

Section Principal Bassoon: Job Pack

1. Introduction / Message from the Orchestra Manager

The BBC Philharmonic Orchestra is the oldest radio orchestra in the world. Founded in 1922 as the 2ZY orchestra, we have been broadcasting live music for over 100 years. It's what we do best, and 103 years later, we are still going strong.

We are excited to start looking for an exceptional musician to lead our fabulous Bassoon section in the position of Section Principal Bassoon to create some of the finest broadcasts, recordings, and performances in the world.

It's a time of real growth for us. In the last year, we've launched some major new partnerships, expanded our audiences, and delivered incredible projects. From five-star Mahler at the Bridgewater Hall to critically acclaimed CD recordings; from thrilling international tours to our TV series Musical Storyland (14 million streams and counting) – the orchestra is on brilliant form.

Most importantly, we have the best possible mandate from the BBC – to create inspiring, ambitious, and courageous artistic work, and to make a large-scale impact for our audiences with that work.

If you think you have what we need, we can't wait to hear from you.

Good luck!

Jane Bulpin
Orchestra Manager

2. Contract Description

Contract type: Permanent, full-time

Job Base: Philharmonic Studio, MediaCityUK, Salford

The BBC offers a competitive salary with a defined contribution pension scheme as well as MyChoices, our flexible benefits scheme, allowing you to build a package personal to you, including health cover, gym membership, electric vehicles, cycle to work, plus discounted products and services via MyDeals.

The Section Principal Bassoon position also offers own choice release days, annual instrument allowances, training & medical allowances and full instrumental insurance cover.

3. Key responsibilities

Main duties include:

- To sit as Section Principal Bassoon, demonstrating outstanding solo and orchestral playing abilities.
- To lead and manage the Bassoon section, fostering a supportive environment and taking responsibility for the performance and welfare of the section along with the Orchestra Manager.
- To support and develop positive working relationships with conductors, freelancers and all members of the orchestra.
- To play a key role in the life of the BBC Philharmonic – to be a passionate team player with a commitment to maintain and enhance the reputation of the orchestra.

4. Person Specification

Applicants should aim to meet a majority of the following criteria:

- Outstanding professional orchestral and solo playing abilities.
- Knowledge, passion and appreciation of the range of repertoire performed by the BBC Philharmonic.
- Ability to lead, motivate and work collaboratively – to provide artistic direction and to inspire members of the section and orchestra.

- Leadership: ability to provide constructive musical feedback to colleagues, deal with sensitive issues and establish high standards of musical performance.
- Interpersonal skills: ability to contribute as part of a diverse team and to support colleagues, conductors and freelancers.

BBC Values

- **AUDIENCES** are at the heart of everything that we do.
- **CREATIVITY** is the lifeblood of our organisation.
- **TRUST** is the foundation of the BBC – we are independent, impartial, and truthful.
- We **RESPECT** each other – we're kind, and we champion inclusivity.
- We are **ACCOUNTABLE** and deliver work of the highest quality.
- We are **ONE BBC** – we collaborate, learn, and grow together.

Our next Section Principal Bassoon will:

- keep us accountable to BBC values
- accomplish amazing amounts of important work
- act in the BBC's best interest
- inspire others with your thirst for excellence
- genuinely care about the BBC's success
- make time to help colleagues