

# How to apply for a mentor

**This step by step guide will walk you through the whole process of getting a mentor!**

Arts Emergency provides young people with FREE mentoring, advice, guidance and opportunities to help you embark on your next steps, be that in education or your career in the creative sector.

We're looking for young people aged 16-18 in London, Brighton, Greater Manchester and Merseyside who are passionate about the arts, humanities or creative industries and who would benefit from having a mentor in these areas. We match you and your mentor based on your individual interests, passions and goals.

If that sounds like something you'd enjoy, then you should apply to become an Arts Emergency mentee!

## Before you start your application

- Have a think about the time commitment. Will you be able to meet with your mentor once a month, for an hour or so, for 12 months starting in January?
- Consider what your goals might be over the next couple of years... what do you enjoy doing? Are you thinking about applying for university? Are you looking for your first job after studying?
- While your parents or guardian's do not need to give permission for you to join this programme, we prefer to notify them. We also require their permission for media permissions, which are optional. Most young people nominate a parent or guardian as their emergency contact. We advise that you speak to them about this and let them know that you are applying for a mentor.

## Completing the application

- You are able to start your application and return to it later if you don't want to complete it all at once. To do this, click the 'Save my progress and resume later' button at the top and bottom of the page.
- We'd advise you to complete the application on a tablet or laptop rather than a phone.
- When you're answering the questions, there is a 100 word limit so try and keep your answers concise.
- If you find it difficult to communicate through writing, for example if you have dyslexia, you can also complete your application over the phone. Email [mentoring@arts-emergency.org](mailto:mentoring@arts-emergency.org) to schedule this.

# What Arts Emergency looks for a mentee

## Curiosity

We want to know that you are curious or passionate about the arts, humanities or the creative sector.

It doesn't matter if you don't know what you want to do as your mentor will help you with this, but you have to be open and curious about exploring your interests and options in depth with another person.

- Don't worry about not having enough experience already because Arts Emergency is about helping you to explore new things and gain experience
- The more you tell us and the more truthful you are, the easier it is to match you with a suitable mentor. So feel free to tell us about any new topics or areas that you would like to explore
- You can apply for Arts Emergency whether you are thinking about university, your first job or have no plans at all. Arts Emergency is here to help you explore all your options and your mentoring sessions will be based on your goals

## Commitment

All our mentees must be committed to meeting with their mentor for an hour once a month for a year starting in January 2023.

- It's important that you are able to stay engaged and connected with your mentor and the Arts Emergency team throughout the year-long programme. These meetings will ideally be face-to-face
- Please demonstrate in your application that you are ready to make this commitment as we want to match mentors with young people who will benefit most from their support

## Eligibility

You must live in London, Brighton, Greater Manchester or Merseyside, and you must have at least one of our eligibility criteria to apply for a mentor.

Our eligibility criteria helps us to make sure we work with young people who will benefit most from having a mentor.

- neither of my parents went to university
- I am currently eligible for Free School Meals
- I was eligible for Free School Meals between year 7 and year 11
- I am a recipient of a 16-19 bursary
- I would describe myself as Black, Asian or from an ethnic minority background
- I have a disability\*
- I have a learning disability and/or I have special educational needs\*

Arts Emergency also uses your postcode (the one where you spent most of your childhood) to assess the deprivation of the area as an indication of your eligibility for our mentoring programme.

\* Under the Equality Act 2010, you are 'disabled' or 'learning disabled' if you have a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term negative effect on your ability to do normal daily activities.

# You're Ready!

We're looking forward to receiving your application and getting to know you!

If you have any more questions about applying please check out **our FAQ resource** or contact us at **[mentoring@arts-emergency.org](mailto:mentoring@arts-emergency.org)**

## Next Steps

If your application is successful, the next step is to meet with a couple of members of the Arts Emergency team for a chat to find out more about you and determine how we can best support you in the mentoring programme.

You'll hear from us by mid November if you're through to this next stage.

If you are applying through a partner school, this will be arranged through your teacher and we will meet with you (in person or online) for a fifteen minute slot during the school day. Your teacher will let you know when this will happen.

If you are applying directly (i.e. you may have found this opportunity through social media, a friend or family member), we will get in touch and arrange an online video call with you in late October or early November.

**ARTS  
EMERGENCY**

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