

Social Story



Relaxed performances at The Court Theatre

To help you prepare for your visit to The Court Theatre we have put together this information pack.

1. Arriving at The Court Theatre

When you arrive at the theatre you can park for free, or get dropped off in our car park opposite the theatre.



Come into the theatre through these doors.



This is the box office where you need to collect your ticket.



This is the foyer where you can relax before the performance.



Before the show you can visit the toilets. They are off the hall opposite the box office.



Use the drawing tables to colour in a picture of Hansel and Gretel.



Visit the coffee bar, where you can buy drinks and snacks.



When it is time to go into the theatre, give the ushers your ticket and they will show you through these doors into the auditorium.



This is the auditorium where you will watch the show. You can choose any seat to sit in. The auditorium won't be full so you can change seats during the show if you would like to.



If you need to leave the theatre for a break that is ok. You can chill out in the foyer until you are ready to go back in.

2. Watching the show

- You can take photos in the theatre before the show starts but once the show has started you are not allowed to take photos or use your phone. If you need to take a call you can go outside and come back in whenever you want.
- During the show three actors will come on stage and act out a story.
- It is quite dark at the start of the show.
- This version of the story is told without the actors talking. You can still shout out ideas from the audience.
- The radio is often turned on. It tells the audience information about what is happening.
- You need to watch the characters actions and faces to understand what is happening in the story.

- The first characters we meet are Hansel and Gretel. They are asleep. They wake up and are bored and hungry at home.
- The children's Father comes home. The family are hungry and are waiting for dinner to be ready.
- The oven at the back of the stage has smoke coming out of it. It isn't a real oven or real smoke. The smoke smells a bit funny.
- The dinner goes wrong. All that is left in the pot is bones. The family are hungry and sad.
- The witch comes on. She is a bit scary. She uses Facebook to try and find the face of the father's dream woman in the family photo (Taylor Swift).
- The witch tricks the father by dressing up as his dream woman (Taylor Swift).
- Hansel and Gretel get taken into the woods. Hansel leaves a trail of stones.
- When Hansel and Gretel get lost in the woods they play a song to make themselves feel better. You can join if you like.
- They follow the stones home. Father is happy to see them.
- When the King of the Birds comes on stage give him a big cheer.
- Hansel and Gretel get taken to the woods again. Hansel leaves a trail of bread.
- It is a bit scary when Hansel and Gretel get lost in the forest. Gretel gets a shock from lightning. Don't worry she isn't hurt. This gives her a special power that she needs later to defeat the witch.
- When Hansel and Gretel are lost they act like they are crying.

- The thunder storm is a little bit loud.
- The King of the Birds comes on stage. Give him a big cheer. He asks for volunteers from the audience. If you want to go on stage put up your hand, you can take someone with you if you want.
- When the witch catches Hansel you can boo her.
- Gretel needs some help lifting the cage. Shout out to tell her where the handle is.
- At the end of the show there is a beautiful moon on the stage.
- The actors will take a bow. This means the show is finished.
- At the end of the show the actors will be in the foyer, you can say hi if you want to.
- If there is an earthquake the theatre is very safe. Stay in your seat and wait for someone to tell you how to leave the building safely.

3. The Characters

There are five characters in this show, played by three actors.



Hansel – Hansel sneezes a lot. He loves playing with his sister Gretel but they are both very hungry. In this show Hansel is a clown with a red nose.



Gretel – Gretel looks after her brother Hansel. She is often has clever ideas. In this show she is a clown with a red nose.



Father – Hansel and Gretel's father. He really wants to feed his children but he is very poor.



The Witch – The witch wants to eat little boys. She lays cupcakes to lead Hansel and Gretel to her house.



The King of the Birds – The King of the Birds is looking for children to join his cool gang. He is kind and brave and he rescues Hansel and Gretel.