Visual story for performances at His Majesty’s Theatre, Aberdeen
Notes on relaxed performance

These notes have been provided to make your visit as enjoyable as possible. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact our box office or customer service team who will be happy to help.

With some productions, we offer relaxed performances. These are specifically designed to welcome people with an Autistic Spectrum condition, learning disability or sensory and communication disorders into theatres to give those, who otherwise may feel excluded, the chance to experience live theatre. They have a less formal, more supportive atmosphere in order to reduce anxiety levels.

There is a relaxed attitude to noise, movement and small changes to the lighting and sound levels in the show. The performances will be audio described and signed by a BSL signer. If you require further information on these services, please contact feedback@aberdeenperformingarts.com

Signed Language Interpretation

These are performances that are sign interpreted for the profoundly deaf by professional signers using British Sign Language.

Audio Description

Audio Description is a service for the visually impaired or blind where a description of the set and costumes is combined with a commentary on the action to bring the show to life. His Majesty’s Theatre uses Aberdeen Audio Describers Association. An infrared headset is required to make use of this service, these are provided by our Front of House team and can be requested on the day.
Additional Information

During performances, the auditorium doors at the back of the stalls will remain open and there will be staff on hand in this area to guide you to a quiet area (stalls bar) should this be needed.

The lights will dim throughout the performance. There are usually moving lights throughout the show. Most shows contain live music, with the orchestra based in the orchestra pit which cannot be seen easily.

We have provided a visual story that may be used to help prepare young children or those who are not sure what to expect at a live performance. Our staff are on hand throughout to assist, if there is anything they can do to help please let them know.

We are committed to providing relaxed performances in the future and we would welcome any feedback which we can use to continually improve the services on offer.
His Majesty’s Theatre.
There are two ways to enter the building, either by the glass entrance.
(New Foyer)

Or through the central doors.
(Old Foyer)
You will need to show your tickets to an usher to get into the theatre. An usher is someone who works for the theatre and will be wearing a black shirt with our logo and a name badge.

You will then make your way to your seats, you may have to walk down some stairs if you are sitting in the stalls.
You may wish to buy a snack or a drink to take into the auditorium; these can be bought from our bars on the way to your seats.

The inside of the theatre, where all the seats are, is called the auditorium. It is very big and has lots of seats.
When you reach the auditorium, an usher will look at your tickets and tell you where your seats are. The numbers on your ticket tell you where you have to sit. It is not a choice.

When you get to your seats, you can sit down and relax. There will be lots of people sitting near you and it may be quite noisy.
We sometimes have a signer onstage, they are using their hands to tell the story using BSL (British Sign Language) for people who are hard of hearing.

You will have lots of fun during the performance, there will be singing, dancing and lots to look at. Sometimes it may be loud but don’t worry, nothing can hurt you. If the sounds are too loud, you can put your hands over your ears or wear headphones (if you brought some with you).
During performance, some people may clap. Clapping is nice as it lets the actors know you liked their song. If you want to clap, you can. You don’t have to clap if you don’t want to.

There is a break in the middle of the show, this is called the interval. During the interval you can use the toilet or have a drink or a snack.
After the interval, everyone will come back into the auditorium and sit in their seats. It will get darker and quieter, like at the beginning of the show. The actors will come back on stage and finish telling the story.

At the end of the show, all of the actors will come back on the stage to take their bows. Many people will clap a lot so the actors know how much they liked the show. The lights will come back on, this will mean that the show is over and that you will leave the theatre. You might not leave the same way you came in to the theatre.

We hope you have a lovely time at the pantomime.