



FINTON HOUSE
SCHOOL

Head of
Music

September 2021
Required for January or April 2022



1 | OUR STORY

...SO FAR

Finton House was founded in 1987 as a charitable trust with two principles in mind: that children joining Reception should not have to face the pressures of a competitive entry system, and that of providing an inclusive environment where all children, including those with special educational needs, have the same opportunities.

WELCOME TO FINTON HOUSE

Thank you for your interest in working at Finton House. We are an outstanding non-selective co-educational preparatory school for boys and girls aged 4-11, located next to Wandsworth Common in South West London.



338 PUPILS
74 STAFF

The School motto “Open Hearts and Guiding Hands” sums up the relationships which pupils and staff build with each other, with our local community and the wider world.



FOUR
HOUSES

The House system gives pupils a way to make friends outside of their year group whilst instilling a sense of belonging, pride and teamwork in them.



SPECIALIST
FACILITIES

We have specialist facilities including purpose-built Music rooms with soundproof recording booths, a Science lab, DT workshop and an Art room.



EVERY CHILD
CAN SHINE

A Fintonian demonstrates our ‘Finton Goals’ of kindness, respect, curiosity, resilience, communication, morality and self-belief.

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FROM OUR

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

I am always so impressed and hugely thankful for the staff's dedication to the school's objectives and to each child's education at Finton House. This became particularly apparent during lockdown when they worked tirelessly to create and deliver a leading remote learning offering. This was created by leveraging the experience of schools around the world and utilising our previous investment in technology. Like everything at Finton House, we strive for improvement and keep evolving the educational experience so that we can now take the best of what remote learning has taught us and bring that to our on-site learning in 2021 and beyond.



In a world with an increasingly rapid pace of change where we must be prepared for the unexpected, our objective is that children leave Finton House with a confidence, resilience and understanding of the world which will allow them to thrive wherever they go next in life. I have the pleasure of seeing this first-hand when our Old Fintonians return to visit, come back to work with us or bring their children to school here. There is no doubt in my mind that being part of the Finton community is hugely rewarding and fulfilling.

Liz Buckley

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FROM OUR

HEAD

“Happiness is the key to a successful education.”

Finton House School holds a special place in the hearts of all those who have been here, either as a pupil, a parent or as a member of staff. It is a unique school combining a warm child centric environment with a high focus on wellbeing and values while also achieving outstanding academic results. This is in the context of a non-selective entry, increasingly rare for Prep schools in the area, and a specific objective to include children with special education needs who can thrive in a mainstream environment. Inclusion is part of the fabric of Finton House, together with a focus on building an understanding of our roles in the Community around us and our duty to contribute. All this is down to the culture, care and commitment of our highly experienced staff who get the best out of every child from those that need early support in specific areas to the more able who should be stretched.

Working here is deeply rewarding and often a great deal of fun - after all, happiness is the key to a successful education. Everyone works hard to maintain the school's success and outstanding reputation, while in the knowledge that protection of their own wellbeing is taken very seriously.

Ben Freeman



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ROLE SPECIFICATION

HEAD OF MUSIC

Job Title	Head of Music
Reporting to	Deputy Head (Academic)
About	The Head of Music is responsible for the developing and teaching the curriculum and engaging the pupils to build their confidence, skills and enthusiasm for their subject.
Salary	Competitive and depending on previous experience. There are also a number of other generous employment benefits available to staff at Finton House.
Main Duties (Music Specific)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage visiting music staff, including timetabling, examinations, staff appointments and home-school liaison. • Organise, direct or support whole school and year group events and performances including but not limited to, carol concerts, nativities, musicals, plays, class assemblies and the Finton House Music Festival. • Be proactive in seeking opportunities for pupils to perform e.g. assemblies, charity concerts, visits to local day centres and competitions. • Liaise with the Head of the Upper School and Lower School regarding assemblies and take the lead in co-ordinating the music, including playing the piano, leading the singing and supporting any instrumentalists performing. • Ensure the music department is always tidy and a stimulating learning environment, and instruments are well cared for, maintained and stored appropriately. • Identify and nurture potential music scholarship candidates, and assist them in preparing for any auditions for senior school assessments. • Monitor and evaluate all planning, teaching & learning, assessment and reporting carried out by other members of staff in the Music department, providing support and guidance where required. • Contribute to the appraisal of music employees, and lead on the appraisal of visiting music staff, including the setting of targets for development. • Regularly review and update the subject's scheme of work and policy, and other documentation, ensuring they meet the current and future needs of all pupils. • Review and update the Curriculum Development Plan for your subject, ensuring that any areas of major development are agreed with the SLT and included in the School Development Plan. • Compile or contribute to the annual budget request, and carefully monitor expenditure throughout the year, ensuring that all orders are detailed on the budget spreadsheet. • Take responsibility for the purchase and organisation of all subject resources, ensuring they are well cared for and safely and securely stored when not in use. • Ensure there is an inventory of all resources and that these are in good order and fully utilised. • Ensure the Academic Team is kept up to date with all matters related to the teaching and learning, enabling appropriate information to be shared with the Education Committee each term. • Keep an up-to-date record of achievements in your subject, ensuring that notable activities, developments and achievements are appropriately communicated in displays and school publications. • Prepare scholarship references if requested by senior schools, in liaison with the Head of Admissions & Development. • Liaise with teachers and Subject Coordinators in order to develop meaningful cross-curricular links and projects. • Submit work for any relevant exhibitions and competitions. • Ensure that subject specific risk assessments are completed and followed. • Meet regularly with the Y6 Pupil Monitors where applicable. • Ensure teaching and learning resources on Frog are up-to-date, celebrating successes and promoting home learning. • Support the School in its responsibility for Public Benefit, seeking or delivering partnerships through your subject. • Organise, lead and contribute to whole school curriculum events as agreed with the SLT. • Maintain a well organised subject file so that documentation and information can be quickly and easily shared with staff, governors, inspectors etc.
Subject Specialist Duties	

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PERSON SPECIFICATION

HEAD OF MUSIC

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Qualifications		
Qualified Teacher Status with teaching experience	X	
Evidence of continuous professional development	X	
A commitment to future professional development	X	
Experience		
Teaching at Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2	X	
Differentiating for mixed ability classes	X	
Teaching children with SEN, including EHP plans		X
Teaching in different year groups		X
Leading a subject		X
Knowledge and Understanding		
How to meet the individual needs of all children, including the More Able and those with SEN (classroom organisation, teaching strategies, individual target setting, etc.)	X	
Effective and efficient monitoring, assessment, recording and reporting of pupils' progress	X	
Statutory requirements concerning Equal Opportunities, Health and Safety, SEN, Child Protection and GDPR	X	
The National Curriculum	X	
The importance of working in partnership with parents	X	
Standardised assessments		X
Skills		
Ability to be inspirational, nurture children's curiosity and promote a love of learning	X	
Ability to work within a team	X	
Ability to promote self-esteem and confidence in pupils and engender a growth mindset attitude	X	
Excellent interpersonal skills, and the ability to establish and develop positive relationships with parents, governors and the community	X	
Ability to communicate effectively (both orally and in writing) to a variety of audience	X	
Excellent organisational and administrative skills	X	
Effective classroom management	X	

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PERSON SPECIFICATION (CONTINUED)

HEAD OF MUSIC

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Skills (continued)		
Confident and competent user of IT including school MIS systems	X	
Commitment to integrate IT into teaching and learning	X	
Familiarity with FrogLearn or equivalent VLE		X
Demonstrate adherence to the Teachers' Standards	X	
Commitment to equal opportunities and safeguarding children	X	
Personal characteristics, including disposition, values and motivation		
A positive and child-centred approach to teaching and learning	X	
An understanding and commitment to the school's ethos and aims, and willingness to adhere to school policies and procedures	X	
Approachable, committed and enthusiastic	X	
Open-minded, self-evaluative and adaptable to changing circumstances and new ideas	X	
Self-motivated; able to work on own initiative and without constant supervision	X	
Calm under pressure	X	
Sense of humour	X	
Desire to be involved in the wider life of the school		X
Willingness to lead an area of the curriculum		X
Ability to motivate others and bring out the best in them		X
Energetic and always willing to go the extra mile	X	



6 WHY WORK AT FINTON? BENEFITS

- Finton House operates a generous defined benefit pension scheme for all employees. Teachers are enrolled into APTIS with an employer contribution of 18% whilst support staff are enrolled into Scottish Widows with an employer contribution of 7.5%.
- All permanent employees benefit from Life Insurance covering Death in Service to a value of 5 times salary.
- All permanent employees benefit from Income Protection insurance should the employee fall all, providing support during long term illness.
- Employees have the option to buy into the group medical insurance provided through Aviva. This covers a wide variety of treatment including optical and dental.
- Permanent employees benefit from a staff discount on fees for all children attending Finton of 65% (pro rata).
- Lunch is provided to all employees, alongside access to refreshments throughout the day.
- The School participates in both a Cycle & Technology Scheme allowing employees to benefit from favourable purchase terms and tax efficiencies.
- All employees have access to an industry leading Employee Assistance Programme offering employees and their dependents access to wellbeing resources including counselling and legal advice.
- Staff Loans are available for training courses and travel support.
- Finton operates a lively social life with regular staff events alongside traditional mentoring and support.



7 APPLYING FOR THE ROLE

APPLICATION FORM

To apply for this position you will need to complete an [application form](#).

Completed applications should be sent FAO the Headmaster, Ben Freeman, c/o Joanna Worsfold, Head's PA: joanna.worsfold@fintonhouse.org.uk.

Deadline for applications: 08 October 2021

Initial Zoom interview: w/c 11 October 2021

SHORTLISTING AND INTERVIEW

Short-listed candidates will be invited for an interview with the Head, alongside another member of the Senior Leadership Team or Governor. Interviews will likely involve a task (such as teaching observation for teachers, or inbox task for administrative jobs), followed by a tour of the school where you will be able to meet those you might work with.



8 | VALUES AND ETHOS

“Open Hearts and Guiding Hands”

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

Finton House Educational Trust values Equality & Diversity in everything that we do, with inclusivity being a founding principle of the School. All applicants will be treated with respect and dignity, and provided with the support they require to complete their recruitment journey with the School.

SAFEGUARDING

Finton House Educational Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Applicants must undergo child protection screening, including checks with past employers and Disclosure and Barring Service. Details of all checks are to be found in our Recruitment, Selection & Disclosures Procedure, which is available on request.