



Candidate Information

Appointment of Head of Music January or April 2020

Thorpe House School Trust
Oval Way, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire SL9 8QA.
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www.thorpehouse.co.uk

Registered in England: Charity N° 292683



What sort of school is Thorpe House?

Thorpe House School is an independent day school for boys aged 3 to 16 located in Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire. The school, which is a member of the Society of Heads and IAPS (Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools), is based on three sites - Pre-Prep, Prep and Senior and the playing fields.

How has Thorpe House developed over time?

Thorpe House was founded in 1923 as a traditional boys' day preparatory school. In 2006 it extended its age range to take boys up to the age of 16. In September 2012 it incorporated its partner Pre-Prep School, Kingscote School, to become an all-through school.

The development of the school has been supported by a number of projects to enhance facilities, including the purchase of the playing fields, creation of new science laboratories, rebranding of the Nursery, and the current construction of a multi-purpose hall which is expected to finish early in 2020.

What are the values of Thorpe House?

The Christian-based ethos and nurturing environment at Thorpe House gives our boys the platform they need to experience success. As an independent boys' school, we pride ourselves in offering an education tailored to the way in which boys learn, whilst also providing a learning journey suited to the needs of each individual in our care.

Our educational approach encourages boys to be responsible members of their local and global community. Our staff are committed to providing boys with the encouraging guidance and support they need to achieve their individual potential.

Kindness, compassion, respect, politeness and resilience are traditional values that we expect all boys at Thorpe House to adhere to and our school motto, 'To strive, to seek, to find and not to yield', highlights the importance of hard-work and tenacity.

The environment in which the boys learn also plays a key role in their development and at Thorpe House we provide small classes, boy-centred teaching and learning, welcoming staff who work in partnership with parents and excellent pastoral care. We are proud of our reputation for providing learning experiences that are pivotal to the excellent GCSE grades our boys achieve at 16. However, whilst this is very important to us, it is not the sole measure of our accomplishments. We are confident that by the time they leave us each pupil is a young man well prepared to cope with the many and varied challenges of modern life.

Why teach in an independent school?

There are undoubtedly particular advantages enjoyed by independent schools and their staff. A survey of newly qualified teachers revealed five main attractive features of teaching in an independent school. The survey found these factors to be the more disciplined environment, the opportunity to express their passion for their subjects, good resources, smaller class sizes and greater professional freedom. In common with most independent schools, Thorpe House welcomes NQTs and offers a fully mentored induction programme.

Please visit www.thorpehouse.co.uk for more detailed information about Thorpe House School.

The Appointment of Head of Music

Following the relocation of the current Head of Music to Hong Kong, we are seeking to build upon his successful reinvigoration of the Music department. We are therefore looking for an enthusiastic head of department to teach Prep and Senior Music who is passionate about educating boys and willing to deliver a boy-centred curriculum which engages and excites! This will be an opportunity for a committed, flexible individual to work within a small based school where their hard work will be valued by both the SLT and our parents.

The successful candidate will:

- Be an excellent teacher with high expectations and able to bring the very best out of all the boys.
- Be able to play the piano and accompany pupils.
- Have strong organisational and interpersonal skills to run the department and the peripatetic teachers;
- Be passionate about boy-centred learning.
- Be committed to working in partnership with our parents.
- Show a commitment to professional development and performance management.
- Have a commitment to lead extra-curricular activities and enrich the curriculum.
- Show a willingness to give up time above and beyond contracted hours when necessary.
- Be a team player and work effectively with others.

The Application Procedure

Applicants should complete the school's application form and send this to Mrs Nikki Davidson, HR Officer, at ndavidson@thorpehouse.co.uk with a letter addressed to the Headmaster outlining your suitability for the post. The deadline for receipt of applications is noon on Monday, 7th October and interviews will be held on Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th October.

In the interests of safeguarding and child protection, shortlisted candidates will be asked to give permission to seek references in advance of interview. We reserve the right to telephone referees to clarify any questions which arise from application forms, verify facts and investigate any inconsistencies between a written reference and the application form.

Candidates will be expected to teach a lesson as part of the interview process. In the formal interview there will be questions investigating the applicant's attitude to safeguarding issues and boy-centred pedagogy.

The school has a salary scale which is slightly enhanced to take into account the area in which the school is situated. The final salary will depend upon the relevant experience of the successful candidate.

The school currently operates the standard Teachers' Pension scheme. Lunches are provided daily during term time at no extra cost and tea, coffee and biscuits are provided at break times. Upon successful completion of a probationary period, a 60% fee reduction will be offered if the appointed person's son should pass the entrance assessment and places were available.

Thorpe House School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any appointment made will be subject to Thorpe House School being satisfied that the details given on the application form are as stated and the results of pre-employment checks, including the right to work in the UK, academic qualifications, references, disclosure of medical information, enhanced DBS and/or police check(s), prohibition order and childcare disqualification checks.

Thorpe House School is an Equal Opportunities employer as detailed in our Equal Opportunities Policy.

