

Derby LIVE Youth Theatre **Principles and Guidelines**

1. Aims

- To provide the highest quality training and development opportunities in theatrical performance skills for young people in Derby and its environs.
- To help overcome barriers to artistic advancement for young people in Derby and its environs.
- To encourage long-term involvement with, and advocacy for, the performing arts through participatory activity.

2. Objectives

- By producing at least one high quality theatrical production per year involving all members of the Derby LIVE Youth Theatre, with a creative team of highly-skilled professional practitioners in all relevant areas.
- By providing an extensive, annual Masterclass programme covering a range of theatrical skills, abilities, knowledge and understandings.
- By continually utilising and promoting an ideology which recognises, values and celebrates the over-riding importance of diversity within inclusivity.
- By ensuring that the profile of the Derby LIVE Youth Theatre is at least proportionate to that of the surrounding population in terms of disability, ethnicity, gender and socio-economic background.

3. Plan

- Auditions will be held each year in September for the 90 places that are available. Whilst excellence and talent will be necessary prerequisites for entry, balance and proportionality will also be ensured in terms of the Youth Theatre's overall profile.
- A high-quality theatrical production will be presented each year during the first week of the schools' Easter vacation. The nature and genre of this production will vary from year to year to ensure as wide a range of understandings and experiences as possible for Youth Theatre members. The production title will be agreed each year by the Artistic Producer and the Learning and Inclusion Manager. It will conform to Derby LIVE's artistic policy and will prioritise new work and/or over-looked classics.
- High-quality Masterclass workshops will be delivered throughout the summer term on a wide and complementary range of performing arts skills and abilities. These will be delivered by professional practitioners of considerable repute and experience. Youth Theatre members will have opportunities to suggest subject matter for these workshops but the final programme will be collated by the Derby LIVE Learning and Inclusion Manager.

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- Coaching, guidance and tuition for application to Drama Schools is available for relevant DLYT members from Derby LIVE's Artistic Producer.
- Termly fees and an annual registration fee will be required each year. The level of these will be agreed each year by the Learning and Inclusion Manager with the Director of Derby LIVE. A reduced fee will be accepted if the total amount is paid in full at the beginning of each academic year. For those members whose parents/carers are in receipt of Income Support, the fees will be waived.
- A safe and secure environment will be provided for Youth Theatre members. A copy of Derby LIVE's Child Protection Guidelines is available on request from Derby LIVE's Learning and Inclusion Manager.
- From time to time opportunities may arise to take part in other productions either produced or co-produced by Derby LIVE. Information will be passed on to members, as and when appropriate, with details of how and when to apply. Permission will be sought from parents/carers to pass relevant information to other interested parties if applicable.
- Any applications for technical and/or stage management placements will be dealt with on an individual basis.
- The Derby LIVE Youth Theatre will be regularly monitored and annually evaluated. Feedback will be sought from members and their parents/carers.