

HOME ARCHES

BOOKING GUIDANCE AND FAQs



Who are HOME Arches for?

HOME Arches is a creative hub dedicated to supporting professional artists at different stages of their careers. We particularly welcome applications from those who feel their practice would benefit from dedicated time and space to further explore and develop.

To book the space, you/your group must be:

- Practicing artists
- Over 18
- Based in Greater Manchester or the Northwest of England
- Not currently in full-time education
- Focusing on at least one of HOME's main artforms: Theatre, Film or Visual Arts

We especially welcome applications from:

- Global Majority artists
- d/Deaf, disabled or neurodivergent (DDN) artists
- Artists from lower socio-economic backgrounds
- At least 50% of the time available is reserved for artists facing barriers in the industry, including those in the above-mentioned demographics.

What can the space be used for?

Only you know your idea or project, so we will always try to accommodate your needs based on what we can offer.

Arches 1 and 3 can be used by creatives from any discipline. Some equipment, such as a large TV, projectors, and a selection of workshop tools may be made available in either space, subject to availability.

Here are some examples of what previously hosted artists have used HOME Arches for:

- Rehearsing shows (plays, choreography, cabaret, circus, shows that combine several disciplines)
- Script readings
- Devising artwork (clay, painting, banners, vinyl designing...)
- Recording and photography (for example of existing plays for promotional reasons)
- Having meetings with stakeholders and/or creative collaborators
- Editing video and or film
- Having public sharings (small exhibitions, works in progress etc)
- Hosting workshops with a clear developmental focus for artists (note that these must be aligned with our priorities and might require a separate conversation)

What does the space look like?

Arch 1:

Arch 1 is a custom-built rehearsal and development space with black-out capability, a modern LED lighting rig, a professional sound system, projection, and sprung dance floor. A Bluetooth speaker is available in this space.

If you require a black-out space or the use of technical equipment in the form of lighting or PA system, you will need to book for Arch 1.



Arch 2:

Arch 2 is our shared space, used by all artists in HOME Arches. The space features a social area with a long table, sofas, computers and a printer. This is also the main access to the building and where the bathrooms and shared kitchenette are. Typically used for desk working, meetings and activity that can be interrupted intermittently.



Arch 3:

Arch 3 is a double-height studio space with a sink and worktop. A Bluetooth speaker is available for this space.

For measurements and technical specifications, please refer to the Technical Specifications document on the bookings page.



Frequently asked questions

How are bookings allocated?

Once the deadline for booking requests closes, we will review all bookings received and allocate space on a first come first served basis. We will firstly allocate space to artists who have indicated facing barriers in the creative industries. After that, all remaining requests will be allocated. The process continues until all available slots have been allocated.

Will everybody who requests a booking be given space?

Free space is very scarcely available, and we tend to be over-subscribed. We are therefore unfortunately unlikely to be able to accommodate all requests.

Can I ask for space again if I don't manage to be offered it this time?

Absolutely, please do submit another booking request when we open again.

I'm applying for funding to develop some work and want to mention using HOME Arches during the making process. How can I do this?

HOME Arches is offered to artists for free. You can state that you are receiving in-kind making/rehearsal space for the following equivalent cost:

1 day of rehearsal in one of the Arches = £400

1 day of technical support from our resident technician = £150

I would like to run a public-facing activity that audiences would pay to attend. Can I do this at HOME Arches?

Absolutely. It's worth noting that all activity taking place at HOME Arches must remain free to access, so although you can have public attending, we are unable to accommodate activity that requires an entrance fee.

I run regular workshops with a local group. Can I use HOME Arches for my sessions?

We know how important creativity is for everybody and acknowledge that finding space for creative activity can be challenging. However, the focus of HOME Arches is to nurture development and exploration for practicing artists, so we are unable to offer the space for non-professional creatives or those without a professional ambition.

Do you support artists working in every artform?

We are committed to supporting artists working across our main artforms, which are:

- Theatre (including Performing Arts)
- Film/cinema
- Visual Arts

If your project combines any of these with others (eg exploring ideas for a show that includes music, theatre and circus), you can request booking the space.

Where counts as the North West?

The North West comprises of Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Merseyside. You can check if you are in the North West [here](#).

Can I book more than one Arch?

For this pilot project, you can only book one. Feel free to give us feedback either by emailing us or in the "any other comments you would like to share" box in the form. If your project requires both Arches get in touch with Artist Development and we can talk about whether we can accommodate it outside of the Open Booking Scheme.

What if only some of my group meet the criteria, for example if 2 people live in Manchester but a third member lives in London?

This is fine, as long as the majority of your group lives in the North West.

What if only some of my group meet the criteria for those currently underrepresented in the industry?

This is absolutely fine, as long as the majority of your group meet these criteria.

Is there technical support available?

Our Arches Technician Olly Bloor is there to support artists using the Arches. The level of support they will be able to provide depends on what you need and their availability and we will discuss this with you when we confirm your booking. To help this process, please detail your needs in the form.

What tech is in the HOME Arches?

You can find out the full list in the downloadable tech spec document. If you still have questions after reading it, you can email our Arches Technician Olly Bloor on olly.bloor@homemcr.org.

Can I work evenings/weekends?

The bookable hours are Monday to Friday between 10am and 6pm. If your booking can only take place outside these days and/or hours, please let us know. In exceptional cases, we may be able to accommodate this although we cannot guarantee it. Please indicate your requirements on the form.

How do I do a risk assessment?

Once your booking is confirmed, we will go through this with you. You can provide us with your own Risk Assessment or we can share a template.

What address do I put in if I'm part of a collective?

Please use the address of the main point of contact for this project. They need to be currently living in the North West of England.

What do you mean by lower socio-economic background?

We recognise that it may be difficult to determine your socio-economic background for this purpose. We found Jerwood's Socio-Economic Diversity and Inclusion in the Arts: Toolkit helpful.

The following questions and answers may help in making this judgement.

Were you eligible for Free School Meals? Yes

Did you attend a fee-paying school? No

Did your main carer(s) access higher education? No

Did your main carer(s) work in a Higher managerial, administrative and professional occupation(s)? No