



JOB DESCRIPTION	
Job Title	Technical Supervisor (Sound/AV)
Institution	Barbican Centre
Department	Theatre Division
Grade	D
Location	Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London, EC2Y 8DS
Responsible to	Technical Manager
Responsible for	Technicians, Freelance and Casual Technicians
Key Relationships	Theatre Technical team
Employment Type	Permanent Contract

The Barbican

The Barbican is a world-class arts and learning organisation that pushes the boundaries of every major art form, inspiring people of all backgrounds to discover and fall in love with the arts.

The Barbican presents a diverse range of artistic experiences across music, theatre, dance, visual arts, and cinema, each designed to entertain, empower, enrich, and educate our wide-ranging audiences and participants. As a 21st-century international arts centre, we are committed to championing equity and opportunity, while pioneering new approaches to creativity, education, and enterprise.

We engage new audiences and participants by creating inspiring arts experiences for everyone. From first encounters to higher education programmes, we nurture curiosity, build skills, grow confidence, and support the development of creative careers.

We are London's creative catalyst—championing the arts, sparking curiosity, and driving enterprise. Guided by our values of inclusivity, sustainability, daring, connection, and joyful, we ignite creative possibilities and foster transformation for artists, audiences, and communities alike. We exist to inspire, connect, and provoke meaningful dialogue.

Purpose of Post

The Technical Supervisor will work closely with the Technical Manager (Sound/AV) and all departments to deliver a diverse and dynamic programme of theatre, dance, music, and commercial events to an international standard, with a particular focus on expertise in video and sound.

To Supervise Sound/AV Technicians, as well as casual and freelance staff, ensuring excellent client liaison and consistently high-quality service delivery. The Technical Supervisor will be expected to plan, supervise, and delegate tasks effectively to meet the technical and logistical demands of each production, while promoting a positive, collaborative, and constructive team atmosphere.

Work in liaison with the Technical Manager (Sound/AV) to oversee the maintenance and purchasing programme for Theatre sound and video equipment, ensuring all systems are safe, reliable, and fit for purpose.

Rig and operate sound and video equipment to the standard required by the Theatre's wide-ranging programme.

Commit to delivering the highest level of customer service to both internal stakeholders and external clients.

Main Duties & Responsibilities

1. Support supervision of Barbican Theatre's technical operations (video & sound), taking lead on coordinating and delivering all event activities with effective setup, operation, troubleshooting, and consistently high technical standards.
2. Supervise, mentor, and train Sound/AV Technicians. Oversee daily operations of the Sound/AV function and coordinate staff schedules in collaboration with the Technical Manager.
3. Maintain a strong working knowledge of modern stage technologies, with a focus on recent developments in video, sound, and networking.
4. Attend production and technical meetings when required, liaising with staff, artists, and commercial clients to ensure smooth communication and technical planning.
5. Keep the Technical Manager (Sound/AV) informed of any equipment requirements related to Video and Sound operations.
6. Provide technical advice and support to Production Managers regarding the evolving demands of video and sound for productions, ensuring delivery to the highest standard.

7. Support the Technical Manager (Sound/AV) in delivering a maintenance and improvement programme for video and sound. This includes maintaining accurate records, writing reports, and updating asset registers and databases.
8. Collaborate effectively with other technical disciplines as necessary to ensure integrated technical delivery across all events.
9. Maintain an up-to-date understanding of current Health and Safety regulations and best practices, particularly regarding technical operations.
10. Prepare, implement, and oversee Health and Safety procedures, including risk assessments, to ensure compliance with legal and institutional requirements.
11. Promote and develop safe working practices among all staff, ensuring Health and Safety awareness among casual, freelance, and external teams. Assist with departmental training as required.
12. Work with the Technical Manager (Sound/AV) on feasibility studies, capital and revenue projects, and procurement. Take lead responsibility for specific Sound and Video projects and produce technical reports as needed.
13. Act as deputy for the Technical Manager (Sound/AV) when required.
14. Undertake any duties appropriate to the grade as reasonably requested by the Technical Manager (Sound/AV) or Production Manager.
15. Build and maintain strong working relationships with other Barbican departments and collaborate with all other technical teams as needed.
16. Actively implement the City of London's Occupational Health and Safety Policy, ensuring a safe working environment for all.
17. Promote and support the City of London's Equal Opportunities Policy in all aspects of work.
18. Undertake any other duties commensurate with the role, skills, and experience, as may be reasonably requested by the Head of Theatre.



PERSON SPECIFICATION	
Job Title	Technical Supervisor (Sound/AV)
Institution	Barbican Centre
Department	Theatre Division
Grade & Level	D Level: 2
Trent Position Number	TBC

Please find below the qualifications, experience and technical skills required to undertake this post. Each criterion will be assessed at application (A), interview (I) or test (T) as indicated below.

Technical Skills / Professional Qualifications / Relevant Education & Training

Essential Skills

- Extensive knowledge of the theatre industry and strong interest in the arts, with proven expertise in current sound and video technologies with a deep understanding of the creative and technical processes behind theatre and commercial productions. (A), (I)
- Experience setting up production sound and video, including rigging and tuning L-Acoustics, d&b and Meyer loudspeaker systems, rigging and setting up of Panasonic Projectors, configuring audio and video networks, and working with Riedel, Clear-Com, and HelixNet comms architectures. (A), (I)
- Familiar with current digital technologies including Dante, audio-over-IP, and networked audio and video, with practical experience in deploying and managing IP network systems in live entertainment environment. (I)
- Experience working with both digital and analogue mixing desks, including but not limited to Yamaha CL5, QL5, LS9, and DiGiCo consoles. (A), (I)

- High level of computer proficiency, including Microsoft Word and Excel, with an in-depth knowledge of software such as QLab, Wavetool, LA Network Manager, and other performance systems used within the Sound & Video industry. (A), (I)
- Physically fit and capable of meeting the physical demands of the role, including manual handling, working at height, and extended periods of activity. (I)

Experience Required

- Proven ability to supervise and motivate technical teams, including both permanent staff and casual workers during installs and load-ins/load-outs. (A), (I)
- Demonstrated expertise in delivering high-quality technical support in professional theatre or live performance environments, including setup, operation, and troubleshooting of complex audio and video systems. (A), (I)
- Experienced in working with technical riders to ensure event requirements are met. (I)
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills, with strong interpersonal abilities to build effective cross-departmental relationships, foster collaboration, and clearly convey ideas—skilfully translating technical jargon for non-technical colleagues. (I)
- Capable of working independently and taking initiative. (A), (I)
- Broad knowledge of safe industrial practices and current health and safety legislation. (A), (I)

Desirable Skills

- Proven ability to swiftly diagnose and resolve technical issues under pressure.
- Ability to read and interpret sound, video and lighting plots.
- Willingness to stay current with evolving technologies, tools, and trends in theatre production sound and video systems.
- Comfortable working irregular hours, under tight deadlines, and in rapidly changing technical or creative scenarios.

Other Relevant Information

Working Hours: Based on a 35-hour week (five days out of seven), with paid overtime for hours beyond this or a sixth/seventh working day. Requires flexibility to work evenings, weekends, and bank holidays as needed, with enhanced pay for such shifts within the standard 35-hour week.

Recruitment – Guidance for Applicants

Qualifications, experience and key technical skills will be used as part of the decision-making process during recruitment. It is essential that you address each one in the 'Supporting Information' section of your application form.

Please be as specific as possible—we are unable to make assumptions or interpret vague statements. Your application will be assessed solely on the information you provide. Please include clear examples that demonstrate how your skills, knowledge, and experience meet the criteria outlined in the person specification. This could include achievements in previous roles, challenges you've overcome, or contributions you've made to a team or project.