



Together we make it V&A

V&A South Kensington
Conservator (Sculpture and related objects)

V&A

Conservator, Sculpture

Reports to	Lead Conservator (Sculpture, Ceramics and Glass)
Department	Conservation
Line Management	None
Principal Location	V&A South Kensington
Hours	36 hours per week
Salary	£33,764 - £45,018
Work pattern	Monday to Friday
Contract	Permanent





Who we are

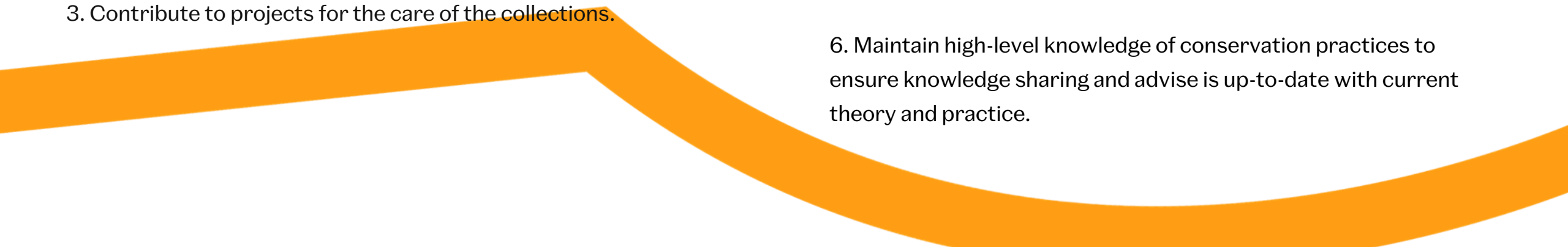
The V&A is a family of museums dedicated to the **power of creativity**. Our mission is to **champion design and creativity** in all its forms, advance cultural knowledge, and inspire makers, creators and innovators everywhere. We share a 5,000-year-old story of creativity through **exhibitions, events, educational programmes, digital experiences, conservation, research**, and an ever-evolving national collection of over 2.8m objects spanning **every creative discipline**.

The mission of the **Collections Care and Access** division is to manage, preserve, and provide access to the V&A's collection in both physical and digital format, working across multiple V&A sites, at South Kensington, Bethnal Green and in Stratford. The division is made up of the following departments: Conservation, Technical Services, Collections Management, Photography and Digitisation and Collections Access. **The Conservation Department** brings excellence and innovation to the long-term care of the V&A's collections, supporting access to the collections, the V&A's public programme, and care of collections research initiatives.

About the role

The Conservator (Sculpture and related objects) supports the delivery of the museum's Public Programme and strategic objectives, particularly towards collections care. They undertake all aspects of preventive and interventive conservation in this field and are able to evaluate conservation problems, develop solutions and produce practical work and documentation to high standards. They have good experience in forward planning, prioritising, and delivering to deadlines objects for new gallery developments, exhibitions, loans, displays, and collections care. They also have a sound knowledge of scientific analysis and techniques to allow technical examination of objects with the aim of contributing to an understanding of their history and technique. The postholder will demonstrate a sound understanding of the principles of laser cleaning with different wavelengths on different materials, as well as experience in the conservation and care of modern materials.

Key responsibilities are listed below:

1. Contribute to the conservation of objects for loans, temporary exhibitions and permanent display (focus on sculpture and related objects).
 2. Advise on the care and conservation of collections (focus on sculpture and related objects).
 3. Contribute to projects for the care of the collections.
 4. Underpin care of the collection through documentation, surveys, data collection and analysis, and research (as directed by the Lead Conservator and in collaboration with the Senior Conservation Scientist).
 5. Contribute to the conservation of materials/object types outside own area of expertise, as necessary.
 6. Maintain high-level knowledge of conservation practices to ensure knowledge sharing and advise is up-to-date with current theory and practice.
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About the role

7. Collaborate with the Preventive Conservation team developing new preventive measures, as appropriate.

8. Support the Conservation Operations team in planning, scheduling, monitoring, delivering conservation services for exhibitions, projects and loans, ensuring high-quality standards at all times.

9. Support the Lead Conservator in maintaining studio upkeep and efficient use of space, equipment, materials and resources

10. Mentor work placement students in the team, by guiding practical and technical issues and through knowledge sharing to enhance the overall skillset of the team.

11. Responsible for Health and Safety, regularly review COSHH, risk assessments, method statements and working practices. Ensure Health and Safety compliance is integral to the culture of all Conservation activities.



What we're looking for

Job Specific Skills:

- Recognised professional conservation qualification to degree level or equivalent experience, with the conservation of the material relevant to the specialism of the role.
- Demonstrable extensive practical conservation experience of the material relevant to the specialism of the role (sculpture and related objects)
- Strong ability to evaluate conservation problems, develop solutions that are both appropriate and achievable within the available resources of time and staff, whilst ensuring practical work and documentation is of a high standard.
- Sound knowledge of Health and Safety legislation, implementation and compliance.
- A clear understanding of the wider context of museums as institutions in the current political context, and the external and internal influences that may affect the role of Conservation in delivering objectives.

What we're looking for

Core Skills:

- Excellent standard of written English and highly numerate with the ability to carry out complex numerical analysis
- Experience of communicating clearly, with the ability to adapt your communication style for different groups
- Experience of using MS Office and other relevant IT systems to an intermediate / advanced level

Desirable:

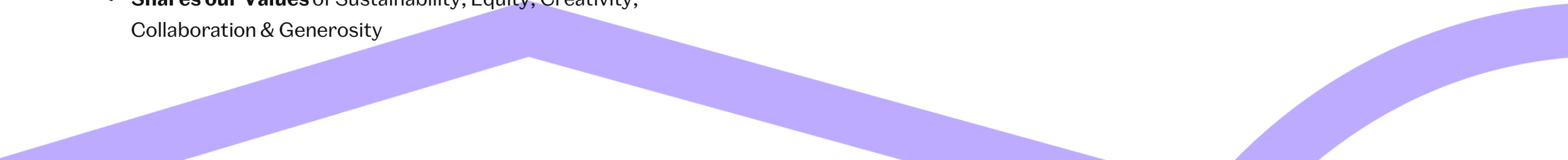
PACR accreditation (or equivalent).

Knowledge of the V&A and its collections.

Post-graduate training in conservation leading to specialism relevant to the museum.

What we're looking for

Behaviours:

- **Respects** others' expertise, time, perspectives and contribution.
 - **Takes responsibility** for delivering on actions, achieving high-standards and learning from mistakes
 - **Open to change**, new ideas and suggestions; looks for opportunities for improvement and self-development
 - **Works with others** outside their own department in a collaborative, understanding, and, engaging way
 - **Actively leads** and manages others, taking ownership of corporate decisions and role models positive behaviours.
 - **Shares our Values** of Sustainability, Equity, Creativity, Collaboration & Generosity
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Why work here

We strive to integrate **equality, diversity, and inclusion** consistently and naturally into all our activities.

We are proud to be an **open, tolerant, and diverse** organisation. We want to do more to welcome a broader audience and develop a more diverse workforce.

We work closely with **our staff networks** to develop our employee experience.

The V&A values are **Equity, Sustainability, Generosity, Collaboration and Creativity.**

We are committed to a strict **zero tolerance policy on any discrimination, harassment or bullying.**

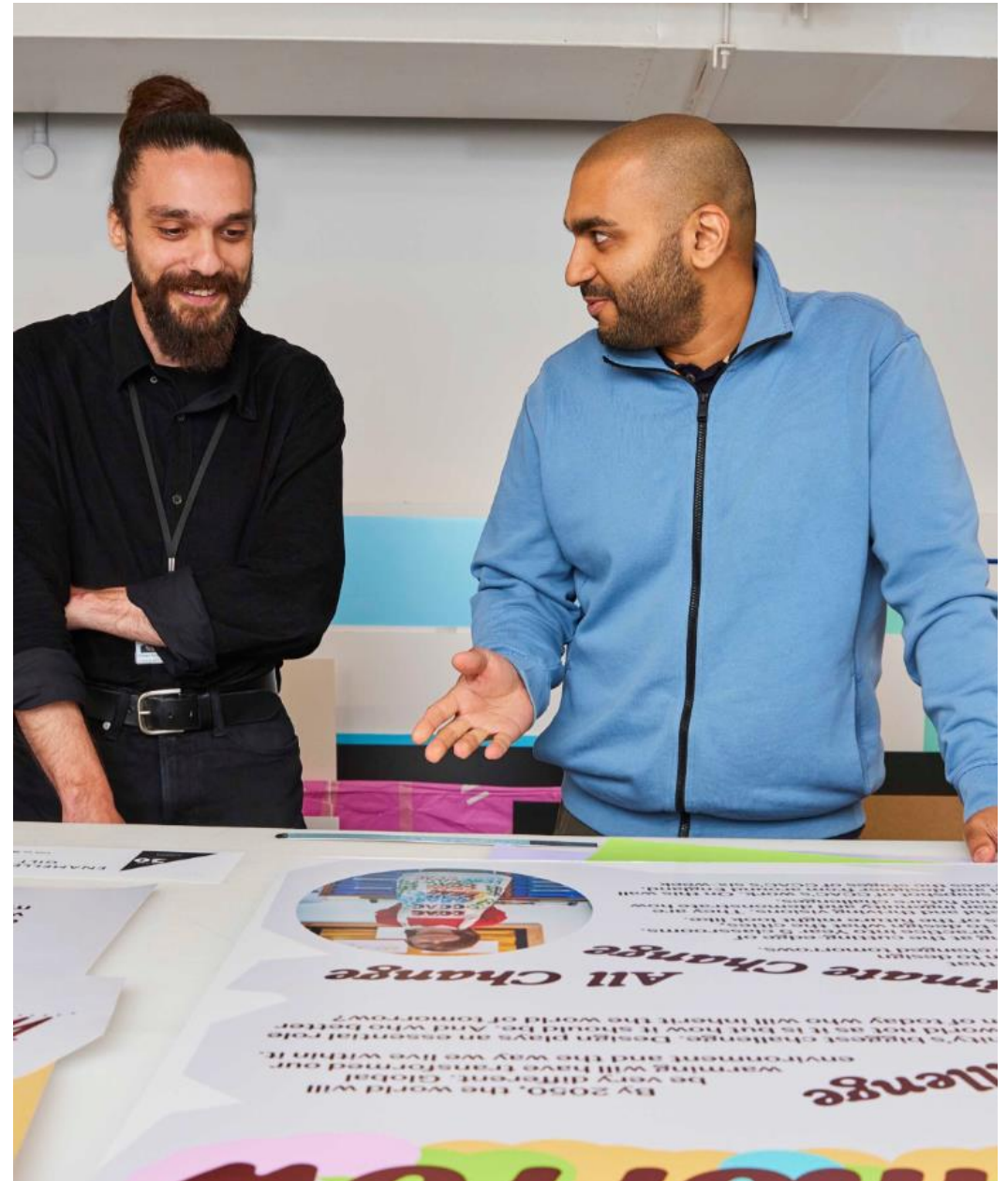
Disability Confident

We are committed to guaranteeing an interview for applicants who declare they have a disability and meet the minimum criteria for the role.



What we offer you

- **29** days of holiday + public holidays each year
- **5.5%** employee pension contribution, **10%** employer pension contribution (*post-probation*)
- Life assurance scheme (*to value of 4 x annual salary*)
- Family-friendly policies e.g. enhanced maternity + paid carers leave
- An interest-free loan for a travelcard, bike, or for a deposit if you're renting (*post-probation*)
- Free sanitary products for all employees across our sites
- Free entrance to many major museums and exhibitions
- Benefits platform offering discounts at major retailers
- Socials events, such as staff summer and Christmas parties
- An Employee Assistance Programme – free and confidential services to provide support
- Tickets to V&A exhibitions for you, your friends or family + 25% discount on V&A shops and cafes



What next

Apply here [Careers · V&A](#)

Application Deadline 18 May 2025

We operate anonymous shortlisting at the V&A. This means that the manager cannot see your name, contact information, or equality data when shortlisting your application.

We are a Disability Confident Employer offering guaranteed interviews to those who declare their disability and meet the job criteria under the Disability Confident Scheme.

Interview/Assessment days 12 & 16 June

Potential Start Date tbc

Any Questions?

Contact our Recruitment team at careers@vam.ac.uk



Thank you

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