

COCKPIT ARTS

Business Incubation at Cockpit Arts

In addition to affordable workspace we offer an array of support services to help you grow your business.

Welcome

When you join us, we enter into a partnership with you in a process designed to help you develop and grow your creative business. You are firmly in the driving seat and our on-site coaches are on hand to guide you through the journey. The first step is to meet your business coach, discuss your business and identify your goals and specific needs. Together we then create a personalised action plan which will be the starting point of a relationship that will be there throughout your time at Cockpit Arts. Each business takes a different journey from this point depending on their model, stage of growth and specific needs.



On-site Coaching

One of the unique services at Cockpit is the on-site, one-to-one support from our Small Firms Enterprise Development Initiative (SFEDI) qualified coaches. We take a co-active approach, working with you to develop the skills and creativity you already possess. Drawing on our industry experience, we help you to identify opportunities for change that are right for you and your business.

[About the team >](#)

Partnership Review

Each year we will complete a Partnership Review with you to reflect on your progress and review your next steps. A key objective of this review is to look at your goals, firstly looking back at the past 12 months and what has been achieved, and secondly looking forwards and setting goals for the next year. We collate and analyse the business review data (which is held in the strictest confidence) so we can evaluate and measure the impact of the support we are offering, identify future needs and research trends.

[Reports about business growth >](#)

Industry Experts

In addition to our in-house team of experts, we refer studio holders to our growing network of industry specialists for support in areas such as accounting, intellectual property, manufacturing and branding. Membership is by invitation.

[More about Industry Experts >](#)



Creative Employment Programme

Studio holders wishing to take on Apprentices can join our Creative Employment Programme, supported by The Drapers' Charitable Fund, The Ashley Family Foundation and Creative & Cultural Skills. Established in 2013, it is widely considered to be a pioneering initiative that helps craftspeople take on their first employees and an attractive route for young people choosing not to go to university.

The programme provides employers with a programme of support, which includes grants to take on apprentices, support with recruitment and selection, signposting to payroll, employment law and legal advice, and leadership and management training developed in partnership with the Learning and Development Division at the Royal Bank of Scotland. There's also ongoing coaching to support the employer and the young person, as well as support for managing the apprenticeship element of the role, including liaising with the college and assessors.

[More about the Creative Employment Programme >](#)

Cockpit Arts & Ingenious Growth Loan Fund

Studio holders needing an injection of cash to take their business to the next level can apply for small, low interest loans through this scheme. The Cockpit Arts & Ingenious Growth Loan Fund provides intensive business planning support and on-going coaching alongside affordable finance. Studio holders are eligible to apply provided they have been here for 12 months, and can apply for loans of up to £10,000.

Jill Humphrey Springboard Prize

Studio holders can apply for this annual prize of £1,000 (plus a 2nd prize of £300) to help fund a new project or development in their businesses. It's aimed at early stage business who have been trading for less than 3 years and makers are asked to clearly articulate the impact the prize will make to their work.



Open Studios

All studio holders at our incubators participate in our renowned Open Studios. These selling events take place in the summer and at Christmas and attract over 11,000 customers each year. It's a fantastic opportunity to showcase and sell your work, and take individual commissions.

[Open Studios >](#)