



Yehudi
Menuhin
School

SWIMMING TEACHER

Candidate Information Pack



The deadline for applications is Friday 26 June 2026

We reserve the right to appoint sooner and encourage early applications

A welcome from the Headmaster

Thank you for expressing an interest in this role. I hope you find this document informative, and it explains everything you need to know about working at our very special school and whether it is the place for you.

The Yehudi Menuhin School is a world-leading specialist music school set in beautiful rural Surrey. We strive to promote a collegiate working environment with a strong sense of community. Staff and pupils are on first name terms, and all staff are encouraged to take an active part in the broader life of the school.

We are committed to the wellbeing of all our community and aspire to promote a healthy sense of balance in our pupils and staff. Ongoing professional development is very important to us, and all new staff are given an induction and the training necessary to fulfil their duties.

YMS is an exceptional place full of creative, talented people from all over the world. We would be delighted to receive your application, and we look forward to welcoming you to this unique school.

Robin Harskin
Head

The Yehudi Menuhin School

Founded in 1963 by the world-renowned violinist and educator Yehudi Menuhin, the school provides a place for musically gifted children from around the world to develop their talents to the highest level within a stimulating academic environment. It was accorded the status of Centre for Excellence in the Performing Arts in 1973 and has a global reputation as one of the world's leading music schools.

Today's school provides a holistic education for around 90 exceptional pupils aged from 9 to 19, with specialist tuition on the stringed instruments, piano, classical guitar, harp and composition. Pupils split their time between their academic and musical studies and are given many opportunities to perform in front of an audience. Concerts take place regularly in The Menuhin Hall, but also in local state schools, care homes and churches, carrying on Menuhin's belief in the importance of giving back to the community.

The school also boasts a Virtual Menuhin School, which offers pupils not enrolled at the school the unique opportunity to receive specialist music education in a virtual environment, receiving musicianship, theory and instrumental training and the chance to connect with other young musicians across the globe.

Pupils are admitted based on talent, potential and passion for music, not on their ability to pay the fees. Today, around 90% of pupils require some level of financial assistance to attend YMS. The School is one of nine specialist UK schools that are supported by the Department for Education's Music and Dance Scheme.

YMS Alumni include renowned international soloists such as Nigel Kennedy, Nicola Benedetti CBE, Tasmin Little OBE, Alina Ibragimova, Valeriy Sokolov, Kathryn Stott and Melvyn Tan. Many other alumni are shaping the global cultural landscape through teaching at leading conservatoires and performing with world-class orchestras and chamber ensembles.

Purpose of the role

Deliver high-quality, engaging, and safe swimming instruction to pupils, supporting their physical development, water confidence, and overall wellbeing. The role aims to foster a positive learning environment where students of varying abilities can develop essential swimming skills, improve technique, and build confidence in the water.

In alignment with the school's commitment to excellence and holistic education, the Swimming Teacher will contribute to students' health, resilience, and personal growth, ensuring lessons are inclusive, structured, and tailored to individual needs. The role also involves promoting water safety awareness and encouraging lifelong participation in physical activity.

The Swimming Teacher is responsible for maintaining a safe pool environment, adhering to safeguarding and health and safety standards, and supporting the wider pastoral and co-curricular ethos of the school.



Key points about the role:

Contract Type:

Permanent, Part-time (0.5 FTE)

Salary:

£15,000 per annum
(£30,000 per annum FTE)

Hours:

Mondays: 09:00 to 13:00

Tuesdays: 09:00 to 18:30

Fridays: 09:00 to 18:30

Approximately 17 one-hour lessons

Probation Period:

4 months

Reporting to:

Deputy Head (Academic)

Pension:

The School offers a very generous pension, contributing 13.5% every month, with the employee contributing at least 6%

Holiday:

TTO

Location:

Stoke D'Abernon, Cobham, Surrey KT11 3QQ

Start Date:

1 September 2026

Key Benefits:

- Free School lunches during term times
- Use of the School's swimming pool (when available)
- Free lunchtime concerts
- Free or reduced tickets for Menuhin School concerts
- Discounted tickets to other school events (outside of the school)
- Free parking
- 24/7 access to AXA Thrive app for mental wellbeing
- AXA Health telephone line access for medical support and advice
- 24/7 access to DAS counselling services
- Life Assurance
- A health cash plan provided by Medicash

Job Specification/Key Areas of Responsibility

The Swimming Teacher has responsibility for ensuring the safe conduct of the class in the water and on poolside, in line with good practice and their training, which includes:

- Planning, developing and monitoring the swimming programme.
- Preparing schemes of work appropriate to pupils' age, abilities and interests.
- Enforcing emergency drills every term.
- Being observant of the pool and pool users at all times.
- Initiating any rescues or other emergency action required.
- Being able to affect a rescue from the bottom of the deepest part of the pool.
- Administering first aid.
- Raising an alarm and summoning support in the event of an accident or incident.
- Preventing unsafe activities.

The Swimming Teacher will:

- Ensure the Safeguarding of all pupils and staff at all times.
- Prepare any necessary equipment before a swimming session.
- Communicate clearly at all times with all users/teachers in the pool.
- Check that the changing rooms are clear at the end of a session.
- Secure the pool against unauthorised access when not in use.
- Identify pupils able and interested in undergoing Lifeguard training.
- Attend Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses to keep qualifications up to date.
- Promote the wellbeing of all members of the community and abide by the Staff Code of Conduct.



Person Specification

Qualifications

Essential:

- **Level 2 Teaching Qualification** (e.g., Swim England/ASA Level 2 or STA Level 2 Certificate).
- **Recognised Lifeguard/Rescue Qualification** (e.g., RLSS National Rescue Award for Swimming Teachers and Coaches - NRASTC or NPLQ).
- **Enhanced DBS Check** (and registration for the update service) as the role involves working with children.

Desirable:

- First Aid certification.
- Additional qualifications in teaching children with disabilities or teaching non-swimmers/advanced swimmers.

Experience

Essential:

- Experience of teaching swimming to children is required, preferably covering primary and secondary age groups.
- Ability to create and teach attractive and differentiated lessons and series of lessons in swimming.
- Proven delivery of structured swimming schemes of work and adapting lessons to mixed abilities.

Desirable:

- Experience teaching a range of different age groups.

Person Specification

Knowledge

Essential:

- Strong working knowledge of swimming frameworks (e.g., Swim England Learn to Swim Programme).
- Deep understanding of **Health and Safety** requirements for swimming pools and emergency action plans (EAP).
- Comprehensive understanding of **safeguarding and child protection** protocols within a school environment.

Desirable:

- Knowledge of the National Curriculum for Physical Education regarding swimming.

Skills & Personal Attributes

Essential:

- Excellent communication and organisational skills to manage large classes of students and communicate with school staff/parents.
- A patient, encouraging, and enthusiastic manner to motivate students and build water confidence.
- The ability to remain calm and decisive under pressure or in emergency situations.
- Willingness to be a strong team player and a professional ambassador for the school.
- An enthusiast for the sport and someone who can transmit that enthusiasm to pupils.
- Sensitive and responsive to the needs of musicians who may be cautious about fingers and arms.

The successful candidate will:	Essential	Desirable
Enhanced DBS check	√	
UK right to work check	√	
UK and EEA prohibited list checks	√	
Satisfactory references	√	
Medical declaration	√	
Verification of qualifications	√	
Maths & English GCSE or equivalent	√	
First Aid at Work	√	

Shortlisted candidates will be assessed using:

- Completed application form
- Covering letter
- Interview
- References
- Documentary evidence
- Scenario based activity

How to apply

If you would like any more information about the post, or would like to discuss the job before applying, please contact HR by email recruitment@menuhinschool.co.uk or call 01932 584790.

Please complete our [application form](#) if you feel you are a suitable candidate and are interested in applying.

The deadline for applications is 12 noon on **Friday 26th June 2026** however we reserve the right to appoint sooner and encourage early applications.

Your application form should be completed in full and submitted along with a covering letter addressed to the Head, Dr Robin Harskin. Early applications are encouraged, and the School reserves the right to close the application process early should a suitable candidate be found.

The Yehudi Menuhin School is committed to safeguarding the welfare of children. Please refer to our Safeguarding Policy on the School website. The School is registered with the DBS and successful applicants will be required to complete successfully the Disclosure Procedure at Enhanced level. It is an offence for a person barred from working with children to apply for this post.

The Yehudi Menuhin School is an Equal Opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all sectors of the community.

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