

NEW WRITING NORTH

Creative Writing for Teachers / Lead Writer Opportunities

New Writing North is looking to contract two writers to lead on our Creative Writing for Teachers courses, starting in Autumn 2024.

We are planning two online Creative Writing for Teachers courses, to run from October 2024 – April 2025. There will be one course aimed at Primary School educators, and one course aimed at High School and Further Education teachers.

Creative Writing for Teachers supports teachers to develop their own creative writing practice, giving educational leaders the confidence to inspire and bring creative skills back into the classroom. Previously, the programme ran annually from 2012-2019, starting when we collaborated with Northumbria University to support a PhD called Practice, Pedagogy and Policy: the influence of teachers' creative writing practice on pedagogy in schools. This piece of research evidenced that teachers who practice their own creative writing are more confident when teaching it.

The aims of the project are:

- To provide writer-led CPD for teachers
- To support teachers to explore their own creative writing
- To build confidence in teachers who teach creative writing to students
- To create space for teachers to share skills and experiences with their peers
- To provide teachers with resources that they can use in the classroom

We are seeking an accomplished writer with experience of supporting and inspiring others to explore their creative writing, to run each course. The writer will work with up to 10 teachers per course. The course will consist of seven 90 minute sessions, delivered digitally over seven months. The course will be delivered on a week-day evening, with the opportunity for chosen writers to identify the best day for them.

The Lead Writer will facilitate each session and be the contact person for teachers enrolled on the course. Whilst the lead writer will be responsible for the format of the entire course, there is scope for some sessions to have a guest writer, to facilitate part of the session on a specific topic. New Writing North will work with the Lead Writer to plan and facilitate guest speakers where appropriate, and they will be contracted and paid separately by New Writing North.

Writers may apply to run both courses, or just one.

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The Lead Writer will:

- Create an encouraging space for participants
- Set the content of the course, including working with New Writing North to identify guest speakers where appropriate
- Familiarise themselves with the curriculum to make the course relevant
- Create resources that teachers can use in the classroom
- Oversee group dynamics and monitor participation
- Provide feedback on participant's creative writing
- Contribute to the evaluation of the programme

Timescale:

Deadline for applications: Friday 17 May at midday

Start date: flexible, course starts October 2024 (research and prep time required to devise course content)

End date: April 2025

We will contact all applicants about the next stage by Friday 7 June.

Fee:

The fee will be £250 per day @ 14 days (approximately 1 day a month to deliver the course, inclusive of 7 days additional for research, resource creation and evaluation).

This fee is to run one Creative Writing for Teachers course, for either Primary School educators or High School educators. Applicants are welcome to apply to be Lead Writer on both courses, which would be a fee of £250 per day for 28 days.

Application:

To apply please complete the application form. You will be asked to provide:

- A CV which includes your experience as a writer,
- A covering letter of 1-2 pages outlining why you would be suitable for the role and the approach you would take to devising and delivering the course

Please apply via the following link by midday on Friday 17 May:

<https://airtable.com/appeEate5THgz5jXQ/shrwyEG6vXPLXewA>

If you have any issues with the application form, please contact:

skills@newwritingnorth.com

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FAQs

Do I need experience of working in educational settings?

No, although an understanding of educational settings would be beneficial. More important is the willingness to familiarise yourself with the curriculum and ensure the relevance of the course materials.

What restrictions are there to the format of the course?

We are happy to be led by you as Lead Writer. However, the seven sessions will all take place at the same time and day of the week across the seven sessions. You will lead and facilitate every session, but there is scope to have some guest speakers, as discussed above.

Do I need to know who the guest speakers will be?

No. Guest speakers can be utilised to provide information/facilitation on particular areas of creative writing that you think would be useful to the teachers. New Writing North can help you find relevant writers to lead these sessions, and they will be contracted and paid by New Writing North. As Lead Writer, you will still attend and lead every session.