

Jess Mabel Jones
in association with
Brazen Productions



What is an Access Coordinator?

An access co-ordinator or supervisor embeds best practice production-wide and is available to any member of cast, crew and production as a 1-1 advocate. They are available to discuss, implement and oversee any adjustments to enable cast and crew to do their job well, whilst protecting their physical and mental health.

An AC will work with and within your company and production team to support accessible and sustainable working practices. They will help ensure that people are treated as our industry's most valuable resource and also that UK wide equality and employment laws are adhered to.

By having an ethos and approach where *everyone* in your production is treated differently you inherently support DDNA (deaf, disabled, neurodiverse, autistic) people better and create a genuine and fully accessible and inclusive place of work and production.

An AC is not just for projects which have disabled storylines or talent as this only serves to further 'other' DDNA people.

An AC is for everyone and every project. Everyone benefits from a reasonable adjustment.

Access coordinators are not

- support workers to assist one individual with personal care, medication etc. They can help you source support workers.
- creative coaches to work directly with cast
- script consultants
- a replacement for your HR, duty of care and respect at work policies
- an expert – but that can signpost to the most helpful resources
- health and safety officer but they will work closely with your H&S team
- counsellor but can signpost
- an afterthought or a bolt on.
- A daily crew member but is central to your production team
- A travel and accommodation coordinator but they will work closely with that team
- There to tell you off!

Access coordinators work with you to deliver the TV Access Projects 5 A's

- Anticipate
- Ask
- Assess
- Adjust
- Advocate

This document is available in other formats including large print, audio, BSL and easy read

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How can I help your company and/or production?

I would begin by embedding access straight away with your company, with bespoke disability, autism and neurodiversity awareness for your inhouse staff and any crew onboard in early prep. I partner with Dan Edge, Brazen Productions, Triple C , Access All Areas and Creative Diversity Network to deliver this bespoke training. Alongside several of these organisations and companies I am a delivery partner for the ScreenSkills access coordinator training.

We would run an initial assessment with your company and/or production team to support you in planning, budgeting and applying for additional funding for access and inclusion. Part of this process is ensuring that accessibility becomes integral to everything you do and therefore eventually becomes free! We will support you with accessible recruitment practices for engaging colleagues in-house, in front and behind the camera. Something as simple as clearly saying when an applicant will hear back can open your doors to hundreds more talented people.

We can

- advise on free or low-cost additions that can make a huge difference across your company and production
- create a project-specific Access Adjustments Form to be sent out to all staff, production, crew and cast. Collect the results, hold 1-1 sessions with individuals and liaise with production to implement specific access adjustments
- train production & HoDs in creating accessible information including an Easy Read Callsheet
- connect production and casting with Disabled networks.
- create individual Work With Me documents for those who would like them.
- create a Best Practice document that includes language and communication tips as well as an introduction to disability culture
- support leaders - execs, HoP, director and producers – to lead by example
- advise, support and up-skill HoDs so they can take an inclusive practice onto future projects
- ensure accessibility and inclusion throughout post-production
- create a Visual Story for audiences of the show, as well as other accessible resources
- facilitate a project evaluation as part of a sustainable approach to accessibility and inclusion

We will assess with you the recce and onset requirements for an access co-ordinator. This role should not be a brief consultation but it may also not need to be full time. We will work with you to determine the best package and to find the funds for this within your own budget and with additional funding.

At the heart of I can do is put a package of skilled people and resources together where you, your company and your production benefits from many lived experiences and decades of expertise.

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