
Burnavon Staff

All Staff are Autism Awareness trained and on hand to assist with any queries you may have either in person, by phone, or email.

Before Your Visit

If you feel you may need to take some time away from the show during a performance you can book an aisle seat in advance.

If you would like to visit the building before you go to a show or workshop contact us on 028 8676 9949 to arrange a convenient time.

Performances

In general our shows vary in terms of how loud sound and music is, the darkness within the auditorium, sudden noises within the performance, strobe lighting, smells and sound effects. If you, or someone you know, is on the spectrum it may be advisable to contact us to find out about an individual show so you can prepare before your visit.

Some of our shows may be specifically autism friendly, if so this will be noted in our programme.

During such performances the lighting is brighter in the auditorium and sound is turned down:

- Sound is capped at 90 decibels.
- House lights are increased by 30 percent.
- Strobe lighting is not used, only calming coloured lighting, for example light blue and green. The colours yellow and red will not be used. There will be no use of Pyros.
- Surprising elements, for example, sudden blackouts are toned down.
- Where a specific scene includes any significant change in noise or lights this information is provided to the audience, via email, in advance so that patrons can prepare.

During ASD Friendly performances there is a Chill Out Zone in the bar area if you need some time away from the theatre environment. The performance is streamed onto a screen in this area so you don't have to miss out on the show.

And

During ASD Friendly performances there is a designated Quiet Room if you need some time away from the theatre environment. The Quiet Room does not have any visual or audio streams.

Workshops

Our workshops vary in terms of how many participants are in the room, some workshops are noisy, art materials all have different smells and feel different. If you, or someone you know, is on the spectrum it may be advisable to contact us to find out about an individual workshop so you can prepare before your visit.

Some of our workshops are specifically autism friendly, and this is noted in our programme.

During such workshops there are:

- A smaller number of participants and the tutor will design the content of the workshop with ASD in mind at all times.
- There is a designated Chill Out Zone within the same room if you need some time away.
- Tutors also have access to a sensory box which can be used to help participants relax, calm down and concentrate on their given task.
- Use of choice boards to help participants decide upon designs where appropriate.
- Use of visual signage to help with schedules where appropriate.
- Timers where appropriate.

What can I bring with me?

If you use tools to help with sensory issues (e.g. ear defenders, or fiddle toys) you can bring them with you to our shows, workshops, or events.