

Job Description

Job Title: Organ Scholar

Department: Music **Salary:** £20,000 per annum

Line Manager: Organist

The job description is an operational document that does not form part of the contract of employment.

It may be that from time to time an individual is expected to perform tasks that may not be expressly in the job description but are nonetheless necessary in the day to day performance of their duties.

St Paul's Cathedral reserves the right to amend the job description as may from time to time be necessary to meet the changing needs of the organisation.

Purpose of the Job

The role of Organ Scholar provides an opportunity to work alongside leading musicians in a high profile Cathedral Music Department.

The Organ Scholar

- is expected to continue the development of their musical expertise through practice, performance and observation;
- will receive advice and support in choir training and conducting, liturgical accompaniment, solo playing and improvisation;
- will have the opportunity to conduct in the Cathedral which includes working with the fully professional ensemble of Vicars Choral as well as the Choristers and the professional mixed voice Cathedral Consort;
- will become familiar with the musical and liturgical life of a great Cathedral, together with the daily routines of the musical function within that life and will have the opportunity to assist with the planning for liturgies and special services; and
- will develop team working and pastoral skills through interaction with colleagues within the Music Department and the Cathedral, and with Vicars Choral and Choristers.

Main Duties

The Organ Scholar will be expected to undertake the following duties:

- accompany the Cathedral Choir at Evensong at least once a week.
- play for some “non-choral” services - including the 5.30pm services on a Sunday.
- provide 25 minutes of music before Sunday Evensong, or before the morning services, as a prelude to the liturgies.
- provide voluntaries after some services as required.
- perform recitals in the Sunday organ recital series.
- play for visiting choirs on some weekdays and on some Sundays when the Cathedral Choir is on holiday (in rotation with the other organists).
- greet visiting organists and assist them when required.
- assist the other Cathedral organists at the console for services.
- assist in the training of probationary and other choristers.
- play for Cathedral School assemblies (once a week during term time).
- share in the administrative workload of the Music Department, including typesetting of manuscripts, copying of hymn tune booklets, assisting with the administration for visiting choirs, proofreading and attendance at the weekly music department meeting.
- act as Assistant Choir Librarian (approx. 3 hours a week).

Additional Opportunities

Additional work opportunities, which are separately remunerated, are as follows:

- playing at weddings and baptisms;
- playing in short organ and choral recitals for the Corporate Events Department which take place in the evenings;
- playing at special services from time to time; and
- accompanying the St Paul’s Cathedral Chorus in rehearsals.

Responsibilities

The Organ Scholar is responsible for:

- their own musical development;
- taking full advantage of the opportunities offered by this placement;
- taking a share in the administration of the music department;
- sharing in St Paul's Cathedral's commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults;
- adherence to Cathedral Safeguarding Policies and willingness to attend Safeguarding training and report any Safeguarding concerns through appropriate channels; and
- familiarity and compliance with all Cathedral policies but in particular the Cathedral's Health & Safety Policy.

Person Specification

The Cathedral Chapter are committed to finding an Organ Scholar who:

- wishes to become an exceptional performer on the organ, both as soloist and accompanist;
- has a lively interest in and proven experience of working within the English choral tradition;
- is enthusiastic about working with children;
- has an enthusiastic and positive demeanour;
- has an awareness of the rich liturgical and musical heritage of the Church of England;
- is a graduate or will be a graduate by September 2025. Exceptional final year undergraduate students may be considered;
- displays an enterprising and imaginative approach to personal musical development;
- is able to work calmly, particularly when performing at high profile, pressured occasions;
- is able to work as part of a close-knit team in the Music Department, and also engage with the wider cathedral community; and
- has experience and knowledge of safeguarding requirements and procedures.

The successful candidate will be in sympathy with, and in their work support, the Christian aims and mission of St Paul's Cathedral.