A red text on a black background

AI-generated content may be incorrect.A person in a dress dancing with red shoes

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**TECHNICAL**

**PLACEMENTS**

**INFORMATION PACK**

**TECHNICAL PLACEMENT INFORMATION PACK**

Thank you for your interest in a Technical Placement with **New Adventures** in partnership with **Theatre Royal Plymouth.** Royal Parade. Plymouth. PL1 2TR

We are delighted to be able to provide placements in the following departments whilst we are at **Theatre Royal Plymouth** with our touring production of The Red Shoes.

**Stage/Automation Department** – w/c 17th November 2025

**Lighting Department** – w/c 17th November 2025

**Wardrobe Department** – w/c 17th November 2025

**About New Adventures** 

New Adventures is an iconic and ground-breaking dance-theatre company. Since 1987,

it has been known for creating works that have altered the public perception of what is possible when it comes to telling stories without words. The company is led by celebrated choreographer and director, Sir Matthew Bourne. New Adventures has become the most successful and busiest dance company in the UK and is a major exporter of British dance across the world.

**The Red Shoes**

The Red shoes is a timeless fairytale and Academy Award-winning movie, The Red Shoes

has captivated audiences and inspired generations of dancers with its powerful tale of

obsession, possession and one girl’s dream to be the greatest dancer in the world. Victoria

Page lives to dance but her ambitions become a fierce struggle between the two men who

inspire her passion.

We recognise the importance of the creative and technical workforce and the current skills shortage following the impact of COVID-19. New Adventures takes pride in nurturing new and emerging dancers, teachers and choreographers, supporting them to develop as performers and artists. We are now expanding our support and development programme to

those behind the scenes. We are working with **Theatre Royal Plymouth** and many other partners to provide work experience opportunities within our backstage teams to open up the doors to the world of technical theatre and the many job opportunities within this sector.

The Red Shoes will tour the UK with a company of around 41 dancers, 26 crew members and six trucks. Typically, seven shows will take place each week and get-in begins

on a Sunday evening ready for the first show on a Tuesday with the final performance taking place on a Saturday evening followed immediately by the get-out.

**About Theatre Royal Plymouth**

**Theatre Royal Plymouth is the largest and best-attended regional producing theatre in the UK. The venue features three stages, The Lyric, The Drum and The Lab. They host an eclectic mix of productions, including theatre, musicals, drama, ballet and opera, catering to an extensive regional audience of over 2.1 million individuals spanning Cornwall, Devon, Somerset and Plymouth. The venue boasts a team of more that 300 highly skilled staff, including leading artists and craftspeople, attracting over 300,000 annual visitors. As a registered charity, TRP turns over £15m annually and receives both National Portfolio Organisation funding from Arts Council England and yearly revenue support from Plymouth City Council.**

**STAGE CREW/AUTOMATION PLACEMENT** – w/c17th November 2025

The Stage Crew assist with the get-in and get-out at each venue as well as working backstage during the show. They build the set and large props facilitating the needs of the Master Carpenter and follow show cues during the performance. They are responsible for the maintenance of the set and the upkeep of the large props to a high standard. The Automation Department maintain and operate the moving set pieces on the show which make up a large part of the set design of The Red Shoes.

**Key working relationships**

Placement Supervisor: Head Carpenter & Head of Automation

Works with: Carpentry Team, Flys Department, Stage Department, Stage

Management Department, Venue Crew & Head of Automation

Guidance from: Placement Programme Manager, Technical Manager

**Placement**

The **Stage Crew / Automation** placement will take place over one week allowing the candidate to experience the day to day running of the show and live production process. They will experience working within a highly skilled team of stage technicians and automation engineers and will learn how to carry out maintenance and run show cues. This will be a unique snapshot of a touring week on a large-scale touring show.

Placement hours would be based on a 48-hour working week. Timings of the placement will be agreed in advance with the Head Carpenter & Head of Automation. However, due to the nature of this placement, evening and weekend availability will be required.

**Potential Task/Responsibilities**

* Assisting with the maintenance of the set.
* Build and repair large props.
* Daily setting and maintenance of some props.
* Operating moving scenery alongside fly-people.
* Resetting the stage at the end of a performance.
* Setting the stage for Company Class.
* Always adhering to **Theatre Royal Plymouth’s**  Health and Safety policy and protocols.
* Always adhering to **New Adventures** Health and Safety policy and protocols.
* Always adhering to **New Adventures** Safeguarding Policy.

**LIGHTING PLACEMENT** - w/c 17th November 2025

The lighting department prepares and operates the lighting system for a production. They work in conjunction with each venue to set up and install the touring lighting rig. Ultimately, they are responsible for ensuring the Lighting Designers vision is maintained at each venue on the tour. They are also responsible for the Audio-Visual equipment.

**Key working relationships**

Placement Supervisor: Head of Department

Works with: LX No. 2, Sound Department, Stage Department, Venue Lighting Teams, Stage Management team.

Guidance from: Placement Programme Manager, Technical Manager

**Placement**

The **Lighting** department placement will take place over one week allowing the candidate to experience the running of the show and the live production process. They will experience working within a highly skilled team of technicians and will learn how to maintain the rig and will be given the chance to watch the follow spot operators and lighting operator in action.

This will be a unique snapshot of a touring week on a large-scale touring show.

**Hours and Location**

Placement hours would be based on a 48-hour working week. Timings of the placement will be agreed in advance with the Head of Department. However, due to the nature of this placement, evening and weekend availability will be required.

**Potential Task/Responsibilities**

* Supporting and assisting the HOD to ensure lighting is in-line with the designer’s plan.
* Rigging and operating the lighting equipment.
* Taking directions and cues from the Stage Management department.
* Ensuring lighting equipment is in a good and safe working condition.
* Always Adhering to **Theatre Royal Plymouth’s** Health and Safety policy and protocols.
* Always adhering to **New Adventures** Health and Safety policy and protocols.
* Always adhering to **New Adventures** Safeguarding Policy

**WARDROBE PLACEMENT** -w/c 17th November 2025

The Wardrobe department are responsible for all aspects of implementing the costume design, including the creation and maintenance of costumes. They work backstage assisting company members during a performance. They assist with quick costume changes and the setting of costumes and the turnaround of garments between shows.

**Key working relationships**

Placement Supervisor: Head of Wardrobe

Works with: Deputy Head of Wardrobe, Wardrobe Assistants, Dressers, Cast members

Guidance from: Placement Programme Manager, Technical Manager

**Placement**

The **Wardrobe** placement will take place over one week allowing the candidate to experience how the wardrobe department operates backstage. They will shadow members of the team and will be given a snapshot into the various roles within the wardrobe department on a large-scale touring show.

**Hours and Location**

Placement hours would be based on a 48-hour working week. Timings of the placement will be agreed in advance with the Head of Wardrobe. However, due to the nature of this placement, evening and weekend availability will be required.

**Potential Task/Responsibilities**

* Shadowing the HOD and following instructions in line with show requirements.
* Assisting company members with quick costume changes.
* Assisting company members and wardrobe department with costume logistics throughout performances.
* Collecting costumes at the end of a performance and returning them to the wardrobe department.
* Assisting wardrobe department with turnaround laundry duties and ironing/steaming.
* Always adhering to **Theatre Royal Plymouth’s** Health and Safety policy and protocols.
* Always adhering to **New Adventures** Health and Safety policy and protocols.
* Always adhering to **New Adventures** Safeguarding Policy.

**GENERAL**

## About the Placement

* **Duration**: One week
* **Experience**: Get unique insights into your chosen department at New Adventures
* **Payment**: All placements are paid (no financial barriers to application)
* **Location:** The Lyric Theatre. Theatre Royal Plymouth.
* **Age requirement:** This placement is for over 18 candidates only.

**THE INTERVIEW**

* You will be required to attend a 10-15 minute **online** interview.
* The interviews will take place – **Wednesday 22nd or Thursday 23rd October 2025.**

## WhO We're Looking For

* Are you enthusiastic about New Adventures' work and interested in a technical theatre career?
* Do you pay close attention to detail and handle multiple tasks well?
* Are you a good listener and communicator?
* Do you work well in teams and take feedback positively?

## How to Apply

**Send a CV plus ONE of these options:**

### Option 1: Cover Letter

* Maximum 2 pages (A4)
* Use bullet points OR full sentences - whatever feels more comfortable

### Option 2: Presentation

* PowerPoint or Keynote format

### Option 3: Video or Audio File

* Maximum 5 minutes long

## What to Include in Your Application

Address all four points below:

1. **Who you are** - Tell us about yourself
2. **What you can contribute** - What would you bring to New Adventures in this role?
3. **Why you're suitable** - How does your experience match this placement?
   * Don't worry if you don't have work experience
   * Include school, college, or extracurricular activities
4. **References** - Provide contact details for two people who can comment on your work

## Key Dates & Details

* **Application deadline**: 10th October 2025
* **Interviews**: 22nd or 23rd October 2025
* **Interview location**: Online
* **Please send your application to**: **jane.pawson@theatreroyal.com**

## Accessibility Support

We'll provide any support you need during recruitment and the placement itself. Let us know about access requirements when you apply or beforehand - we're here to help.

## Equal Opportunities Form

We collect anonymous demographic data to help us understand our recruitment reach. There's a separate form you can complete - it's optional and won't affect your application.

If you are happy to do so, please complete the form [**here**](https://forms.office.com/e/i4RSLLrgwH)**.** This is an anonymous form that will be kept separate from your application and will not be used as part of the selection process.

Completion of the form is optional, and every question has a ‘prefer not to say’ option. Your answers really help us to understand how we are doing when trying to attract a broad range of candidates.

## Questions?

Contact Angela McEvilly for an informal, confidential chat about the placement or any more information: **Email**: **angela@new-adventures.net**

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