



Seymour Centre

Code of Conduct for School Groups

The purpose of this document is to provide school groups with a framework of how to conduct themselves when attending events at Seymour Centre. These expectations are set to ensure a safe and enjoyable environment and experience for all visitors, staff and performers involved in education performances and workshops.

Key Principles

A trip to the Seymour Centre may be a student's first theatre experience. It is important to discuss with students what happens during a live performance, what is expected from audience members and how meeting these expectations contributes to a safer experience for all.

During Productions

Theatre productions differ from watching a movie or the television as the performance is happening live. It is important to follow these guidelines to ensure an enjoyable and safe performance for all.

1. **The actors on stage are real people and can hear and see the audience.** Please do not distract or antagonise the performers by speaking, whistling or waving to them. Remember, their job is to perform.
2. **Unnecessary noise disturbs everyone.** There is an expectation of silence in the theatre during a performance. This includes but is not limited to, talking, whistling and yelling at other students and school groups, consuming food and beverages, running and jumping in the theatre and on seats and acts of physical violence.
3. **Turn your phone off.** The light, sound and vibrations from a mobile device will disrupt the actors, show technicians and other audience members. As a sign of respect, it is imperative that devices are turned off and put away in a pocket or bag throughout the duration of the performance.
4. **Filming and photography are strictly prohibited.** Please ensure that you do not film or take photos of the actors during the performance.
5. **Do not touch the stage before, after or during the performance.** The stage is set specifically for each performance, and it is important to avoid touching, leaning, putting your feet on, walking or moving any set pieces. This is for the safety of the students and the actors.
6. **Do not stand on stage unless directed.** Standing or walking across the stage breaks theatre etiquette and is considered disrespectful.
7. **Be aware that the theatre will be dark.** Before a performance the house lights will go dark. Please do not scream or panic when this happens. During live theatre events there may be changing lighting states, haze smoke and a variety of sounds and theatrical effects.



8. **Keep the aisles clear.** Do not stand in, lean over, stick your feet out into or keep your school bags in the aisles during a performance. These walkways need to be clear for fire and evacuation egress.

During Workshops

Workshops differ from watching a live performance as they are interactive and require contributions from participants. It is important to follow these guidelines to ensure an enjoyable and safe workshop for all.

1. **Be respectful of others.** Please listen and follow the instructions of the workshop facilitators and staff. Distracting or problematic behaviour will not be tolerated; this includes acts of bullying, harassment and physical violence.
2. **Be respectful of the space.** There are a number of studios and theatres at Seymour Centre where workshops may be held; it is important that each space is left in the same way as it was found. Please do not litter, steal or cause damage to Seymour Centre's property. If you notice a spill, missing items or damage occurring, please inform the workshop facilitator.
3. **Dress appropriately.** During workshop sessions, students may participate in drama games and exercises that can be physical in nature. Please ensure all students are wearing appropriate clothing like a sports uniform where they can move easily.

Health and Safety

Maintaining a safe and hazard free environment is of top priority to Seymour Centre. Please abide by the following guidelines to ensure an enjoyable and safe excursion for all.

1. **Vaping inside is illegal.** Please observe the NSW law and the NSW Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 about vaping indoors and age restrictions.
2. **Keep noise at a respectful volume.** This applies to all areas of Seymour Centre including the foyers and bathrooms. There are numerous staff, guests and patrons in the venue at any time and it is important to keep unnecessary noise to a minimum.
3. **Follow the instructions of Seymour Centre staff.** It is important to follow the instructions of staff at all points of your Seymour Centre excursion.
4. **Visit the bathroom prior to the commencement of the performance.** It may be difficult to leave during the show to use the bathroom and you may not be readmitted into the theatre.
5. **Do not run.** Please do not run in the theatres, corridors or foyers at Seymour Centre, especially during wet weather. The floors can become slippery and may cause injury if you slip over.
6. **Hot food and beverages are not permitted in the theatres.** Hot food and beverages can become a safety hazard in a darkened theatre and, as such, they are not permitted in any of Seymour Centre's theatres.
7. **No climbing or standing on seats.** Our theatres have seats that fold up when they are unoccupied.
8. **Do not rest your feet on theatre seats.** Please be respectful of our theatres and avoid resting your feet on the seats in front of you.



Additional Information

- **Plan your trip to ensure you arrive on time.** Latecomers may only be allowed into the theatres at certain intervals. Missing the start of a performance will diminish your enjoyment and/or understanding of the piece. It will also disrupt the show for the actors and other audience members.
- **Seymour Centre does not have a Cloak Room.** Please plan to keep bags and personal belongings to a minimum.
- **Seymour does not provide an indoor space for group meals.** If your school group needs to eat a meal, we advise the use of Seymour Centre's Courtyard or Victoria Park.
- **Seymour Centre is a licensed venue, and some youth debit cards may be restricted from purchasing.** Students are advised to bring cash if they wish to purchase food or beverage items at our Box Office Cafe.

Contacts

If you have witnessed or experienced behaviour that has breached this code of conduct and would like to raise the issue, please contact boxoffice@seymour.sydney.edu.au

Additionally, if you have any questions about this document, please contact boxoffice@seymour.sydney.edu.au

Failure to Comply

In the event that a student or school group fails to comply with the expectations set in this document, Seymour Centre reserves the right to remove them from the theatre or workshop space.