



JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE Full Time Accompanist

HOURS The majority of duties to be carried out within the hours of 8.30-4.30pm, Monday to Friday during term time (36 weeks). Plus some limited work during weekends, evenings and holiday periods as required. Occasional overnight stays and more extended trips away may also be required.

RESPONSIBLE TO: Joint Heads of Accompaniment (line managers);
Director of Music.

JOB PROFILE

We are seeking a highly accomplished pianist and musician to join the team of full time accompanists who fulfil a vital role in the Music Department.

CONTEXT

The Accompaniment Department is managed primarily by the two joint Heads of Department, but there is a strong ethos of working as a team, with each of the other accompanists expected to assist in the day-to-day operation of the department, in order to maintain the highest level of provision and musical standards.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Each accompanist is allocated approximately 40 students of all ages and instruments. It is his/her responsibility to accompany these students in internal and external concerts, master classes, national and international competitions, examinations, assessments and instrumental lessons, and to rehearse with them as required to achieve a performance of the highest possible level.
- Rehearsals are conducted primarily during the day-time timetable, arranged by the individual accompanist according to the availability of the student. The rehearsal process demands a high level of sensitivity and personal, as well as musical, skills. It is a unique forum in which to develop and nurture the performance skills and musicality of each student. Accompanists work in close liaison with instrumental teachers and Heads of Instrumental Departments.

- There are regular internal lunchtime concerts (up to 5 public performances and 3 internal performances) in a typical week. All students are expected to perform regularly in these concerts, as well as in weekly performance classes. The accompanists have a substantial programme of external concerts which normally involve taking small groups of their students to perform in recital venues in the North West region, throughout the UK and occasionally abroad.
- All accompanists play for candidates auditioning for entrance to the school, as required.
- Accompanists must perform duties as required as a full-time member of staff
- Attend any INSET sessions as required, and any other whole school staff training events
- Any other duties as required by the Director of Music/Head/Joint Heads of Accompaniment

CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

The post holder’s responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young persons for whom s/he is responsible, or with whom s/he comes into contact, will be to adhere to and ensure compliance with Chetham’s Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy Statements (available at www.chethams.com) at all times. If, in the course of carrying out the duties of the post, the post-holder becomes aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in Chetham’s, s/he must report any concerns to Chetham’s Child Protection Officer or to the Head (as appropriate).

This Policy and Procedure is in line with national directives and must be adhered to by all staff. Chetham’s is committed to the development of good practice and sound procedures. We will always endeavour to fulfil our duty to challenge or intervene in order to protect all students at Chetham's. Concerns and referrals will be handled in a sensitive and professional manner which will support the needs of students and staff. Chetham’s recognises the contribution it can make to protect and support students.

I agree that I have read and understood the attached job description.

Employee’s name

Employee’s signature

Date

Person Specification – Full Time Accompanist

Essential

- Experience in the accompaniment of a wide range of instruments and considerable knowledge of the repertoire;
- Experience of concert performing at a high level;
- The ability to perform in high profile national and international events;
- An ability to sight read and learn repertoire quickly;
- The ability to work in detail and communicate musical ideas in a creative, inspirational and encouraging way;
- A love of working with young people and an awareness of the special responsibility in nurturing young musicians from the age of 8-18;
- During external concerts and related performances, accompanists often need to assume the lead/sole pastoral responsibility for groups of students, in addition to the musical requirements of the occasion. An understanding of the responsibilities required and the suitability to assume this responsibility is essential;
- The ability to manage competing priorities within your own workload and to maintain a calm and level-headed approach in high pressure situations;
- The ability and desire to work as part of a team;
- Flexibility in approach to working hours and in accommodating changing working demands and schedules.

Preferred

- A full driving licence and a willingness/ability to undertake additional training in order to drive the school minibus test;
- Previous experience within a similar role.
- Experience of taking a pastoral lead role within an educational context or similar.