

National Symphony Orchestra Ireland

Principal Conductor Designate: Alexander Shelley

Principal 1 Clarinet (Sitting No. 2 with E Flat Liability)

Job Title:	Principal 1 Clarinet
Responsibilities:	Sitting No. 2 Clarinet, with liability to step up to Section Leader on a first call basis as required, and doubling E flat.
Grade:	Principal 1
Role Location:	National Concert Hall, Dublin. Due to the nature of this role considerable travel will be required on an ongoing basis to accommodate the orchestra and its programming commitments together with other business requirements both nationally and touring overseas.
Reporting to:	Orchestra Manager

ABOUT NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA IRELAND

National Symphony Orchestra Ireland performs over seventy events per annum including approximately 30 subscription seasons symphonic concerts (September through May) at the National Concert Hall in Dublin. In addition, NSOI produces broadcasts, film and audio recordings as well as seasonal and educational concerts. All musicians require excellent solo and orchestral playing abilities, maintaining the highest musical standards. Must be an effective and committed team player and to play a full role in the life of the Orchestra. Be an effective and committed leader when leading the section.

THE POSITION

NSOI is seeking to appoint a Principal 1 Clarinet. **The successful candidate will sit No. 2 Clarinet with NSOI, doubling E flat, and will have a liability to step up to lead the section on a first call basis.** The successful candidate will provide the highest standard of orchestral playing and work in accordance with NSOI policy. Candidates should have significant orchestral experience and show evidence of excellence in performance to a high professional standard. The ideal candidate will be an exceptional player and demonstrate commitment to delivering a very high standard of work. NSOI will also consider candidates who are in the early stages of their career and can demonstrate potential to fulfil the role as required.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

The successful candidate will:

ESSENTIAL

- Demonstrate exceptional orchestral and solo playing abilities.
- Contribute to performances that will meet the highest artistic standards.
- Demonstrate respect for others by being fully prepared and ready to play at the start of every session.
- Demonstrate the ability to maintain composure when working under pressure.
- Have a high level of musical training, including relevant third level qualifications.

DESIRABLE

- Have expertise in a broad range of musical & performance activities including chamber music, education and studio work.
- Have experience of performing in equivalent roles in professional orchestras.

PERSONAL SKILLS

The successful candidate will be:

- An effective communicator with excellent organisational skills.
- Self-motivated, working under pressure with integrity.
- Able to work collaboratively and respectfully as part of a team.
- Willing to develop positive working relationships with other members of the orchestra and the management team.

Key Relationships

NCH Senior Leadership Team, Principal Conductor, NSOI management and musicians' team inc. Head of Orchestra and Choirs, Orchestra Manager, Concerts & Planning Manager, Conductors and Associate Artists, Marketing, HR, and Operations Admin; Other NCH employees as required.

Further Information

Working Week	The standard working week applying to this role is 33hrs per week/ 66hrs net per fortnight. The NSOI has a 7-day liability including weekends and public holidays and therefore flexibility is essential. There will a requirement for the post holder to work in other locations outside of the National Concert Hall, Dublin.
Annual Leave	24 days per annum, scheduled by management (prorated for duration of contract)
Pension Details	Single Public Sector Pension Scheme
Probation	The probationary period is 9 months, which may be extended to 12 months at management discretion
Remuneration	NSOI Principal 1 Salary scale (as at 1 June 2026): €54,727 - €55,950 - €57,180 - €58,418 - €59,619 - €60,443 - €61,682 - €62,928 - €64,480 - €66,082 Appointment will be at the first point of the salary scale. Placement at a higher point will only be considered where the successful candidate is currently employed in the Irish public sector, or in an equivalent public sector role, and only where approved in advance.

The above Job Description is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all duties involved and consequently, the post holder may be required to perform other duties as appropriate to the post which may be assigned to him/her from time to time and to contribute to the development of the role in line with ongoing change within.