

AA2A

30 years of nurturing creative talent

Gloucestershire College

AA2A 2026-27

Key Dates & Information

At Gloucestershire College, we offer a creative working environment in a vibrant and energetic art department. We have a good range of general art and design equipment and resources available across 3 different quite different campus environments. Our campuses are Cheltenham, Gloucester and Forest of Dean, offering a range of art and design equipment and facilities including: print making – screen printing, intaglio printmaking and block print, drawing and painting, mixed media, digital and some 3D provision. The art department teaches learners from L1 – L5 HND.

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Placements will be running from 2nd November 2026 to May 2027

Gloucestershire College welcomes applications from creatives of all backgrounds and is particularly interested in candidates with experience in Fine art, including printmaking, textiles, sculpture, drawing & painting, mixed media, surface design, textiles, graphic design, illustration and photography.

Application key dates	Date
Application deadline	1st September
Shortlisted candidates notified by	14th September
Interviews & portfolio reviews	28th September
Formal offers issued by	12th October
Offer acceptance deadline	19th October
General induction session	23rd October

Dates are subject to change, and delays may occur. If there are significant delays to the scheme's start, the host may extend the end date. Attendance at the induction session is usually mandatory before you can access the host's facilities.

List of 'extra' facilities/areas:

- On-site library with specialist art and design library with lending and reference facilities
- Lecture programme - guest speaker programme
- Social facilities
- Canteen
- Parking

Workspace arrangements: Dedicated Studio space/desk in Gloucester, hot desk arrangement in RFD & Cheltenham - limited plan chest and storage available

Wheelchair access: The whole college is wheelchair accessible

Access dates and holidays: <https://www.gloscol.ac.uk/students/term-dates/>

Access time: Unless by special arrangement, access will normally be during hours that the department is open to students, which is normally between 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday

As Gloucestershire College is a Further Education provider with learners under the age of 18, anyone working directly with learners is required to meet statutory safeguarding requirements. Artists selected for a residency will therefore need to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and online safeguarding training before being permitted on site.

A DBS check identifies people who are legally prohibited from working with children and vulnerable adults, allowing employers to make safer recruitment decisions.

The safeguarding training is completed online and takes approximately 3 hours to complete. As well as meeting the requirements for AA2A's artist in residence programme, the training provides valuable professional development. It is transferable, can be included on your CV, and may be used to demonstrate your understanding of safeguarding responsibilities when applying for other roles.

Equipment and Facilities

The following equipment and facilities are available to participants on the scheme. If you have any specific queries regarding the facilities listed, please email the host for more information. As a reminder, the AA2A scheme is intended to support artists in developing and refining their existing skills, rather than acting as a formal training programme or an opportunity to learn a new skill.

Booking arrangements and induction meetings will be necessary for most workshop areas.

Printmaking - etching, screen print process, digital imaging, relief print, photo process

Basic wood & 3D construction tools and facilities

Casting & Mould making - plaster, gel flex rubber melter.

Digital technologies - Mac and PC computers and scanners.

Computer-aided design and modelling, animation, time based media, sound, colour and black & white laser printers, large scale inkjet printers.

Film and Video - camcorders, audio dubbing and computer overlay, digital video, frame advance animation

Photography - photography studios and b/w darkroom and experimental darkroom, analogue and digital cameras and printing, other equipment

General Application Information

Eligibility criteria:

- Artists must have at least one year of professional arts practice
- Artists are expected to commit to 100+ hours on-site during the residency period
- Artists can work independently, with minimal technical support from staff
- Artists must be willing to deliver up to 4 sessions to students (workshop, talk, etc.).
- Artists must monitor and respond to AA2A emails promptly throughout the residency period
- Artists must agree to the [terms and conditions](#) of AA2A residencies

Who can't apply:

- Artists in full-time education or on a part-time undergraduate course
- Artists who have participated in AA2A within the last 2 years (i.e. 2024/25 or 2025/26)

Selection criteria:

- Project proposal: A considered project outline describing ambition and goals for the residency, which aligns with the host institution's specific educational objectives, if any, including how it will help your creative development and noting which facilities and equipment will be used
- Proposal for contributing to student development and a commitment to being a positive role model for art students
- Realistic travel plans and an achievable estimate of how much time will be spent at the host with a commitment to attending a minimum of 80 hours
- Clear understanding of residency format - aware of timescales alongside your other obligations and financial situation; must be capable of working independently after equipment and workshop inductions
- Commitment to timely communication with the AA2A team and host staff, plus completion of a two-part AA2A evaluation
- Positive, approachable and collaborative attitude

Full details on eligibility and selection can be found [here](#). You may also find our [FAQ page](#) useful.

Artist Support Fund

AA2A has a fund for artists participating in AA2A schemes to help with the cost of childcare, travel and materials, and costs associated with disability incurred during the residency period. Artists must have accepted a place before they apply for ASF.

Eligibility Criteria	Maximum Amount Available
Artists on benefits associated with low income	Up to £400
Artists with a personal income below £13,000 and a household income below £25,000 (not receiving benefits)	Up to £300
Artists with costs associated with disability	Up to £700

Artists can apply for support with costs associated with disability AND low income/benefits.

As we have a fixed ASF budget, we cannot guarantee we will approve all claims/give everyone the full amount they requested. Click [here](#) for further information.

Public liability insurance

Some hosts recommend, or may require, AA2A residents to have public liability insurance. Through AA2A's partnership with AXIS, residents are eligible for discounted AXIS membership, which includes public liability insurance.

How to apply

To apply for an AA2A residency, please complete the form on [this page](#). You will then receive the link to the main application form. Once submitted, your responses will be sent to AA2A and shared with your chosen host institution(s).

You must apply to a scheme before its stated application deadline. Applications submitted after the deadline may not be considered (unless the deadline has been formally extended).