

# ROYAL COURT INTRODUCTION TO PLAYWRITING

## GROUPS 2023/24

### LARGE PRINT INFO

Please take a moment to read through the information below. **Applications close at midday on Friday 30 June.**

The Literary Team will be taking over the Royal Court Instagram at **1pm on Tuesday 06 June** for a live Q&A to answer any questions you might have. [Follow us](#) to stay up-to-date.

Alternatively, you can email us via this address:  
[literary@royalcourttheatre.com](mailto:literary@royalcourttheatre.com)

#### **What are the Introduction to Playwriting Groups?**

An opportunity for writers new to playwriting but with raw talent and big ideas to think more deeply about writing for theatre alongside a group of their peers, guided by produced playwrights working with the Royal Court.

#### **What does 'new to playwriting' mean?**

Your application may include the first 10 pages you have ever written or it may be an extract from your first full-length play. This may be your first time applying for a group of this kind or you think this particular group can offer you

something you need right now. Read on, and if you think this is the right opportunity for you, we want to hear from you.

### **Will the group teach me how to write a play?**

NO! We can't teach you to write a play, this is not a course, toolkit or instruction manual, but what we can offer you is an insight into the approach & practices of one of our leading playwrights over eight group sessions. It's an invitation to write in the most courageous way you can, whilst being supported by the lead writer and the other group members.

### **What happens at the end of the group?**

The writers are invited to submit a play and offered detailed feedback from the playwright/s leading the group, and members of the Literary and Artistic Teams.

### **Who can apply?**

Applicants must be aged 18 or over and based in the UK or Ireland.

### **Are the groups accessible?**

We're committed to ensuring these groups are accessible as possible.

There is no fee to take part in the groups and we passionately encourage writers with little or no experience to apply. We can support with access needs, travel to London and other costs (such as childcare) of joining a group. Everyone offered a place will be asked to fill in an access questionnaire in order for us to best support you to take part in the group. Please see our Access Guide for more detail.

We will ensure there is always an online option by committing to offering one group each year that runs over zoom. Priority for this group will be given to those who opt for this in order to access the group most fully.

Interpreters will be available in every session for BSL users.

When submitting your application:

There is the option to submit your application form via video or audio by emailing [literary@royalcourttheatre.com](mailto:literary@royalcourttheatre.com) this could be in BSL or spoken English. More details about how to submit in this way can be found in the [video on this webpage](#).

BSL users are also invited to submit their 10-page sample in BSL via video if preferable. More details about how to submit in this way can be found in the video at the top of this page.

If you have any further questions about accessibility, please don't hesitate to get in touch: [literary@royalcourttheatre.com](mailto:literary@royalcourttheatre.com)

Information given is strictly confidential and will in no way affect your application.

You can also tell us about any availability issues on the application form.

## **When will the Intro Groups be?**

Currently we plan to run a group from Autumn 2023 and another two groups in early 2024. The Autumn Group will take place at the Royal Court Theatre. One of the 2024 groups will take place entirely online.

Each group runs for eight weeks. Sessions are usually in the evening and last 1.5 hours.

## **How do I apply to the Intro Groups?**

### **1. Via email with video or audio file**

You can apply with a video or audio file. The video file can be in BSL or spoken English. If you are submitting both parts of your application in this way, we ask that you send a separate video or audio file for each part of the application and each file must start with your full name and preferred contact details.

Part One:

Answer the following three questions:

1. Thinking about your writing sample, could you tell us why you chose to tell this story as a piece of theatre?
2. Think of a writer whose work you love. What's one question you could ask that would support you with your future playwriting?
3. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about yourself?

This video must be no longer than five minutes long.

Part Two:

If the writing sample you would like to submit is in BSL, you can also submit this as a video file.

The sample can be from a longer play, a complete short piece or entirely new material created for this application, but you must be writing for live performance.

This video must be no longer than 10 minutes long.

If you are not submitting in BSL, we ask that you submit a 10 page sample in written English.

Please send both parts of your application to:

[literary@royalcourttheatre.com](mailto:literary@royalcourttheatre.com)

## **2. Online Form**

Alternatively, you can choose to submit the whole application in written English via the online form.

The link can be found [on this webpage.](#)

**The closing date for completed applications is Tuesday 30 June at midday. We will be in touch with all applicants on or before Thursday 31 August letting you know the outcome of your application.**

Some important points to note:

- Please attach your documents in .doc, .docx, or .pdf format.
- Your extract can be of any genre and feature any number of characters, but must be intended for the stage and not for film, television or radio. It should be an original piece of writing, not be an adaptation of a story from another medium.
- We only accept 10 page samples – we do not accept full-length plays, summaries or treatments
- Please include your name somewhere in the file name of your example document i.e.  
firstnamesurnamesubmission.doc or  
firstnamesurnameapplication.pdf
- Do not include any other attachments or materials (photographs, CVs etc).
- You can send us an application if you've applied before, but please do not apply for this group if you have taken part in an another Introduction to Playwriting group at the Royal Court.
- We will not be able to send you feedback on your submission and because of the volume we receive, we can't take late applications (so send it in early!)
- Once you complete your application, there will be a webpage to notify you of this. You should also receive

an acknowledgement email once you have submitted your application – these can sometimes end up in your junk box so please do check there too.

If you have any further questions that are not answered here, please get in touch with the Literary

Department: [literary@royalcourttheatre.com](mailto:literary@royalcourttheatre.com)