



BEECHWOOD

Sacred Heart School

*Beechwood Music
Department Staff*





MRS SARAH KERSHAW - HEAD OF MUSIC

Sarah Kershaw trained at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama where she obtained her BA Honours Degree in Music, followed by a Postgraduate Diploma in Performing on the piano. She completed a PGCE course at the University of Roehampton, London.



After spending a year teaching music in Africa, she moved to London to work in the music industry, working for a leading music management company. She then left the industry to go into teaching and taught in a number of London schools before moving down to Kent. Mrs Kershaw also sung with the London Oriana Choir before moving down to the South East, and then joined the Tunbridge Wells Symphony Orchestra, playing first violin. Since leaving Music College, Mrs Kershaw has continued to perform on the piano including concerts and festivals, exam accompanying, and a large amount of 'pit' work – including shows such as Pirates of Penzance, Carousel, Oklahoma, Company and Into the Woods.

Mrs Kershaw has also produced a number of school musicals in the past: Les Miserables, Joseph, Calamity Jane, Cats and The Wizard of Oz.

MRS CAROLINE FOX - HEAD OF PREP MUSIC

Caroline Fox studied piano and flute at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, where she obtained her BA Honours Degree in Music. She then completed a PGCE course at the University of Wales, graduating in 1996.



Caroline taught music at the Arts Educational School, Tring for 7 years before moving to Kent. She worked as a music and piano teacher at a Montessori school and as a piano and flute teacher at Hilden Grange, Tonbridge before moving to Beechwood in 2014. She has performed extensively as an accompanist and has been a member of Kent Chamber Choir.

MISS KATIE MOLLOY - MUSIC TEACHER

A former music scholar at Beechwood Sacred Heart School, Katie Molloy gained her ATCL and LTCL performance diplomas in classical guitar before graduating from The University of York with a BA Honours Degree in Music in 2013. She has since graduated with a Masters Degree – researching seventeenth century music at the same institution.



At just 14, Katie was a member of the National Youth Guitar Ensemble (NYGE), and under the musical directorship of international guitarist Gerald Garcia, performed many concerts around the UK. At 17 she won the Gold medal at the Hastings Music Festival and has since gone on to perform many solo recitals. She was guest soloist of the Cranbrook Symphony Orchestra performing Rodrigo's iconic Concierto de Aranjuez conducted by Michael Hitchcock, and had the pleasure of performing with Oscar-winning composer Stephen Warbeck at the International Composer's Competition in 2015.

Katie is a Musician in Residence at the Conquest Hospital and performs monthly recitals to the patients and on the hospital radio.

MRS HELEN ROWE - MUSIC TEACHER

Helen Rowe read Music at the University of Leeds and continued her postgraduate studies at the Royal Academy of London.



She has worked as a professional opera singer at Glyndebourne Festival Opera working with Sir Simon Rattle, Bernard Haitink and Sir Trevor Nunn. Professional choral work includes singing with the Schutz Choir and Sir Roger Norrington at the Salzburg Festival and as a soloist with the Vienna Woman's Orchestra and the Deller Consort in Italy and Sicily.

As a teacher Helen has had singing pupils who have been awarded places at RADA, have sung principal parts for Glyndebourne Youth Opera and the National Youth Choir. Helen has conducted choirs for many years including the Chamber Choir at the Dartington International Festival.

Currently Helen is Deputy Head at Beechwood and teaches GCSE and A-Level music.

At Beechwood we offer a variety of music lessons delivered by specialist staff. The biographies below are to provide a little information on each of our visiting staff members and their

NIGEL FISH - BRASS

Nigel Fish started playing the cornet at the age of 10 with the Loughborough Brass Band before studying the trumpet in London at Trinity College of Music and the Royal Academy of Music. An active career as a freelance player has seen him perform for both TV and radio, perform numerous concertos, hundreds of other concerts and musicals and more recently 3 tours to China. Nigel started teaching at college and he now teaches the full range of brass instruments in numerous schools in West Kent and still frequent the orchestral pit of many theatres.



VICTORIA BEATTIE - CELLO, CLARINET

Victoria completed a B.Mus.Hons degree at the Royal College of Music where she studied with Melissa Phelps and held a scholarship. She then continued her studies at the Royal College of Music on the Post Graduate Diploma programme where she was awarded the Orchestral Mentor Scholarship. During this time she was chosen to lead the cello section of the Royal College of Music Opera Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra and Symphony Orchestra. Since completing her degree she has gone on to perform with numerous orchestras including the London Concert Orchestra and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Victoria is also an enthusiastic cello and clarinet teacher and holds that post in numerous schools throughout London and Kent.



RICHMOND STOCKWELL - DRUMS AND PERCUSSION

Richmond has over 20 years experience as an instrumental tutor. He began playing at an early age, had a Jazz residency from 14, before going on to gain a degree in Music and Recording. Richmond has performed over 1000 times throughout the UK and Europe and his students have a 100% pass rate with Trinity College exams. 'My aim is to enable students to develop a life-long love of music. My teaching always has a practical musical application at the core and I draw on many years of study, and experience as a performer, to help tailor the lessons to the individual. I teach a variety of styles and incorporate material of the



LUCY MCINTYRE - FLUTE

Lucy has given solo recitals at venues including the Purcell Room and Fairfield Halls and performed Nielsen's Flute Concerto, Mozart's Flute Concerto in D and Flute and Harp Concerto. Lucy teaches privately and at schools in Tunbridge Wells in addition to freelance orchestral work throughout the UK. She is an extra with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and BBC National Orchestra of Wales. She graduated with a First from Trinity College of Music in 2006. Forthcoming concerts include Holst's Fugal Concerto for flute, oboe and strings in West Sussex and a production of Peter Pan in Eltham.



CHARLES MONK - GUITAR (CLASSICAL)

The nylon string classical guitar (sometimes referred to as the Spanish guitar) is an excellent entry point for those wishing to learn the instrument. Students will be taught every aspect of left and right hand technique as well as the basics of music theory. This will prepare them well for many different styles of guitar playing. The instrument is very versatile and the repertoire covered within the Trinity music grades includes Classical, Jazz, Blues, Spanish, Folk and many other genres. Pupils wishing to progress on the instrument may continue to the higher grades but many also choose to branch into steel string acoustic guitar and electric guitar. This progression is fairly natural and it is the route that many great guitarists have taken.

Charles has been teaching guitar at Beechwood for nearly 15 years and this has included students from Year 2 upwards. Music grades form a core part of the tuition for most students but not every student wishes to do this. Group playing is an excellent way to take part in school concerts. Above all, Charles aims to create a relaxed atmosphere in the lessons but believe in providing the students with a sense of achievement no matter what the age or level of playing.



ED BINGHAM - GUITAR

Ed Bingham is the electric and acoustic guitar teacher at Beechwood. Whether you simply want to learn the chords to your favourite songs or progress up through the grades, he is here to help! Ed covers all styles and can also guide you with songwriting, with years of experience in this area: he is signed to Northstar Music and writes, records and gigs with The Good Ship Band all over the UK.



NIKKI MARTIN - HARP

The harp is one of the loveliest instruments to listen to and it lends itself to being a great choice of instrument for children, especially those who are keen to make a nice sound early on. With almost 20 years experience of music teaching, Nikki's approach is very child centered. Although she encourages her students to work through the grades, her main aim is to foster a love of the instrument into adulthood. When life is tough, playing a beautiful piece on the harp can lift your spirits, whether you are 8 or 88!



SHEILA MARSHALL - OBOE, RECORDER, MUSIC THEORY

Sheila Marshall teaches oboe, recorder and music theory for Beechwood School; she also works as a freelance, professional oboist. Sheila studied oboe at the Royal Academy of Music with Neil Black, and has since played with many orchestras and ensembles. Sheila is also orchestra manager/oboeist for the Kent Sinfonia, a Kent-based professional orchestra which aims to bring live classical music, including its lively education projects, to everyone. During 2011-14, Kent Sinfonia undertook three tours of China, performing 30 concerts in many Chinese cities, and has recently been working with outstanding young solo pianist Nicholas McCarthy.



JOY WILLIAMS - PIANO, ORGAN

Joy has many years' experience of teaching, and enjoy the variety that my teaching work brings. Currently her youngest pupil is 6 and the oldest in 76! Joy is happy to enter pupils for exams (usually with the ABRSM), but do not insist on exams; her priority is always to draw the best out of students, and encourage them to reach their full potential. Sometimes this involves taking exams, sometimes not - everyone is treated as an individual. Joy tries to make lessons fun and interesting, and encourages pupils to play a variety of musical styles.



JOZIK KOTZ - SINGING

Jozik has been teaching singing at Beechwood for the last two years. For most of his career he has been a professional opera and concert singer, working with opera companies and orchestras throughout Britain and Europe, including appearances at the Proms and at Glyndebourne Festival. He has broadcast on Radio 3 and Classic FM and made several CD recordings, one of which was nominated for a Grammy award. As a conductor Jozik has led education projects for the Royal Opera House, English National Opera and Glyndebourne and currently conduct two choral societies. Jozik's aim in teaching is to encourage pupils to enjoy singing and to help them achieve high standards of musicianship and technical skill. Some of his pupils take grade exams, others do not. He teaches a broad range of music including musicals and folk songs.



ANNETTE TAYLOR - SINGING

Annette is in her fifteenth year of teaching singing at Beechwood. She majored in Musical Theatre having had considerable success with pupils from Beechwood and elsewhere performing in the West End. Her pupils take Musical Theatre exams which involve acting, singing, movement and the wearing of costumes. Annette also has pupils taking popular Vocal exams which are purely performance based.



MADELEINE BUTCHER - VIOLIN, VIOLA

Madeleine teaches violin and viola to all age groups. She plays professionally as well as teaching individual and group lessons.



*If you would like to know
more about Music at
Beechwood, or are
interested in lessons, please
contact the Head of Music,
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