

# Moon Song: Risk assessment information for schools & venues

Please see below the aspects of our risk assessment which require co-operation from schools. Please read through the points below.

## Moon Song Risk Assessment:

- Any time spent in an external venue/school:
  - The venue/school must confirm that an emergency evacuation plan is in place to cover the Bamboozle team and audience members. A briefing on venue layout—including any restricted areas—should be provided on arrival.
  - Bamboozle team members will only access areas of the venue designated by the school.
  - Venue or school must brief the team if there are any areas they should not enter.
- Get-in and get out of venues: Location of performance space.
  - If the performance space is not on the ground floor, arrangements for lifting equipment or access to a lift should be confirmed prior to arrival.
  - The venue/school is responsible for ensuring that the performance area and access routes are clear of obstructions before the Bamboozle team begins setup.
- Performances / Workshops – Working with young audiences/ participants
  - Audience & Group Size:
    - The production is designed for an audience of a maximum of six children.
    - Children attending must be accompanied by school staff, carers, or family members who are familiar with their sensory needs and potential triggers.
- Staffing & Support:
  - Bamboozle artists are trained in working with autistic children.
  - School staff should provide pre-performance information about audience members, including any specific needs or behaviours that might require additional support.
- Mitigating Sensory Overload & Anxiety:
  - The performance incorporates gentle vocal harmonies, repetitive phrasing, soft lighting effects, and controlled use of sound effects.
  - Any known sensitivities to sudden noises, music volume, or lighting should be discussed in advance so adaptations can be considered.
  - If a child experiences distress, they may be supported by school staff in a designated quiet space.
  - Schools have been advised that this production is for maximum group sizes of 6 pupils.
  - Participants are always accompanied by school staff / families / carers / another appropriate adult who will be observing the performances.
  - 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.

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- Performances / Workshops – involving use of natural materials:
  - Props & Set Elements
    - The production includes soft-textured materials (duvets, cushions), a floor cloth, and interactive props such as slinkies (flexible ducting), ping pong balls, and a toy rocket.
    - There are other small properties such as the hand-held projector, schplugs and colanders which are choreographed into the show and returned to the box of props which can be latched shut and/or sat upon in order to secure items.
    - Choking or Swallowing Risk: The smallest objects in use in the performance are ping pong balls and will be introduced under careful supervision.
    - School staff must ensure participants do not place objects in their mouths.
  - Sound and Lighting Effects
    - Live & Recorded Sound:
      - The show uses a surround-sound system, low drones, recorded effects and live music (electronic and acoustic).
      - Some scenes include louder sound effects, which are kept brief.
    - Lighting Effects:
      - Soft lighting changes and projections are used, avoiding strobe or flashing effects.
      - There are no known photosensitivity or seizure risks, but staff should discuss this in advance of the performance if there are any concerns.
      - 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.
- 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.
  - The venue/school must confirm that a trained first aider will be on site during the performance.
  - In the absence of a designated first aider, a competent person will be nominated to contact emergency services if required.
  - Bamboozle team members are briefed on potential triggers for sensory distress and will work with school staff to support children experiencing anxiety or sensory overload.

Please confirm that you have read and agree to the terms of our risk assessment by replying to the email featuring the statement: **“I confirm that I have read and that the school/venue will co-operate with all of these measures in Bamboozle’s risk assessment for The River performances”**.