

National Theatre

How does the New Views playwrighting programme and competition work?

September

CPD

Teachers have the opportunity to visit the NT for training to enable them to lead extracurricular writing groups in their schools or colleges. We introduce teachers to the online course and a range of approaches and supporting resources. We encourage schools to combine New Views with Arts Award and we also offer Arts Award Advisor training as part of the CPD.

October – March

FOLLOW THE ONLINE COURSE

Students, supported by their teachers, follow our specially created online course at their own pace in their school or college. They also see NT productions – at the NT in London, on tour, or in local cinemas via NT Live – and take part in workshops with professional playwrights.

December – April

WRITE

During this period, students start to write half-hour plays about issues that matter to them. When students have written a first draft the playwright assigned to their school will give all students feedback to enable them to work towards a final draft. We also encourage schools to do readings of the plays. Towards the end of April students submit their final drafts to the NT.

May

The mentoring playwrights and a team of readers from the NT read all the plays that have been submitted. A shortlist of plays goes to a panel of NT writers, directors, actors and dramaturgs and they choose a winning play.

July

NEW VIEWS FESTIVAL

In July, we hold the New Views Festival, where the winning play is produced at the NT with a professional creative team and company. All the shortlisted plays are given a rehearsed reading. The writers have the chance to be part of the rehearsal process.

How much does it cost to take part?

State Schools: £300 (Bursaries are available for schools where the cost would be a barrier to participation; contact us to find out more.)

Independent Schools: £600*

** This fee contributes to the cost of sponsoring a state school to take part in New Views. Independent schools must bring on a state school as part of their engagement with New Views. We will support this where necessary.*

If you have any questions about the programme, or require any further information, please contact newviews@nationaltheatre.org.uk