

FIRST STORY

Changing lives through writing

Placement Title: Shadow Writer (voluntary)

Dates of Placement: Autumn Term 2019 and Spring Term 2020 placements

Hours of Placement:

- Dependent on time of school workshops.
- Each session usually runs for around 1.5hrs, on a weekday afternoon
- Estimated start date of late October 2018, to accommodate school

Location: Leicester/ Nottingham/ Derby/ Lincoln

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Summary of the Placement:

First Story is an innovative, fast-growing UK charity (<http://www.firststory.org.uk/>). We arrange and pay for acclaimed writers to run creative-writing workshops for students in state schools across the country. Each writer-in-residence leads weekly after-school workshops for a group of up to twenty-one students. We publish the students' writing in a professionally produced anthology for each school, and the schools host book-launch events at which the students read their stories to their peers, friends, families and teachers.

Shadow Writers will work alongside the writer-in-residence during the workshops to support the delivery of the workshop activities, and supporting the young people to develop their creative writing skills during the workshops.

Aims of Placement

To offer relevant practical experience in delivering creative writing workshops, with the opportunity to observe and support the practice of a professional writer .

Main responsibilities:

	Main Responsibilities	% of time
1.	Supporting writer in residence to deliver creative writing workshops	70%
2.	Collating material and supporting the editing of the school anthology	20%
3.	Attending and supporting delivery of creative writing events	10%

Outcomes of Placement

Successful candidates will gain practical and demonstrable experience in the following key areas:

- Creative Writing workshop design and delivery
- Working with young people in secondary schools
- Editing and development of students' work

The above experience and skills will allow candidates to demonstrate to future employers their suitability in jobs involving arts in education, editing, publishing, education, arts management.

Person Specification:

	Essential	Desirable
Personal skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An active interest in creative writing and literacy • A desire to share your enthusiasm with young people • Excellent verbal and written communication skills. • A conscientious and flexible attitude to working duties • A desire to learn new skills 	
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Familiar with the challenge and reward of creative writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working with schools or young people.
Attainments/ qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working towards a BA degree or higher in a related subject 	
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to remain calm under pressure. • Friendly and approachable • Able to learn new skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of communicating with a range of people from senior figures to young people.

Additional Information

Shadow Writers will need to undertake a DBS clearance. Workshop times and dates will be set with schools in September, but will take place after school for an hour and a half each week. There may be some additional work in between workshops to prepare material in agreement with their writer.

The number of places available depends on the number of schools that sign up for the programme, so any offer of a placement is dependent on First Story attracting sufficient numbers of schools partners.