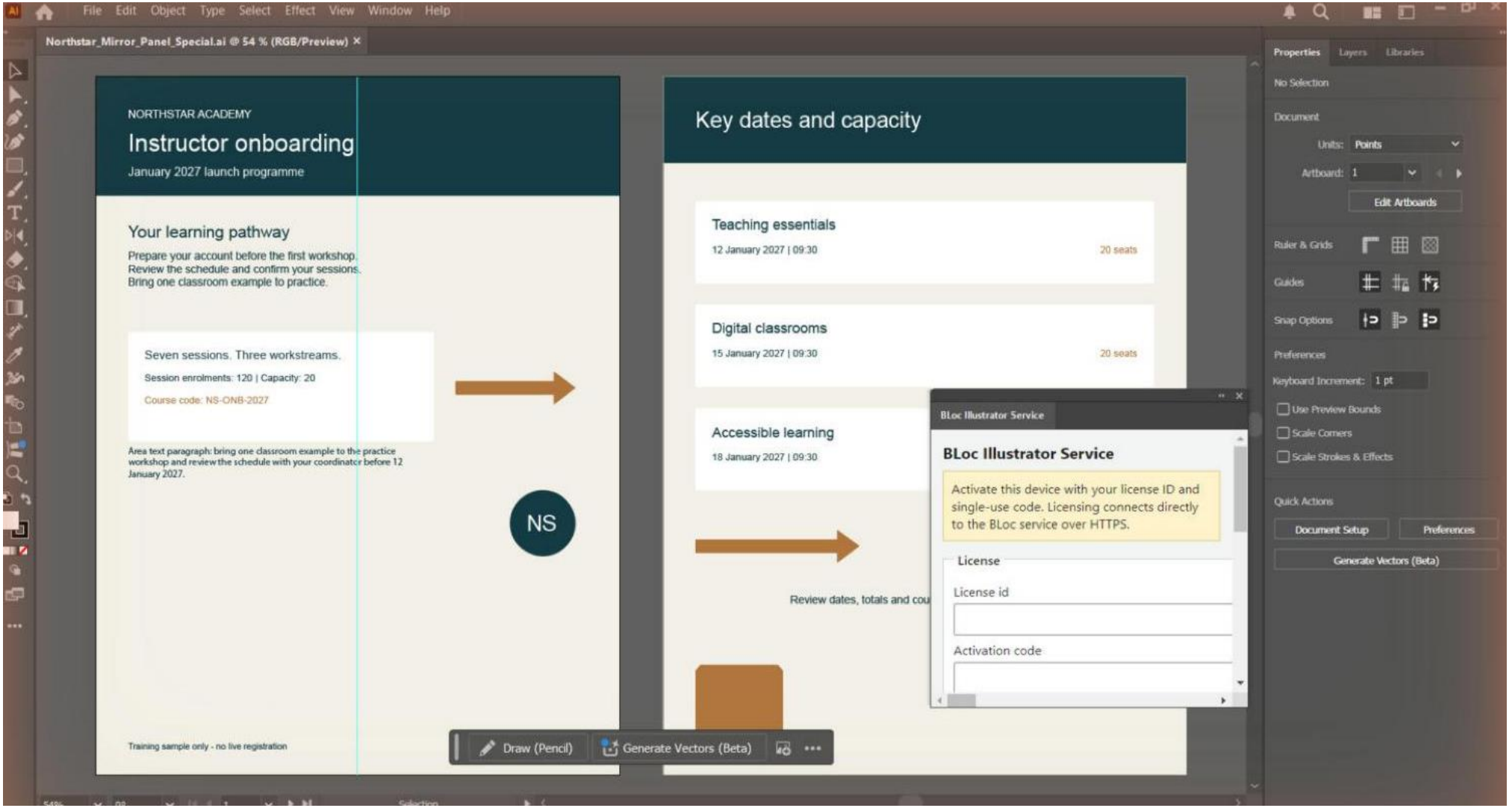
BLoc Illustrator — customer guide

For BLoc Illustrator 2.0.10. The panel pictures were taken with version 2.0.8 in Illustrator 2025; version 2.0.10 has the same panel and also mirrors the objects inside groups. The pictures use fictional Northstar sample files; the files are in the Samples folder that comes with these guides.

Prepare the practice file

Use Samples/Illustrator/Northstar_Mirror_Training.ai and always work on a copy. This fictional file was made in Illustrator 2025 for this guide. It has two artboards, Welcome and Schedule, and three layers: a locked Background layer, Artwork and Copy. It contains point-text headings and lines, one area-text paragraph, grouped cards that include text, a direction arrow on each artboard, a logo-like mark grouped with its letters, a right-aligned contact line, a centred note, one Arabic line, a clipping group, a hidden reviewer note and a guide. The Arabic line uses Illustrator's default composer, so its letters are not joined; choose a Middle Eastern composer in Illustrator if you need correctly shaped Arabic. Baset_Flip_Sample.ai is a smaller earlier test file and Northstar_Onboarding.svg is a separate editable SVG. The panel changes layout; it does not translate text.

Prepare the practice file screen detail

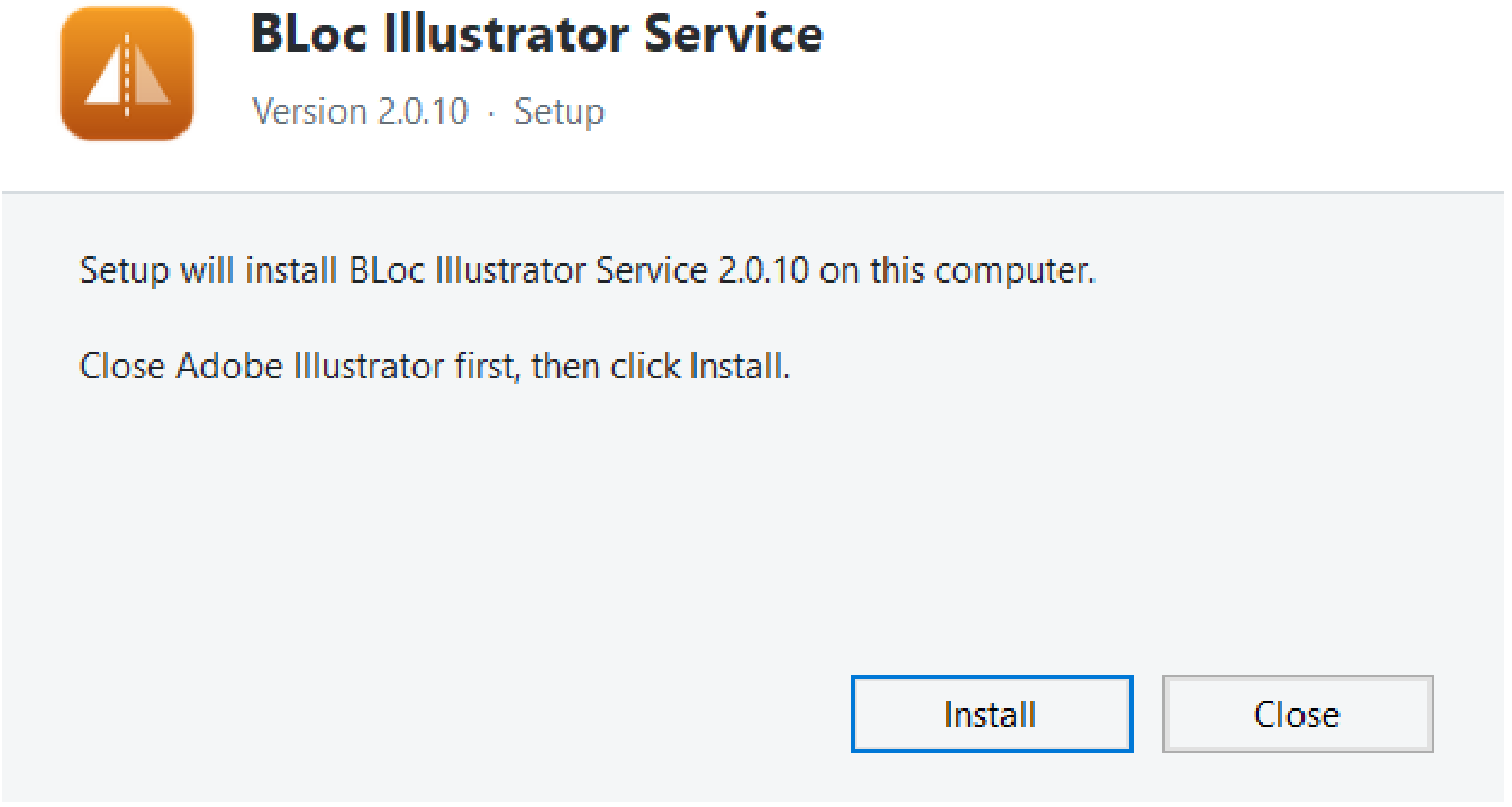


Northstar practice copy with the BLoc Illustrator Service panel (version 2.0.8) - Original capture.

Install, upgrade and repair

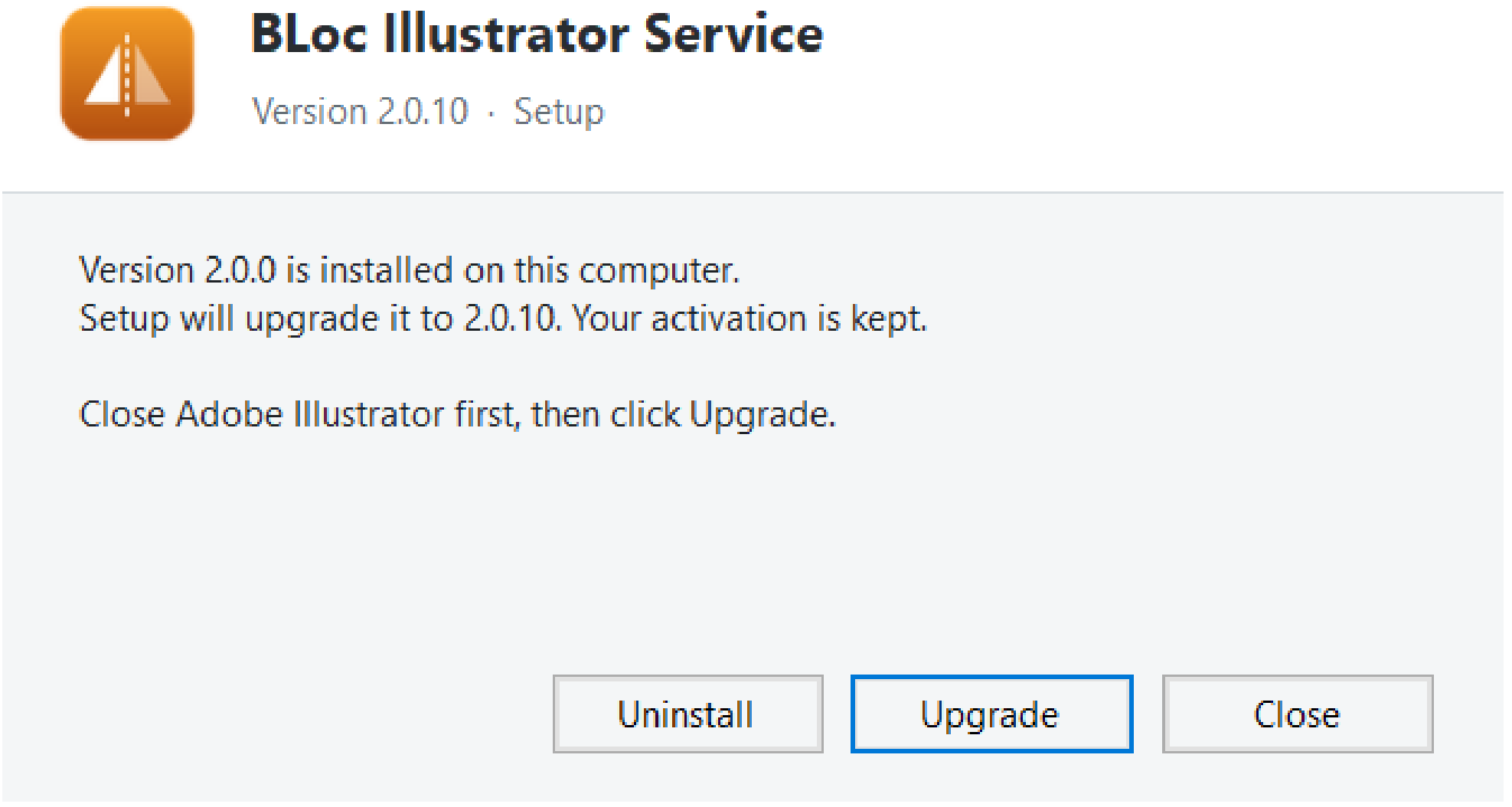
Close Illustrator. Open the downloaded ZIP (BLoc Illustrator 2.0.10.zip) and double-click BLoc Illustrator Setup.exe. Install adds the panel; Upgrade replaces an earlier version; Repair reinstalls the current version. Close exits setup. Activation is retained on upgrades from version 2.0.0. Uninstall removes the panel but does not transfer its license to another computer. Wait for the line BLoc Illustrator Service 2.0.10 is ready, then click Close. If Windows shows Windows protected your PC, click More info, then Run anyway; the setup is not code-signed yet and checks its own panel files. Adobe Illustrator is open means Illustrator must be closed completely first. A newer version is already installed needs no action.

Install, upgrade and repair screen detail



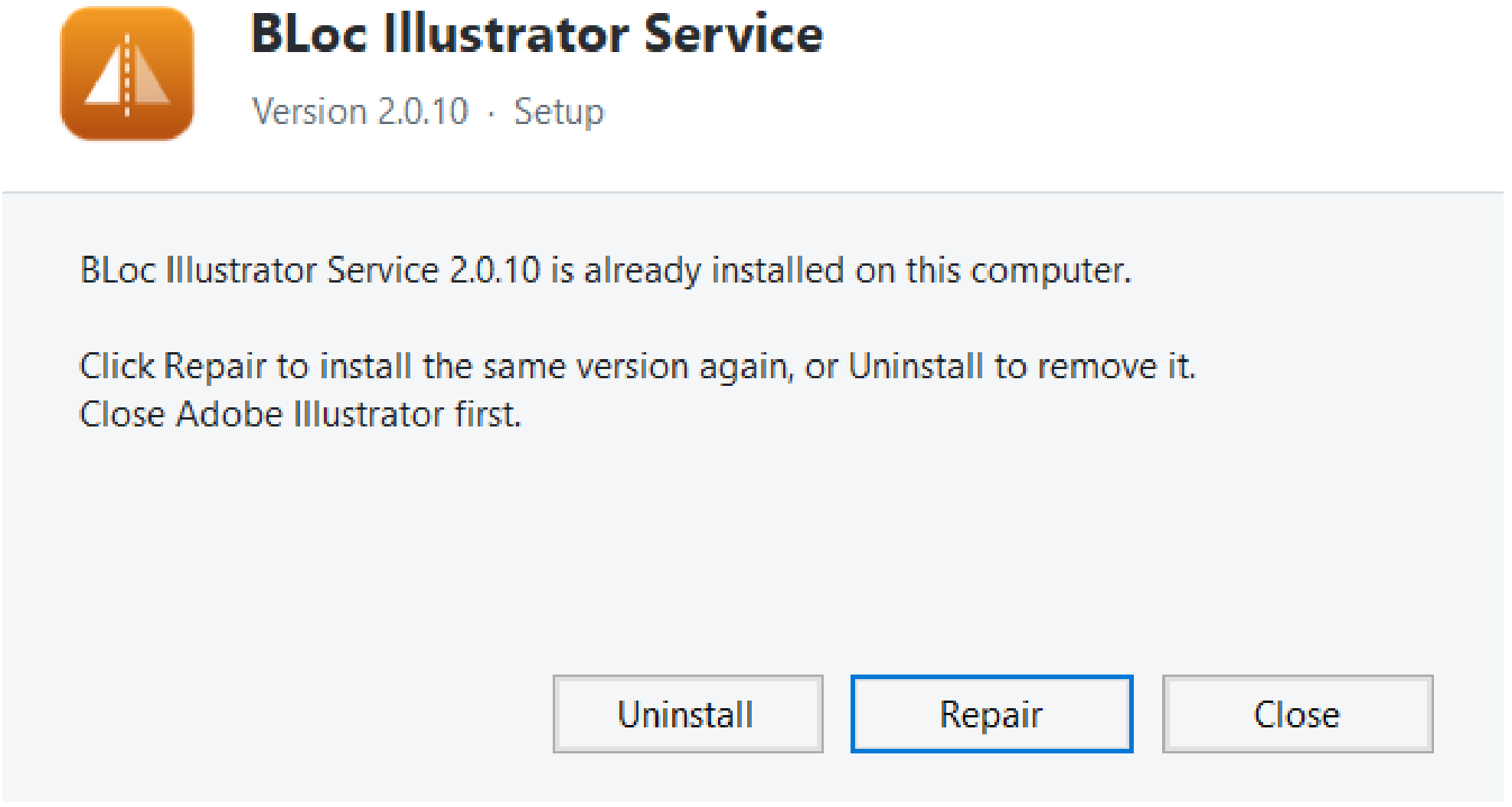
Setup 2.0.10 on a computer without the panel: Install - Original capture.

Install, upgrade and repair screen detail



Setup 2.0.10 when version 2.0.0 is installed: Upgrade keeps the activation - Original capture.

Install, upgrade and repair screen detail



Setup 2.0.10 when the same version is installed: Repair - Original capture.

These setup pictures are made from the 2.0.10 setup window itself, opened off the screen in test folders (nothing was installed).

Activate the customer panel

Open Window > Extensions > BLoc Illustrator Service. License id identifies the purchased product license. Activation code authorizes enrollment of this computer. Activate submits them; the panel shows Activated by the service, then Activated. on its bottom line. Renew checks your license with the service now; use it after a long time offline or when the panel asks. An Activation code works once and expires 24 hours after it is issued. The status line reports activation or errors. Never include a real activation code in a screenshot. This computer is already activated means no additional enrollment is needed; a code used on another computer is a different condition. Contact support for expired codes, unavailable seats or a product mismatch. Owner installations may have different licensing controls.

Activate the customer panel screen detail



Panel license section (fields left empty in this picture) - Original capture.

The bottom line of the panel shows Activated. on an activated computer.

Choose what to mirror

1. One artboard: use the current artboard as the mirror reference.

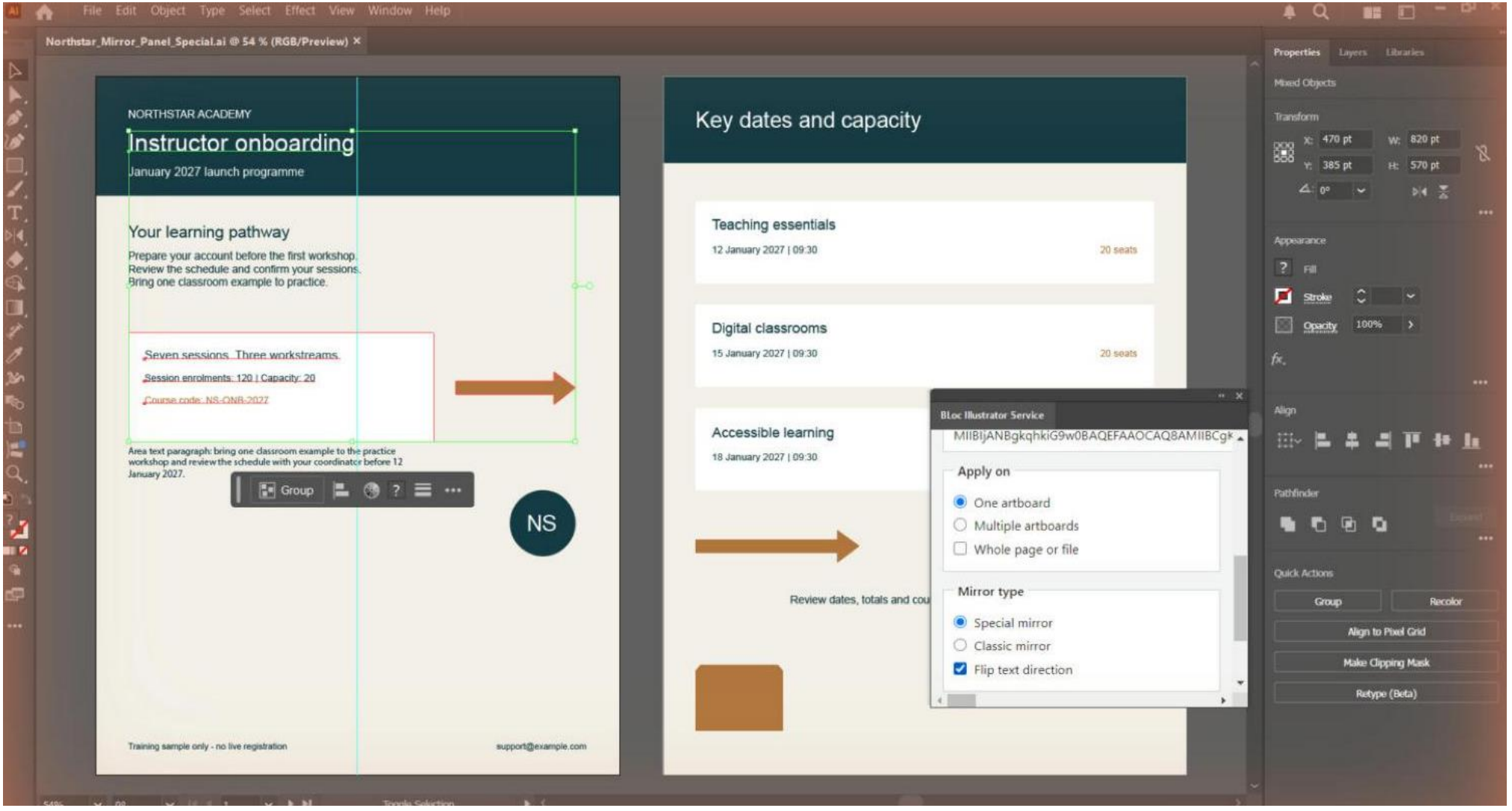
2. Multiple artboards: use the artboard on which each object sits.

3. Whole page or file: process eligible top-level objects without a selection. With One artboard this covers the current page; with Multiple artboards it covers the file.

With Whole page or file clear, select the intended objects first. Locked or hidden objects, locked or hidden layers, and guides are skipped. Do not assume skipped items were changed.

From version 2.0.9 Mirror also works on the objects inside groups and clipping groups, and on sublayers. A page that was made as one group (common when the file was opened from a PDF) is now mirrored piece by piece. Version 2.0.8 and earlier moved only the outer group, so such a page did not change.

Choose what to mirror screen detail

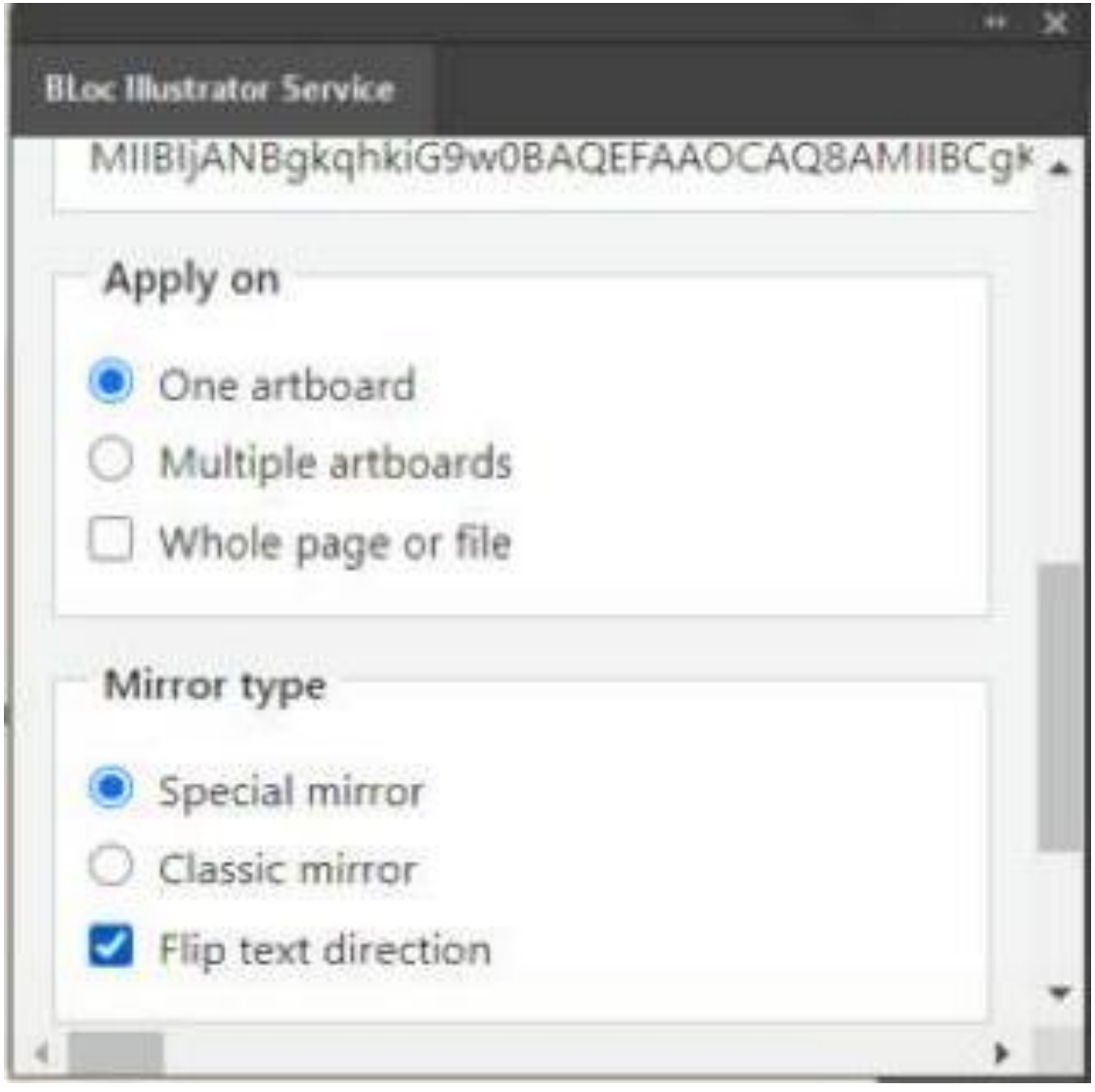


Heading, schedule card and arrow selected; Apply on is One artboard - Original capture.

Choose the mirror method

1. Special mirror moves objects to the other side while preserving the artwork orientation. Use this first for a typical translated layout.
2. Classic mirror moves objects and flips artwork horizontally. Text is moved without flipping the letters. Check logos, arrows and pictures containing text.
3. Flip text direction swaps left- and right-aligned paragraphs; centred paragraphs remain centred. It does not translate the text.
4. Mirror runs the chosen operation. The message area reports success or the reason it could not run.

Choose the mirror method screen detail

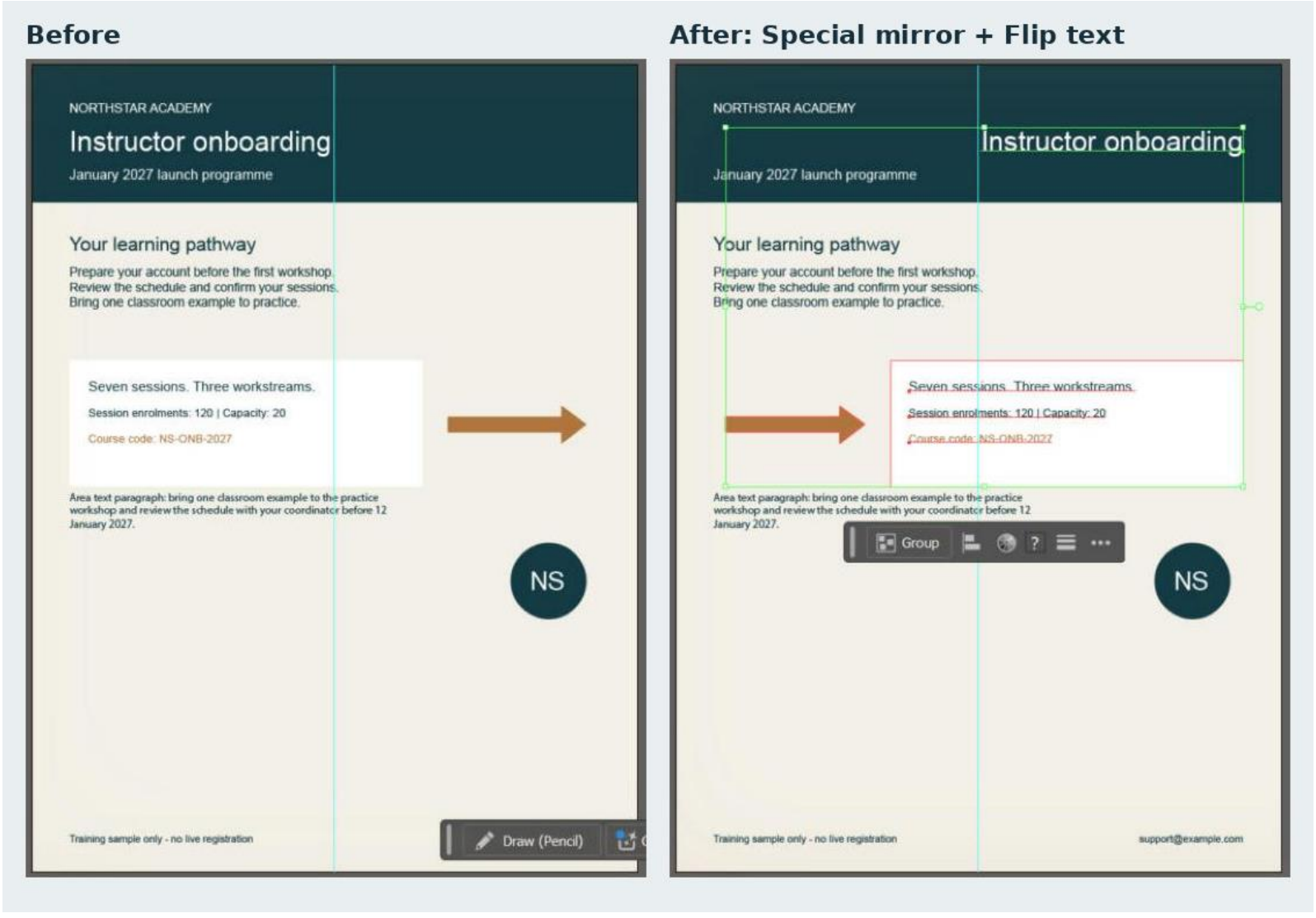


Mirror type: Special mirror with Flip text direction - Original capture.

Run the Northstar exercise

Save a working copy of Northstar_Mirror_Training.ai. Select the heading, schedule card and arrow on artboard 1. Choose One artboard, Special mirror and Flip text direction. Click Mirror, then compare object positions and paragraph alignment against the original. Repeat a separate exercise on a fresh copy using Classic mirror so the artwork difference is clear. Finally test Whole page or file with Multiple artboards. Keep separate outputs for each exercise; repeated mirroring changes the result again. The customer guide says that clicking Mirror again with the same options puts objects back; in the verified run this held for shapes and groups but not for point text with Flip text direction on.

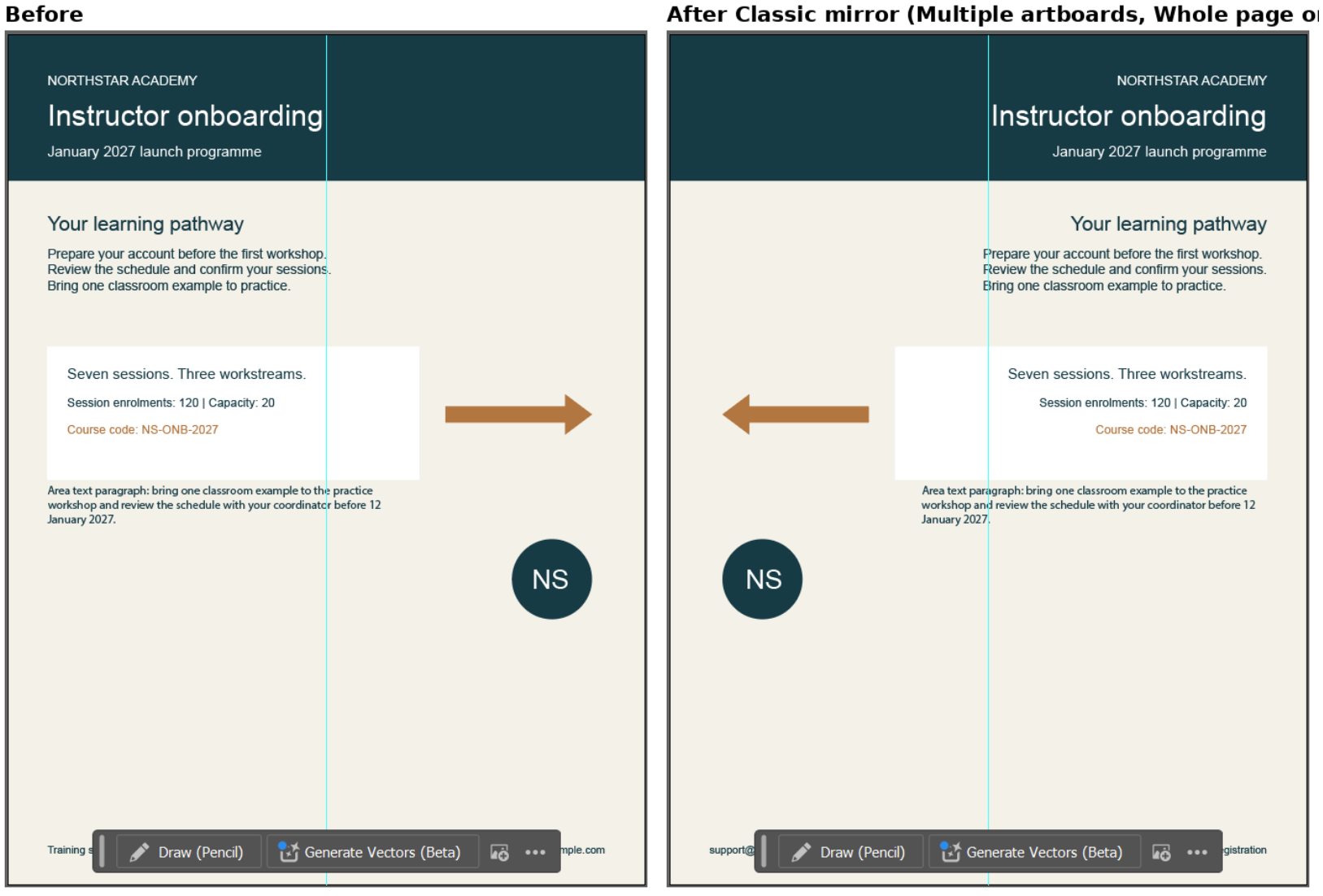
Run the Northstar exercise screen detail



Artboard 1 before and after Mirror from the panel, same zoom - Original capture.

Classic mirror from the panel (version 2.0.9, 19 November 2026) on a fresh copy, with Multiple artboards and Whole page or file: the panel said Mirror finished., the arrow now points the other way, every object moved to the other side, and the NS letters and all text stay readable.

Run the Northstar exercise screen detail



Classic mirror from the panel: before and after - Original capture.

Verified results on the Northstar file

On 17 and 18 November 2026 the product's mirror function (the same script the panel runs) was run in Illustrator 2025 on copies of the training file with versions 2.0.7, 2.0.8 and 2.0.9. Results and pictures: Samples/Illustrator/outputs (2.0.7), outputs-2.0.8 and outputs-2.0.9. A second test file built like a PDF-made AI (each page one clipping group) is in Samples/Illustrator/customer-check.

- Special mirror, One artboard, Whole page or file, Flip text direction: only the objects on the Welcome artboard moved; the Schedule artboard did not change. The locked Background layer, the hidden note and the guide were left alone. A full-width band stays where it is, because its mirror image covers the same area.
- Classic mirror, Multiple artboards, Whole page or file: objects on both artboards moved and the arrows now point the other way. All text stays readable, also text inside groups (the NS logo letters and the card text). Version 2.0.7 mirrored text inside groups, so it read backwards.
- Selected objects only: with Whole page or file cleared, only the selected arrow and schedule card moved.
- Page built as one clipping group (customer-like test file): with 2.0.8 Special mirror said "Mirror finished." but nothing moved; with 2.0.9 both pages were mirrored. Classic mirror with 2.0.9 mirrored the pages, turned the arrow and kept the Arabic text readable.
- No selection and Whole page or file cleared: nothing changed and the script reported "Please select objects to apply the tool." The panel shows its own wording for this case.
- Flip text direction swaps left and right alignment as documented, also for text inside groups from version 2.0.9 (the card text now ends at the right margin). Area text and point text both land on their mirrored place; in version 2.0.7 point text ended about one text-width away.

Verified results on the Northstar file screen detail



Welcome artboard with version 2.0.9: original, Special mirror and Classic mirror - Pictures of the saved output files; not a screenshot of the tool.

Verified results on the Northstar file screen detail



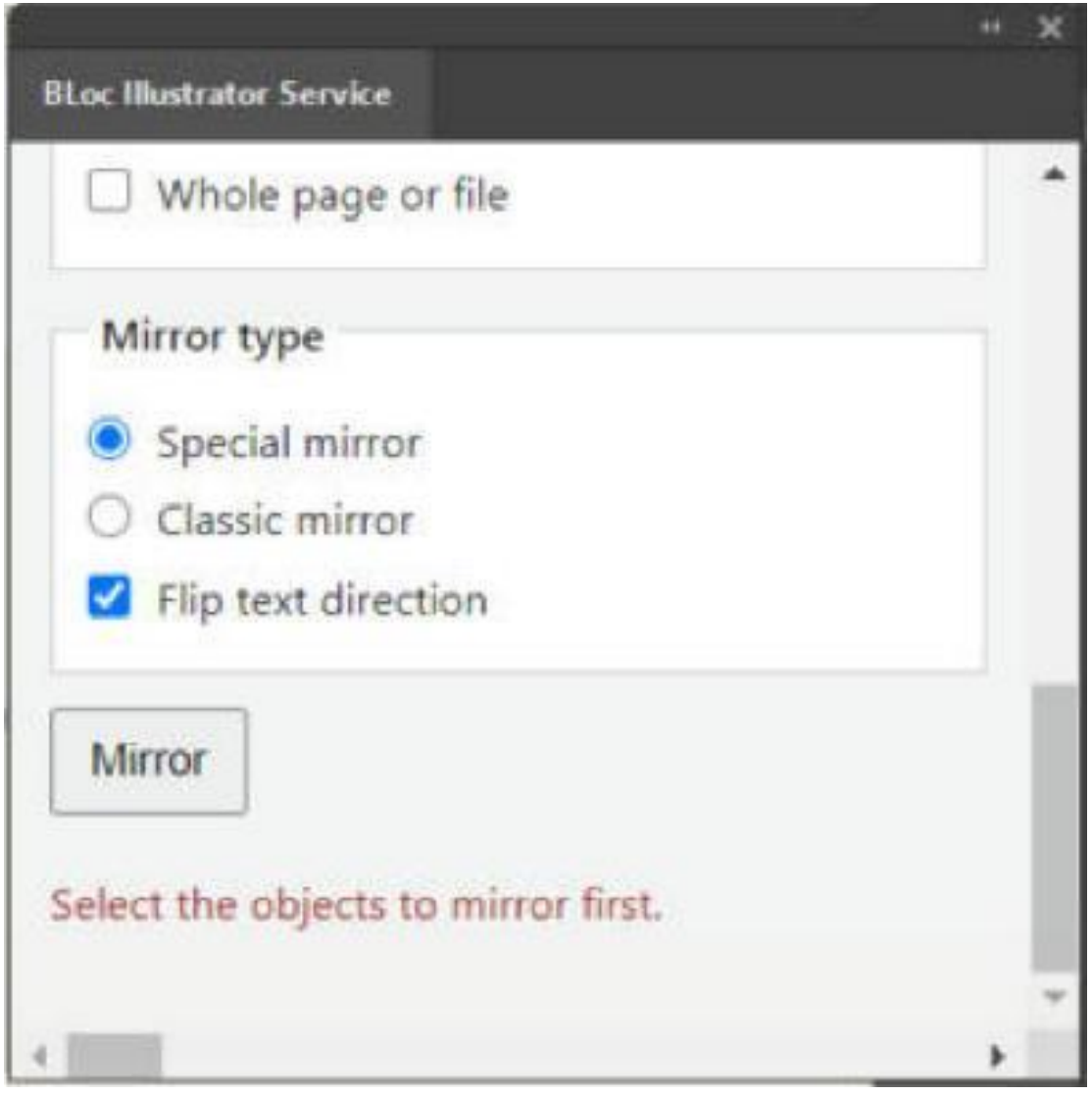
Schedule artboard with version 2.0.9: original and Classic mirror - Pictures of the saved output files; not a screenshot of the tool.

In the first picture, the heading, the pathway lines (point text), the card text and the paragraph under the card all reach the right margin. In the Classic picture the arrow points the other way, while the card text and the NS letters stay readable.

Read errors and recover

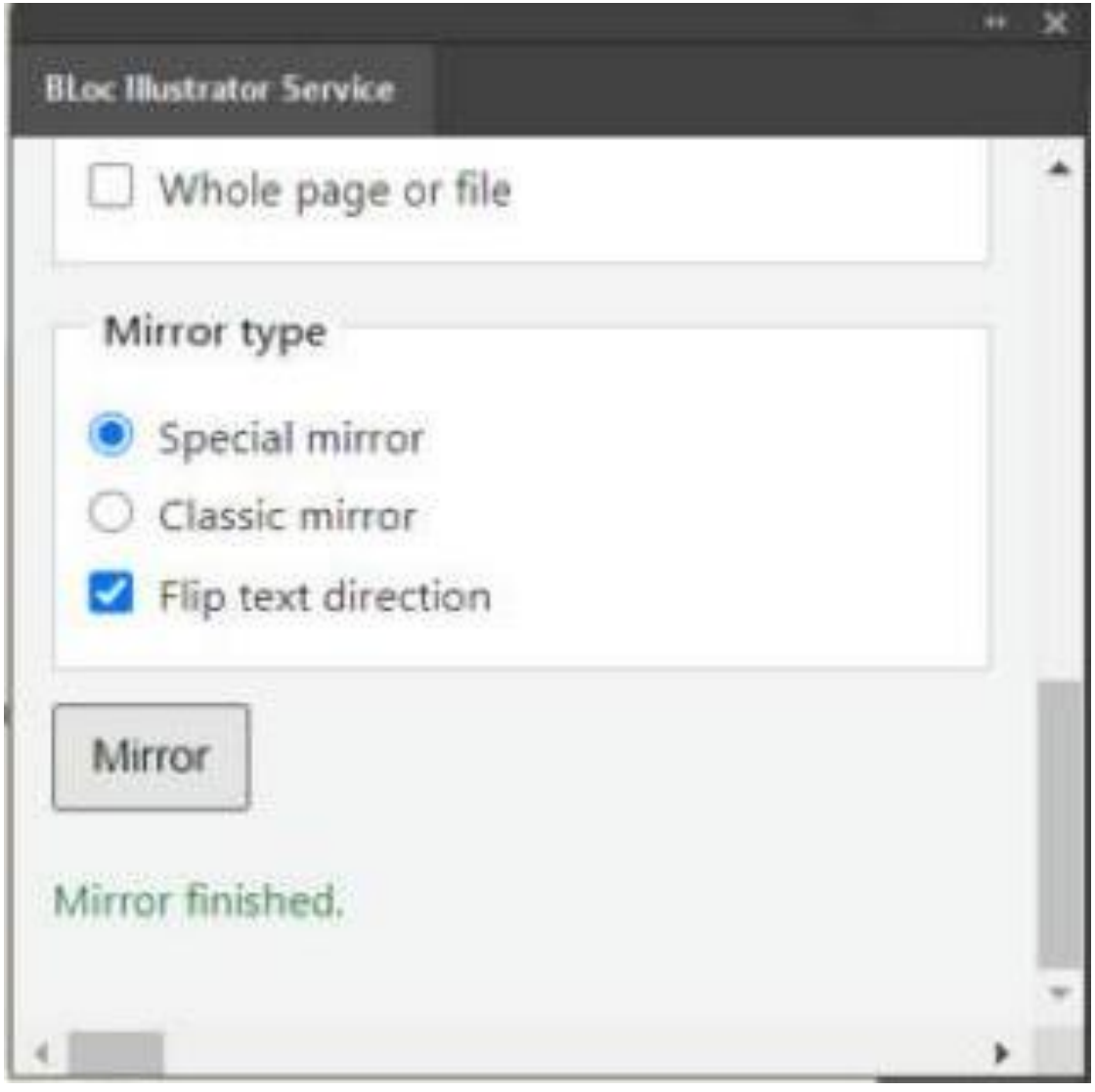
Open a document first means there is no active document. Select the objects to mirror first means no selection and no whole-file scope. The selection has nothing to mirror can mean only locked, hidden or guide items are present. A missing or blank panel should be checked after closing Illustrator and repairing the installation. For the wrong page, recheck One artboard versus Multiple artboards and restore the working copy before repeating.

Read errors and recover screen detail



No selection and Whole page or file cleared - Original capture.

Read errors and recover screen detail

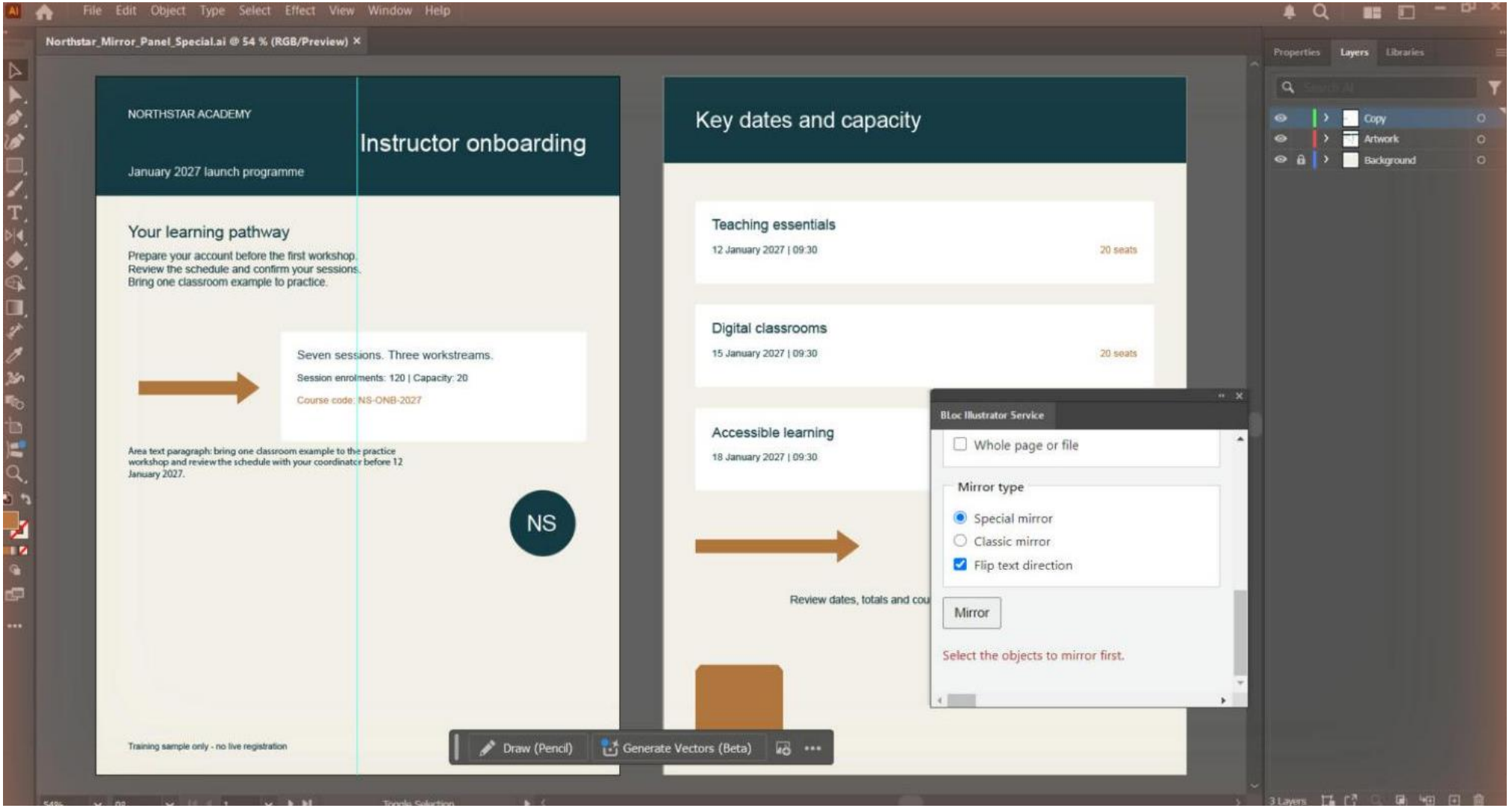


Completed run - Original capture.

Check the deliverable

Compare every artboard, text alignment, grouped artwork, clipping masks and objects near artboard boundaries. Verify the course code, numbers and logo orientation. Save the AI copy and a review PDF. File creation alone does not establish a correct RTL layout. Keep customer activation separate from any owner-only service configuration.

Check the deliverable screen detail



Saved working copy with the Layers panel: Copy, Artwork and the locked Background layer - Original capture.