



National Glass Centre

Artist Studios Guidance Notes

Thank you for the interest you have shown in our artist studios and joining our glass and ceramics community at National Glass Centre.

National Glass Centre

National Glass Centre is part of the University of Sunderland estate and offers unfurnished artist studio accommodation for graduates, new start-up businesses and established SMEs. Situated on the banks of the River Wear, National Glass Centre benefits from stunning riverside views, whilst being easy to access via car or public transport.

The building benefits from ample on-site parking and is located within a short walking distance of the coast and Sunderland City Centre (one of the major commercial, business and administrative centres for the North East of England).

National Glass Centre lies adjacent to the University of Sunderland's St Peter's Campus, providing direct access to University facilities if required.

Our Vision is to be a centre of national excellence supporting the research, teaching, production, exhibition and enjoyment of contemporary glass – a centre valued by the local community in Sunderland and whose reputation stretches across the North East region as well as nationally and internationally.

Artist Studios

The premises boast a highly flexible working environment offering:

- 8 unfurnished dedicated Artist Studios ranging in size from 14sqm – 37sqm.
- Highly competitive rates which include business rates, heating, lighting and basic amenities.
- Access to the Artist Studios is available between 8.00am and 8.00pm Monday to Friday and between 9.00am to 5.30pm Saturday and Sunday.
- Easy in – easy out tenancies
- Access to business support and networking
- On site car parking
- Reception services
- Discounts in our on-site Brasserie and shop
- Access to meeting room facilities
- CCTV
- Access to high quality glassmaking equipment and facilities
- Inspiring riverside views
- Supportive community of tenants and academic staff
- Regular reviews and tenants' meetings

Length of Tenancies

Tenancies are granted for 6 month periods and each tenancy is renewed by mutual agreement. National Glass Centre offers easy in, easy out tenancies with a 30 day notice period required. Tenants in occupation of an Artist Studio shall be permitted to remain in occupation for up to 3 years. Tenancies may only be permitted after this period at the discretion of the National Glass Centre's Senior Management Team.

Selection Process

Interested parties may request an Artist Studio information pack from National Glass Centre or download it from www.nationalglasscentre.com in the Hire section. The application form must be submitted to apply for an Artist Studio along with 5 photographs illustrating your practice. All applicants for Artist Studios will go through a selection process involving a short interview. It is important that we get a feel for what you do and how we may best support you so please make sure that the "About Your Practice" section of the Application Form is completed with as much detail as possible.

If your application is approved, you will need to provide the first month's rent as a bond deposit; a cheque for the first month's rent; certificate of Public Liability Insurance; certificate of Employer's Liability Insurance (where applicable) and Certificate of Incorporation (if a Limited Company). You will be given 30 days from the date of offer to accept and conclude a studio tenancy arrangement.

If an Artist Studio is not available, you will be placed on a waiting list and will be contacted when an Artist Studio becomes available.

Discount for graduates

We have a maximum of two studios which attract a discounted rate for graduates in their first year since graduation, and post graduate students. Applicants fulfilling these criteria will receive 30% discount off their rent in year 1, i.e. the first two 6 month tenancies, and 15% off their rent in year 2. Please provide proof of your status when returning your application form.

Joint Tenancies

Applications for an Artist Studio may be made by 2 individuals as a joint tenancy. When an application is received for a joint tenancy by a recent graduate and an established artist, each tenant will pay 50% of the rent they would have paid if they solely occupied the Studio. Each individual will however have full responsibility for the whole of the studio and will be responsible for complying with the terms and conditions stated in the tenancy agreement – each individual will be responsible for the full payment of rent if the other tenant defaults.

If you have any questions please call Michelle Daurat, Head of Business and Operations, on 0191 515 5510 or michelle.daurat@sunderland.ac.uk.

We look forward to welcoming you to National Glass Centre!