Junior Band Conductor

Leicestershire Music is looking for an experienced, creative and enthusiastic musician to lead our Junior Band. This is a fantastic opportunity to inspire and develop a talented group of young woodwind, brass and percussion players, currently working at Grade 1–3 level. You'll play a key role in shaping their musical journey, building confidence, developing core individual and ensemble skills, and, above all, nurturing a lifelong love of making music in a safe, supportive and inspiring environment.

Key Responsibilities

Rehearsal Planning and Delivery

- Plan and deliver engaging, well-structured and inspiring rehearsals that develop the musical ability, confidence and enjoyment of all members.
- Select appropriate and diverse repertoire that is accessible, enjoyable and challenging for players working at Grade 1–3 level.
- Arrange or adapt music where appropriate to suit the ability, experience and instrumentation of the ensemble.
- Teach and develop fundamental ensemble skills, including listening, balance, blend, rhythm, intonation and working together as a group.
- Prepare and lead the band in performances, creating positive and rewarding opportunities for young musicians to showcase their progress.

Musical and Technical Qualities

- Demonstrate extensive knowledge of the instruments within the band, including their capabilities, range and technical demands.
- Understand the varying abilities and experience of individual players, adapting teaching and rehearsal approaches and providing additional support where needed.
- Demonstrate clear, confident and effective conducting technique.
- Use creative and engaging approaches to teaching music, developing musicianship and building ensemble skills.
- Create a positive and encouraging rehearsal environment that challenges and motivates young musicians to achieve their potential.

Recruitment and Growth

- Develop and implement strategies to attract new members and encourage participation from young people across diverse backgrounds and communities.
- Support marketing and promotional activities to raise the profile of the Junior Band, including social media, events and engagement with local networks.
- Work collaboratively with Leicestershire Music's existing ensembles, particularly JAM Band and Concert Band, to establish clear pathways for progression and development between groups.

- Help build a strong, welcoming and sustainable ensemble that encourages young musicians to continue their musical journey.

Person Specification

Essential

- Proven experience conducting or directing bands, with excellent instrumental knowledge across woodwind, brass and percussion.
- Strong conducting, rehearsal planning and delivery skills.
- Experience of working with young people and an understanding of their musical and developmental needs.
- Ability to build positive, supportive relationships with young people, families, colleagues and other staff.
- Strong organisational, communication and planning skills, with the ability to work independently and collaboratively.
- A creative and flexible approach to teaching, learning and developing young musicians.
- A clear commitment to inclusion, diversity, equality and safeguarding, ensuring a safe and welcoming environment for all participants.

Desirable

- A formal musical qualification or equivalent professional experience.
- Experience of working in schools, music education or community music settings.
- Experience and skills in arranging music for wind band or orchestra, including adapting repertoire to suit different abilities and instrumentation.
- Experience of developing ensembles, recruiting new members and creating opportunities for musical progression.