



## Job Application Pack

# Darland High School

**Head of Music and Performing Arts**

**Salary: MPS/UPS & TLR 2B**

**Permanent**

**Start date: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024**

**Closing Date:**

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Interview Date:**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Headteacher Joanne Lee**





## Letter from the Headteacher

Dear Colleague,

Thank you for your interest in working at Darland High School.

I am immensely proud to be the Headteacher here at Darland and I want everyone who comes to Darland High School to be an equally proud member of our family. Our work is about making a real difference to the lives of children so that they in turn make a discernible difference to their communities, our town and our world.

We serve a diverse community in North East Wales, ranging from high levels of disadvantage and deprivation to affluent areas of rural Wrexham, and we work as a team to provide all our students with the best education and opportunities to inspire them to be successful.

Our students are at the heart of everything we do at Darland High School, every child matters to us and we believe that every child can succeed. Our core values of Courage, Respect, Kindness, Resilience and Honesty underpin all we do, our expectations for academic standards and behaviour are therefore unapologetically high.

At Darland you will find a creative and ambitious team, this creativity and innovative mind-set is seen across the Darland Learning Community. The Darland Learning Community is an innovative partnership we have created in conjunction with our primary colleagues of St Peter's Rossett, All Saints' Gresford, The Rofft Marford, Holt CP and Llay Park Llay. A strong partnership of like-minded educationalists serving the communities of Northeast Wrexham.

The last four years have seen significant changes in society and the school. Over the course of that period our GCSE results have bucked the national trend and have increased year on year to some of the highest results in North Wales. We are undoubtedly on a journey of change with our sights set on becoming the sector-leading school in the area. We have a dedicated team of over 120 staff who work together tirelessly with our wider community with this goal in mind.

I look forward to reading your application.



*Chair of Governors, Eliane Lacey & Headteacher, Joanne Lee*

Kind regards

Joanne Lee

Headteacher



## Application Details

Thank you for your interest in this Head of Music and Performing Arts vacancy at Darland High School. We are looking for a passionate and driven individual to make a contribution to the current team at Darland High School.

Further details of this post can be found in this pack and details of the school can be found on our website. Details of how to apply can be found below: The start date for this position will be 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024.

## How to Apply

Should you wish to apply for the post, please complete and return the Wrexham Authority application form and the school's safeguarding self-disclosure form directly to the school along with a covering letter addressed to our Headteacher, Mrs. J Lee, which clearly demonstrates your suitability for this role.

Application pack and safeguarding self-disclosure forms can be downloaded from our website and submitted via email to [headteacher@darland.wrexham.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@darland.wrexham.sch.uk) with Head of Department – Music & Performing Arts in the subject line, or by post for the attention of Mrs Lee, to the following address:

Recruitment

Darland High School  
Chester Road  
Rossett  
Wrexham  
LL12 0DL

**Application forms & safeguarding self-disclosure forms:** These can be downloaded from the school website at <https://darland.wrexham.sch.uk/vacancies/>

Wherever possible, please provide email addresses for your referees.

**Closing Date:** Please ensure your application arrives by 12:00 noon on the closing date **Wednesday 8th May 2024**

**Interview:** Interviews for the role will be held on **Friday 17th May 2024**

**Safeguarding:** Darland High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All new staff will be subject to an enhanced DBS check and the school's self-disclosure process.



## Post: Head of Music and Performing Arts

### MPS/UPS

#### PURPOSE:

- Candidates must be able to teach Music across the ability and age range, supporting the development of the Performing Arts to the highest standards for all pupils at Key Stages 3 and 4.
- Desirable that candidates have experience of teaching Drama at KS3.
- Candidates should have experience of extra-curricular activities e.g orchestra, choir, band, drama groups
- To promote and adhere to the school's values and be passionate about enabling students to develop a love of Performing Arts and be able to communicate effectively, both verbally and with the written word.

#### DIMENSIONS:

Darland High School is an English-medium secondary school in Northeast Wrexham. In recent years the school has been undergoing significant system change in many areas and developing a strong culture of collegiate support and constant improvement. We are looking for a confident and enthusiastic individual who enjoys working with pupils to help them succeed. The ability to inspire others within a creative environment is essential.

We are looking for a passionate Head of Music that can light fires for the Performing Arts. The successful candidate will have a love of Music and the Performing Arts and will be able to teach Music up to GCSE.

Our aim is to ensure that all learners study Music and Drama with interest, enjoyment and enthusiasm. The programme of study for Key Stage 3 in Music and Drama allows pupils to develop knowledge, skills and the importance of presenting and evaluating performance work. Pupils study a range of topics in Music and Drama and focus on developing researching, rehearsing, presenting and evaluating skills. At GCSE level, pupils follow the WJEC specification for both Music and Drama.

Please contact the Headteacher's PA, Mrs. Clare Pickup on [headteacher@darland.wrexham.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@darland.wrexham.sch.uk) directly if you wish to have a tour of the site and a discussion about the role prior to the deadline.



## Main Responsibilities

- Deliver a consistently high quality of teaching, learning, assessment and high standards of achievement
- Lead the department to continue to raise standards and achievement through the strategic leadership of Music and Drama.
- Lead the department to inspire imaginative and effective approaches to learning and teaching of Music and Drama, which consistently drive up progress and attainment standards.
- Evaluate student target and performance data for their teaching as required, and ensure it is analysed as set out in the school calendar or other such documents
- To introduce and enhance opportunities for Performing Arts throughout the school calendar and oversee presentations at key events.
- Positively engage and partake in all activities and events within the Darland High School calendar
- Demonstrate positive approaches in matters relating to student discipline and contact with parents
- Assist in producing and updating programmes of study and schemes of work including suitable assessments for each learning plan for the Music and Drama department
- Be a model of excellent practice in teaching and learning
- Identify students who are underachieving and ensure appropriate strategies are put in place to support progress.
- Ensure that there is an atmosphere conducive to quality learning within the curriculum area, and that students' experiences are challenging, stimulating and differentiated according to need
- To ensure provision for different groups of students within the subject, including ALN, higher ability, disadvantaged, etc.
- To be an active member of the department through involvement in course development, consultation and planning on whole school issues
- To undertake other tasks as appropriate and consistent with the Teachers' Pay and Conditions of service
- To teach across the age and ability range.
- Undertake relevant duties as may be required by the Headteacher

## Culture

- Contribute to an environment where students are motivated to achieve and thrive in engaging, challenging and effectively planned lessons.
- Ensure a culture of aspiration is established through a focus on high standards in all lessons – through questioning, reading and writing and preparation for tests and assessments.

## Safeguarding

- To uphold the school's policies in respect of Safeguarding and Child Protection and ensure the safety and wellbeing of all learners.
- To work openly within the framework of best practice identified in the school's safeguarding policy.
- To report any concerns regarding pupil safety or staff working practices to the DSP.

The information contained above is to help staff understand and appreciate the work content of their post and the role they are to play in the organisation. However, it should be noted that whilst every effort has been made to outline all the duties and responsibilities of the post, a document such as this does not permit every item to be specified in detail. Broad headings may therefore have been used; in which case all the usual associated duties are included in this job description.



## Person Specification:

### Post: Head of Music and Performing Arts

For evidence, A = Application, I = Interview, R = Reference.

ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE	How it will be assessed
<b>Qualifications</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Good honours degree in a relevant subject</li> <li>▪ Qualified Teacher Status</li> <li>▪ Evidence of recent professional development related to teaching and learning</li> </ul>		<b>A</b>
<b>Experience</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ability to deliver KS3 and KS4 Music including experiencing of delivering excellent outcomes</li> <li>▪ Up to date pedagogy, particularly in relation to teaching and learning</li> <li>▪ Understanding of relevant research and best practice relating to the teaching and learning of Music and Drama, particularly the strategies which deliver most impact in the classroom</li> <li>▪ Evidence of working successfully in a secondary school environment</li> <li>▪ Recent experience of extra-curricular Music/Drama</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Experience of working with pupils with additional needs</li> <li>▪ Experience of teaching GCSE Drama.</li> <li>▪ Experience of leading Performing Arts events/presentations</li> <li>▪ Evidence of teaching KS3 Drama</li> <li>▪ Experience of collaborative work with other disciplines</li> </ul>	<b>A / I</b>
<b>Knowledge and Skills</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Good or excellent Music classroom practitioner</li> <li>▪ High expectations which motivate and challenge students and staff</li> <li>▪ Accurate analysis, interpretation and understanding of data</li> <li>▪ Behaviour management to ensure a disciplined and joyful culture</li> <li>▪ Commitment to safeguarding</li> <li>▪ Communicate with clarity</li> <li>▪ Ability to lead by example</li> <li>▪ Hold others to account</li> <li>▪ Support colleagues to bring out the best in them</li> </ul>	<p>Full working knowledge of relevant policies/codes of practice/legislation</p> <p>Knowledge of GCSE Drama</p> <p>Working knowledge of the new curriculum in Wales</p> <p>Understanding of principles of child development and learning processes and in particular, barriers to learning</p> <p>Ability to plan effective actions for pupils at risk of underachieving</p> <p>Working knowledge of SIMS and common Microsoft programmes</p>	<b>A / I</b>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ability to prioritise and manage work load efficiently</li> </ul>		
<b>Leadership and Management</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ability to develop and contribute to a clear strategic vision</li> <li>▪ Ability to oversee Music and Drama experiences both within and beyond the timetable</li> <li>▪ Capable to lead and inspire a team and commitment to working as a team player.</li> <li>▪ Ability to manage the process of change effectively.</li> <li>▪ Ability to delegate to others while retaining a monitoring role.</li> <li>▪ Ability to contribute to the enrichment and enhancement of pupils' education.</li> <li>▪ Model a strong work ethic and high professional and personal standards.</li> </ul>		<b>A / I</b>
<b>Personal Qualities</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Organised and ability to multi-task and prioritise</li> <li>▪ Good communicator at all levels</li> <li>▪ Team Player</li> <li>▪ Enthusiastic and positive</li> <li>▪ Use of initiative and able to apply common sense to solving problems</li> <li>▪ Flexible and adaptable approach to work</li> <li>▪ Positive, growth mindset</li> <li>▪ Strong moral purpose and drive for improvement</li> <li>▪ Humble and kind</li> <li>▪ Motivated, enthusiastic and flexible</li> <li>▪ Excellent interpersonal skills; presence</li> <li>▪ Good sense of humour</li> <li>▪ Desire to develop yourself</li> <li>▪ Ability to give, receive and act on feedback</li> <li>▪ Strong attention to detail and clarity</li> <li>▪ Ability to work under pressure</li> <li>▪ Commitment to the full life of the school</li> <li>▪ Willingness to offer extra-curricular provision</li> </ul>	Ability to think creatively	<b>A / I / R</b>