



July 2022

Dear Candidate

Thank you for your interest in the post of Performing Arts Technician and Administrator at St Martin's School, and I do hope on the strength of the information available that you choose to apply.

St Martin's is a school that champions Music. Creative Arts are something the school considers to be one of its greatest strengths, and upon visiting the school it is not difficult to see why. Our outstanding Music Department comprises three full-time teachers and a technician, and students throughout Years 7-9 enjoy the subject where they have one lesson per week, after which it becomes optional at GCSE and A-level.

Just some of our facilities include a brand new iMac suite with the latest music software, a high-spec recording studio, a full samba kit, a full set of African drums, three class sets of iPads, three class sets of keyboards, a Yamaha baby grand piano, a large number of both digital and upright pianos, a class set of xylophones, an array of auxiliary percussion and several electric and acoustic drum kits. In terms of spaces, we have three classrooms (one per teacher), four practice rooms, a music studio and an instrument store, in addition to the main hall which is our primary performance venue. This is fully equipped with digital sound technology allowing for us to regularly hold high-quality performing arts events.

However, it is the vast number of students who take part in musical activities on a daily basis that really set us apart. GCSE and A-level Music are hugely popular at St Martin's. For example, last year we had 41 students studying Music in Year 11 alone, and both our Year 12 and Year 13 classes are double the national average size. We offer both Music and Music Technology at A-level. Results are also very impressive; last year, several students achieved a grade 9 at GCSE, and some of our previous A-level cohorts are now studying the subject at prestigious universities across the country.

We have a thriving extra-curricular programme at St Martin's, with an average of three ensembles taking place each day. Some (but certainly not all) of these ensembles include the Orchestra, Jazz Band, Junior and Senior Choir, Steel Pans Ensemble and Percussion Ensemble. We put on termly concerts to an exceptionally high standard displaying both our ensembles and our hugely talented soloists, and we are very much looking forward to many future overseas tours.

We are also very proud to collaborate with our outstanding Drama Department to produce two outstanding musicals per year, one for students in Years 7-9 and one for students in Years 10 and above. For these, we have a live band comprised of students, and past productions over the last few years have included *Les Misérables*, *Miss Saigon*, *In the Heights*, *Made in Dagenham*, *Aladdin*, *Sister Act*, *9 to 5* and *Legally Blonde*.

Be The Best You Can Be

Above all, St Martin's is a happy and friendly place to work; no two days are ever the same and staff take pride in the school at which they teach. We are also one of the few state schools in the country to offer subsidised on-site accommodation to staff members. Other benefits of working here include a purpose-built department, a variety of wellbeing initiatives such as personalised CPD calendar, an 'outstanding' sixth form (Ofsted 2019) and a superb ECT induction process.

I do hope this has given you a flavour of life in the St Martin's Music Department, and that this is something you would like to be a part of. I look forward to reading your application and welcome any queries in the meantime; I can be contacted via e-mail at mharris@st-martins.essex.sch.uk or phone on 01277 238353.

Yours sincerely

Max Harris

Head of Music and Deputy Head of PE and Performing Arts Faculty