

Role Outline: Carpentry Department Placement

Responsible to:	Head of Carpentry and Metal
Liases with:	Workshop Supervisors, Carpenters, Apprentice Carpenter, Metalworkers, Scenic Art Supervisors, Scenic Artists, Head of Scenic Construction, Scenic Construction Project Co-ordinator, HR Projects Co-ordinator.
Guidance from:	Workshop Supervisors, Carpenters, Apprentice Carpenter, Metalworkers, Stage Supervisors, Production Managers, Deputy Production Managers, HR Projects Co-ordinator.

The National Theatre

The National Theatre is central to the creative life of the country. In its three theatres on the South Bank in London it presents up to 25 new shows a year and productions also play in the West End and on tour. It broadcasts to cinemas worldwide through National Theatre Live, streams plays free to UK schools and produces a wealth of digital content about theatre.

Through an extensive programme of amplifying activities – platform performances, backstage tours, publications, exhibitions and outdoor events – it recognises that theatre doesn't begin and end with the rise and fall of the curtain.

The Carpentry Department

The Carpentry Department consists of a team of Supervisors, Carpenters (full time and contract) and an Apprentice Carpenter and is part of the Scenic Construction Department. The Scenic Construction workshop is part of the Technical Department of the National Theatre and makes the scenery for NT shows and events.

The Placement

Carpentry placements generally last between 2-6 weeks to allow candidates to experience life in a workshop environment, to witness how various scenic elements are constructed and to learn and develop key carpentry skills. Placement hours are 8.00am – 16.30pm, Monday to Friday, with a 30min lunch break. During busy periods, when the staff are working additional hours, although you are not obligated – you may find it beneficial to partake in the work to fully experience the rigour of a busy scenic workshop. Steel toe capped shoes are required to be worn at all times. All other PPE will be provided by the NT. There will be a full building and H&S induction given on the first day.

Likely Tasks

1. Assist the Carpenters with the build of scenic elements
2. Use and maintenance of hand tools.
3. Use of wood working machinery.

4. Understanding of basic CAD generated drawings.
5. Cladding and covering techniques.
6. General workshop labouring – tidying, making trestles etc

Person Specification

1. Some prior experience of working with wood, building scenery and using hand/power tools.
2. An aspiration for a career in a workshop environment (in a theatre or commercial scenic workshop).
3. The ability to demonstrate a high level of initiative, attention to detail and thoroughness.
4. Resilient and with the ability to demonstrate and communicate enthusiasm.
5. Strong track record in reliability and punctuality.
6. Demonstrably enthusiastic, energetic and proactive in carrying out all tasks
7. An awareness of your actions, and of those around you in relation to current best practice with regard to Health and Safety

Ideal Preparatory Qualifications & Experience

1. Should be in second or third year of a relevant university or college course with a bias to scenic construction; or experience in a similar field.
2. Intermediate computer literacy.
3. Basic use of hand and power tools.

**Applications should be made via the question sheet available on <https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/about-the-national-theatre/careers/work-placements>
All question sheets should be submitted to workplacements@nationaltheatre.org.uk**