**Director of Performing Arts**

**Full Time or Substantial Part Time**

**January 2026**

Kent College is a school that ensures every student succeeds above and beyond their potential, as shown by our outstanding value-added results which place us as one of the top schools in the country. Academically, creatively, in Music, Drama and Sport, we nurture, support and encourage our students to thrive. Our flexible and personalised offer allows every student to follow their own path in life and excel. Nurturing and care is at the heart of what we do. We are a community of unique individuals, each with our own characters, personalities and strengths, and brought together by our Methodist ethos of doing all the good you can.

Our ethos of kindness, community and inclusive nurturing, alongside excellent teaching and learning, a flexible curriculum and fantastic facilities are the key to success for our students.

Individual excellence is at the heart of the Kent College community.

We value:

Achievement,

Support for all,

Purposeful citizenship,

Individuality,

Reliability, resilience, respect, and

Enquiring and creative minds.

Performing Arts is something we pride ourselves on at Kent College, with the standard of performance as exceptional. An exciting opportunity has arisen for an outstanding specialist to become Director of Performing Arts at Kent College.

As Director of Performing Arts at Kent College, you are responsible to the Head via the Deputy Heads for promoting and maintaining the high profile of the Performing Arts. Specifically, you are responsible for leading the organisation of teaching throughout the Performing Arts departments (Drama, Dance and Music) as well as for providing professional leadership to secure high quality teaching and learning and for the co-ordination and delivery of performances, exhibitions and displays within the Performing Arts departments. The Director of Performing Arts is also responsible for forging close links with the Prep School in developing the performing arts subjects.

The role would be ideal for a current Head of Department or Head of Faculty looking for the next step in their professional development.

The Drama department comprises of a Drama Teacher, Prep School Drama Teacher and Theatre Technician and Manager. There are also two self-employed Speech and Drama teachers.

Drama is taught by specialists to all pupils in Years 7-9 as a discrete subject and is a popular option at GCSE (AQA) and ‘A’ level (Edexcel). In addition, many pupils have private speech and drama lessons and work towards examinations of the London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art (LAMDA).

In recent years at both GCSE and ‘A’ level have achieved in the top 5% of marks for GCSE and ‘A’ level. Performed and Devised examination pieces often earn students 100% in marks and are staged as “performances”.

Performances are staged every term in the intimate drama studio which can seat up to 40 people. Larger productions are held in The Countess of Wessex Theatre. The theatre provides a modern, flexible performance space that is a first-class venue for traditional theatre and concerts as well as theatre in the round. Raked seating provides comfort and excellent lines of sight for 300 people, whilst computerised light and sound is managed from a control room on the first floor. Students run all technical aspects of productions and are trained to use lighting and sound equipment and to design and build scenery and props. The students also devise and stage their own performances as part of the public examinations and ‘A’ level students on occasions lead the younger students in inter-house performing arts competitions.

The Music department comprises the Head of Music and a Prep School Music Coordinator and a part time Music Teacher. There are currently 10 peripatetic music teachers and two self-employed music teachers (instrumental and singing), some of whom are common to both the Preparatory and Senior Schools. The music department is housed in a purpose-built facility, with 11 rooms.

There is a wide range of choirs and orchestras, including: Senior Choir, Lower School Choirs, Two Chamber Choirs, Orchestra, String Chamber groups, String Ensemble, Big Band and Senior Flute ensemble.

The department is committed to music within our local community. Kent College is a venue for the bi-annual Tunbridge Wells Arts Festival. The school is used for the Associated Board Centre examinations for external candidates as well as our own students. Examination results are consistently high, with pupils regularly achieving Grades 6, 7 and 8. Music scholarships are offered at 11+, 13+ and ‘A’ level. Public results have been particularly pleasing with 100% A-C grades at A level and mostly grades 8 and 9 for GCSE, with a number of students going to university to read music.

The Dance department comprises of a part time Dance Teacher. Dance is taught in our dedicated dance studio and in the Countess of Wessex Theatre. It is part of the curriculum from Year 7 where students study a range of dance styles. There are extra-curricular clubs for Ballet, Contemporary Dance, Street Dance, and a Junior Dance Company. Dance is taught at GCSE and as a BTEC for Sixth Form.

The annual Dance Showcase is a celebration of dance talent from across the school and is a wonderful opportunity for students to develop their technical skills, performance skills and confidence in front of an audience. The Dance Department also works closely with Drama and has a dance troupe within the whole school and lower school productions.

Dance at Kent College hopes to inspire a lifelong passion whilst developing transferable skills such as team working, communication and problem solving.

There are close links between Drama, Dance and Music departments.

We are delighted to welcome applications from candidates who share our core values and who are able to contribute to our continued future success. We recruit staff of the highest calibre who will inspire, support and challenge the pupils, and fellow colleagues, to achieve their full potential.

**Closing date:** Monday 19 May 2025 by Midday

**Candidates are encouraged to apply well before the deadline. We reserve the right to interview candidates before the closing date.**

*References will be taken up prior to interview. One of the referees should normally be the applicant’s current or most recent employer. The post requires the highest level of clearance through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).*

*Kent College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Appointees must be prepared to undergo child protection screening Child Protection and welfare are taken very seriously at Kent College, with guidelines on confidentiality and staff-pupil relationship procedures well-publicised to staff.*

*All gaps of employment are to be accounted for and rigorously investigated. Referees are contacted to ensure the validity of the reference. Testimonials are not acceptable in place of confidential references.*