

CUT VENUE & PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Perception Theatre Ltd
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PERFORMANCE SPACE REQUIREMENTS

We require a performance space of 4mx4m with **end on staging**. If this is not possible, we understand and will adapt the performance to the space. If you do not have a dedicated performance space with a seating bank, we would really appreciate it if a member of staff could set out the chairs for audience members - prior to us arriving or whilst we are setting up. Our cast members will be busy setting up technical equipment in the set up period and will not have time to set up chairs. Please also ensure that there are enough chairs for all audience members too.

We also require 4 chairs, a table and an electricity supply.

ARRIVAL

The company will aim to arrive 1 hour prior to the performance time to sign in, set up technical equipment and warm up. A reserved car parking space close to the performance location would also be appreciated.

There will be four actors touring with the production. Occasionally, the director, producer or technician may accompany them. All company members will report to reception upon arrival and sign in. All members will have photo ID with them if needed. Home office guidelines do not class the performers as being in 'regulated' activity (as they are not being left unattended with young people and are not working with them on a regular basis) so please be aware that they are not all DBS checked.

Please ensure that the designated performance space is available and clear of people upon the companies arrival. The cast will need to set up technical equipment for the production and perform technical and safety checks.

PERFORMANCE & POST-SHOW DISCUSSION

Once all of the audience members are seated, if a member of staff could introduce us that would be great. We will then introduce the performance and start the show.

The performance and post-show discussion will last approximately 45 minutes.

The performance contains loud and sudden bursts of audio throughout. If there are any audience members with any sensory needs (or additional sensitivities), please make us aware of this. We will then set an audio volume level with you in the room. We then advise that the audience members with any sensory needs (or additional sensitivities) are seated with a member of staff and close to an exit should they need to leave the performance space.

Please be aware that this play is very hard hitting and touches upon two highly sensitive issues: knife crime and youth violence. Although a lot of thought and expertise has gone into making this production suitable for its target audience, the themes and issues portrayed and discussed can still be triggering for some young people. With this in mind, if there are any young people who you think could be triggered by this production, it may be worth having a conversation with them before they watch it.

In the past, the performance and post-show discussion has empowered young people to disclose information to a company member or a responsible adult about the welfare of themselves or somebody they know. Please ensure that you have the appropriate members of staff in the room to deal with any disclosures from young people. All of our team are trained in handling disclosures and will report any disclosures to the relevant member of staff at the venue and also the commissioner of the tour/performance to follow up on.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EFFECTIVE AND IMPACTFUL PERFORMANCES AND TOURS

Here are some additional recommendations for an effective and impactful performance. From our experience we have found that the implementation of these recommendations can help to create a well rounded learning experience and ensures that the best conditions are available for change to take place.

- It is recommended that the commissioner organises a local professional (for example: police officer/youth worker/social worker) to attend every show in a booking. This ensures that young people get a local perspective on knife crime and youth violence.
- If you are organising a police officer to attend a performance(s), it is recommended that you consider whether or not they should attend in uniform or in plain clothes. Every audience has a different relationship with the police, therefore it is vital that you consider this and what would be best suited to each venue and audience.
- It is recommended that each venue lets their staff know the importance of the performance and the post-show discussion. By staff watching the performance and being involved in the post-show discussion, it allows them to not only learn about knife crime and youth violence but also to **see how their young people respond to the session**. In the past we have found a **young persons response to the session can flag up safeguarding concerns**.
- After a performance, **if a student is talking to an actor, a teacher should not hurry the student on to the next lesson**. This has happened in the past and it turned out that the student was disclosing information. Students can often find a sense of relatability with a character on stage and feel safer talking to the actor than anybody else. If a student is talking to an actor it is important that the teacher present remains available until the student has finished talking just in case the actor needs to make the teacher aware of any potential safeguarding concerns.
- We advise that after a viewing of the performance, each venue leads a follow up session in relation to the themes and issues explored within the production.