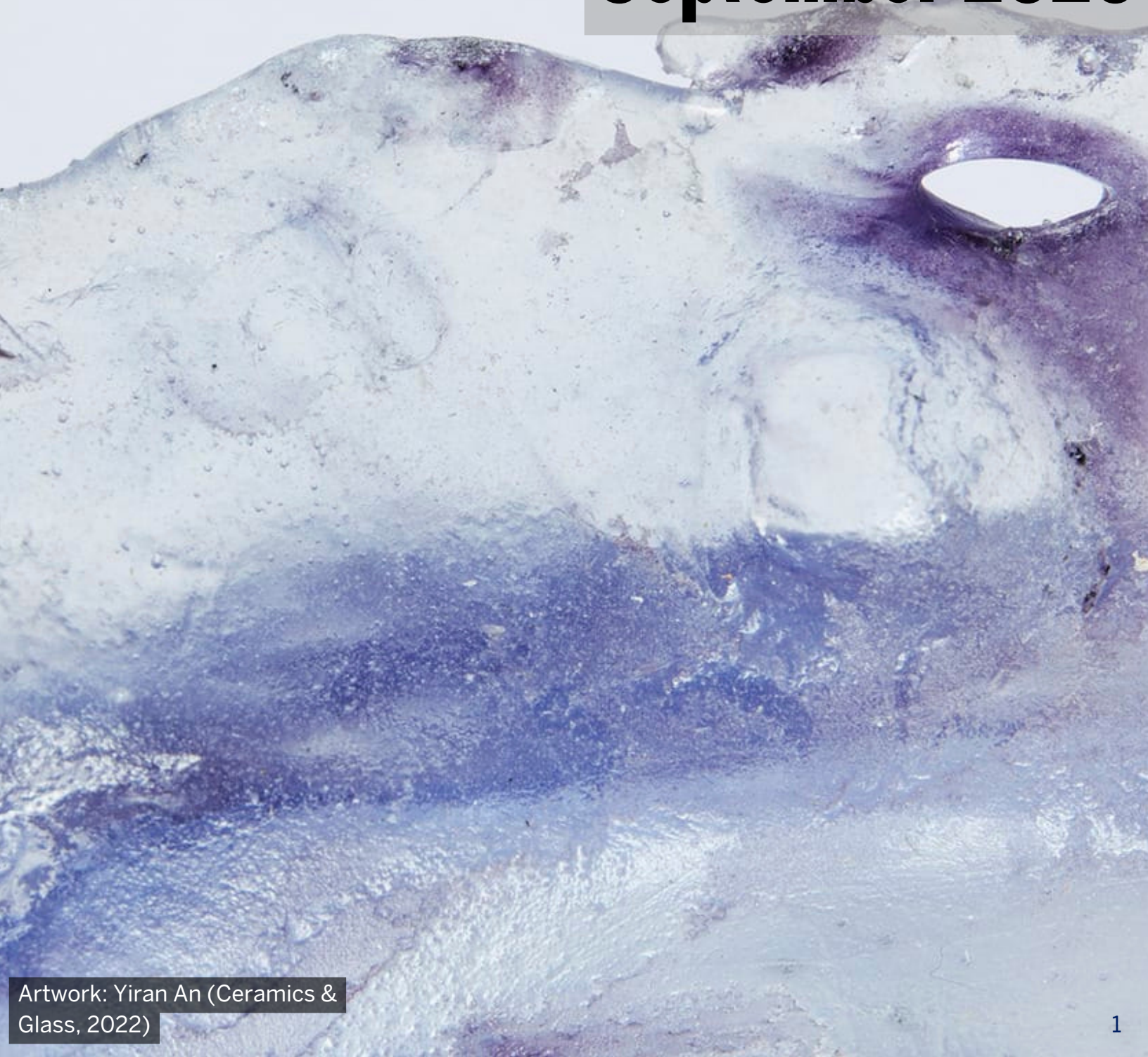


RCA

Specialist Technical Instructor, Fashion (12 Month FTC) September 2026



Artwork: Yiran An (Ceramics &
Glass, 2022)

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Photo: Richard Haughton

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WELCOME TO THE RCA



Photo: Iwan Baan

Founded in 1837, the Royal College of Art is the world's largest postgraduate-only community of art and design students. It has been ranked number one in the world 12 consecutive years (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2015-2026).

Studying at the RCA is the starting point for UK and global creative leaders. With more than 30,000 RCA alumni all over the world, the College's graduates form a diverse international network of artists, designers, creators and innovators.

Around 2,500 students are spread across three schools – Architecture, Arts & Humanities, Communication & Design - and in the RCA's Research Centres. The College creates an environment that champions exploration, collaboration and interdisciplinary learning - using art and design to reframe the possibilities of the humanities, technology, and ethics; and equipping graduates for new futures and opportunities

Research is at the heart of the RCA's impact. In active discussion with the world, the College brings interdisciplinary researchers and partners together in vital areas such as climate and sustainability, technology and society, and leads the field in practice-based research. As a result, the RCA is ranked as one of the most research-intensive specialist art and design universities in the UK [under the Research Excellence Framework 2014 and 2021].



Photo: Richard Haughton

The RCA champions exploration, collaboration and interdisciplinary learning - using art and design to reframe the possibilities of the humanities, technology, and ethics. We experiment, question and discover, putting research and practice at our heart, to equip students for new futures and opportunities and build on current knowledge.

Current 'real world' practices of our disciplines are fully integrated into our teaching delivery and student learning. The RCA model also consciously uses both the high research active levels of faculty, and the absence of undergraduate provision, to provide concentration and focus, in order to use research to creatively 'disrupt' the learning experience.

Our People



Photo: Richard Haughton

The strength of the RCA lies in its people: our students, academic community, researchers, technical specialists, professional services teams and our global network of alumni and partners.

The RCA's Chancellor is Sir Jony Ive, one of the world's most influential designers. The Pro-Chancellor and Chair of Council is Sir Peter Bazalgette, and the President & Vice-Chancellor — the College's Chief Executive — is Professor Christoph Lindner, who joined the RCA in 2024.

The RCA's academic faculty bring world-leading expertise and industry knowledge to the College's model of teaching. All faculty are actively engaged in their relevant industries and professional practice beyond academia, and the RCA is the only specialist art and design university where all of our permanent academic staff are also research active and included in the RCA's submissions to the UK Research Excellence Framework.

The RCA has a total academic and research workforce of over 400 people, which includes Associate Lecturers, Visiting Professors and Guest Lecturers who bring 'live industry' experience into the taught curriculum

The RCA also employs a team of over 100 highly skilled technicians, many of whom themselves have postgraduate qualifications and are well established and recognised practitioners in their fields of specialism. Our skilled technical staff and technical resources are integral to delivering an interdisciplinary approach which is a key part of the student experience.



OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTION: TOWARDS THE RCA AT 200 (2026–2030)

The RCA's new Strategic Plan sets out a transformational five-year phase as we begin our journey towards our bicentenary in 2037. Our ambition is to become the world's most influential art and design community, with a global footprint and a renewed approach to research, education, partnerships and organisational culture.

By 2030:

- The College will operate across two revitalised central London campuses, including a reimagined Darwin Building at Kensington.
- We will establish research and education hubs outside the UK for the first time.
- We will strengthen our global partnerships, increase access to scholarships and widen participation for students from all backgrounds.
- We will be recognised for leadership in emerging creative technologies, especially AI, and for our contribution to sustainability, regenerative practice and public good.

Our work is underpinned by the RCA's four values — Collaboration, Curiosity, Inclusion and Integrity — and by commitments to long-term resilience, financial sustainability, staff and student wellbeing, and a culture where creativity and innovation thrive.



The College's ambitions will be delivered through three Strategic Pillars:

Strategic Pillar One

Creating and delivering the best art and design education, dialogue and research.

Strategic Pillar Two

Championing a community with outstanding potential who are diverse, inclusive and connected.

Strategic Pillar Three

Convening transformational exchanges of art and design expertise and ideas.

Our Values



Photo: Shaun James

The RCA community operates in line with four agreed values:



We have a tenacious commitment to innovation and openness to change. We positively interrogate ideas, assumptions and plans and welcome the honest scrutiny that is alive in a learning community.



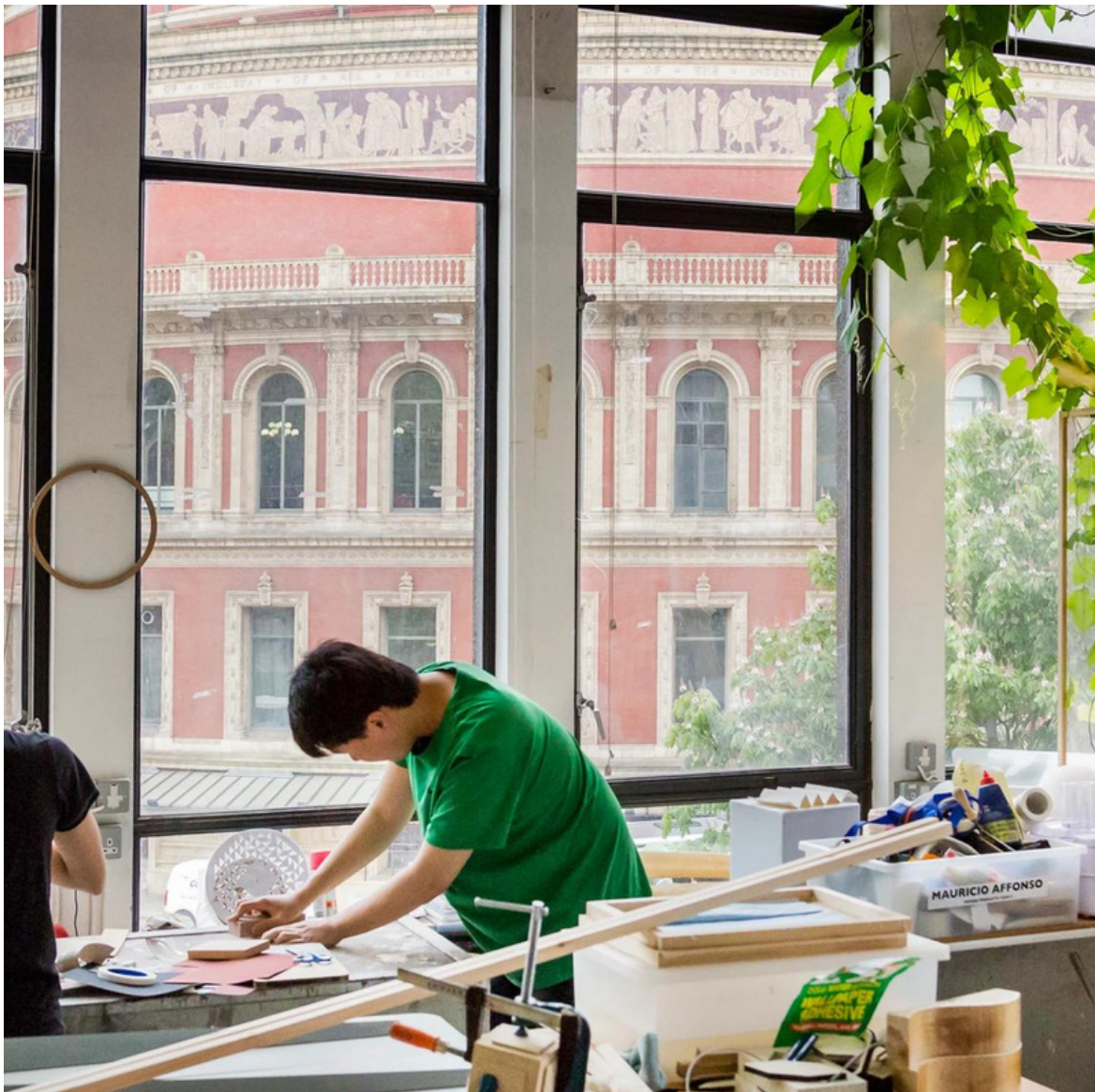
We celebrate diversity and embrace difference as a source of strength. We strive for an inclusive RCA community, removing barriers and challenging exclusionary and discriminatory practices.



We value what happens together and we help and support each other to achieve our collective goals. We work in partnership with our students, staff, alumni, institutions and communities across the globe to make a lasting difference.



We are always willing to listen, we offer constructive feedback and we promote accountability, building relationships of mutual trust and respect. We are resilient in the face of challenges, pursuing outcomes with individual, cultural, societal and economic impact.



The main purpose of the post:

- Take a lead in ensuring the effective provision and availability of specialist equipment and work areas in order to facilitate academic delivery, student learning, research and knowledge transfer activities.
- Provide highly skilled technical assistance, guidance and instruction to all users, demonstrating equipment and processes as appropriate.
- Provide support to the Lead Technical Instructor and Technical Coordinator in the day-to-day function of technical services within the area of Fashion Atelier Workshops.



The Royal College of Art is seeking an experienced and highly skilled Specialist Technical Instructor, Fashion to join our Fashion Atelier Workshops.

This is an exciting opportunity for an experienced fashion practitioner to play a key role in supporting teaching, learning and research within one of the world's leading postgraduate art and design institutions.

Working alongside the Lead Technical Instructor and Technical Coordinator, you will help ensure that our specialist fashion facilities, equipment and workspaces enable students, researchers and staff to explore, develop and realise ambitious creative work.

You will provide expert technical guidance, demonstrations and practical support across fashion pattern cutting and garment making, including garment construction, fitting, toile preparation, finishing techniques, design interpretation and production methods.

A particular strength in menswear and tailoring is essential for this role.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Duties and responsibilities:

- Plan, organise and provide technical support, advice and demonstrations in Fashion pattern cutting and garment making. This includes finishing swatches, technique samples, toile preparation, garment fitting and construction, design interpretation, and production methods.
- Organize, deliver and record technical inductions, demonstrations, and masterclasses in the correct and safe use of Fashion workshop equipment and garment-making processes. Ensure good working practice occurs within the workshop/area of responsibility.
- Actively support the growth of the Fashion workshops and contribute to the development of digital making equipment, software, and digital services.
- Support the purchasing and setting up of new equipment and systems. Assist with requisitions and ordering as required.
- Assist students, researchers, and staff in problem-solving and finding technical solutions.
- Be responsible for the Fashion technical spaces, contribute to the creation of learning materials and operate and maintain tools, equipment and processes in the Fashion workshops.
- Support College teaching, learning, research, and commercial activity that may require specialist knowledge and technical processes, as appropriate for the role.
- Undertake any other duties consistent with the role as required and in agreement with the Technical Coordinator and or Technical Services Manager.
- Monitor work being carried out in the Fashion workshops, ensuring high standards of safety and housekeeping at all times. Oversee and monitor usage and occupancy.



You will be an experienced fashion practitioner with strong technical expertise and a passion for supporting others to develop their skills. You will have substantial practical experience of menswear, tailoring, pattern cutting and garment construction, together with a good understanding of specialist fashion materials, technologies and light manufacturing techniques.

You will be confident delivering technical inductions, demonstrations and masterclasses, and able to explain complex processes clearly to students and colleagues with different levels of experience.

Highly organised and solutions-focused, you will take responsibility for maintaining high standards across the technical spaces, equipment and working practices. You will be comfortable working independently, using your initiative and collaborating effectively as part of a busy technical team.

Experience of digital making technologies and CLO3D software would be desirable, although not essential.



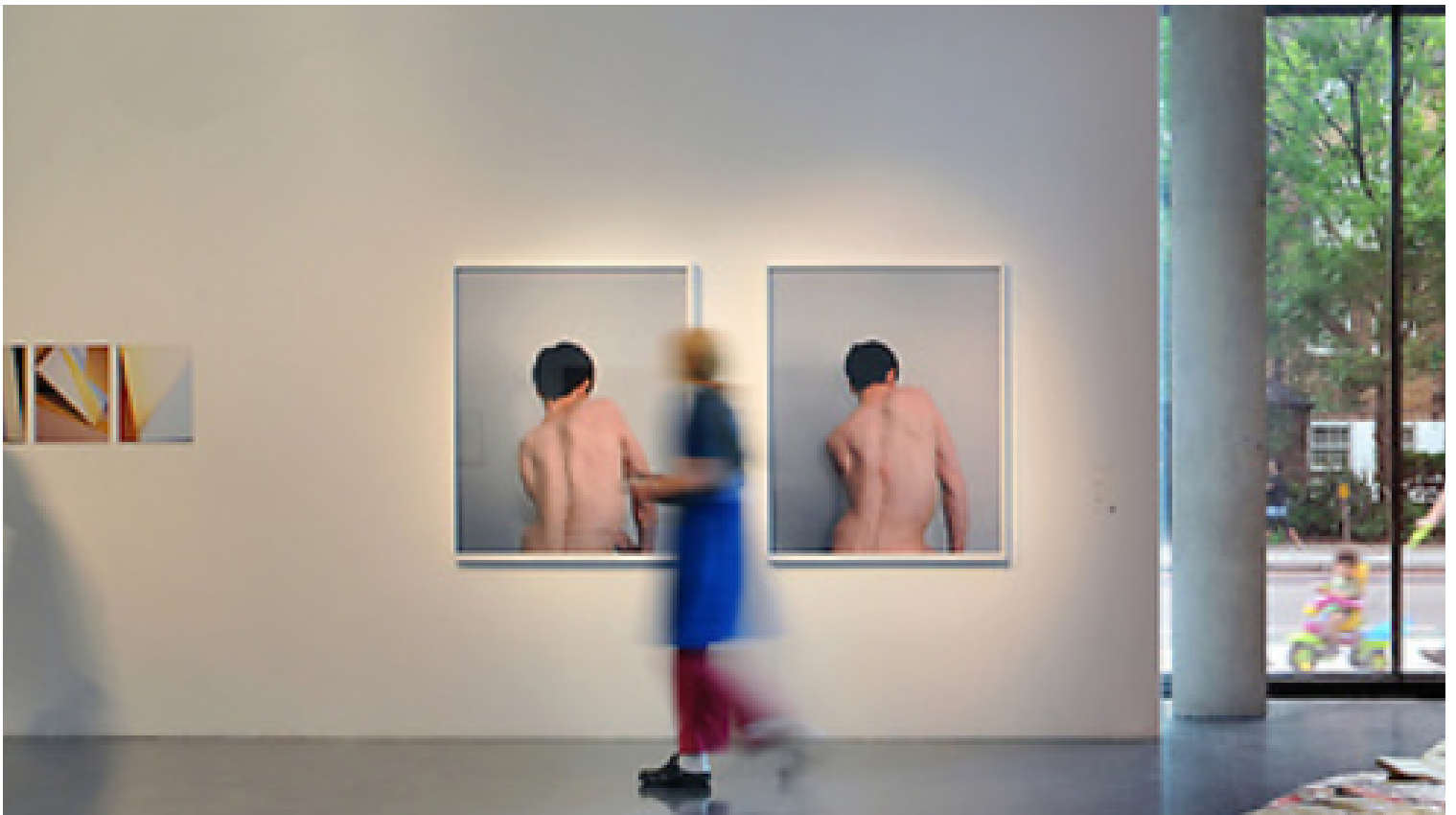
This role involves the following essential criteria:

- Knowledge and experience of specialist materials, technologies, and applications, including light manufacturing techniques
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- The ability to use initiative and work as part of a team.
- Excellent organisational, time management, planning, and problem-solving skills
- Excellent user focus and a flexible approach.
- Experience in digital making technologies would be desirable but not essential.
- Experience in tailoring is essential.
- Experience in menswear is essential.
- Experience in CLO3d software is desirable but not essential.

Pay & Benefits

Additional Information:

- Full time salary - Grade 7: £44,840 - £48,416 per annum including London Allowance:
- 1 FTE - 12 month FTC
- Normal hours will total 35 hours per week over, 9.30am to 5.30pm with an hour each day for lunch
- 30 days annual leave plus extended breaks at Christmas and Easter. Pro rata for part time employees
- A contributory defined benefit pension scheme and interest free season ticket loan are available, alongside many other benefits
- Department: Technical Services
- Location: Royal College of Art, London



Pension

The Royal College of Art is a member of the Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London (SAUL) which is a contributory defined benefit pension scheme. The college will contribute a sum equal to 16% of your salary while you pay 6%.

Holiday

30 days paid leave a year plus bank and public holidays normally observed in England and Wales. In addition, the college is normally closed for six days a year, one day on either side of Easter and the remainder between Christmas and New Year. Part-time staff will be entitled to the pro rata equivalent.

Season ticket loans

Interest-free loans are available for staff to purchase annual season tickets.

Enhanced maternity and adoption pay

Qualifying employees are entitled to enhanced maternity/adoption pay: 26 weeks' full pay, 13 weeks Statutory Maternity/Adoption Pay. This compares to the statutory provision of 90% of average pay for 6 weeks followed by Statutory Maternity/Adoption Pay for 33 weeks.

Enhanced paternity pay

Qualifying employees are entitled to six weeks' paternity leave entitlement at full pay.

Enhanced sick pay

Occupational sick pay after three months' service is three months full pay/three months half pay.

24/7 confidential support

Staff and family members in their household have access to a free, external confidential support service for work, financial, legal, family and personal problems 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Occupational health

Occupational Health support for the College is provided by Imperial College's occupational health service at their South Kensington Campus.

Life Cover

Active members of the SAUL pension scheme automatically receive life cover. A lump sum of four times your salary together with a refund of your contributions and a 2/3 pension for your dependent/spouse is payable should you die whilst in employment.

Library

All staff are welcome to join the college library.

Events

All staff are welcome to attend exhibitions, lectures and private views held by academic schools and programmes.



Equality, diversity and inclusion - Disability and neurodiversity

Disability Confident

RCA is a Disability Confident Committed employer. You may recognise the logo from our job adverts.

Disability Confident is a government scheme designed to encourage employers to recruit, retain, and develop disabled people. RCA was originally awarded the Disability Confident certificate in October 2022, which broadens and deepens our existing commitment as an employer.

As a Disability Confident Committed employer, we commit to the below core activities:

- ensure our recruitment process is inclusive and accessible
- communicating and promoting vacancies
- offering an interview to disabled people who meet the minimum criteria for the job
- anticipating and providing reasonable adjustments as required
- supporting any existing employee who acquires a disability or long-term health condition, enabling them to stay in work
- at least one activity that will make a difference for disabled people





12 YEARS as the world's
N°1 University for Art & Design

QS World University Rankings by Subject 2015–26