



Teacher of Music

Part-time (0.6 FTE) for September 2024

Job description and person specification

Welcome from the Principal

Thank you very much for your interest in coming to work with us at Concord: it is a real pleasure to be able to tell you more about this very special place. Concord students love to learn and are ambitious for their futures. Here they are able to pursue their dreams in a safe, calm and supportive place where ideas can be shared and where inquisitiveness and independence of thought are celebrated. Our students' hard work is rewarded with outstanding examination results, and Concordians go on from here equipped to thrive at the best universities in the UK and around the world.

Concordians live and learn in a diverse, vibrant and truly international community supported by outstanding academic and pastoral staff. They have daily opportunities through our extensive co-curricular, sporting, arts, social and cultural programmes to develop hugely important skills in communication, teamwork and social responsibility. The result of this is that Concordians are overwhelmingly confident, empathetic, respectful and tolerant. Most importantly of all, it means they are happy: you will find many smiling faces here.

Our highly talented body of staff work extremely hard to help students get the very best outcomes. They thrive here too and enjoy the challenge of working in such a vibrant and purposeful environment. It's truly exciting: I do hope that you want to find out more.

Michael Truss
Principal

About Concord College

Concord College is a highly academic independent international school in England for day and boarding students. We welcome students from all over the world and the local area into our vibrant and varied community, which shares a culture of excellence and joyful learning infused throughout with our core values of kindness, rigour and creativity.

Girls and boys between the ages of 13 and 18 enjoy fabulous facilities on our safe and beautiful 80 acre campus set in the heart of the English countryside. Our students achieve the highest standards and have a superb track record in gaining entry to top universities in the UK and around the world. We also take care to nurture the individuality of students at Concord to develop their self-confidence, encouraging all here to understand the needs of others and to respect the values of the Concord community.

Concord was founded in 1949 by Paul Oertel and Monica Carr-Taylor just outside Hastings in Sussex as a small privately-owned language school. It was, at its heart, a response to the hatred and bitterness of war by using language teaching and personal warmth to break down barriers and misunderstandings between peoples. The College grew quickly, moving first to larger premises at Tunbridge Wells and then, in 1973, to its present site in Acton Burnell. In 1969, upon the retirement of the founder Principals, the College was bought by Frank Bell who had founded the Bell School of Languages a number of years earlier. In 1977, Concord accepted girls for the first time: at first, girls were taught at a separate site nearby at Attingham Park, though by the early 1980s all children were taught together at Acton Burnell. The College became a charitable trust in 1983 and has expanded rapidly since. Now with about 600 students

(and an almost perfect 50:50 girl:boy ratio), Concord boasts enviable facilities - a £12 million state-of-the-art Science building was opened in 2018 - and utterly outstanding outcomes for its students.

Music at Concord

The music department is highly successful with a team of 2 teachers of Music and 9 visiting peripatetic music teachers. Administrative support is provided to assist with the scheduling and booking of individual music lessons.

The department is extremely well-resourced, with a dedicated classroom, five sound-proofed practice rooms and a sound-proofed drum studio within our performing arts building, a 265-seat theatre and a multi-track recording studio. The College also benefits from other bookable performance spaces, including the chapel of Acton Burnell Hall ("Old Chapel"). The College has a good relationship with St Mary's Church in Acton Burnell, which is adjacent to our campus: we have used this as a performance space in the past, and students who are preparing for Organ Scholarship applications to Oxford or Cambridge have been able to use the church organ for practice.

Music is compulsory in Form 3, with each class having two periods per week. Currently, Level 2 BTEC Music is available as an examination option in Forms 4 and 5, with 15 - 20 students selecting this each year. Student outcomes - as they are in all Concord subjects - are very high indeed and the very significant majority of entrants are expected to gain a Distinction. BTEC Music is being replaced with GCSE Music from September 2024.

The department typically coordinates in excess of 150 weekly individual music lessons in a variety of instruments. There are dozens of internal and external music-related events per year of varying scales, though recent major highlights include:

- Concord Concerto Competition (2022, 2023)
- Concord Showcase in Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury (2019, 2022)
- Whole-college Musical (We Will Rock You - 2022, Beauty and the Beast 2024)
- House Arts (annual competition)

Concord is very active in the local community and we host outreach concerts and performance workshops for local primary schools, charity concerts as well as the Shropshire Young Musician of the Year competition.

The department is a major provider of twilight (4pm-5.30pm) activities in the Lower School (Forms 3,4 & 5) Enrichment programme, and runs a range of extracurricular clubs and societies, including a small choir, band coaching, composition club, fusion strings, wind band, chamber group and songwriting club.

Music holds a very important role in the life of the College: an overall significant majority of our students have received some musical training at some point in their lives. We are blessed with a large number of Grade 8 and Diploma-level musicians, particularly in piano and violin. We have current and recent students who are or have been supported in attending weekend workshops at the Royal Northern College of Music as well as a current student who is a chorister at Shrewsbury Abbey.

Beyond the formalised curriculum and co-curricular offerings, students are further encouraged to express their musical talents on their own terms, and it is quite normal to hear students

playing one of our pianos - some of which are in public areas in Main Hall or the Old Chapel common room - spontaneously for pleasure throughout the day.

Main duties and responsibilities

- planning, development and delivery of lessons for KS3 and KS4;
- evaluating and grading students' work, giving appropriate feedback and maintaining records of students' progress and development;
- researching new topic areas, maintaining up-to-date subject knowledge, and devising and writing new schemes of work as directed by the Head of Music;
- Assisting in the marking and moderation of BTEC/GCSE coursework in collaboration with the Head of Music;
- selecting and using a range of different learning resources and equipment;
- preparing students for qualifications, including external examinations (BTEC and GCSE) and university entry papers as required;
- managing student behaviour in the classroom and on college premises;
- attending Music Department meeting and Parents' Meetings;
- participating in INSET, college training events, observation and professional review in order to maximise the quality of teaching;
- use of the SIMS database;
- writing regular, informative and individual reports on students;
- promoting the general well-being of students and communicating with heads of houses, house parents and/or personal tutor responsible;
- complying with policies and procedures, including those relating to Safeguarding and Child Protection, Health and Safety, Welfare, Smoking in the Workplace, Security, Confidentiality and Data Protection, and reporting any concerns.
- supporting and delivering co-curricular music activities beyond the normal daily lesson timetable as required which could include: musical concerts; musical theatre productions; 1:1 music lessons; music trips/visits; assemblies.
- accompanying pupils on piano in music exams and performances.
- leading and assisting in rehearsals for various ensembles/choirs, where relevant to instrumental skillset.

Qualifications:

- a high-quality degree in Music and/or Music Education or a very closely related subject;
- a teaching qualification is desirable

Key Skills and Experience

- demonstrated capability to teach Music expertly, confidently and enthusiastically to all age-groups from 13 - 18 years, being up-to-date in his/her subject;
- a willingness to accommodate the needs of students from a variety of linguistic backgrounds is essential;
- confidence in IT and good IT skills, being able to pick up new procedures and routines quickly;
- effective and efficient administrative skills;
- the ability and willingness to contribute to the teaching of another subject on the Concord curriculum, may be an advantage;
- the ability to contribute to the extra-curricular life of the College is essential;
- a background in boarding education may be an advantage;
- relevant experience in teaching, examining or in the commercial sector will be taken into account.

Person Profile

The successful applicant should:

- be a passionate advocate of their subject;
- have good interpersonal skills and have the ability to work as part of a team;
- be generous in spirit - the role is likely to require hard work and a professional attitude to the commitment required in a boarding school;
- be able to communicate fluently and accurately in spoken and written English;
- be confident in handling students at both ends of the Concord academic spectrum;
- be flexible in outlook and amenable to change.

Hours of Work

Teachers are expected to work the hours necessary to fulfil their role to the highest possible professional standards, and be available for all scheduled lessons, duties, meetings and other associated activities. Academic staff are also expected to actively support college events as far as possible and contribute to the broader life of the college.

Remuneration and benefits

We offer a generous remuneration package which includes a salary significantly above Main Scale, complimentary lunch (when the kitchen is in operation), participation in the Aviva Pension Trust for Independent Schools (maximum 22% employer contribution with flexible option for a cash allowance and/or salary exchange), life insurance and private health insurance.

Application Information

The closing date for applications is **midday Wednesday 22nd May 2024**.

Application forms are available on our website: <https://concordcollegeuk.com/about-concord/general/job-vacancies/>, or from our HR Department: recruitment@concordcollege.org.uk; Tel: 01694 731631. Please note CVs will only be accepted if submitted with a fully completed and detailed application form.

Concord College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Child protection screening is undertaken, which includes checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. Our policy in relation to the recruitment of ex-offenders can be found on our website.