



Freman
C O L L E G E

**Teacher of Music at
Edwinstree Middle
School and Freman
College**

The post

We are excited to be advertising a post for a Teacher of Music who will work across both of our schools. The vacancy has arisen because our current post holder is moving on to a promoted post as Head of Music for an Academy Trust.

Edwinstree Church of England Middle School neighbours Freman College and all its pupils move up to Freman at the end of Year 8. We plan our curriculum together and often run joint events, so it makes perfect sense to share a music teacher – this will add to our collaborative work and all that we can achieve together in music.

The successful candidate will spend three days per week working at Edwinstree and two days at Freman College, giving them a breadth and depth of experience that makes this a very special opportunity.

This post is equally suitable for an ECT or alternatively someone with more experience who loves to work collaboratively with other music teachers and is excited by the possibility of working with a curriculum that stretches all the way from Year 5 to Year 13, really enabling children to achieve excellence in music throughout their school career.

Music at Edwinstree Middle School

The curriculum

One of the joys of being a middle school is that our pupils in Years 5 and 6 benefit from specialist teaching and facilities at a much earlier age than children in primary schools. At Edwinstree all our pupils including those in Years 5 and 6 have a one hour music lesson taught by a specialist music teacher. There are 4 classes in each year group.

The curriculum is planned jointly with Ralph Sadleir Middle School and Freman College to prepare pupils for Year 9 and then GCSE Music. [Edwinstree School | Music](#)

The Department

We have a fantastic, well-stocked specialist Music 'department' with a wide range of instruments including class sets of ukeleles, guitars and keyboards, as well as a generous amount of classroom percussion. The department also has a suite of Chromebooks to enable the development of Music Technology before students move to Freman College. We have four practice rooms that are available to use as part of curriculum teaching, as well as by the peripatetic teaching staff employed through Hertfordshire Music Services, who provide tuition on the piano, guitar, drums, singing, woodwind, brass and strings.

At the end of every week, we come together as a school to sing and 'worship' as a community. It is something quite unique to Edwinstree and the successful applicant will be part of helping to lead develop this aspect of our school life.

The successful applicant will be in a department alongside one of our Deputy Headteachers, who is a previous Head of Music at the school.



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Extra-curricular Music

Edwinstree has a school choir and has recently started a 'Music Academy', providing tuition on a range of music instruments. The tuition is led by the music teachers in the school, as well as 6th Formers from Freman College, most of whom are ex-students at Edwinstree.

A highlight of the year is the joint Christmas Concert with Freman College, which has been in running since 2018 and gives our students the opportunity to play alongside much older students, and experience what Freman College music department offers. The choir takes part in local community events such as the 'Lights of Love' ceremony Buntingford, singing at Lister Hospital, as well as leading the singing at the end of term services we hold in local churches.

In recent years, we have been keen to broaden our students' horizons, accessing local opportunities in venues such as the Saffron Hall in Saffron Walden, as taking as taking students to Young Voices at the O2 and the Herts Gala at The Royal Albert Hall.

We are very excited that we can be part of a music tour with Freman College this year.

Music at Freman College

The Department

Music at Freman College is a popular subject delivered by a well-qualified and high profile department of two teachers and a large team of peripatetic staff. The department is housed in the 'West End', our specialist performing arts block, with its own suite of teaching and practice rooms, an office and excellent ICT facilities and resources, in addition to a generous departmental budget.

There is a strongly collaborative and supportive approach within the department and with our two partner middle schools. This makes it a particularly welcoming environment for teachers who enjoy sharing best practice and working together. Staff share in the organisation and delivery of a superb range of extra-curricular music activities and outstanding performances which play a key role in maintaining the reputation of the college for all-round excellence. Some of these events are organised jointly with the middle schools.

The curriculum

There are ten Year 9 classes each of which has a lesson of music per week. The Year 9 curriculum gives students an insight into various genres as well as developing ensemble, performance and composition skills. There is a big emphasis on enjoyment and performance, in particular using guitars, keyboards and voice. In Key Stage 4 we teach the OCR syllabus. The ability to perform to a reasonable standard is an expectation for students joining the course. In the Sixth Form we follow the Eduqas specification.

Extra-curricular music

We are enormously proud of the breadth and quality of our extra-curricular music. We are particularly fortunate to have large year groups of older students and as a result we have good numbers of able musicians. We find that because of the high profile and popularity of the department we also see a significant number of students taking up new instruments with enthusiasm as they join us in Year 9.



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This makes our annual House Music competition one of the great highlights of the school calendar. It also means we are able to deliver an exceptional range of performances across the year. These include more traditional termly concerts, as well as a Live Lounge event to support our school Amnesty group, and a musical (most recently *Guys and Dolls*) on alternate years. We also put on a two night annual extravaganza of popular music playing to sell out audiences.

In addition, we often perform in local churches and at community events as well as taking musicians to do showcase assemblies to inspire students in our partner first and middle schools.

This year we have run a variety of trips including a trip to Cambridge to visit a Music Industry workshop. This summer we have a 5 day Music Tour to Normandy which we are running together with Edwinstree.

The breadth and quality of our cross-curricular music is a key reason why many parents chose to send their children to Freman College and feedback from parents about the work of the department is consistently fulsome.

March 2024