



## Royal Shakespeare Company Associate Schools Programme 2024-2025

### **An introduction to the Associate Schools Programme:**

*What is the benefits of becoming an RSC Associate School?*

- Being part of a local and national network of schools, teachers and theatre professionals committed to making Shakespeare's work vivid, accessible and enjoyable for children and young people
- Professional Development opportunities with theatre education practitioners from the RSC and a network of regional theatres
- Opportunities for staff and student development including Shakespeare Ambassadors, a national leadership programme for young people
- Opportunities to contribute to a national programme of research and practice
- Can be a benefit for Ofsted expectations around spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Experience high quality performances of Shakespeare's work in theatres and in school (through online tools)



For more details and case studies about on impact see below:

<https://www.rsc.org.uk/education/associate-schools-programme>



### **Programme Overview:**

- **2 x Full days of In-Service training on RSC Rehearsal Room Pedagogies, led by an RSC Associate Learning Practitioner at Sydenham Primary School for up to 3 members of staff from Associate Schools.**
- **1 x Ambassador workshop day. Ambassadors from each school will work with an RSC Associate Learning Practitioner to create and lead an Ambassador Project.**
- **1 x Half Day Workshop with an RSC Director Mentor in your school to support your participation in our cluster's Playmaking festival**
- **3 x Networking meetings for Lead Teachers**
- **Opportunities for further CPD with the RSC or with our trained RSC lead, Cassie**



To sign up or for more information,  
please contact Cassie Cox:  
[cox.c@welearn365.com](mailto:cox.c@welearn365.com)

**Cost:**  
**£300**

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child  
Article 29: Goals of education  
Article 31: Leisure, play and culture





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### Programme Detail:

#### **Welcome Meeting**

An introduction meeting to the programme, via Teams with the RSC to discuss the impact and projects that may be possible within your educational setting. **Thursday 26th September 2023, 3.40 -4.15pm.**

#### **INSET Days**

Two immersive, dynamic and engaging full days of training at Sydenham Primary School, led by an RSC Associate Learning Practitioners. Each school may send up to 3 members of staff. The first INSET day will focus on an introduction to rehearsal room approaches, RSC teaching strategies and then lead into practical teaching ideas and an introduction to our cluster's play choice of the year. This typically gives staff a broad overview of key themes, characters and the plot as a general overview. **A delicious buffet lunch will be provided on each INSET day.**

**INSET Day 1—Thursday 3rd October 2024, 9.30am-3.30pm** at Sydenham Primary School (parking on site).

This serves as an introduction to the play, the story, characters and themes, as well as an introduction to the rehearsal room approaches and building ideas for bringing the play into your school setting. This first CPD also provides time and space to start developing the shared vision for the annual Playmaking Festival.

**INSET Day 2—Friday 29th November 2024, 9.30am-3.30pm** at Sydenham Primary School (parking on site).

This is an opportunity to go deeper into the story and explore more advanced approaches. It also focusses more on Playmaking

#### **Workshop with RSC Director Mentor**

1 x Half Day Workshop with an RSC Director Mentor in your school in the Summer Term to support your participation in our Playmaking Festival. Director Mentor sessions are scheduled to take place **w/c Monday 2nd June, 2025**

**Play-making Festival Date: Wednesday 18th June 2025**

#### **RSC Shakespeare Ambassador Network**

Connecting 4 children from each Associate School to form a regional group of Shakespeare Ambassadors. The children will meet termly in school and work collaboratively on a project focusing on ideas and issues that matter to them and their peers. They will have **a training session with an RSC practitioner on Friday 18th October** and create a celebration project as a cluster network to share at the end of the academic year.

#### **Networking Meetings**

Lead teachers, from each school, will meet termly on Microsoft Teams, online to share ideas and support schools with planning, lesson ideas and performance suggestions. These sessions will be facilitated by the Sydenham Lead Teacher, Cassie Cox.

Autumn Term: **Thursday 11th December at 3.30pm**

Spring Term: **Monday 13th January 2025 at 3.30pm**

Summer Term: **Monday 19th May 2025 at 3.30pm**

Project Celebration & Review: **Thursday 3rd July 2025**

#### **Optional Extras:**

##### **Whole School INSET Additional Cost £400**

An RSC practitioner can come and visit your school for a day of staff training, bespoke to your school's needs. This is a fabulous opportunity for you, as a Lead Teacher in your setting, to begin to establish an individual working relationship with the RSC. This can be in a whole day training session at your school. Alternatively, twilight sessions can be booked for £300 each. You can also select an alternative play to focus on should you wish.

There is also an opportunity to attend the **2-day Associate Schools CPD** in Stratford, including accommodation, catering, theatre tickets and CPD.

**£100 per person**, maximum 2 people per cluster.

We are very lucky that our cluster is often selected for further opportunities, including additional training, research projects, performances and symposiums. You will be kept informed of all of these throughout the year.