



# St EDMUND'S

## School Canterbury

(HMC & IAPS, CSA, Coeducational, Boarding & Day)  
(Church of England Foundation – designated by the DCSF as a School of Religious Character)

## Appointment of Head of Instrumental Studies (September 2010)

### THE SCHOOL

St Edmund's School is co-educational and has more than 550 pupils from the age of 3 up to 18. The choristers of Canterbury Cathedral, who are full members of the Junior School, were incorporated into St Edmund's in 1972. The Headmaster is a member of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC) and the Master of the Junior School is a member of the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools (IAPS) and of the Choir Schools' Association (CSA).

Until August 1996, the School was owned and governed by the Clergy Orphan Corporation and was originally founded to educate the sons of deceased clergymen of the Church of England and the Church in Wales. The School still maintains this role to a small extent. Furthermore, the Archbishop of Canterbury is Patron of the School; he conducts the Choristers' Confirmation every second year and occasionally the main School Confirmation. He maintains a strong interest in the School and has been Guest of Honour at Speech Day as well as visiting the School more informally. From September 1996, the School has been completely independent. Its assets, including its properties and trust funds, are owned by an independent charitable company, limited by guarantee. The directors of this company are the School Governors.

The Pre-Prep, Junior, and Senior Schools are on the same site and are closely integrated, using the same Chapel, music and art facilities, dining hall, science laboratories, sports hall, and so on. However, for practical day-to-day purposes the Junior School is under the control of the Master of the Junior School and the Pre-Prep under the Head of Pre-Prep. St Edmund's derives much of its strength and its capacity to work efficiently and economically from its close-knit structure.

Although the majority of children are day pupils, over one quarter of the Senior School's pupils are boarders, from a wide range of backgrounds both national and international. The School operates a five-and-a-half-day teaching week: Saturday mornings are part of the normal teaching structure.

The School adjoins the University of Kent and is able to make use of many of the University's facilities: the library, the Gulbenkian theatre, the public lectures, and the AstroTurf pitch, amongst others. The Marlowe Theatre is a popular venue in Canterbury and London's West End is within easy reach.

# THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

## Introduction

St Edmund's School has a very high reputation for the range and quality of its music, and the department enjoys a high profile in Kent in terms of both performance and academic music. Music is a very important part of school life and one of the principal means of representing the School to the public. The department's reputation is a major asset in attracting high calibre pupils to the School. Over 40% of pupils receive instrumental tuition. The Junior School educates the Cathedral Choristers. School concerts attract audiences which include discerning music-lovers from the locality as well as from the School family.

The School offers generous Music Scholarships and Exhibitions each year for entry to both Junior and Senior Schools. The Dean and Chapter of Canterbury Cathedral also offer one half-fees Music Scholarship for a Chorister moving up to Senior School. The School recently established an Organ Scholarship Fund to encourage suitable pupils. There are currently 28 Music Scholars. A special programme is organised for them, including concert trips and visits to the ballet and the opera. Past Scholars include Freddie Kempf, 1992 BBC Young Musician of the Year and now an international concert pianist, and a number of others have obtained places to study music at top music colleges including RNCM, RSM, RAM and GSMD; St Edmund's pupils have won the Marlowe Young Musician of the Year award several times in recent years.

The instrumental and general musical education of the Cathedral choristers is an important responsibility. There are 25 boys in the Cathedral Choir House, each one of whom studies two instruments and theory, and they also receive vocal tuition in the department. The Choristers also join in general musical activities, including concerts and other large-scale school musical events.

There are frequent services for the Pre-Prep School, Junior School, and Senior School in the School Chapel; a 3-manual Copeman Hart organ was installed in April 1996. All three schools have choirs which sing regularly at a range of services at school and at the St Edmund's Day Service and Carol Service in the Cathedral. The Senior School Chapel Choir currently comprises over 43 pupils and 4 staff. The Junior School has an Upper School Choir which numbers some 20 pupils, and the Lower School "Junior Singers" of some 25 pupils. The Pre-Prep has its own Choir, the "Abingdon Choir" of some 27 pupils.

There is a School Choral Society, comprising pupils, staff, parents, and friends of the School, which has performed with the Chapel Choir and the Cathedral Choristers in large-scale works, in Canterbury Cathedral. Recently these have included *Requiems* by Mozart, Rutter, Fauré and Duruflé, Haydn's *Nelson Mass*, Pergolesi's *Magnificat*, Rutter's *Mass for the Children*, and *The Armed Man* by Karl Jenkins. Rehearsals are currently in progress for our forthcoming Gala Concert, which will include Vierne's *Messe Solennelle* and Widor's *Mass for two choirs and two organs*.

The School Orchestra is accomplished and contains several County Youth Orchestra players. They have recently performed works such as Arnold's *Cornish Dances*, Schubert's *Unfinished Symphony*, and Shostakovich's *Second Piano Concerto*. The Junior School hosts the recently launched East Kent Children's Orchestra, which brings pupils from across Canterbury and the wider community together to join our weekly orchestral programme. The development of this group and its growth into a senior community youth orchestra will be a key focus of the successful candidate's work at St. Edmund's School. There is a Senior Big Band, Brass Ensemble, and various Chamber ensembles, and the Junior School Mini-strings, all of which play regularly at concerts and other events. Talented Junior School pupils may progress to Senior School ensembles when they achieve a certain level of performance ability. Choir House also has ensembles.

There is a strong tradition of music theatre and the Music department works closely with the Drama department. Recent productions have included: *Bugsy Malone*, *Guys and Dolls*, and *The King and I* in Junior School, and *Beauty and the Beast*, *Pippin*, *Godspell*, and *Return to the Forbidden Planet* in the Senior School. Pre-Prep productions also take place, which require Music department input.

The music department also runs a very successful Outreach Programme whereby Music Scholars take their music-making to local primary schools. It is hoped that the Head of Instrumental Studies will take on and develop these activities, in tandem with the work of the East Kent Children's Orchestra.

## **Facilities**

The department occupies a recently constructed, purpose-built Music School, opened by Freddie Kempff in 2004. The accommodation comprises a Recital Hall, Recording Studio, three classrooms, ten teaching/practice rooms, a Music Technology lab, and staff offices. The Music School is adjacent to the theatre which allows for close co-operation between the Music and Drama departments.

## **Staffing**

From September 2010, there will be three full-time members of staff: Director of Music (Mr Will Bersey), Head of Academic Music (Mr Spencer Payne), Head of Music Technology (Mr Ross Underwood); together with two part-time: the Head of Junior School Music (Mr Julian Lambert), the Head of Instrumental Studies; and a full-time music department administrator and secretary to the Director of Music (Mrs Carol Hawkins).

## **Courses**

Class Music is taught to all pupils in the 3-14 age range. Music and Movement (dance) is taught to all pupils in the Pre-Prep. Forms 3 and 4 in Junior School (7 and 8 years of age) also take part in group lessons on strings, brass, and woodwind instruments. This reveals any talent pupils may have, and a number of them then start to take individual instrumental lessons. All pupils in the Junior School receive two periods of curriculum music per week. During their first year in Senior School, all pupils receive a double lesson of general class music per week; a good number then proceed to study Music at GCSE, AS and A2 level (all Edexcel). Music Technology is taught as a separate subject at AS and A2.

## **Examination Results**

Public Examination results in the department are excellent. Since 1999, 78% of GCSE results have been A\*/A; since 2003, 94% of AS and 95% of A-level, results have been A/B. In Music Technology 96% of AS and 95% of A-level results have been A/B over the same period of time.

The School has an excellent record of achievement in both Associated Board and Trinity/Guildhall examinations, and the department acts as a Centre for both these boards, on two occasions per year.

## **Broader Activity**

The school has recorded several CDs over the years featuring major orchestral and choral works. Recent overseas tours have travelled to Paris, Italy, Spain, Germany and Northern France.

The Choristers have their own impressive programme of tours, concerts and state occasions, recordings and broadcasts on TV and radio, in addition to their regular service to the Cathedral.

# THE APPOINTMENT

We are seeking a highly motivated and well-qualified musician who has a proven experience in performance at the highest level. The successful candidate will also be an excellent instrumental teacher, have experience in the classroom (at any level) and will have the skills to represent and administer our large team of Visiting Music Teachers. He/she will be able to encourage pupils of all ages to strive for their very best - both in terms of personal and group performance - and to express a love of, and joy in, making music.

With academic responsibilities, the successful candidate will be expected to commit to an agreed structured timetable and participate fully in this busy boarding school environment, including school concerts and trips. Whilst the School will encourage candidates to continue to pursue their professional careers outside school hours, a commitment to these times will be expected.

The Head of Instrumental Music's responsibilities will include:

- Overall responsibility for Instrumental Studies at St. Edmund's School
- Liaison with parents on matters connected with instrumental tuition
- Development of instrumental tuition take-up across all three schools, but principally in the younger years of the Junior School
- Instrumental tuition
- Academic teaching (likely to be approx 8 periods at an appropriate age level, but ideally in the Junior School)
- Coaching of a range of chamber music initiatives across Junior and Senior Schools
- Orchestral coaching and sectional rehearsals in both the school Symphony Orchestra and the East Kent Children's Orchestra
- Development of out-reach programmes and links with community
- Mentoring of Music Scholars (certain year groups)

The following qualities are deemed essential in the successful candidate:

- A degree or recognised conservatoire qualification
- A high level of ability and experience instrumentally
- A good knowledge of chamber repertoire, suitable for a wide range of abilities
- Good organisational skills; reliability in working to deadlines
- A good level of current subject knowledge, including the ability to teach up to and including Key Stage 3
- An approach to teaching that is varied and flexible, including a willingness to develop skills in the use of ICT as a teaching tool
- The ability to communicate effectively, both orally or on paper
- Sound classroom management skills
- The ability to relate well to pupils of all abilities and to a wide age range
- The ability to deal confidently with sensitive issues concerning pupil welfare

The desirable qualities of the successful applicant include:

- Good rehearsal skills, with some experience of conducting large groups
- A specialism in woodwind or brass
- Good keyboard skills
- Well-developed ICT skills

## CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

All members of staff are expected to contribute to the wider life of the School community and are personal tutors to some 8 to 10 pupils. All full-time members of staff contribute to the games and/or activities programmes. It is not a formal requirement for part-time staff to be so involved, but a willingness to contribute to extra-curricular activities (and especially to sport) would be welcomed.

St Edmund's School Canterbury is committed safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

The salary will be commensurate with age and experience and will be paid pro-rata on the St Edmund's Scale. Applicants should complete the academic staff application form and send this, with their curriculum vitae together with the names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least two referees, and a handwritten letter outlining their suitability for the post to the Headmaster:

**Mr Jeremy Gladwin, BSc**  
**St Edmund's School, St Thomas Hill, Canterbury, Kent, CT2 8HU**

Tel: (01227) 475600 Fax: (01227) 471083

Email: [headmaster@stedmunds.org.uk](mailto:headmaster@stedmunds.org.uk)

Website: [www.stedmunds.org.uk](http://www.stedmunds.org.uk)

Closing date for Applications: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2010

Interviews: during week beginning Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2010