



Peripatetic Teacher of Voice

Self-Employed

Closing Date 9.00am Monday 15 April 2024



Dear Candidate

I am delighted that you have requested further information regarding the position of **Peripatetic Teacher of Voice** at Unity College. This is a self-employed role and we are currently offering three hours of teaching time per week, with the potential for the role to grow further.



I have been the Headteacher at Unity College since September 2022. Unity College has a very positive, friendly atmosphere. The staff care passionately about the well-being of our children and students are vibrant, enthusiastic and affable. Although Unity College is a large school, we strive to maintain a 'family feel' and a powerful sense of community in which every member of our community feels that they belong, are valued, and contributes positively to College life.

Our primary focus is, and will always be, developing a superb curriculum across all areas of the College, and this includes the offer of instrumental and vocal lessons. As Headteacher, I am committed to putting the 'the arts at the heart' of Unity College and hold a firm belief in the positive impact the Arts has in raising student aspiration.

The successful candidates will possess excellent organisation and communication skills and will have demonstrated an ability to work with young people successfully. They will be aware of some of the challenges facing young people yet hold the highest aspirations for Unity College students. They will also be committed to, and use, strategies that will ensure that all students are given the very best opportunities to be successful in all areas of their lives.

Working at Unity College is tremendously rewarding and this role is a fantastic opportunity to make a real difference to young people's lives.

I look forward to hearing from you.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Richardson'.

Jane Richardson
Headteacher

The College and Music Department

Unity College is a co-educational, 11-16 college. By September 2025, we will be the largest 11-16 secondary school in Lancashire, with 1500 students on roll.

Unity College lies within the beautiful grounds of Towneley Park with breath taking views of the local countryside. The College was part of the Building Schools for the Future project. Our £33 million building opened in September 2010. Due to the huge demand for places at Unity College there is a large expansion programme which has included a new build of 19 classrooms and some internal structural changes. The new building opened in April 2022.

The College's intake is diverse, with its catchment area comprising some of the most disadvantaged and most affluent areas of Burnley. In 2022/2023, 67.3% of Unity College students came from areas with E/E* overall multiple deprivation indices; 68.8% of students came from IDACI Bands A-F. The school location deprivation indicator is in quintile 4 (more deprived) of all schools. The pupil base is in quintile 5 (most deprived) of all schools in terms of deprivation. In 2022/2023 21.5% of students were identified as having Special Educational Needs, compared with 12.9% in Lancashire and 16.8% nationally. The challenges of this context are manifest in the College and this is one of the reasons that we place such emphasis on excellent teaching to remove barriers to achievement for all students.

We are a friendly, caring college which puts the needs of our children at the heart of all we do. Academic progress is obviously vital but we also place a high value on the provision of enrichment opportunities that help our students to grow into responsible, confident and considerate young adults.

The Music Department consists of two full time members of teaching staff alongside three other peripatetic teachers. There are exceptional facilities, which include two teaching rooms, four practice rooms, a recording studio and a professionally equipped 198-seat theatre. The department runs a range of extra-curricular activities including vocal ensemble, keyboard club, music theory club, our annual musical and a range of other performance opportunities throughout the year.



Why work at Unity College?

Every Headteacher will say good things about their own school and so we asked our staff to contribute to this brochure to give you an honest view 'from the chalkface'. Furthermore, interviews always provide opportunities for candidates to talk frankly with a range of staff.

"I feel so proud and privileged to have worked with so many amazing children over the years. There is nothing more satisfying than seeing children who deserve to achieve great results do so. The fact that we, at Unity College in Burnley, can help students achieve high grades of 8s and 9s shows the true value and quality of our teaching and curriculum. It gives me joy to know our students from Burnley can not only rival the grades achieved by children at grammar schools/private schools but beat them too. (It also makes me feel quietly smug!) We have, and continue to have, a positive impact on the life chances of young people across our community in Burnley."

"I genuinely enjoy coming to work and love what I do. I enjoy teaching and being part of such an amazing team who are more than just work colleagues but are genuine friends. I have worked in a few schools but none of them have ever felt like home in the way that this school does. Here are just a few reasons why I love teaching at Unity College.

1. Many students here at Unity College come from challenging backgrounds, but I feel that I make a difference in their lives by working here. I love working with the dedicated team of staff in our department.
 2. This school has a sense of community where students, staff and our parents and carers work together to look after each other.
 3. We have access to incredible facilities that allow us to offer our students a broad curriculum that is not only engaging but also provides fun experiences that no other local school can genuinely match. As a result, we can offer students of all abilities access to opportunities to lead an active, healthy lifestyle.
 4. I feel proud to be a member of the Unity College family because we have an excellent reputation for the quality of our teaching and excellent behaviour of our students."
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"I believe that Unity College has a genuine desire to do the best for all the students. The staff within the department are a good team who work together and the staff have an excellent spirit. When I first came to the school, the staff and pupils were warm and welcoming and accepting of new staff and pupils. I feel as I can discuss any issues with any other member of staff (SLT or class teacher) and will not be judged or questioned but supported to find a solution that is best for everyone."

"I have worked at Unity for six years now and commute here every day from Yorkshire. One of the many reasons I am still here is the excellent working relationships I have with other members of the mathematics department. There is a very friendly feel to the department, and everyone just "gets on" with each other. I have worked in several other schools where there was not the same cordial atmosphere in the staffroom. As for the students I have found that they take a little bit of getting used to but once you have gained their respect, they are a great bunch of young people to work with. The diverse range of student backgrounds makes it a very rewarding job where you can feel that you are really making a difference to the lives of the students in your care."

"Unity College is a modern, successful, and well-respected school with great facilities based in beautiful surroundings – but none of that to me is truly important. The reason I work at Unity College is because I love the great team dynamic in the supportive, professional department that I'm part of; it was also immediately obvious when I interviewed here that the whole of the college really cares about the future of our children. The fact that the school is within easy reach of a variety of vibrant places to live doesn't hurt matters either!"

"There are so many reasons why I love working at Unity College. Here are just a few:

1. There is a whole school approach to behaviour management: staff are supported by Heads of Department and SLT to maintain a positive learning environment.
2. Teachers are respected as professionals.
3. Although some students face real challenges outside of school, when they see that you as a teacher are staying here and not giving up on them, they behave well and work hard. I find this one of the most rewarding things about working here.
4. We have such a range of students from different backgrounds.

There is never, ever a dull day!"

"You really should choose to work at Unity College because it is a school where staff are valued and made to feel welcome, truly act as part of a team, and are encouraged to develop themselves as practitioners. As the College expands and grows, it is an exciting time to join to help shape the future of more young people in Burnley and make a difference to their lives every day."

"I have travelled 6121 miles from my home town and have taught for half my life at Unity College. I absolutely love being part of the 'Unity' family. It is one of the most rewarding experiences playing a part in educating young people in Burnley, watching them grow in confidence, develop a love for Mathematics and achieve success."

Why work in Burnley?

A big warm Northern welcome to Burnley. After all, we weren't voted the friendliest town in Britain without good reason! From world-renowned, cutting-edge brands to affordable living and housing and spectacular countryside to explore, we truly believe we have it all in Burnley.

Burnley is conveniently located on the uncongested M65, providing easy access to the M62, M66, M6 and beyond. There are three international airports within an hour's drive, as well as Manchester, Leeds, Preston, Blackpool, The Lake District and Liverpool being a short drive away.



Burnley offers affordable housing: the mean house price in Burnley is £106,199, which is 36% of the national average. Not only does your money go further when you live in Burnley, but there is a wide-range of properties at your fingertips. From quality modern newbuilds and contemporary apartments to quaint cottages and impressive Victorian terraces, there's something for everyone's budget and taste. 80% of Burnley rural, making it the ideal place to wind down and explore.



Job Description

Dates	Apply by Monday 15 April 2024 - To start as soon as possible
Accountable to:	Head of Music
Salary	£33.00 per hour
Contract Type	Self-Employed

Introduction

This job description outlines the purpose and key tasks required to indicate the level of responsibility. It is not a comprehensive or exclusive list and duties/specific tasks may be varied from time to time, without changing the general character of the job or the level of responsibility entailed. This will allow flexibility for the college to respond to changing priorities. It is the practice of the college to examine job descriptions periodically, update them and ensure that they relate to the job performed, or incorporate any proposed changes. This procedure will be conducted by the Headteacher/Line Manager in consultation with the post holder.

Overall Purpose and Accountability

The role of Peripatetic Teacher of Voice is a key role within the Music Department, responsible for delivering high quality vocal lessons to students, so that:

- **Every young person achieves their true potential**
- **Our community shares a love of learning**
- **Our students are involved in every aspect of college life beyond the classroom**
- **Our community is characterised by an ethos of inclusivity, tolerance and respect**

The successful candidates will possess excellent organisation and communication skills and will have demonstrated an ability to work with young people. They will be aware of some of the challenges facing young people yet hold the highest aspirations for Unity College students. They will also be committed to and use strategies that will ensure that all students are given the very best opportunities to be successful in all areas of their lives.

The Peripatetic Teacher of Voice will work with the Head of Music to create and deliver a shared vision for singing within the College community.

Post-Specific Responsibilities

- Teach pupils, ranging from complete beginners to those of a high standard, the technique and musicianship required to sing, offering encouragement, support and guidance as necessary
- Maintain a register of attendance and inform the Head of Music of problems with attendance
- Prepare appropriate students for graded exams
- Prepare appropriate pupils for the practical component of GCSE examinations
- Where appropriate, and following consultation with the Head of Music, organise, promote, rehearse and direct appropriate ensembles as extra-curricular activities

- Prepare students for concerts, festivals and competitions, as appropriate, and encourage all students to take available opportunities to develop all aspects of their musicianship
- Assess, record and report as required on the development, progress and attainment of students
- Report any safeguarding issues immediately to either the Head of Music or a Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Adhere to college health and safety policies/procedures and current statutory health and safety requirements
- Ensure college is immediately notified of any issues that may affect your right to maintain enhanced clearance to work on the college site (DBS)

**This post is subject to satisfactory enhanced level verification by the
Disclosure and Barring Service**

Person Specification

		Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	Music degree or other relevant music qualification	✓	
	Vocal graded exams		✓
Professional Experience and Knowledge	You have substantial teaching experience	✓	
	You have experience of developing a tailored vocal curriculum for students	✓	
	You keep appropriate records of students' attendance and progress	✓	
	You have experience of preparing students for graded examinations		✓
Skills and Attributes	You are an excellent teacher with a proven track record of excellent outcomes	✓	
	You have the ability to inspire high levels of student performance	✓	
	You have a sense of humour and good interpersonal skills	✓	
	You have high levels of energy and enthusiasm	✓	
	You are a committed, highly-competent, reflective and resilient individual	✓	
Beliefs	You believe in inclusivity and equality	✓	
	You are committed to raising aspirations in the College and believe in the potential of all young people to achieve highly	✓	

How to apply



Please submit your CV to Joanne Lever, the College's HR Manager, **by 9.00am on Monday 15 April 2024**, preferably by email j.lever@unity.lancs.sch.uk.

Interviews will be held during the week commencing Monday 15 April 2024.

If you would like to arrange a visit or have an informal, confidential discussion, please contact the College's HR Manager via the email above or telephone number below.

**Unity College
Towneley Holmes
Burnley
Lancashire,
BB11 3DF**

01282 683010

www.unity-college.com

