

# Sienna Patel



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Newly qualified music teacher with a PGCE in Secondary Music from the University of Exeter and **Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)**. BMus graduate from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama with **ABRSM Grade 8 Piano (Distinction)** and **Grade 8 Voice**. Completed two school placements teaching whole-class music, composition, and performance across Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 to classes of up to **30 pupils**. Experienced in directing choirs, organising school productions, and delivering GCSE Music coursework support. Enhanced DBS checked and Safeguarding Level 2 certified.

## EXPERIENCE

Jan 2025 – May 2025

**Final Teaching Placement (PGCE)**, Exeter College Academy (St Luke's Campus), Exeter

Ten-week assessed placement as sole music teacher for Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 classes at a secondary school with **950 pupils** rated Good by Ofsted.

- Planned and delivered **over 70 lessons** covering composition, listening, performing, and music technology to Year 7 through Year 11 classes of **24 to 30 pupils**
- Received **4 Outstanding and 4 Good** lesson observation grades across the placement
- Taught a **Year 9 composition unit** on film music, with pupils composing to a scene from a silent film using **Sibelius and GarageBand**; **88% achieved or exceeded** the expected standard
- Directed the **Key Stage 3 choir (42 pupils)** and prepared them for the summer concert, selecting repertoire, running weekly rehearsals, and arranging parts for mixed ability singers
- Supported **18 GCSE Music students** with coursework composition and performance, moderating work with the head of department

Sep 2024 – Dec 2024

**Teaching Placement (PGCE)**, Tiverton High School, Tiverton

First PGCE placement in a rural comprehensive school with **700 pupils**.

- Taught **40+ lessons** to Year 7 and Year 8 classes covering rhythm, melody, ensemble performance, and world music
- Introduced **graphic notation** to a Year 7 class of **28 pupils** as a gateway to composition, with all pupils producing a group piece by the end of the unit
- Launched a **lunchtime ukulele group** that grew from **6 to 18 pupils** over one term, performing at the Christmas assembly
- Managed a practical classroom environment with **keyboards, percussion, and recording equipment**, maintaining safe and orderly use by all pupils

Jan 2022 – Aug 2024

**Private Piano and Voice Teacher**, Self-Employed, Cardiff

Private instrumental and vocal teaching to students aged 7 to 18, preparing for ABRSM and Trinity examinations.

- Maintained a regular schedule of **12 to 15 pupils per week** across piano and voice
- Prepared students for **ABRSM exams from Grade 1 to Grade 7**, with a **100% pass rate** and **9 Distinctions** across 22 examination entries
- Tailored lesson plans to individual learning styles, including pupils with dyslexia who required adapted notation and visual aids

## EDUCATION

Sep 2024 – Jul 2025

**PGCE Secondary Music in Music Education**, University of Exeter, Exeter

Postgraduate Certificate in Education with **Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)**. Met all **Teachers' Standards** across both placement schools.

- Modules: Music Curriculum Design, Assessment and Progression in Music, Inclusive Practice, Professional Studies, Behaviour for Learning
- Completed **over 120 days of school-based training** across two secondary schools
- Action research project on *the impact of technology-based composition tools on engagement in Key Stage 3 music*

Sep 2020 – Jul 2023

**BMus (Hons) Music in Music (Piano Performance)**, Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Cardiff

Graduated with First Class Honours (**1st, 72% average**). Final recital programme included works by Chopin, Debussy, and Prokofiev, assessed at **78%**.

- Studied piano performance, music theory, musicology, composition, and choral conducting
- Performed in **12 public recitals** and **4 ensemble concerts** during the degree

## SKILLS

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Whole-Class Music Teaching (KS3 & KS4) • Composition and Listening Instruction • GCSE Music Coursework and Assessment • Choir Direction and Vocal Coaching • Music Technology (Sibelius, GarageBand, Logic Pro) • Keyboard and Piano Teaching • Extra-Curricular Music Coordination • Behaviour Management in Practical Settings • Safeguarding (Level 2) • ABRSM and Trinity Exam Preparation

## CERTIFICATIONS

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|----------------------------|---|
| <i>Jul 2025</i>            | <b>Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)</b> , Department for Education                          |
| <i>Mar 2019 – Mar 2019</i> | <b>ABRSM Grade 8 Piano (Distinction)</b> , Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music |
| <i>Jun 2020 – Jun 2020</i> | <b>ABRSM Grade 8 Singing</b> , Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music             |
| <i>Aug 2024 – Aug 2024</i> | <b>Enhanced DBS Certificate</b> , Disclosure and Barring Service                          |
| <i>Sep 2024 – Sep 2024</i> | <b>Level 2 Safeguarding Children</b> , EduCare  |

## LANGUAGES

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English - Native • Gujarati - Conversational

## REFERENCES

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**Ms. Catherine Burgess**      Head of Music, Exeter College Academy, c.burgess@exetercollegeacademy.devon.sch.uk, +44 1392 427 158

## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY

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|----------------------------|--|
| <i>Oct 2024 – Dec 2024</i> | <b>Musical Director, Tiverton High School Christmas Production (Grease)</b><br>Led the musical direction for the school's annual Christmas production during the first PGCE placement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rehearsed a <b>cast of 35 pupils</b> in vocal parts over <b>8 weeks of weekly rehearsals</b></li><li>Arranged simplified vocal harmonies for less experienced singers, enabling full cast participation</li><li>Performed as <b>rehearsal pianist</b> and coordinated with the drama teacher and a <b>student band of 6 instrumentalists</b></li><li>Three performances attended by a total audience of <b>over 500</b></li></ul> |
| <i>Sep 2024</i>            | <b>Youth Choir Director, Exeter Youth Music</b><br>Volunteer director of a community youth choir for singers aged 11 to 18. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Run <b>weekly rehearsals for 28 singers</b> covering repertoire from classical to contemporary pop arrangements</li><li>Prepared the choir for <b>3 public concerts</b> including a Christmas carol service at Exeter Cathedral attended by <b>300+ audience members</b></li></ul>   |