



FAQs Rehearsals and Performances

Being part of Rising Youngstars is the start of a wonderful adventure. You will have such an exciting time learning new skills and making lasting friendships. Being in a production is a large and intensive commitment. Not just for the performer, but for the family as well. This said, we need to make sure you're able to fulfil what's required, before deciding to audition for a part or committing to the rehearsal period. The production team and Committee are all volunteers and give up their time during the rehearsal period, so it is vital that all cast members, and their families, fulfil their side of the arrangement.

1/ How will I be told about rehearsals?

Our rehearsal schedule will always be noted at the time our workshops are announced. We ask that anyone who is interested in auditioning for a main part, take note of the rehearsal schedule and let us know if there are any periods where they will be unable to attend. Rehearsal schedules will also be posted on the production WhatsApp group which parent/carers and senior cast members will be invited to join. The rehearsal venues will be announced at the time of workshops. Please note that these may be subject to change and should the venue for rehearsal change, we will let parents know as soon as we can.

2/ Will I need to come to all rehearsals?

All cast members should be available to attend all rehearsals. There may be times where we decide to call principles only or small groups, but parents will be given notice of this. At the time of audition, you should make sure that, in theory, you are available for every rehearsal and every performance date. Understanding the full commitment in advance is vital for you and your family.

3/ What do I wear for rehearsals?

You should always wear comfortable clothes that you can move freely and practically in and soft shoes. If there are items you'll need to wear to rehearse in, you'll be told in advance.

4/ What should I bring to rehearsals?

You should always take a pencil (not a pen) so that you can make notes, but can always rub them out and rewrite them, as things tend to change during a rehearsal period. If you have a script, please remember to take it to rehearsals. Your script should contain notes of everything that you do, and not just everything that you say. RY's will issue folders to all members to store their lyrics in. These must be brought along to each rehearsal.

5/ What can I not bring to rehearsals?

Rehearsals need to be focussed as well as fun! No phones or electronic devices are allowed into the rehearsal room (unless they are silent and stowed in a bag). However, there are often periods of waiting, when certain cast members are not needed in the rehearsal, or on stage. During this time, you can go over your words or lyrics, read or talk very quietly with other cast members. Just be very mindful that although you may not be needed, other members are, and they should be respected. Fizzy juice is not permitted at rehearsals.

6/ What is expected of parents/carers of our Rising Youngstars?

Parents will need to ensure that you are on time for your rehearsals. Lateness is quite disruptive and may delay rehearsals. Your parents will also need to ensure that you are collected on time. Additionally, they will need to support you in between rehearsals – this involves helping you to learn lines, talking through your ‘moves’ and sourcing your costume if required. Importantly, your parents will also be expected to volunteer to help backstage at one, or more, of your performances. We need to have a full team of chaperones/parent helpers working backstage, and, legally, a specific number of Disclosure Scotland approved chaperones. At the time of casting, we will ask parents if they would be prepared to become approved – this is not obligatory, but the more ‘Approved’ chaperones we have, the easier it is for us to satisfy requirements, ensuring cast safety and making sure show week is a success.

7/ How do parents become backstage helpers?

On our Commitment to Rehearsals & Performance Agreement that is issued at the start of rehearsals, we ask parents to indicate which date/s they can help us with. We will also ask which parents are prepared to become ‘Approved’ via Disclosure Scotland.

8/ What information will I need to give to become a Rising Youngstar?

We will need your parents to complete a contact form, telling us about any medical conditions that you have, so that we can keep you safe and well. You will also need to read and complete our Commitment to Rehearsals & Performance Agreement. Our Policies and Procedures should also be read and these can be found on our website.

9/ Will it cost me money to be in a production?

The membership fee is a one-off payment which can be paid in 3 instalments. Workshops are free of charge. This includes a show t-shirt, scripts and/or lyric sheets and rehearsal space. Information on membership costs will be handed out at the workshops.

10/ Do I need to sell a minimum ticket quota to be able to perform?

You do not need to sell tickets to be able to perform, although all our young people and their families are advised to promote the performance as much as possible by taking leaflets & posters and sharing our social media posts and ticket source link. We ask that you invite as many family and friends as you can to purchase tickets to help support the efforts of all cast.

Anything you can do to help promote our performances is greatly appreciated.

11/ How do I purchase tickets for the show I am in?

Tickets can be purchased directly from rehearsals, through our website or online from ticket source. The ticket source link and order forms will be issued at rehearsal. To avoid disappointment, tickets should be booked early.

12/ Will I have to provide my own costume?

Each production is different and so this may change depending on the performance. We try our best to source costumes for each production, but there may be times where our children and young people are asked to supply their own items. Guidance on this will always be given in good time and we have a selection of our own items in the store that may be able to be used depending on sizes.

13/ What happens if I don't know anyone in the show?

One of the things that's important to everyone at Rising Youngstars is building a tight, supportive, family like 'community'. You can guarantee that by the end of your first rehearsal, you will already have made lots of new friends. Our production team and committee fully understand how daunting it can be to step into the rehearsal room for the first time, and we all work hard to make sure that everyone is happy, settled and well looked after. If you have any worries, please speak to a committee member who will be happy to help.

14/ Will I have lines in a production?

Maybe...maybe not! We will hold workshops prior to the start of rehearsals. This allows all children and young people to get to know the show and the parts available for audition. At Rising Youngstars, the emphasis is always placed on 'the ensemble' – we seek a company of dynamic, talented, passionate young artists who will work together to create a piece of live performance that is exciting and challenging for everyone involved. We do not place value on 'who has the most lines', or who has most time on stage...and we ask parents to support this very important attitude towards creating art. If the piece you are in has lines, some characters will have lines, but many won't...this doesn't mean that you are any less important...or that you should work any less hard! The more experienced you become through your training and your time on stage, the more likely you are to be given a speaking role...although, as in the industry, there are no guarantees! We always look to support our members on their developmental pathways, looking to support and develop rather than push to soon. We recognise that a decision of this nature can be emotional, and we are fully supportive of all individuals whilst also balancing out the needs of the whole show.

15/ I'm only on stage a little bit, what can I do when I'm not on stage?

When you're backstage, in the dressing rooms, you will need to stay really calm and focussed. Most of the time, cast members like to chat together, but you are also welcome to bring a book or something quiet to occupy you. It's important that you don't bring anything that could distract you or take your focus away from the production. Chaperones will be in each dressing room, making sure that everyone keeps their mind on the work they are doing. We try to have a speaker backstage, so you will be able to hear the production as it runs, so that you can ensure you're not late for any cue.

16/ Are there any handy tips to help me make rehearsals and performances fun and enjoyable?

There are lots of things that you can do that will make your whole RY's experience more enjoyable. Be punctual - running late can cause distributions. Always come prepared - don't get a reputation for being the one that never has their script, pencil, notebook etc. Do your homework in-between rehearsals. This is important. Our production team will notice who has put the effort in at home and who has come well-prepared having spent time thinking about the project. This will create a very good impression. Be an excellent member of our 'ensemble' – remembering that one of Rising Youngstars most important values is that of a company working together in harmony. DO NOT be an actor who is constantly trying to pull attention onto themselves, do not be ungenerous to other company members, do not be selfish. No matter how talented someone is, a director will not want to work with an actor who cannot see the value of the Ensemble. Bring a great attitude to rehearsals. Be enthusiastic, positive and supportive of the work and of the other cast members.

YOU'RE NOW READY TO PERFORM WITH RISING YOUNGSTARS... ENJOY EVERY SECOND...THERE IS NO EXPERIENCE TO BETTER IT.

For further information on any of the above, please contact Risingyoungstars123@gmail.com