

Art Teacher/ Facilitator (Ages 4-18)

This new role at Friction Arts has been developed through a partnership between Arts in Action CIC, who run a successful home-education arts-based education programme in Coventry led by Heidi Pendergrast, and Friction Arts, a well-established arts company, based their newly renovated studio The Edge in Digbeth, Birmingham.

Organisation: Arts in Action CIC and Friction Arts (Partnership)

Programme: Creative Home-Ed Programme

Location: The Edge, Digbeth, Birmingham (Non-school based)

Hours: 1 day per week (Mondays, term-time only) 39 weeks per Year , 3 non delivery days for meetings/ planning. Additional days for exams if needed.

Salary: £150-180 per day depending on experience + 3 non delivery days @ £120 . **Actual salary £6210 - £7380** (£39,360- £46,160 FTE) . Freelance role.

Start date: October 2025

Application deadline: 03/09/2025

Informed of interview by: 05/09/2025

Date of interview : 11/09/2025

A new programme is being launched at Friction Arts' studio, The Edge, for the Home Ed Community in partnership with Arts In Action. Arts in Action delivers high-quality creative arts education to home-educated children and EOTAS students, many of whom have SEND, neurodivergence, or have experienced trauma.

Sessions focus on genuine artistic skill development, personal expression, and contextual learning from as young as age 4, rather than "just crafts". This can lead to GCSE and A-level qualifications in all Art and Design titles including Fine art, Graphic design, 3d design, Textiles and Photography, and more.

About the Role

We are seeking a creative, adaptable, and engaging Art Teacher / Facilitator to work with learners aged 4–18 (including GCSE-level students) for one day a week (Mondays). You will lead small group sessions (max 10 students) across a range of ages and abilities. We work in stages not ages.

This is not a traditional school environment. Sessions are relaxed, individualised, and tailored to each learner's needs and interests. You must be confident working with children and young people with SEND (including ADHD, ASD, dyslexia, and occasional PDA) and able to adapt activities on the spot. Parents may sometimes remain in the sessions, particularly for younger children or GCSE learners requiring additional support. Although a high number of children are affected by ND, Art In Actions GCSE stats remain 100% grade 6-9, and between 80% -100% Grade 9 each year due to the ability to tailor course work projects to children's skill bases.

Example of a typical daily schedule (TBC):

- 9:00–9:45 : Arrival & set-up
- 10:00–11:15 : Ages 4–8
- 11:30–12:45: Ages 9–11
- 1:15–14:30 : Ages 11–14
- 14:45–16:45 : GCSE Session (age 12+ based on ability)
- 16:45 -17:00 : Clear up

Time for reset and refreshment / short break factored in between sessions.

Key Responsibilities:

- Deliver engaging, skill-based art sessions for mixed-age groups, using existing plans and project boxes, or flexibility to develop your own.
- Differentiate activities for students with diverse learning needs and abilities as required.
- Facilitate GCSE Art sessions, supporting personalised and interest-based projects. (Pre planned projects are available - but the ability to help students develop their own is advantageous).
- Use existing Arts in Action projects and resources (with freedom to adapt or create new ideas).
- Provide feedback and guidance during sessions (No marking with pre-GCSE sessions . Minimal marking outside of sessions for GCSE most feedback completed in session.
- Marking / standardisation time will be needed for GCSE students taking exams, this is factored into the daily remuneration).
- Occasionally gather additional resources or materials and second hand resources/ images to use in session or for GCSE .
- Prep any materials needed for sessions including photocopying/washing up materials
- Maintain an inclusive, safe, and encouraging environment.
- Occasional Whats app / info / keeping in touch with parents as needed or question answering.
- Manage students transitions into different classes where necessary.

Person Specification:

Essential:

- PGCE/ NQT/or FE qualification in an arts-based subject (or equivalent relevant experience), Arts based HLTA /ART TECHNICIANS with GCSE group experience may be considered.
- Flexibility and confidence in adapting lesson plans mid-session if needed.
- Organised, reliable, and committed.
- Warm, approachable, and able to keep sessions engaging and fun.
- Ability to work with parents present when needed.
- An Enhanced DBS (issued through Friction Arts).

Desirable:

- Experience or knowledge working with SEND and neurodivergent students.

- Experience delivering GCSE/ A-level art sessions.
- Experience working with home-educated or EOTAS learners.
- Ability to link projects to students' special interests and contexts.
- Additional subject knowledge or ability to learn in Textiles, graphics, 3d design or photography/film.
- First Aid at Work Qualification or equivalent.

Why Join Us?

- Opportunity to work in a unique partnership between two respected arts organisations.
- Use of a newly renovated art studio in Digbeth.
- Small class sizes with minimal marking and planning outside sessions.
- Planning resources and project boxes provided, with creative freedom encouraged.
- Supportive and relaxed teaching environment.
- Potential for additional freelance art teaching work in Warwickshire if available/willing from both organisations.

How to Apply:

Submit a CV and a short cover letter (no longer than one side of A4) to manon@frictionarts.com.

Deadline: 03/09/2025

Who are Arts in Action?

Arts in Action was founded by Heidi Pendergrast, in 2022, after 20 years in mainstream education for 11- to 18-year-olds. Heidi's last state teaching post was being part of a team (with an amazing head teacher who championed the arts) that established a brand new school, developing a thriving and high-achieving department, in a deprived area from scratch. The result was a space where boys achieved, disadvantaged students scored higher than their peers, and SEND students thrived, consistently attaining top grades far above national scores and their targets. Several past students, who went on to Arts Schools, now work for Arts In Action as artists and facilitators.

Heidi specialises in responsive teaching learning and creating a safe space where every child is valued and has extensive knowledge and techniques for children and young people with SEND, Neuro-diversity, SPLD Disability and children who have adverse school experience, refugee and war torn histories, looked after children and those that have experienced trauma.

Arts In Action now has CIC status as a not for profit and community Interest Company and has strands for education and community programmes and commissions. Many projects aim to reach people on the fringes of society who may not often get the opportunity to explore the arts or have their voices heard.

Who are Friction Arts?

We are a small, yet highly respected community arts organisation, an ACE NPO, and a grass-roots multidisciplinary artist-led connective, working locally and internationally. Our vision is a world where creativity and equality flourish.

Friction believe:-

- that art should be at the centre of everyday life
- that everyone should get the chance to enjoy art and the making of art
- that art is a powerful tool for personal and societal change
- that inequality and climate change are the most important issues facing us today

We have a 30-year history of making art for social and cultural change, celebration, and joy. We do this by creating bespoke, responsive, creative projects for a range of diverse people across all ages and demographics. We are a small, Band 1 Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation. In 2021 we were shortlisted to the final 10 organisations for the Gulbenkian Foundation's 1st UK Civic Arts Award.

We own our building, 'the Edge' in Deritend, Birmingham, between the gentrified creative quarter of Digbeth and low-income Highgate. Originally built as a boiled sweet warehouse in the 1920s, it's been inhabited for industrial use, until we took over running the space in 2007. It's our office, our studio and an event space and venue for a range of artistic and community uses.

Following an extensive refurbishment focusing on accessibility and environmental sustainability, The Edge has recently re-opened its doors to the public.