

## Pulse: Risk assessment information for schools & venues

We have carried out a comprehensive risk assessment for the show; below we have highlighted the aspects of our risk assessment which require co-operation from schools. Please read through the points below and reply to this email to confirm that you're happy to with the measures:

### Risk Assessment Section 1: **Any time spent in an external venue/school:**

- The venue / school confirms that an emergency evacuation plan is in place which will cover evacuation of the team and that a briefing will be provided on arrival if necessary.
- Team to only go into areas of the building they are shown by the venue or school.
- Venue or school to brief team if there are any areas they should not enter.

### Risk Assessment Section 5: **Get-in and get out of venues: Location of performance space.**

- Bamboozle to find out if performance space is not on ground floor level and discuss arrangements for use of additional lifting equipment (or a lift) if access is via steps.
- Venue / school to ensure that the performance / workshop space and access to it is clear of obstructions and Bamboozle team to check for any obstacles before commencing the get in and move as necessary.

### Risk Assessment Section 7: **Performances / Workshops – Working with young audiences/ participants**

- Rehearsal period ensures that the Bamboozle team are trained and skilled in responding to needs of the audiences who might be described as having profound and multiple learning disabilities.
- Schools have been advised that this production is for **maximum group sizes of 6 pupils**. Pulse has been designed for children who use a wheelchair. The show may accommodate children who are ambulant but able to remain seated for the duration of the show. **The show cannot accommodate children who need to get up and move around the space and does not have an exploratory set for safety reasons which include trip hazards, hard and/or heavy items which could fall if pushed such as the screens made from wood and corrugated metal, delicate instruments such as a violin and banjo, and items which could present finger traps (The Cloud-O-Matic machine and Patience's ladder).** We are not able to perform for larger group sizes to ensure the safety of our team and our audience.
- Participants are always accompanied by school staff / families / carers / another appropriate adult who will be observing the performances.
- Bamboozle team aware of any hazards within the performance (e.g., items that could be thrown / fall etc) and shows designed to ensure cast can manage any issues should they arise, including pausing or stopping the performance if necessary.
- Bamboozle Safeguarding policy in place, to be followed at all times, including policy regarding DBS checks.
- We have advised schools of the required ratios of staff to participants, which should be taken in conjunction with the School's policy of staffing ratio. Bamboozle's assessment does not supersede any policy the School may have regarding staffing requirements for participants with exceptional needs.
- If an occasion arises where audience suitability guidance has not been followed (including numbers) and pupils' access needs present an additional risk, the team reserve the right to stop or cancel a performance.
- There is lighting which gets hot and poses a potential risk of burning if touched whilst on. This is mitigated by being well away from the audience, but is noted in case of any ambulant participants attempting to explore the set.

**Risk Assessment Section 8: Performances / Workshops – involving use of natural materials:**

- A list of natural materials which may be allergens is included at the bottom of this risk assessment. The school needs to circulate this information to staff who are bringing students to performances, and to check if they present any risk to the children who have been selected to attend performances and accompanying staff. If there is a particular individual with an allergy to any natural material in the show, staff must make Bamboozle aware in advance of the show; if possible in writing via email ahead of our visit, or on arrival at the school so that additional controls can be taken.
  - If allergy or seizure trigger present, remove the element from the from the performance if possible.
  - If it's not possible to remove the allergen / seizure trigger, the participant will not be able to access the performance.
- Teachers / care workers / family members are present and observing the performances, supervising students' interaction with natural materials.
- Teachers / care workers / family members present advised of potential risk by the team before the show.
- If appropriate, school staff are to make our team aware of any specific sensory sensitivities, (e.g. photosensitivity), or seizure triggers for participants on arrival / ahead of performances.

**Natural Materials Used in the Production**

- **Children's play sand:** we use non-toxic play sand. This is poured into a bowl in the performance and kept at a slight distance from the audience. Instructions on the sand we use features the following guidance: do not put sand in mouth. If sand comes into contact with eyes, wash out with clean water.
- **Mitti Attar:** essential oil used in a water spray which is sprayed over the audience. Mitti Attar is a traditional aromatic essence of baked earth hydro distilled into high quality Indian sandalwood.
- **Basil Oil:**  
Heavily diluted essential oil is used in water spray. This is sprayed for the aroma, and won't be sprayed directly at the audience members.
- **Cornflakes:**  
There is a choice for participants to feed the puppet 'Bird' in the performance with cornflakes. Cornflakes are gently poured into the hand of each participant if permissions is indicated.  
Ingredients: Milled corn, sugar, malt flavour, contains 2% or less of salt, BHT added to packing for freshness, Vitamins and minerals: Iron, vitamin C (sodium ascorbate, ascorbic acid), Nacinamide, Vitamin B6 (Prydoxine Hydrochloride), Vitamin B2 (Riboflavin), Vitamin B1 (Thiamin Hydrochloride), Vitamin A. **May contain Gluten from other Cereals.**
- **Rubber Wellington Boots:**  
Members of the cast perform a "gumboot" dance in which Wellington boots are worn.
- **Hessian sacks:**  
Used as part of the set décor and on the sensory exploration board which is available one hour before performances.

**Section 10: First Aid:**

- The venue / school confirms that a trained first aider will be on site to deal with first aid needs of Bamboozle's team and participants and that a briefing will be provided on arrival if necessary.

**I confirm that I have read and that the school will co-operate with all of these measures in Bamboozle's risk assessment. PLEASE TICK**