



WESTMINSTER UNDER SCHOOL

**Teacher of Double Reed Instruments: approx. 0.5 day per week
Required for September 2021 or January 2022**

The School

Westminster Under School has been in existence since 1943, providing an independent preparatory education for boys aged 7 to 13. Our high-ability pupils benefit from the principles and practices of a liberal education, which are at the very core of our existence. These include a love of knowledge, an ability to question and a desire to serve others. We want all our pupils to enjoy and be stimulated by the process of learning; to feel empowered to think for themselves, to ask questions and be inquisitive about the world around them; and to use the understanding and ideas they gain to help others and to serve society and the wider world around them.

This means that, while the standard of our education is of the highest quality, the School's focus is not only on academic achievement: Westminster boys receive a full and rounded education that includes sport, the arts and many opportunities to engage in community outreach. We are also committed to developing pupils of strong and compassionate character and the School works to make pupils aware of their responsibilities towards those around them, as well as to take pride in their own and their fellow pupils' achievements.

Since 1981, the Under School has been situated in Vincent Square, Westminster, overlooking the School's playing fields. Our central London location is a huge asset, adding a significant cultural dimension to the education of our 285 boys. The setting also serves to emphasise further our enquiring yet altruistic ethos, surrounded as we are by institutions that play such a significant role in challenging and shaping the national and global status quo.

Ultimately, Westminster Under School is a busy, passionate and purposeful place, where boys greatly enjoy the activities of learning and are given the support and guidance they need to develop as intelligent, compassionate and inquisitive individuals.

The Role

A rare opportunity has arisen for a Teacher of Double Reed Instruments (Oboe and Bassoon) within the Music Department at Westminster Under School.

We are looking for a bright, caring and enthusiastic individual who will relish the opportunity to work within our thriving Music Department. The ideal candidate will have a proven track record of excellence in preparing pupils for auditions, exams and concerts.

The Music Department offers a friendly and supportive working environment, into which the successful applicant will be welcomed, as well as into the School as a whole.

The department enjoys an outstanding reputation for the quality and diversity of music created through its choirs, orchestras, jazz and wind bands, chamber music groups and occasional stage musicals. We perform regularly in venues such as St John's Smith Square, St Margaret's Westminster Abbey and our Senior Choir performs abroad every two years.

VMTs are self-employed and parents are invoiced directly at a recommended rate of £51 per hour.

Job Description

The Teacher of Double Reed Instruments will report directly to the Director of Music.

Teaching:

- Plan, prepare, teach and evaluate lessons, activities and learning and teaching strategies for your instrumental sessions.
- Provide a safe, secure and stimulating environment in which consideration is given to the individual development of all pupils.
- Prepare pupils for ABRSM / Trinity exams, including appropriate aural / theory training when needed.
- Encourage pupils to take part in the School's ensembles and concerts and help prepare them for any internal / external auditions and assessments.
- Apply any recommendations and guidance for pupils with specific learning or welfare needs or disabilities, as directed by the Head of Learning Development, or as outlined on the pupil's Personalised Learning Plan.
- Keep records of pupils' learning using departmental documents and pupil-planner books.
- Record and report pupil progress and achievements in accordance with the Music Department's requirements, including formal reporting points such as written reports each term.

Pastoral care and pupil management:

- Put pupils at the centre of everything you do, taking a pastoral interest in pupils around the School, so that they feel valued and cared for.
- Motivate pupils through praise while being firm but fair.
- Actively maintain the high standards of behaviour and uniform.

All teaching and non-teaching staff are expected to:

- Promote and support the School's Aims and Vision and the School Development Plan.
- Adhere to and support the School's policies and procedures.
- Always take responsibility for the welfare and care of all pupils.

Requirements

Education, training and qualifications:

- Relevant training in music to degree level.
- Evidence of relevant professional development.
- Demonstrate an awareness of current Safeguarding principles and practices.

Knowledge and experience:

- Outstanding knowledge of the instruments you teach.
- Experience of teaching pupils from beginners to Grade 8 and beyond.
- Experience of preparing and entering pupils for exams and auditions, including music scholarships, national orchestras and courses.
- Good keyboard skills are desirable (although the department has an accompanist for exams and concerts).
- Ability to use music software to create parts and arrangements for ensembles is desirable.

Personal qualities:

- Respect for all members of the school community, irrespective of position, gender, age, ethnic background or any other protected characteristic.
- The ability to inspire pupils through a genuine passion for music and learning.
- Excellent role model.
- A positive and solution-focused attitude to work.
- Highly motivated, ambitious and collaborative.

Applications

Any additional questions should be directed in the first instance to the Acting Director of Music, Rebecca Thorn, by emailing rebecca.thorn@westminster.org.uk.

To apply please submit a letter of application, a completed application form, and a detailed curriculum vitae (including the names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of three academic referees) to recruitment@westminster.org.uk.

The deadline for applications is 4.00pm on Friday 24 September 2021.

We reserve the right to interview and appoint prior to the closing date for applications, so an early application is encouraged.

We are an equal opportunities employer. We therefore encourage candidates to apply irrespective of age, disability, marriage or civil partnership status, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion and belief, gender identity, sex or sexual orientation.

Westminster Under School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with the Disclosure and Barring Service.

For further information on Westminster Under School, please visit our website:

www.westminsterunder.org.uk.