

VISITING MUSIC TEACHER: PIANO

SELF-EMPLOYED

Thank you for showing an interest in this post. We hope that the following information about St Helen's School, the job description and the person specification, will help you to decide that this is an application which you wish to pursue. We very much look forward to hearing from you; do not hesitate to contact us if you would like an informal discussion about this exciting opportunity.



WELCOME TO ST HELEN'S SCHOOL



St Helen's School is a large, thriving all-through school and many of the girls who leave us at the end of Year 13 have been with us since Nursery or Reception. We are ambitious for every single girl: that she achieves her potential; that she leaves us to embark upon an exciting and fulfilling future, able to deal with whatever life throws at her with resilience and courage; that she possesses inner confidence, strong personal integrity, and a sense of fun; that she is ready to go out into the world and make a difference.

St Helen's has a long tradition of academic excellence which encourages girls to pursue intellectual curiosity beyond the curriculum. We are exceptionally proud of our 2025 results where 85% of A Level students obtained A*-B grades and 80% of GCSE awards were graded 9-7. Sixth Formers go on to established, high-ranking universities including Oxford and Cambridge, with more than a third studying STEM subjects. However, we give our girls much more than just academic success; our Co-Curricular programme is rich and varied, and our pastoral care ensures that every girl is known, valued, and cared for.

Within easy reach of central London, our school is set in 21 acres of grounds and, just as we are proud of our students' academic achievements and their personal development, we are also proud of our facilities and buildings. We have invested significantly in developing our facilities over the last ten years.

St Helen's has a warm and lively atmosphere that makes it a rewarding and exciting place to work. Our staff and our pupils look out for each other and encourage each other to be the best possible version of themselves. As such, you will play a vital role in supporting the school in the next stage of its journey. We look forward to receiving your application.

Bridget Ward
Head



THE SCHOOL

St Helen's is a leading independent day school of more than 1100 students aged 3-18 and is a member of the Girls' Schools Association (GSA). The spacious and beautiful 21-acre site is conveniently located in the heart of Northwood in North London, approximately 30 minutes by underground from Central London and within easy reach of the Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire borders.

St Helen's is committed to academic excellence and is dedicated to equipping pupils with the skills which will enable them to take their places as leaders in a rapidly changing world. The culture of the school is deeply rooted in its fine history, having been founded by Miss May Rowland Brown in 1899, but is also forward-looking and innovative. Whilst strong academic standards prevail across the whole school and pupils are encouraged to have high expectations for their achievement and career prospects, success is measured and celebrated not just in the excellent exam results the girls achieve, but in the widest possible sense.

The school consists of a Prep and Senior school and educates girls from the Early Years Foundation Stage to Sixth Form. St Helen's provides a wonderful environment for girls to flourish and succeed. An outstanding pastoral system is central to ensuring that girls remain balanced and supported throughout the various stages of their journey through the school. Academic excellence stands at the heart of learning and teaching at St Helen's; the school aims to give each student a challenging and well-balanced education which develops her intellectual, creative and physical abilities to the full. At all stages, the focus is on the learner: pupils are encouraged to think about different ways of approaching their learning and to decide upon and use the methods which work best for them, enabling them to develop an independent approach to their studies.

THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Music plays a central role at St Helen's, with five class teachers across the Prep and Senior Schools, a Music Enrichment Lead, Music Coordinator, Performing Arts Technician, and a team of circa. 20 instrumental music teachers who are all self-employed professionals. Senior Music is based in a purpose-built space, which includes two classrooms, a Music Technology suite equipped with a fleet of iMacs, a Recital Hall, a Recording Studio, and 14 practice rooms.

Pupils in Years 7 and 9 take one 55-minute curriculum music lesson each week, with Year 8 pupils taking three periods per fortnight; diverse and bespoke schemes of work are based around a practical core, with key strands of Music



Technology and Band Skills featuring through the Key Stage. GCSE Music is a popular option (Edexcel) and numbers taking A Level Music are increasing.

Co-Curricular music is thriving at St Helen's, with many girls participating in activities on a weekly basis. We offer a plethora of Co-Curricular ensembles including multiple orchestras and choirs, jazz groups, Soul and Pop bands and a variety of chamber and smaller groups. There are many performance opportunities for ensembles and choirs throughout the year, including a large-scale Ensembles Concert (featuring around 200 performers) and a Chamber Concert in each term, two Pop Concerts, a Carol Service and a variety of Solo Showcase concerts held every few weeks. The Department maintains an excellent relationship with Merchant Taylor's School and each year stages a Joint Concert, in which the combined choirs perform a large-scale choral piece (most recently, Handel's Messiah). A combined musical takes place every other year (most recently, West Side Story).

Each week, over 250 individual music lessons are taught by the visiting music staff; this has been augmented recently with fully funded instrumental schemes which have enabled many new learners to get started with a new musical instrument.



THE POST

St Helen's is seeking to appoint a talented and enthusiastic self-employed Piano Teacher to work in our Music Department. We are looking for a teacher who has a passion for teaching young people. Depending on pupil interest we can offer flexible hours to fit your schedule.

REPORTING

Visiting Music Teachers are not employees of St Helen's school. However, they will work closely with the central Music team and abide by the schools Visiting Music Teacher handbook in terms of process and protocols.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- have high expectations of pupils and build successful relationships based on teaching and learning.
- deliver lessons of a high quality to all pupils.
- ensure all lessons are well planned and help children to progress.
- communicate effectively with parents and schools regarding timetabled lessons and proactively manage any foreseen issues.
- treat pupils with respect and tolerance.
- safeguard pupil health and safety and wellbeing at all times.
- signpost pupils to relevant music groups, opportunities and events to broaden their experiences.
- keep records of pupil attendance via the SOCS Register.
- track pupil progress and be able to liaise with parents and St Helen's as appropriate.
- prepare pupils for graded examinations and liaise with the central Music Coordinator for entries.
- be aware of those pupils who are preparing for GCSE/A level music exams and support them as required.
- keep up to date with developments in instrumental/vocal teaching and learning.
- Attend mandatory training and department meetings as requested.
- Carry out other reasonable duties as directed by the Director of Music.

THE PERSON

Essential:

- Recognised relevant professional qualification
- Extensive, proven experience of teaching your relevant instrument/voice
- Proven experience of working with and inspiring children
- Excellent interpersonal and organisational skills
- Ability to handle sensitive information and maintain discretion on sensitive issues
- Suitability to work with and be responsible for children
- Reasonable standard of written and spoken English
- A competent level of computer literacy

Desirable:

- Experience in a comparable role, working with children in a specialist music education environment

BENEFITS

- A strong culture of professional development
- Well behaved pupils who are a pleasure to teach
- Free on-site parking and excellent public transport links
- Free lunch and refreshments onsite (term time only)
- A beautiful working environment – the school is set in a conservation site in excess of 20 acres.



APPLICATION PROCESS

Closing date: **8am on Monday 13th October 2025**

Please apply as soon as possible as shortlisting will progress up until the closing date. Should a suitable candidate be appointed, we reserve the right to close the advert early.

Due to the high volume of applicants, we receive, if you do not hear from us within 4 weeks of the closing date, please assume we will not be progressing your application further on this occasion.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to the school where they will be interviewed by members of the Music Department, be observed teaching a lesson, and have a tour of the school.

St Helen's school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, as detailed in Part 3 (Safer Recruitment) of the KCSIE 2025 guidance document. Applicants will be asked for proof of right to work in the UK and undergo child protection screening, including checks with past employers and the disclosure and barring service.

If you have any queries about this position, please contact the school at: recruitment@sthelens.london

