Behind the Headlines Editorial newspaper roles

Editor-in-chief

The leader of the news organisation. In charge of the overall strategy of the paper and the values it stands for.

Duty editor

Responsible for overall content of the paper, makes sure everything runs to plan and has the final say on what appears.

Desk editor

A senior journalist, in charge of a section of the paper and a team of reporters, who decides what stories should be covered. Sections include: home (UK) news, world, sport, science, features.

Reporter

Obtains information and writes stories. May cover all types of stories or may be a specialist who is concerned with a specific area of the news, such as sport or crime.

Production editor

The person in charge of the subeditors, who liaises with the desks and is responsible for ensuring a good flow of pages to go to the printers so that production deadlines are met. Ensures consistent style and standards. Also called a chief sub.

Copy subeditor

Edits stories for style, grammar and sense; cuts the copy to fit the page and writes the headlines, standfirsts and captions.



Revise subeditor

Checks and improves the work of the copy subeditors.

Designer

Designs layouts that are attractive and accessible to the reader while maintaining the look and identity of the newspaper. Puts stories, headlines and photographs etc onto the page, in consultation with the desk, sends the stories to the copy subs, then outputs the completed pages to the print sites.

Picture editor

Commissions freelance and staff photographers and selects the best pictures for stories.

Graphics editor

Manages team that produces informative graphics, charts, maps and diagrams to help explain a story visually.



The Guardian Foundation