

Thanks for your interest in joining Pool Arts

There are two criteria for joining

1. You are an artist aged over 17 that has experienced mental or emotional distress recently or at some time in your life which still has an ongoing affect on your wellbeing. This is an issue for which you have sought some kind of mental health support.
2. You are a practising artist who has a rough idea of the direction in which you want to take your practice forward. This may simply be wanting to continue your practice, or it may be that you are hoping to exhibit or apply for opportunities

Pool Arts is an artist run organisation, so You should also be willing to take part in regular meetings and help to run Pool Arts by volunteering any skills you can offer whenever you are able to.

Once you meet these criteria, simply contact us via an email poolarts@gmail.com or phone call / text (07767356302) or write us a letter about why you want to join and how you meet the criteria. Letters can be sent OR HAND DELIVERED any Thursday (phone first) to Pool Arts, ground floor front unit, 18-20 Grosvenor Street, Ardwick M1 7JJ. If you arent confident writing , we would be happy to meet you and chat instead.

the joining process:

- Once you have asked to join, we ask you attend our *next 3 monthly meetings* - usually held on the first Thursday of the month at 4pm at the Ardwick Studio.
- Dont worry if you can't attend one of the meetings, just attend the next ones
- After attending three of these meetings, you decide if you want to become a full member and let us know. We also explain if we are unable to accept you as a member with clear reasons (this hardly ever happens)
- You can get involved in any of our activities during your joining period - studio sessions / workshops / trips/ exhibitions / mentoring
- Once you then decide to become a member, we ask you to start to pay your £15 membership fees per month via standing order or by cash. If you are unable to pay for any reason, just speak to Alison or Lisa.
- Once you are a member you may like to have access to the studio by becoming a key holder. This will be discussed with you as and when you feel ready.
- If you are already a member, you still need to attend **at least** one meeting in every six months - *or send your apologies*. If we do not hear from you in a 6 month period, we will contact you - but if we still don't hear we will remove from the members list
- You may re-join Pool Arts at any time if you wish to, either as an ordinary or sleeping member. Sleeping members opt to keep in touch, but no longer have studio access.

Please let us know if you have any questions