



**GRADUATE MUSIC ASSISTANTS/
ORGAN SCHOLAR &
CHORAL SCHOLARS**
at
CROYDON MINSTER
and
WHITGIFT SCHOOL

September 2017

We are looking to appoint up to four Graduate Music Assistants for September 2017 to act as Choral Scholars (Countertenor, Tenor and Bass) and an Organ Scholar to work both with the Choirs of Croydon Minster and act as Graduate Music Assistants at one of the country's leading independent schools.

These are exciting posts which will bring together a unique dual role of participating in the musical life of Croydon Minster and supporting the music curriculum and performances at the School. Dependent upon qualifications and experience, there is also the possibility of successful applicants teaching within the Music Department or contributing to the work of other academic departments and/or the broader co-curricular life of the School. This additional opportunity will be subject to the necessary subject knowledge, skills and aptitude and will be discussed with applicants at interview. As such, Graduate Music Assistants play a special role within both the community life of the Minster and of the School; these posts can be tailored to suit the interests and enthusiasms of the successful candidates, and can develop as necessary once in post.

The Minster

Croydon Minster is deeply rooted in the English Cathedral Choral Tradition and boasts four excellent choirs: the Choir of Men & Boys, the Girls' Choir, the Choral Scholars and Lay Clerks. They sing five choral services per week, hold regular concerts throughout the year, and have toured, broadcast and recorded.

The Organ Scholar will assist the Director of Choral Music in running the choral programme at both Croydon Minster and Whitgift School and will be given the opportunity to accompany the choirs at the Minster, as well as provide assistance with the chorister training programme.

The Choral Scholars sing alongside the Lay Clerks at the Minster, as a choral scholar ensemble and as soloists, when required. The Minster has proved a successful training ground for singers who have gone on to forge a career in the profession. Croydon's proximity to London – less than 20 minutes to London Bridge – also enables Choral Scholars to establish their name in the capital's choral scene when not required at the Minster.

The Minster Music Department is led by Mr Ronny Krippner (Organist & Director of Music), assisted by Mr Tom Little (Sub-Organist) and Martin How MBE (Organist Laureate).

The School

Whitgift is one of Britain's leading independent boarding and day schools for boys, with approximately 1460 pupils. It was founded in 1596 by Elizabeth I's last Archbishop of Canterbury, John Whitgift, and is the oldest school in Croydon. Whitgift enjoys facilities of outstanding quality, amongst the best available nationally, in a beautiful 48 acre parkland estate in South Croydon with excellent links to London, Surrey and the south coast. We are proud to be able to offer:

- a unique, tailor-made education for boys aged 10-18
- Beautiful and historic parkland site with outstanding facilities
- A record of outstanding academic achievement
- Superb facilities for over 40 sports, an exciting performing arts programme and wide range of co-curricular activities
- Excellent pastoral care.

The Music Department

The Whitgift Music Department is led by Mrs Rosanna Whitfield (Director of Music) together with Mr Ronny Krippner (Organist & Director of Choral Music), Mr Alan Weakley (Director of Academic Music) and Mr Philip Winter (Director of Orchestral Music). With four highly qualified full time teaching staff, two dedicated music administrators and twenty nine visiting music teachers, the department maintains a busy and exceptionally productive programme. With a wide range of orchestras and chamber ensembles open to both pupils and staff, there is much opportunity to engage with a variety of genres and live performance at some of the finest venues in London.

Singing has a very important place in Whitgift musical life, and the School boasts a number of excellent choirs under the direction of Mr Ronny Krippner. The *Choristers* are an auditioned boys' choir, providing the treble line for Whitgift School's flagship choral ensemble, the *Chamber Choir*. Both choirs sing Evensong regularly in the splendour of Croydon Minster, and perform at major, world-renowned venues such as St Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Winchester Cathedral and the Royal Festival Hall. In addition to a busy concert schedule, there have also been tours to Germany, Italy and France.

Organ/Choral Scholars will be required to contribute fully to the day-to-day life and running of this extremely busy and productive Music Department. Together with some general administrative duties, Organ/Choral Scholars will assist with a range of weekly instrumental rehearsals and co-curricular activities, music-based projects, concert production, and Performing Arts events. In addition, they will be encouraged to perform at the School in a vocal or instrumental capacity, offering piano accompaniment where possible (useful but not essential), maintaining excellent professional standards throughout.

With the success of the Whitgift International Music Competition (a biennial event established in 2013 which offers full scholarship boarding places for winners), the department has developed a thriving international element in addition to its UK Music Scholars; Organ/Choral Scholars should be willing to contribute to this area with Musicianship lessons, mentoring and some supervision, during and outside normal school hours, including accompanying music scholars to lessons in London on occasion.

With a reputation for unique and exciting arts-based projects, Whitgift welcomes the opportunity to support new initiatives to enhance the already outstanding provision for pupils and staff, and to develop further exceptional qualities or skills in specific areas, both within the department and the whole school (although this should not conflict with choral commitments).

The Post

We are seeking to appoint a well-qualified, enthusiastic and dedicated graduate to join a dynamic, friendly and highly successful department.

- The post would suit candidates who display excellent potential vocally and/or as an organist, and who also demonstrate a genuine enthusiasm to take a full part in both the life of Croydon Minster and Whitgift School.
- This is a fixed term post and runs from Monday 4 September 2017 to Sunday 8 July 2018.
- The Scholars will be expected to sing and travel with the Choir on any UK or foreign tours that may take place during the year.
- The post requires a full commitment during term time and Choral Scholars are required to sing at the Minster until Christmas Day (Sung Eucharist) and Easter Sunday (Evensong).
- There may be opportunities for suitable candidates to take on some classroom teaching or work in other areas of the school, which will incur a salary enhancement. Candidates interested in teaching should state this clearly on the application form.
- Whilst these posts are aimed primarily at graduates, undergraduates of exceptional musical talent will be considered.
- Additional Boarding duties:
You may be required to undertake boarding duties in the evenings and some weekends during term time while boarders are present.

Conditions of Service

The salary for this post will be at Point 8 of the Whitgift Foundation Support Staff Pay Scale, currently £15,500.00 per annum pro rata to term time (41 weeks and including 5 weeks' holiday pay entitlement). An additional enhancement will apply if a part-time teaching timetable and related teaching responsibilities are undertaken or for contributing to the work of other academic departments and/or the broader co-curricular life of the School (dependent on experience, qualifications and the number of teaching sessions agreed). Salaries are reviewed annually on 1 September. School accommodation may be available, particularly if boarding responsibilities are undertaken and full details will be provided upon appointment. Meals are available on site during term-time.

Staff will be encouraged to contribute fully to the co-curricular life of the School and this is reflected in the salary offered. A strong commitment to the pastoral and house system is also anticipated.

In return we offer a generous salary and benefits package including a Pension Scheme (with Life Assurance cover), Employee Discount Club, discounted school fees for the Foundation Schools (permanent posts only), reduced off-peak membership at our on-site gym (Nuffield Health), Simply Health cash plan, a range of family-friendly benefits and a season ticket loan.

We welcome applications from all parts of our community as we aspire to attract staff that matches the social and cultural diversity of our student intake.

For an informal conversation about these posts, please contact Ronny Krippner, Organist & Director of Choral Music, on 020 8688 9222 or email: rjk@whitgift.co.uk .

For further information and an online application form, please visit www.whitgift.co.uk/vacancies. For any general queries, please telephone the Human Resources Department on 020 8688 9222 or email SchoolHR@whitgift.co.uk .

Closing date is midnight on Monday 6th February 2017. Interviews will be held on Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd February (choral) and Thursday 23rd February 2017 (organ).

As a result of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996, employers now have to verify that new recruits who are not British Nationals are eligible to work in this country. Therefore any applicant who is offered an interview will be asked to provide official documentation to verify their ID, address and right to work in the UK. It is also normal practice for the School to ask for original qualifications and professional membership documents as detailed on their application.

Whitgift School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people, and applicants must be willing to undergo safeguarding and child protection screening including checks with past employers and the Disclosure & Barring Service.