

Job Title:	BTEC Aerial Teacher (part-time)
Salary:	£26,400 (pro-rata to £5,387.97 for 0.2 FTE)
Hours:	9 hours per week, with some flexibility required – approx. 6 hours contact time and 3 hours prep time per week – for 30 weeks. Additional 54 hours per year for meetings, inset days and training. Potential for additional 0.5 hours’ warm up per week for 30 weeks. Plus holidays. Permanent
Reports to:	BTEC Course Leader
Reportees:	N/A
Location:	St Pauls Church, Portland Square, Bristol with occasional work at our other site in Kingswood, Bristol

The Company

Circomedia was founded in 1984 by physical theatre expert Bim Mason and choreographer and performer Helen Crocker. It rose out of the ashes of Fool Time, Britain’s first ever circus school. It is different from many circus schools as there is a heavy emphasis on combining traditional circus skills with physical theatre and creativity. It is this approach to performance that has led to Circomedia being acknowledged as a centre of excellence worldwide.

Artistic policy: Circomedia has been at the forefront of developments in contemporary circus for decades, with its unique emphasis, within the circus sector, on the use of the body to convey meaning, the performer as creator and the combination of circus with physical theatre. These principles inform the formal courses and all areas of our work, from the performance programme to the participatory.

Educational philosophy: Our educational philosophy is that it is essential that minds and personalities need developing as much as bodies. Our courses have a pragmatic approach to learning for a vocational profession and a holistic approach to teaching each individual. We ensure that the demands and rigour of good technique are met whilst encouraging people to develop an innovative and imaginative approach to circus and physical theatre. This development is informed by expanding students' range of knowledge of possible styles and approaches.

Education is delivered at HE level (Foundation Degree, 3rd year BA top up and MA, in partnership with Bath Spa University), and at FE level (BTEC Diploma and Extended Diploma in partnership with City of Bristol College), along with self-funded full time vocational courses and thriving youth circus and recreational class programmes.

Circomedia also showcases new and emerging work at its superb performance venue in central Bristol. Across locations the organisation strives to build partnerships, be engaged with community events and offers facility hire and bespoke events packages.

Circomedia is the trading name of the Academy for Contemporary Circus and Physical Theatre which is a registered charity no. 1056852 and limited company no. 2928738

BTEC Aerial Teacher Overview

This is a varied, exciting and demanding role, sitting within the Further Education Course and reporting to the BTEC Course Leader. The post holder will have joint responsibility for all activities relating to the delivery of the Aerial specialisation on the BTEC in association with City of Bristol College, all in Contemporary Circus with Physical Theatre.

As an aerial teacher you will work alongside other members of the Aerial teaching team, and work closely with the Course Leader, other discipline teachers (Acrobatics, Manipulation, Physical Theatre, Movement, Conditioning), and wider teaching team to design, plan, coordinate and deliver the further education programme, with a focus on delivering excellence in teaching and learning, student experience, and the continued development of this exciting artform.

The post holder will have considerable professional experience as a performer/maker and/or teacher within the aerial arts, ideally with Further Education teaching, and assessment experience, as well as a proven ability to manage and run aerial teaching spaces, with a focus on health and safety, rigging, equipment management, etc.

As part of the Aerial team the post holder will be responsible for the design, coordination, and delivery of the aerial technique curriculum for up to two years of study at further education level, in line with Circomedia's pedagogical ethos and aims, and should therefore have sound knowledge, understanding and the ability to teach a range of aerial disciplines as well as a keen interest in Contemporary Circus both in the UK and internationally.

The post holder will help deliver the BTEC's annual schedule of performances and open days and must therefore be happy to work flexible hours, including occasional evening and weekend work.

Key Responsibilities

- Aerial teacher across all two years of the programme.
- Care of main aerial teaching space, including health and safety, equipment management and reporting maintenance throughout each academic cycle, while coordinating with other space users.
- Coordinator and assessor for formative aerial assessments, in liaison with BTEC Course Leader to monitor and track progression of students.
- Assist with and coordinate on annual programme of student aerial inductions, studio protocols, health and safety sign off.
- To deliver classes that cover a range of aerial techniques, skills and performance with a range of equipment.
- To plan, produce, and deliver a creative SOW in line with relevant modules, and individual lesson plans with a focus on how the individual's learning relates to the wider course.
- An ability to deliver lessons to varied learning styles, and engaging learners with SpLD/EHCPs and additional mental health issue and ensure a safe and inclusive learning environment.

Other Responsibilities

- Liaise with Module Coordinators on the delivery of all aerial-related assessment and performance events.
- Contribute to Academy Open Days.
- Undertake continuous formative assessment of student progress and performance.
- Contribute to curriculum development, programme review and validation of programmes.
- Stay abreast of developments in specialism, including honing skills for teaching, supervision, and interaction with students to foster learning and creative thinking.
- Contribute to teachers' meetings and INSET (Planning and Review) days as necessary.
- Mentor students in completing termly individual learning plans through a tutorial programme.

- Share knowledge of historical context of contemporary circus and physical theatre in relation to the students' education.

All staff are required to work within Circomedia's equal opportunities policy and to ensure that Circomedia Health and Safety policies and procedures are adhered to.

This job description is not comprehensive, and duties may change and develop according to future requirements

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential

- Educated to degree level in Circus Arts, or related subject, or relevant professional experience.
- Teaching qualification at a minimum of Level 3 (or be willing to work towards gaining this qualification within the first year of joining the organisation).
- Previous experience of further education teaching, curriculum design, assessment, and quality monitoring processes.
- Proven experience of/ability to teach a range of aerial skills and apparatus, teach/adapt teaching material to a range of levels and abilities, and willingness to undertake continuous professional development to keep up to date with technical and artistic developments in the subject area.
- Sound knowledge and experience of health and safety, rigging, risk assessments, equipment, and studio maintenance.
- Understanding of student support needs, safeguarding and duty of care. Ability to provide guidance, signposting to student support lead.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing with a range of stakeholders.
- Confident IT skills including Microsoft office – Word, Excel, PowerPoint, or other online presentation software, plus Zoom video conferencing.
- A flexible approach to work with the ability to commit to occasional evening and weekend working.

Desirable

- Experience of working with students with additional learning needs.
- Creative/innovative approaches and ideas for delivery.
- Knowledge of the national and international contemporary circus sector, and the wider performing arts sector as a whole.
- Experience teaching BTEC Level 3.

STAFF BENEFITS

- Company pension contribution.
- Two free tickets to Circomedia's own shows.
- Use of Circomedia's Employee Assistance Programme.
- Discounted adult classes.
- Discounted Youth Circus classes and priority privileges.
- Access to Xtras Discounts and the bYond Card discount scheme.
- 50% discount on Circomedia merchandise.
- Use of company Cycle to Work Scheme.

- Access to childcare vouchers.

SAFEGUARDING

Circomedia is committed to safeguarding the promoting the safety and welfare of children and young people. Successful applicants will therefore be required to undergo an Enhanced DBS Check, organised by Circomedia, upon appointment.