



About us

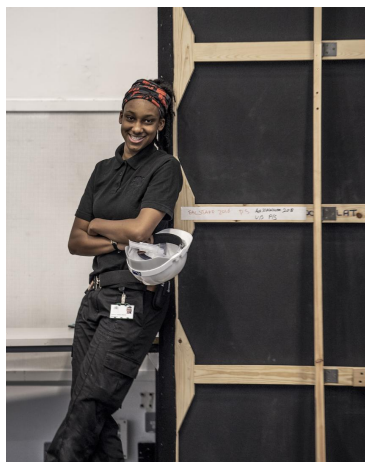
Arts Emergency is a mentoring programme for young people ages 16-25 who are interested in the arts, humanities and creative industries. We would like to offer your Year 12 students a year of one on one mentoring with a creative professional, as well as access to great trips, opportunities and our wider network.

It can be a life-changing opportunity for your students, as well as contributing towards your school meeting Gatsby benchmarks 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

"Thank you! Your support for our students is honestly invaluable. The confidence and knowledge they gain throughout the mentoring process is evident and it's great to see!"
Rebecca Crossfield, Realising Aspirations Coordinator, Ashton Sixth Form College

What do you need to do?

As a teacher contact, we will need your support with the recruitment and application process. We will also contact you throughout the year if any pastoral or safeguarding concerns arise with your students.



Hosanna's story

Hosanna was mentored in 2018 by Ellie, and actor and playwright (known for her work on *Game of Thrones*). Hosanna is now an apprentice at the Royal Opera House.

"When I joined Arts Emergency I didn't know what I wanted to do after school but once I was matched with a mentor I had someone to figure it all out with. I didn't even think I would do an apprenticeship, so it was really helpful to have someone to practice interviews with and read through my applications. Without Arts Emergency's help and support I might not have had the confidence or belief that I could do this, or anything else that I want to achieve."

This pack contains further information on the mentoring programme, including our safeguarding procedures, recruitment process and what we need from you as a school / college.

Arts Emergency: Information for Schools and Colleges

Arts Emergency is an award-winning charity and network. Since 2013 they've helped hundreds of young people without connections flourish in higher education and navigate their way into creative and cultural careers.

The charity provides 16-25 year olds in London, Greater Manchester and Merseyside with a trained mentor working in their field of interest. We offer one year of one-to-one mentoring and networking for young people with an interest in the arts and humanities. We also provide ongoing support through our wider professional network until that young person is 26.

We can offer your Year 12 students a limited number of student places on our programme. Taking part is free and from you we'll simply need a designated contact at your school/college, a safeguarding contact, assistance with student recruitment and help with any pastoral issues.

This document covers the ins and outs of the programme. If you have questions or wish to discuss further, please feel free to contact us using the details on page 7.

What can Arts Emergency offer your school/college and pupils?

The Arts Emergency mentoring programme is for young people ages 16-25. The programme contributes towards your school meeting Gatsby benchmarks 2, 5, 6 7 and 8.

The Arts Emergency one-to-one mentoring programme is for students interested in the following areas:

Architecture	Classics	Film & TV	Music
Academia	Comedy	Games Design	Photography
Acting	Dance	History	Politics & Activism
Arts Admin	Design	Journalism	Publishing
Art & Design	English	Marketing	Theatre
Art History	Fashion	Museums	Writing

Pupils will be matched with trained and DBS'd mentors who are able to provide expert advice. Mentor pairs meet once a month over the course of the year -- either in person in a public place (if social distancing rules mean it is safe to do so) or by video call. Together they work towards goals based on that individual student's needs e.g. exploring university/apprenticeship options, developing UCAS personal statements, writing CVs, finding work experience, making industry connections, gaining feedback on their work and exploring their interests further.



Who are Arts Emergency mentors?

Arts Emergency mentors are a team of volunteers from a variety of professional backgrounds. We aim to match their expertise with the interests of your pupils. They are trained in goal-setting, working with young people and understanding safeguarding procedures. All mentors must agree to our Code of Conduct, undergo a reference check and an enhanced DBS check and a one to one meeting with our staff before mentoring can commence. Our mentors come from a range of established organisations including the V&A Museum, Netflix, Royal Opera House, ALRA, The Economist, Financial Times, Manchester International Festival, BBC, Tate, Columbia Records, Royal Exchange, Contact Theatre, 20 Stories High, the Royal College of Art, the University of Liverpool, and the University of Manchester.

What do Arts Emergency look for in a mentee?

- A curiosity to explore their areas of interest i.e. architecture, theatre, or design. There is no pressure to know exactly what they want to do, they can spend the year exploring this but they will need to be curious!
- A commitment to meeting their mentor once a month over the course of a year
- A personal background that meets Arts Emergency's eligibility criteria as listed below



At Arts Emergency, we try to work with young people who aren't already able to benefit from their parents' university experience and professional networks. The criteria below helps us to make sure we work with young people who will benefit most from having a mentor. We ask that all mentees tick **at least one** of the criteria below:

Eligibility Criteria

- Neither of my parents went to university
- My family's household income is below £25,000 per year
- Me or my family receive Universal Credit
- I am currently in care or have been in care
- I was eligible for free school meals between year 7 and year 11
- I was or am a recipient of a 16-19 bursary
- I have a learning difficulty (such as dyslexia)
- I have a disability*
- I am a refugee or asylum seeker
- I am a young parent
- I am a young carer
- I would describe myself as a person of colour or ethnic minority

*You're disabled under the Equality act 2010 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.

How does recruitment work?

In September, we will send you an information pack about the Arts Emergency programme and the application process. This will include a link to online applications and a video that can help your students understand the programme and how to apply. We will let you know the deadline for applications. You can access the video here: <https://bit.ly/3xcJfqd>

We recognise that as teachers you are likely to have insight into which students would best benefit from our programme. Once we have received applications from your students through our online portal, we will discuss shortlisting with you to help us make sure we're reaching the students who can most benefit from the support of a mentor.

After October half term, Arts Emergency conducts informal interviews with these students at your school/college or via video call. The interviews are casual, kind and are predominantly to help us get to know the student better so we can provide them with a good mentor match.

We approach parents / guardians to let them know about the programme and ask them to contact us with any concerns or if they don't want their child to participate.

Very occasionally we might not admit a student to the programme if we feel they do not fit the eligibility criteria above or their interest area is outside of the arts or humanities.

"I know that some of our students found it too difficult to keep up with their mentoring this year so put things on pause, but for most it was an absolute lifeline! So many students are really concerned about their future options and having their opportunities taken away from them, so for mentees to be able to connect with their mentors and explore their future creative careers gave them a sense of hope and possibility."

Rebecca Crossfield, Realising Aspirations Coordinator, Ashton Sixth Form College

"Having access to the network for group talks for students wanting to explore career options was brilliant this year. We had some fantastic speakers talk to our year 13 and share their career story. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive with students left feeling inspired, reassured and excited about their futures. The best mentoring scheme out there!"

Joanne Bishop, Head of Careers, City and Islington College

How are students matched?

We endeavour to match each young person to the most appropriate trained mentor, based on their ability to support the young person's individual requirements. We pay particular attention to the young person's interests, aptitudes and special needs. For example, if a student's interest was in writing, we would endeavour to match them with a writer.

Students will be invited to meet their mentor at our Welcome Event in January. This event will give pupils the chance to introduce themselves, learn more about their mentor, swap contact details, schedule their next meeting and network with other professionals. We endeavour to have these events in person wherever possible, but they could happen online if that is deemed safer.

How do meetings work?

Traditionally, mentees and mentors arrange to meet once a month, in a public place where the student feels comfortable, to discuss goals for the year and how to achieve them. Because of coronavirus and social distancing, meetings may need to take place by phone or video chat. Where this occurs mentor pairs will be required to follow our online code of conduct. We will review guidance for meeting in person and keep schools and mentor pairs updated.

The content of these meetings will differ depending on the student's interests, for example a mentor pair with a focus on photography might meet and discuss portfolios one month, but then the next month they might do something more practical like a photo shoot. A pair focused on journalism might review their writing in one session, but visit a newspaper in the next. Mentors often offer additional assistance during UCAS application season.

Students are given a mentee handbook at the beginning of the year which helps guide them through the mentoring process, from scheduling meetings, communicating with their mentor to setting goals.

What happens after a year of mentoring is complete?

After the year of mentoring is complete, students will be invited to a Celebration Event where they will join our Young Community.

Arts Emergency will continue to support students by offering them opportunities, work experience and expert advice through our wider professional network until the age of 26. They can join the Community Discord to network with past and current mentees, and can have the opportunity to join Arts Emergency's Youth Collective.

"My mentor was great and kept my hopes high during lockdown. He helped me get into National Youth Theatre and has continued to keep me motivated and inspired!"

Ethan, Mentee 2020-2021

"Every month no matter how hectic things are getting, having a mentor meeting helps bring everything together by acting as a guide. My mentor has helped ease a lot of anxieties about the world of work. Being part of Arts Emergency as a whole, feels like a community even though I haven't met anyone else. I'm grateful that there are a team of experts there to help me get where I need to be in my career!"

Anushka, Mentee 2020-2021



What do Arts Emergency expect from schools/colleges?

We will give you our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which outlines the responsibilities and commitments assigned to both the school/college and Arts Emergency in order to ensure the safe and successful delivery of the project. We ask that this is signed by a member of your Senior Leadership Team and your Designated Safeguarding Officer.

What Safeguarding is in place?

- All mentors are trained to recognise signs of abuse and to report any disclosures directly to Arts Emergency
- Arts Emergency will pass concerns to the school in line with our safeguarding policy
- Mentors are trained and will be put through an enhanced DBS process
- Mentors are required to agree to our Code of Conduct & our online code of conduct
- Arts Emergency will conduct reference checks for all mentors
- Parents / carers of young people are approached for permission
- Mentors and mentees are both made aware that meeting in person must take place in public spaces and how to safely conduct mentoring online if required
- Meetings are monitored regularly through mentor reports and regular contact with mentees

What does the timeline look like?

Month	Activity
April - July	Arts Emergency and school discuss benefits for young people MOU signed by member of senior leadership team and returned to Arts Emergency
September - October	Application information sent to your school. Online applications open.
October - November	Student interviews
January	Welcome Event and mentoring commences
July - August	Work Experience and Arts Award
September	UCAS support
February	Celebration Event

In short what we ask from schools/colleges:

- To provide a designated school/college contact for Arts Emergency
- Safeguarding support; if an issue is brought to our attention, we will promptly pass this on to the school/college contact
- Assistance with student recruitment; promotion, student selection and setting up interviews
- Help communicating with mentees if they stop correspondence with their mentor

What is the impact for students?

Arts Emergency's mission is to help marginalised young people overcome barriers to participation in higher education and the creative and cultural industries.

In 2020 we saw:

- 95% of our mentees said that being part of Arts Emergency had a positive impact during lockdown
- 83% of our mentees feel more supported when making choices about their future
- 88% of mentees feel they have more information about what creative and cultural career choices are available to them
- 88% of mentees felt they understand more about the world of work



We will check in with students at 3-month, 6-month and 9-month points through the mentorship year, and we will share their highlights and achievements with you. We will also invite you to attend our Celebration Event at the end of the programme, where we'll recognize all their achievements and welcome them into our Young Network.

Get in touch

All queries: mentoring@arts-emergency.org

London & Brighton: london@arts-emergency.org | 07715 359 320

Manchester: manchester@arts-emergency.org | 07809 736 436

Merseyside: merseyside@arts-emergency.org | 07808 644 751