Music has always been a part of my life. I’ve been very interested in music, particularly from a young age and I have a real passion for it and a real flair for it.

Music is a very creative subject and offers pupils an opportunity to grow academically, personally, socially. So I chose music because I enjoy it and I see that there’s a lot of value for music education in today’s schools.

I had very inspirational teachers and I want to inspire others as I have been inspired. And I wanted to be part of a profession which is very exciting, very dynamic, which is challenging and no two days would be the same.

Music offers children the opportunity to develop in a whole host of areas. It’s creative, it offers opportunities for teamwork, it’s time management, there are performance and presentation opportunities, it’s historical, it’s analytical, it’s a language, it’s mathematical. It’s not just about performing an instrument – there’s so much more to it.

There’s a lot of extra-curricular commitment and, in any school, there should be a thriving extra-curricular musical programme. Things like choirs, and orchestras, jazz bands, string groups. There’s a whole host of opportunities for music in schools – for music teachers. So there’s a big commitment and that’s part and parcel of the role and, in any thriving music department, the music teacher will be running around quite busy.

I think education’s very much about influencing and being an influencer and that’s really why I’ve come into this – to inspire people as I have been inspired.