

Criterion Theatre

Risk Assessment Information

The Criterion Theatre is committed to providing its audience with a safe environment and an enjoyable visit.

Before you come, your school/college/university or organisation may wish to conduct its own risk assessment. While the Criterion Theatre cannot write this risk assessment for you, we will help with information that you feel relevant (there is not a generic risk assessment available for attending a performance).

The theatre and front of house areas are designed and maintained for public use.

We have a dedicated House management team who manages the safety of the public and between the hours of 10.00 and 22.00. They can be contacted through the Stage Door on 020 7839 8811 or admin@criterion-theatre.co.uk.

Children, young people or vulnerable people remain the responsibility of teachers, guardians or chaperones, and must be accompanied at all times during their visit both inside and in outside areas. We recommend that there is one teacher for every ten students and during the performance that teachers sit amongst their students.

The Criterion has policies, procedures and work practices in place and fire risk assessments are undertaken for all areas of the building. With regards to the safety of our visitors and staff we will in particular ensure the following:

- Public areas will be kept clear of trip hazards
- Temporary installations or events will be risk assessed
- All electrical equipment will be PAT tested and regularly assessed
- Any productions featuring strobe or loud gunshot effects will carry a visible warning
- Under our licensed conditions we are not permitted to do anything that would endanger our audience and all special effects will be licensed by Westminster Council.

We are licensed by Westminster Council as a Place of Entertainment and comply with guidance and advice given on minimum standards of fire protection and maximum number of people permitted to be in the building at any one time. We are also advised on the number of fire exits, fire protection

systems, permitted building and scenery materials and safe evacuation of the public and staff.

We are regularly inspected by Westminster Council and the Fire Authority and in addition we have our own inspections conducted by qualified fire officers before each performance. Fire officers remain present for each performance. Fire drills are regularly practiced before performances by the House management and front of house staff and a live drill takes place annually.