The successful candidate will be enthusiastic, dynamic and highly motivated; they will be expected to inspire the pupils and show commitment to the department that will continue to enhance its reputation as a centre of musical excellence.

The Assistant Director of Music reports to the Director of Music.

## Music Department

The purpose-built Music School was opened in 2005 by Julian Lloyd Webber – who remains the school's Patron of Music – and the facilities are excellent and very well resourced, including: an acoustically engineered Recital Hall with Steinway and Yamaha grand pianos, a well-equipped classroom with state of the art smartboard, ICT suite containing ten new computers with a full range of compositional software, comprehensive music library, percussion suite, numerous practice rooms, offices and a recording studio. Great Hall is a recently opened Performing Arts Centre (September 2013) and provides full concert and musical theatre facilities. It houses a model D 282 C. Bechstein concert grand piano. In the Chapel, a top of the range bespoke 3-manual Viscount organ has recently been installed, and it has a large specification comprising 75 speaking stops, including a West End division.

Music is held in very high regard at The Leys and the Music School is a vibrant department at the heart of school life. There is provision for musicians at every level, both academically and practically. All pupils in years 7-9 receive at least one classroom music lesson per week, and GCSE and A level courses are available following the Edexcel (GCSE) and Eduqas (A Level) specifications. Over 200 instrumental lessons are taught each week at The Leys, and tuition is available in most instruments from a team of over twenty visiting music teachers. There are many

ensembles that students can join, including: Chapel Choir, Chamber Choir, Symphony Orchestra, Wind Band, Jazz Band, String Orchestra, Brass Group, Flute Choir, Clarinet Group, Percussion Ensemble and various small chamber groups. There are numerous performing opportunities both within the school community – Lunchtime Lives, ‘Symphonia’ and end of term concerts – and beyond, including the End of Year Concert at Saffron Hall. In addition, regular concerts are given in and around Cambridge as well as choir visits to cathedrals and colleges, including an evensong at St. Paul’s Cathedral, London in March 2019. The school Chamber Choir has also recorded a CD entitled ‘Earthly and Divine’ which has received very favourable reviews. Overseas tours form part of the musical outreach and in recent years, musicians from The Leys have given concerts in Croatia and Slovenia and most recently Lake Garda, Italy. In February 2025 the Chapel Choir played an integral role in the school’s sesquicentenary service at King’s College Chapel performing a newly-commissioned work by Lucy Walker.

Events in recent years have included a Choral Day with the Choral Scholars from The Choir of Trinity College, Cambridge, the annual house singing competition, evensong at Ely Cathedral, and celebrity recitals given by Sir Stephen Hough, and the Julian Bliss Septet.

In addition to concerts by pupils at The Leys, professional musicians are brought in to give concerts and/or workshops to pupils of The Leys and other local schools. The department also offers a busy programme of concert/opera trips.

There are currently three full-time Music Department staff, a Performing Arts Administrator and 25 visiting instrumental teachers who teach on a self-employed basis in the department.