



## **Schools Officers, The Superpower of Looking Parental leave cover role**

Are you passionate about bringing art to everyone? Do you believe in the power of digital to transform lives? We're looking for a highly motivated Schools Officer to join our friendly and dedicated team to support the delivery of our innovative programme, The Superpower of Looking® (SPoL).

This postholder will cover Scotland, Northern Ireland and the North of England, and must be based in one of these regions or nations.

We welcome and encourage applications from candidates who are under-represented in the creative industries, particularly individuals who experience physical, mental, and/or social barriers to accessing the arts.

### **About Art UK**

Art UK is an arts education charity on a mission to make the art in UK public collections accessible to everyone – for enjoyment, learning and research. We enable global audiences to learn about the nation's art collection by digitising artworks, telling the stories behind the art and creating exciting opportunities for public interaction with art – both online and offline.

Over 80% of the nation's art is not on public view, and until Art UK started its work much of this art had not been photographed. Our work is helping to radically change this, making what is publicly owned, publicly accessible – to anyone, anywhere. Originally focused on oil paintings, our scope has widened to include many mediums, from prints, drawings and watercolours to sculpture and photography.

We play a major role supporting public art collections by improving their accessibility and sustainability. Art UK currently shows over 300,000 artworks by over 53,000 artists. It is an ambitious collaboration between 3,400 institutions, making it one of the largest arts partnerships in the UK. No other country in the world has a resource like Art UK.

### **About The Superpower of Looking®**

[The Superpower of Looking®](#) (SPoL) is an innovative and inclusive programme that seeks to transform the visual literacy skills of primary school children across the UK, taking the world of art and images as its starting point. Using a set of free teaching resources, children will gain an essential superpower: the ability to really 'see' – to critically observe, analyse, question, interpret, and empathise. Children will become visually literate in the image-dominated world around them.

The programme is designed to harness the power of digital learning, demonstrate the techniques of visual literacy, and provide children with sharpened powers of observation and analysis, as well as a love of art. While SPoL's overriding focus is to equip children

with these vital lifelong skills, at a practical level it enables teachers to deliver many aspects of the Art and Design curriculum, as well as providing exciting new interdisciplinary approaches to learning.

Following two successful schools pilots, which involved the development of twenty KS2/Second Level lessons focused primarily on paintings, in 2023 we began our national rollout of SPoL across the UK, expanding the resource to include other 2D artforms and Key Stages. As part of this rollout, we are running multiple national marketing campaigns alongside a Teacher Champion Scheme, through which schools will be rewarded with a real artwork for utilising SPoL lessons in the classroom and helping us spread the word to other schools.

### **About you**

You will have experience of developing and coordinating learning projects in schools, whether as a freelance artist, art historian and/or teacher. You enjoy working with a wide range of people and partners, and you are an excellent communicator. You are well organised, enthusiastic and full of initiative. You are passionate about, and an advocate for, using art and visual literacy as a powerful educational tool.

At Art UK you will be supported within a team focusing on delivering both learning resources and wider content. You will liaise closely and work collaboratively with your colleagues on many aspects of the role. You will promote equality and diversity in all aspects of your work – with the public, colleagues and external partners.

### **Key responsibilities**

- Deliver in-person SPoL CPD sessions to teachers at schools in regions across the UK where uptake of the Teacher Champion Scheme (TCS) is low
- Coordinate and deliver Masterpieces in Schools celebration events for select schools who have taken part in TCS
- Coordinate delivery of gifted artworks to all schools who have taken part in TCS
- Support delivery of annual 'virtual school trip' marketing events
- Support communication with teachers participating in TCS
- Support the development and delivery of new SPoL lesson plans and films where needed

### **Necessary skills and experience**

- Essential: Understanding and awareness of visual literacy and how looking at art can be utilised in schools
- Essential: Considerable experience planning and developing in-school educational activities
- Essential: Understanding of the UK's different curricula, both primary and secondary
- Essential: First-class written and spoken communication skills and the confidence to engage and work effectively with a range of people
- Essential: Self-motivated and reliable, able to meet deadlines on time and on budget
- Desirable: Awareness and understanding of relevant educational pedagogy
- Desirable: Active interest in the visual arts and awareness of UK art collections
- Desirable: Experience working with a diverse range of audiences
- Desirable: Experience working on projects with a broad range of partners

## Contract terms and benefits

- Part-time (2 days per week, 0.4 FTE)
- 10-month fixed-term contract, August 2024-May 2025
- £25,000 per annum pro-rata
- Three-month probationary period
- One-month termination clause
- 25 days annual leave pro-rata plus regional Bank Holidays
- Work from home, based in Scotland, Northern Ireland or the North of England

## Application

Please [visit the jobs page on our website](#) to download the application form.

To apply, please submit your completed application form to [recruitment@artuk.org](mailto:recruitment@artuk.org) by **9am on Tuesday 21st May 2024**. If you are experiencing issues downloading the document or require support in completing your form, please contact [info@artuk.org](mailto:info@artuk.org)

Forms must be sent in MS Word or a format compatible to MS Word. Please do not send PDFs. Applications sent as a PDF will not be accepted.

Interviews will be held via video call on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024**.

If you have not heard from us within three weeks of the closing date, please consider your application unsuccessful.

As part of our commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion please note that we redact some details from applications ahead of the shortlisting stage to ensure the removal of unconscious bias. Details that we redact include (but are not limited to) references to protected characteristics, names of educational institutions and indications of political affiliations.