Singing VMT

for January 2020

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL

The history of Barnard Castle School

Barnard Castle School has its roots in the medieval past and its eyes set firmly on the future. The school traces its origins back to the nearby Hospital of St John, which was an educational and religious community established by John de Balliol in 1229. He was also the founder of Balliol College in Oxford and his passion for learning remains central to our philosophy today. In 1883 with a gift from Benjamin Flounders, a Victorian philanthropist, and the proceeds of St John's Hospital, the present main School building was constructed. Tony Jackson, the school's tenth Headmaster, was appointed in September 2017 as "Barney" embarks on an exciting new era.

The School

'When you are steeped in little things, you shall safely attempt great things'

This motto perfectly sums up what Barnard Castle School - or 'Barney' as it is affectionately known - aims to do in preparing its pupils for life beyond its doors. Through creating an inspirational, compassionate and unpretentious environment, Barney aims to develop young adults with character. Our staff believe that our pupils should be confident, resilient, intellectually curious, tolerant and driven, with an undercurrent of humility, and are prepared to live, embrace and lead in an ever-changing world.

'Parvis imbutus tentabis grandia tutus'.

The school has a genuine warmth amongst its 675 pupils and 180 staff, which fosters a strong sense of community and endeavour. It is highly unusual to find a school where pupils from Year 9 and Year 11 sit on a table at lunch together sharing a conversation, discussing their latest sports fixture or drama rehearsal. However, this attitude is ingrained in a Barnardian from very early on. The co-educational and cross-year group atmosphere starts in the journey from the Preparatory School (ages 4-11) right through to the state-of-the-art bespoke Sixth Form Centre in the Senior School (ages 11-18). A Barney pupil is quick to make someone else feel at ease, whether that is through simple encouragement or a warm smile.

Whilst we are extremely proud of what our pupils achieve academically, we also recognise the importance of preparing the next generations for an evolving and increasingly competitive global marketplace. To do this we focus on developing the individual character of every child, and during their journey with us, we aim to cultivate vital life skills through building relationships amongst the pupil body and teachers alike. Each pupil has a dedicated Tutor who meets with them a couple of times a week to discuss anything from pastoral issues to academic progress.

We want our pupils to develop a prepared mind for life beyond school. This requires confidence, resilience and compassion, all built up over a period of time, and in a variety of ways, both within and beyond the classroom. It also requires that most important quality: humility. At our core is an unpretentious and humble outlook, and it is this combination of confidence and humility that allows our pupils to light up a room.

We want teachers who believe in our purpose as educators and are proactive in immersing themselves in school life during term time. We would like them to role model the qualities we hope to instil in our pupils throughout their journey from the Prep School through to the end of the Sixth Form. Teachers are expected to take part in the extensive extra-curricular "Mind, Body and Soul" programme that runs between 4pm and 5pm and can choose to offer an activity that they are passionate about. We believe in fostering lasting relationships, and contact time with pupils outside the classroom is what makes the *Barney* difference.

The School is situated in its own extensive grounds on the outskirts of an historic market town, recently noted as being the safest in England, in an area of outstanding natural beauty. It is well-resourced and enjoys an enviable reputation for its pupils' achievements on a broad variety of fronts. It is also in proximity to and enjoys close relationships with departments in the universities of Durham, York and Newcastle.

Continuous improvement and investment have produced a number of new buildings, including the MacFarlane Building which houses Physics and ICT, the Atha Fitness Centre, an extension to our Prep School including a new science lab and the new purpose built Sixth Form Centre.

Further details about Barnard Castle School may be found in the Independent Schools' Yearbook and on the School's website www.barnardcastleschool.org.uk.

The Job Description

The Position

Barnard Castle School is seeking an enthusiastic, committed and inspiring singing teacher who specialises in popular music and musical theatre to join our team of Visiting Music Teachers in January 2020. There is currently a requirement for approximately 3 hours of teaching each week, with the potential and intention for this to increase. Teaching will be available in both the Prep and Senior Schools. A willingness to be involved in the wider life of the Department would be an advantage, and there is potential for the successful candidate to assist with Rock and Pop Band rehearsals and help incorporate singers into the 20-piece Jazz Band.

The current rate of pay for Visiting Music Teachers is £17 per 30 minute lesson.

Reports to: Director of Music.

In order to meet the high standards expected of support staff in our school, the Director of Music seeks to employ a person with the following qualities, experience, skills and abilities.

Duties include:

- To teach singing (popular music and musical theatre) to pupils at both Barnard Castle Prep School and Senior School.
- To keep accurate pupil registers and a record of lessons owed to pupils
- To monitor and report on pupils' progress.
- To timetable students each week and meet all administrative deadlines.
- To actively recruit young musicians through giving concerts or demonstration workshops.
- To communicate with parents where appropriate either via the lesson notebook, telephone, letter or meeting.
- To enter pupils for practical examinations when they are ready.
- To encourage students to participate in ensembles, and sign up pupils for concerts where appropriate.
- To undertake other duties appropriate to the post, as required.

Candidate specification:

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Music degree, diploma or professional teaching qualification	x	
Ability to teach singing, focusing especially on popular music and musical theatre	x	
Previous experience of teaching singing		x
Ability to teach to Diploma level and beyond	x	
Experience of singing at a professional level		x
Good written and verbal communication skills	x	
Excellent organisational skills and the ability to meet deadlines	x	

Good IT Literacy (Emails)	x	
Good team-player and enthusiastic about music-making at the school.	x	

All Staff of Barnard Castle School are expected to:-

- Have high professional standards and be an appropriate role model of reliability, behaviour and appearance
- To establish high standards of communication with all stakeholders
- To uphold the policies of Barnard Castle School
- To take an interest in how the School operates

Recruitment Process

Applications

If you feel that you can meet the above requirements then please submit a letter of application along with the Barnard Castle School application form to the Director of Music. Only applications containing the requested information will be considered.

Applications should be sent to:

Mr Richard Dawson
Director of Music
Barnard Castle School
Barnard Castle
County Durham
DL12 8UN

Phone: 01833 696010
E-mail: hr@barneyschool.org.uk

Closing Date: Friday 8th November 2019 at 12noon. Early applications are encouraged.

Interviews: Week commencing Monday 18th November 2019, and will take the form of a 1:1 lesson with a pupil and an interview with the Director of Music and the Bursar.

Applicants should read carefully the application procedure – guidance for applicants, Policy on the Recruitment of Ex-offenders and the Disclosure policy and the Safer Recruitment policy.

Barnard Castle School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and all applicants will undergo child protection screening, including checks with past employers and an enhanced DBS and Barred list check with Disclosure and Barring Service.

Barnard Castle School is an equal opportunities employer.

Contact

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