



NORTHAMPTON SCHOOL *for Boys*
Billing Road Northampton NN1 5RT
Executive Headteacher: Richard Bernard



NSB Trust Director of Music
(Post is based at NSB School)
MPS / UPS + TLR 1B (Current £14,305)
Remission 14 periods out of 35
Required for September 2025

(Starting salary point on the MPS / UPS negotiated at interview)

Please see this link for full details of benefits: [NSB Employee Benefits](#)

Northampton School for Boys Context

Northampton School *for Boys* is incredibly proud of its heritage and reputation for providing an exceptional education for students aged 11-18: single-sex provision for boys aged 11-16 with a co-educational Sixth Form. There are presently over 1700 students on roll, of which over 600 are in the Sixth Form (including 230 girls). The school is a strategic partner of the Northamptonshire Teaching School Hub and was graded as Outstanding in all aspects of its latest published Ofsted inspection.

The school's academic outcomes are remarkable year on year: GCSE results are consistently in the top five percent for boys' progress and attainment across all schools in England and we are in the top five percent of schools nationally for A level attainment. NSB was the top performing state school in Northamptonshire for A level APS results for 2022/23 and 2023/24. Looking to 2024, we are enormously proud to have delivered on exceptional outcomes for students once again at NSB. 80% of students were awarded a grade 5+ in English and Maths; on average, students secured over a grade 6 per GCSE entry, our P8 score is +0.95 and our average A Level grade per entry for the third year running is a Grade B. We also typically have between 4 and 8 students annually who progress to higher education at Oxbridge.

NSB has been ranked as the 'Top State (Non-Grammar) School in the East Midlands' for 2022, 2023 and 2024 by *The Times* based on GCSE and A level results and won 'Secondary School of the Year' at the recent NEA awards. Continuing with a trend of phenomenal achievements, we were also named 'Comprehensive School of the Year in the East Midlands' 2025 in the latest edition of Parent Power from *The Times* and *Sunday Times*. We also have an exceptional reputation for the breadth and depth of our extracurricular programme and have consistently been ranked as one of the Top Two State School's for competitive sport in Britain by National Publication, 'School Sport Magazine.'

The successful candidate will teach at NSB School and will work with the NSB Curriculum Lead for Music to deliver an exceptional all round music programme for all students at the school. The NSB School Music Department is a fantastically well-resourced group of experienced, committed and highly qualified teachers. Our extracurricular programme is second to none with over 20 ensembles rehearsing weekly. We run a wide, diverse range of ensembles ranging from Symphony Orchestras to Chamber groups, Big Bands to a wonderful Folk Ensemble. At Advanced Level we have exceptionally strong numbers with 30 pupils currently studying across Year 12 and 13. We also have a cohort of Music Technology students in Year 13. GCSE Music remains a popular choice with 40 pupils studying it across KS4. Music is taught for a double period each week at KS3 with lots of students involving themselves with activities outside of lessons.



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We are fortunate to have excellent facilities housed within the Cripps Building – a state-of the-art Theatre of 400 gives us scope for a range of concerts throughout the year whilst also inviting professional ensembles in to work with pupils. In recent months we have been able to welcome the BBC Big Band, Glen Miller Orchestra, Alex Horne and the Horne Section, members of the London Symphony Orchestra (NeoTeric Ensemble) and renowned soloists. We have just been chosen as an ambassador for NCBF (National Concert Band Festival) and have a post graduate jazz composer working with the main Big Band at the moment writing music specifically for the players in that group.

Each week we have 300 instrumental lessons taught by a dedicated instrumental staff from both NMPAT (Northamptonshire Performing Arts Trust) and our private staff. NMPAT is the backbone of the music landscape within Northamptonshire – established over 50 years ago it caters for a myriad of differing standards and genres. Without question the best provider in the country! Many of our pupils attend in the evenings and at weekends.

A variety of software is used to support and enhance students' learning, including the school's Virtual Learning Environment and Microsoft Teams; every student has a dedicated school account which can be accessed from home. All teachers are given a Surface Pro device with digital pen to deliver lessons and support with live annotations and modelling.

The Team

There are three specialist teachers within the Music Department at Northampton School *for Boys* and two specialist music teachers within the department at Northampton School who work closely together and support each other professionally. We have a Music Administrator and a Music Technician to assist with our work. Within your first few months, you will very quickly feel part of that team and able to draw on their support and experience. The team is ably supported by a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

We are constantly reviewing curriculum developments and the research in evidence-informed practice to ensure the quality of teaching and learning remains exceptionally high and are always open to pursuing opportunities for deliberate changes in our practice.

Accommodation

At NSB School, music is taught in three dedicated classrooms, two house computers running the latest software of Cubase, Sibelius and Musescore whilst the other classroom is a practical room, equipped with 30 keyboards in a newly refurbished keyboard lab. We also have a fully equipped music studio running Cubase with integral live room for recording. We have 8 practice rooms which are used as rehearsal spaces, break out rooms and instrumental lessons. They are fully equipped with Kawai pianos and Blackstar amplifiers – Blackstar work with us as an educational partner offering work experience and opportunities for our students.

Trust Director of Music Main Roles and Responsibilities:

- Strategic and operational leadership of the NSB School extracurricular programme for Music
- Strategic oversight and operational support of the extracurricular programme for Music at other NSB Trust schools (currently Northampton School (11-16).
- Strategic oversight and operational delivery of all responsibilities linked to NSB School's status as a NMPAT Lead School for Music.
- Ensuring that the NSB Trust Music extracurricular programme continues to be national leading in



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regards to the quality and breadth of ensemble provision, local, regional and national opportunity for NSB Trust students and regarding the highest quality of student performance levels.

- Strategic and operational leadership of an agreed (with the link SLT member) programme of NSB School Concerts / Music related shows.
- Strategic manager of NSB Trust Peripatetic Tuition.
- Line Manager for the NSB Trust Music Technician. Oversight and management of any cross-Trust Music events / shows.
- Responsibility for maintaining and improving standards of achievement at elite musician level across the Trust – inclusive of students targeting Conservatoire.
- Responsibility for developing the use of technology and links with specialist companies to help maximise extracurricular provision across the Trust.
- Responsibility for the recruitment and contributions of peripatetic tutors, teachers and others who contribute to the delivery of school music across the Trust.
- Responsibility for liaison with Cripps Hall Staff to secure the quality of the environment associated with performance spaces, rehearsal rooms, and liaising with the Senior Leadership Team in the oversight of the Cripps Hall Management, its building and facilities and other areas across the Trust used for Music.
- Support of the marketing linked to extracurricular Music activities across the Trust and working with staff to deliver these.
- Support for NS Music Teachers in ensuring that they receive high quality pedagogical content professional development in line with similar training for NSB Music teachers (in liaison with the NSB and NS Curriculum Leaders for Music).
- Curriculum support for the NS Curriculum Music Lead – ensuring access to NSB schemes of work, end of year exams, moderation of assessments & end of year exams / quality assurance activity support as directed by SLT.
- Responsibility for Health & Safety in Music across the Trust.
- Responsibility for over-seeing the quality of the extracurricular Music section of Trust school websites.
- Oversight of extracurricular music-based display in Cripps Hall areas and across Trust schools to promote the subject across our school communities.
- Responsibility for the oversight of the promotion of NSB Trust Music via a range of social media channels, including Instagram and X.
- Responsibility for the awards and rewards system in extracurricular NSB School Music, inclusive of the consistent use of the Whole School Awards System.
- Responsibility for oversight of professional music affiliation and music competition entry costs across the Trust.
- Responsibility for the performance aspects of the Music section of the NSB School Arts Awards Evenings and oversight of any other Music sections in Awards Evenings.
- Responsibility for ensuring that all Music extracurricular teachers/Peri Tutors at schools across the Trust are using relevant in-school systems to monitor the attendance of different groups of students in musical rehearsal and to analyse the student participation data and to action relevant responses.
- Responsibility for the promotion of NMPAT for schools within the Trust.
- Explore and oversee the use of Trust schools as a Hub for local / regional and national music hosting and talent.
- To ensure that all groups of students have equal access to specialist Music lessons.



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The Trust Director of Music is at the heart of our whole Trust's vision to build culture. Directors within the Trust have an extremely active role to play in shaping this culture and leading conversations with the Curriculum Team Leader (CTL) and their teams. All Directors recognise that the work of the extra-curriculum is never a finished artefact – it is always in the process of review, reflection, evaluation and improvement. In contributing to this culture, Directors will be involved in the following activities:

- Actively develop leaders' and teachers' understanding of what constitutes an 'exceptional' and 'ambitious' beyond the curriculum offer.
- Ensure that we are delivering an 'inclusive' as well as 'ambitious' extracurricular programme for all students where all staff have a secure understanding of strategies to support students' individual needs – support that leads to disadvantaged students and those with SEND engaging in a programme beyond the curriculum and achieving exceptionally well.
- Engage with relevant domain-specific research that informs your understanding of evidence-based approaches to extra- curriculum planning in Music.
- Utilise external networks, adopting the best practice and sharing your own expertise with a wider community.
- Engage with research to create a common language when discussing extracurricular planning.

Wider responsibilities of this role:

- To ensure that extracurricular achievement in Music meets whole Trust targets.
- To ensure that all groups of students are well represented within the Key Stage 3 / 4 / 5 Music extracurricular programme in all Trust schools - inclusive of Disadvantaged and SEND students
- To ensure that a rigorous intervention framework is in place to support students in achieving their aspirations.
- To ensure that equality of opportunity and diversity are promoted, especially for those students who are disadvantaged and/or have SEND.
- To ensure parents are kept informed about their child's progress and how best to support them at home.
- To ensure that NSB Trust students have an outstanding level of careers guidance and advice concerning conservatoire and other Post 16 / 18 music related career pathways.
- To run the designated budget efficiently to promote the NSB Trust Music extracurricular programme and student progress within this.
- To oversee the promotion of the NSB Trust Music programme effectively on the website and to ensure the maintenance of accurate information.
- To take responsibility for the professional development of yourself and that of the wider team – seeking out opportunities that further the expertise and experience of the department and that can help contribute to students' overall success.

SCHOOL-BASED TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The school is committed to an extensive in-service, training and development programme. A structured induction programme is provided for all teachers new to the school. The post is supported by outstanding professional development opportunities through the school's CPD framework, and we regularly support all staff to consider 'what's next' to enhance and further their expertise and



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experience. Please see this link for just some of the opportunities that we provide to staff at differing career stages: [What's next for me as a teacher at NSB?](#)

The governors actively seek ways in which to attract and retain good teachers. This currently includes, amongst other benefits: a free premium touchscreen device to enhance the delivery of effective teaching and learning, free use of the 25m Swimming Pool and School Gym, free counselling and mental health support and free access to qualified physiotherapy. As part of our commitment to staff wellbeing, we also ensure that all teaching staff receive 40% above the national minimum remission. Please see this link for full details: [NSB Employee Benefits](#)

SAFEGUARDING

The Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All posts working with children and young people will be subject to an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.

APPLICATIONS

Please see advert for application process information.

Closing date: **9am, Monday 28th April 2025**

Interviews: **TBC**

Richard Bernard
Executive Headteacher