

Artist-In-Residence

Fixed term contract: 1 academic year

September 2026 to July 2027

36 hours per week (or part-time 3-4 days considered)

39 weeks (term time + CPD days)

Actual Salary: £25,632 - £28,412 per annum



Are you a practising artist ready to take on a rewarding and creative challenge?

Do you want to inspire and support young people with special educational needs to develop their artistic skills, fine motor abilities and creativity?

We are seeking an Artist-in-Residence to join our school and college community for the 2026-2027 academic year.

Each year, we welcome a new creative practitioner with a different specialism to work alongside and inspire our students. You will be our 10th Artist-in-Residence, joining a legacy that includes painters, a composer, textile artists, a puppeteer and a printmaker.

We welcome artists working in any medium, provided you bring a flexible, inclusive approach that can be adapted to meet the diverse needs and abilities of our students. Above all, we are looking for someone who can connect with and inspire neurodivergent young people.

About the Residency

This residency offers a unique opportunity to develop your artistic practice within a specialist SEN environment. You will have the time and space to experiment, collaborate and grow your work, while making a meaningful impact on students' wellbeing and creative development.

Key aspects of the role include:

- Working from an on-site studio, visible to students and staff, showcasing your practice and promoting the arts as both a career pathway and a fulfilling pursuit.
- Delivering 12 hours per week (full-time) of student facing sessions (1:1 and group work).
- Providing occasional staff training linked to your artistic specialism.
- Contributing to a dynamic and ambitious Creative Arts team, including involvement in events throughout the year.
- Delivering a final exhibition in Summer 2027, alongside contributing a legacy artwork to the school.

Your application should clearly outline your current and past artistic practice, as well as your proposed projects and goals for the residency.

About You

This is an exciting opportunity for a skilled, adaptable creative practitioner who combine artistic excellence with empathy and a genuine interest in supporting young people with special educational needs.

About St Joseph's

St Joseph's Specialist Trust is a unique organisation comprising a special school, college, children's home and adult supported living provision. Our main site in Cranleigh, Surrey (between Guildford and Horsham) serves students aged 5-19 with severe social communication difficulties and complex learning disabilities.

Through your creativity, compassion and guidance, you will support students to express themselves and develop their artistic potential in ways that reflect their individual needs.

All staff are expected to demonstrate emotional, physical and mental resilience. Successful applicants will complete Team Teach Positive Behaviour Support training during induction.

Working Pattern

The residency is offered on a full-time basis, though part-time working (3-4 days) will be considered.

Typical hours during term time are:

- Monday: 8:30am - 4pm
- Tuesday to Thursday: 8:30am - 4:15pm
- Friday: 8:30am – 3:45pm

There is some flexibility around working hours depending on individual circumstances. Occasional evening or weekend work may be required; equally, flexibility is offered to support other professional commitments, with time made up accordingly.

Annual leave must be taken during school holidays.

Why join St Joseph's?

We offer a supportive and rewarding working environment, including:

- Free lunch during term time (prepared by our in-house catering team)
- Ample free on-site parking
- £1,000 recruitment and retention bonus (£250 after 1 month, £250 after 1 year, £500 after 18 months)
- Life insurance and medical cash plan
- Comprehensive induction programme
- Ongoing training, supervision and 1:1 mentoring

- Employee Assistance Programme (24/7 confidential wellbeing and counselling support)
- Strong internal support network, including Mental Health First Aiders and Occupational Health
- Discounted fitness classes (Surrey Fitness Camps and Go Fest Active Studio)
- A beautiful 23-acre site on the edge of the Surrey Hills (own transport recommended due to semi-rural location)

How to apply

For further information, please contact: Kath Hitchings, Head of Creative Arts (Tues to Thurs) 01483272449 (Art Office Ext: 321 or 322).

To apply, please visit our website or email: recruitment@st-josephscranleigh.surrey.sch.uk

Please submit a sample portfolio with your application (attachment, website link or other electronic format). CVs may be submitted initially but cannot be used alone for shortlisting. A completed application form will be required if you are progressed.

Closing Date: 9am, Wednesday 20th May 2026

Interviews: Held on-site shortly after the closing date, including a presentation of your specialism to students.

Please note:

- We are unable to sponsor visas or support relocation from overseas for this role.
- This role requires an enhanced DBS check and satisfactory references.

St Joseph's Specialist Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.