Ibstock Place

CO-EDUCATIONAL DAY SCHOOL



Information for Candidates

Director of Music

Head's Welcome



Thank you for your interest in joining our team. This is an opportunity to play an integral role in a school with a rich history at the vanguard of educational change. We have a powerful sense of the way in which we shall develop in the decades to come and we seek energetic professionals to join us and to help us to build and realise our vision.

We take pride in a school culture which is inclusive, and which is both forward looking and rooted, dynamic and yet caring. Through our rigorous and imaginative curriculum and a highly responsive pastoral system, we engender in our pupils the courage and ambition which they will need to succeed and to play a constructive role in their wider community and society.

Our staff are the School's most valuable asset and we aspire to create a sector-leading environment in which they can work. We are committed to a thoughtful process of continuing professional development and we create multiple pathways for our colleagues to progress in their knowledge, skills and experience. We are fortunate to have built a strong sense of loyalty amongst our colleagues and we regard the stability of our staff body as a major strength. Many of our employees have built successful careers with us over a protracted period and the sense of community amongst us is strong. Opportunities for promotion and advancement are plentiful. Professional fulfilment is key to staff wellbeing, but so too is access to a range of additional benefits and we are responsive to this too – the happiness of its staff is critical to any organisation's ultimate success.

Ibstock is without a doubt the most dynamic and the most interesting school in which I have worked through my career. I hope that you will be inspired to join us and to make your own contribution to our evolving mission and journey.

Chris Wolsey
Head

About the School

Ibstock Place School is an independent co-educational day school affiliated to HMC, the Head's Conference and to IAPS, the Independent Association of Prep Schools . We occupy a beautiful and well-appointed ten-acre site on the edge of Richmond Park in South-West London.



Established in 1894, we have championed the merits of co-education since our foundation. The School was originally created to showcase the ideas of a progressive German educationalist, Friedrich Froebel and, early on, it specialised in Early Years education. Indeed, it was Froebel who coined the term Kindergarten. While EYFS provision remains an important part of our provision, we have grown considerably since 1894 and we now provide an integrated pathway for our pupils all of the way from 4 to 18 years. We are heavily oversubscribed, and we currently educate around 1100 young people. We have major points of entry at 4+, 7+, 11+ and 16+ and a thriving Sixth Form of around 200 pupils. Our catchment area is steadily growing and our pupils join us from a wide range of both maintained and independent schools.



Academically, the School is strong and we routinely appear in the upper reaches of newspaper league tables, both for GCSE and A Level outcomes. About 80% of our pupils move on every year to Russell Group universities, including Oxford and Cambridge. There is also growing interest in higher education pathways outside of the UK, including those in North America.

Our curriculum is broad and balanced. We seek a unique synthesis of learning which combines the best traditions of a liberal and humane education with an outlook which is forward-looking and dynamic. We have invested heavily in new technology in recent years and we seek to be at the forefront of educational change.



About the School

We recognise that AI will re-shape the landscape of schools in the decades to come and we are taking steps to ensure that we are well-placed to benefit from it. We understand too the importance of a strong co-curricular offer – from our inception, we have been convinced of the virtues of a "whole education". Our pupils can access over 140 different clubs and activities and we have exemplary provision in sport, music, drama, dance and debating. In the Senior School, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is notable for its strength and quality of provision. We expect all teaching staff to make a meaningful contribution to it.

Our pastoral system is exceptionally well-developed and responsive to the individual needs of our pupils. The work of our pastoral teams is supplemented with a class-leading pupil counselling service which we run in collaboration with The Soke, a specialist mental health and wellbeing provider based in South Kensington.



We are committed to the integration of pupil voice in the life of the School and our prevailing organisational culture prioritises the importance of listening, just as it does the celebration of our diversity and the affirmation of our pupils' achievements. The same extends to our other stakeholders – our parents and, of course, our staff.



As a charity, we work hard to ensure public benefit. In addition to a generous and expanding programme of bursaries to support pupils for whom an independent school education would ordinarily be out of reach, we sustain a burgeoning partnership programme with many local state schools and community organisations. In addition to the frequent sharing of our facilities, we undertake a wide variety of projects across all aspects of our operation which ensure that in Roehampton and beyond, we are a force for good. For more details of our work, see www.schoolstogether.org and search for Ibstock Place.

We are ambitious for our future. We have grown considerably in recent years – in size most certainly, but also in terms of our profile and our achievement. Our ambition is to build yet further upon this recent success and to become the leading co-educational independent day school in London.

About the Role



We are seeking to appoint a full-time **Director of Music** from late August 2027. The postholder will be responsible to the Head, through the Deputy Head (Academic). S/he will be a key member of the Faculty of Expressive Arts, and will be line managed by its Head of Faculty. The postholder will also work very closely with the Executive Director of Co-Curricular provision.

The Expressive Arts play a vital role in the life of Ibstock Place School. The Faculty provides a wide range of inclusive and exclusive opportunities to allow every pupil, regardless of age or ability, to discover and nurture their talent or niche. Art & Design, Dance, Drama, and Music work in a vibrant environment with their aims aligned, collaborating and innovating to offer instruction of the highest standard.

All pupils in Senior 7 study one period of Music per week, with pupils in Senior 8 and Senior 9 opting for a specialised and focused Music course as part of a range of Expressive Arts options. We offer the Eduqas GCSE and A Level, with healthy – and growing – numbers.

Examination results in Music are excellent: in 2026, our GCSE cohort achieved 100% Grades 7-9, and our A Level cohort 100% A*-B. Across the whole age range of the School, roughly 45% of pupils learn at least one music instrument, and performance in examinations is stellar. Pupils every year achieve the ARSM diploma in their instrument, and some attend junior conservatoire on Saturdays. Pupils regularly go on to study Music courses at top universities and conservatoires, including Oxford, Cambridge, Manchester, GSMD, RNCM, and LIPA. Three pupils from the most recent upper sixth cohort gained Oxbridge/Cathedral choral scholarships for the 2026-27 academic year.

Teaching staff are expected to be in School between 08:00 am to 16.00 however, hours are as required to fulfil the duties of this role, both before and after school hours.

Ibstock operates a six-month probationary period for teaching roles.

Salary for this role will be **competitive (depending on skills and years of experience).**

The **closing date for application is 2 December 2026**.

Music at Ibstock Place School



Most academic Music teaching is accommodated in a bespoke building which opened in 2020, comprising two large, well-appointed classrooms, instrument storage, and a Music office. Additionally, much use is made of a music technology suite, a band rehearsal studio, seven music practice rooms, and five 'Armadillas' – acoustically-treated teaching pods around the campus. The Music department is supported by an Expressive Arts Administrator and a team of self-employed Visiting Music Teachers. Other performance and rehearsal spaces include Great Hall, the Ballroom, Roberts Hall, and the professional-grade theatre which opened in 2015.

Beyond the academic curriculum, the Music Department organises a wide range of activities, opportunities and ensembles, with a typical calendar year hosting more than 50 events, from large-scale Ensembles' Concerts to more informal recitals, performances at local arts festivals and other community events, recordings, and a variety of trips including an annual choir tour. In recent years, choir tour locations have included Bath and Wells, Venice, Budapest, and Umbria.

Choral music is very strong at Ibstock, and we have a well-established chorister programme in the Prep School and lower years of the Senior School, feeding into Schola Cantorum, our chamber choir in the senior school. Both the choristers and Schola Cantorum regularly sing evensong locally at Holy Trinity Roehampton, and at cathedrals including St Paul's, Southwark, and Guildford.

Rock and Pop provision is strong and contemporary, jazz, and musical theatre repertoire is treated with the same prestige and rigour as more traditional music. Musical theatre provision is excellent, and musicals are of a very high standard. In the Summer Term 2026, Lower Senior pupils (Senior 7 to Senior 9) performed Chitty Chitty Bang Bang to much acclaim, and the Upper Senior pupils (Senior 10 and above) are performing Legally Blonde in December 2026. Ibstock pupils regularly take up places as members of the National Youth Orchestra, National Youth Choir, National Youth Music Theatre, National Children's Orchestra, National Youth Jazz Collective, Rodolfus Choir and London Schools' Symphony Orchestra, amongst others.

Person Specification

Qualifications	
A good degree from a recognised university	Essential
Further qualifications in an area related to this post	Essential
Skills	
Displays a commitment to the protection and safeguarding of children and young people	Essential
Is flexible and resilient and able to adapt quickly to new environments and challenges	Essential
A commitment to teamwork, flexibility and generosity of spirit and the ability to forge working relationships with all members of the school community	Essential
Is reliable and trustworthy, and able to work effectively with limited supervision	Essential
Sets an example of personal integrity and professionalism	Essential
Adheres to the ethos of the School	Essential
A sense of humour and proportion and the ability to self-manage successfully, especially under pressure	Essential
An unswerving desire to support the values and aims of the School and the needs of its pupils and staff	Essential
A passion for teaching	Essential
The ability to inspire confidence and respect amongst colleagues, pupils and all relevant audiences	Essential

The Application Process



How to apply

To apply for the role, please complete our application form and submit it, by email: recruitment@ibstockplaceschool.co.uk

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend interview. The school reserves the right to make an appointment before the closing date.

Note that all offers of appointment are conditional until the satisfactory completion of mandatory pre-employment checks.

Ibstock is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. For further information on our Child Protection policies, please see here. Safeguarding checks with the Disclosure and Barring Service will be undertaken. It is an offence to apply for this role if you are barred from engaging in regulated activity relevant to children.

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act,1974 and the amendments to the ROA 1974 (Exceptions Order 1975, amended 2013 and 2020). For details see here

Note that, in accordance with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026, shortlisted candidates are required to declare any past convictions. Online searches will also be conducted on shortlisted applicants as part of our due diligence process.

At Ibstock, we embrace and celebrate difference. We are proud to be an equal opportunity employer and do not discriminate against any employee or applicant based on their age, disability, gender, marriage or civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation. To ensure this, all positions are subject to blind shortlisting.

Getting to Ibstock

Ibstock benefits from strong public transport links that make it easy for pupils, staff, and visitors to reach the campus. With nearby bus routes serving Roehampton and connecting directly to major hubs such as Putney, Richmond, and Hammersmith, the school sits within a well-established network of frequent services. Putney and Barnes railway stations are also within easy reach, offering rail connections across London.



Several bus routes from major mainline stations have convenient stops located on Danebury Avenue and Clarence Lane. For full details of all Transport for London routes serving the School, please click the link below.

View TFL Routes

If you're travelling by car, limited parking is available on the surrounding roads, with additional spaces at Roehampton Gate car park in Richmond Park.

Ibstock Place School



An inspiring place to flourish

1 Dance Studio
2 Macleod House
3 Priory Wing
4 Theatre
5 Wellbeing Centre
6 Drama Studio
7 Armadillas
8 Clarence Wing
9 Bicycle park
10 Orchard
11 Priestman House
12 Roberts House
13 Swimming Pool
14 Hardcourt
15 Rose Garden
16 The Innovation Centre
17 The Refectory
18 Terrace
19 Main House
20 Footbridge
21 Sports Hall
22 Climbing Wall
23 School of Art & Design
24 Multi Use Games Area
25 Forest School
26 School of Music
27 Sports Pitches

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