

THE RED TREE: EXCURSION DOCUMENTATION

Subiaco Arts Centre
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Purpose of the Excursion

Barking Gecko Theatre Company's mission is to commission, produce and present high quality, adventurous theatre for young people and their families and to make theatre accessible to the broadest range of young audiences across Western Australia, nationally and internationally.

Barking Gecko Theatre Company presents an extensive education program, which includes incursion/ excursion performances and specialised workshops suitable for students Years K-12. These are linked to the Curriculum Framework.

Our schools program is designed to develop theatre/audience skills, social/personal attributes and to promote a fun, unique learning experience.

Environment

Barking Gecko Theatre Company is located at the Subiaco Arts Centre. The Subiaco Arts Centre is an indoor, enclosed environment, situated in the Subiaco Gardens at 180 Hamersley Road, Subiaco. The Subiaco Gardens have various ornamental ponds, walkways, and a playground. Access to the Subiaco Arts Centre can be made available for teachers who would like to assess the venue prior to their excursion.

The Subiaco Arts Centre has stair, ramp and lift access and is situated on two levels. Barking Gecko Theatre Company presents their Education Program in:

THE MAIN AUDITORIUM: a 305-seat theatre containing stairs, and ramps for wheelchair access up to a maximum of 4 to 5 wheelchairs, depending on the type/ size of the chair;

THE STUDIO: a 107-seat performance space, with wheelchair access for up to 10 wheelchairs depending on the type/ size of the chair;

Workshops are conducted in the MULTIPURPOSE rooms of Subiaco Arts Centre. Both rooms are air-conditioned. One room is carpeted, the other is covered with commercial grade linoleum

flooring, with stackable chairs available for use in each room. Toilets are located on the same floor.

The management of both Subiaco Arts Centre and Barking Gecko Theatre Company endeavour to accommodate patrons with disabilities whenever possible. Please advise if you have any students with special needs so we can attempt to maximize the benefit of their visit.

Accessible facilities include:

- Wheelchair access to the Studio and Main Auditorium via the ramp on the Bagot Road side of the building
- Wheelchair accessible toilet
- Special allocated seating in the auditorium
- Hearing loop in the auditorium
- Lift access

Transport

Transport arrangements are the responsibility of the school.

For groups traveling by bus, free parking is available at the northern access road of the Arts Centre Gardens car park off Bagot Road.

A map locating parking bays and disabled access entry can be obtained upon request from Barking Gecko Theatre Company.

For public transport options contact Transperth on 13 62 13 or www.transperth.wa.gov.au

Student's Capacity

Barking Gecko Theatre Company caters for audiences from Kindergarten through to Year 12.

Please advise if you have any students with special needs, so we can attempt to maximize the benefit of their visit.

In-theatre experiences provide an opportunity for students to participate as audience members at performances in either the *Main Auditorium* or the *Studio* at Subiaco Arts Centre.

Workshop experiences provide an opportunity for students to gain or extend knowledge of theatrical practices, and explore themes and issues raised in performance. All workshops can be adapted to your needs i.e. specific age groups, abilities and time frames.

Supervisor/Supervisory Team

It is the responsibility of the school to develop a supervisory team that meets their specific requirements in line with the recommendations for supervision outlined in this document.

The school supervisory team must accompany the students throughout the visit to actively monitor behaviour and intervene as necessary.

Barking Gecko Theatre Company staff and performers will lead, demonstrate, perform and present activities but will not undertake any role(s) in a supervisory context.

External Provider Information

Clearances:

Barking Gecko Theatre Company staff and performers hold a current *Working with Children Check*.

Current Accreditations and Qualifications:

Barking Gecko Theatre Company performers are professional arts practitioners with varying levels of experience and qualifications.

Front of House staff employed by the venue management, hold current senior first-aid certificates and are able to provide on site, first aid assistance as and when required. Both Subiaco Arts Centre and Barking Gecko have First Aid kits available.

Public Liability Insurance:

Perth International Arts Festival has public liability insurance for \$20 million

Subiaco Arts Centre has public liability for \$50 million

Public Liability Certificate of Currency documents are available upon request from Barking Gecko Theatre Company, for both Barking Gecko Theatre Company and the Subiaco Arts Centre.

Supervision Strategies

It is the responsibility of the school to develop a supervisory team that meets their specific requirements in line with the recommendations for supervision outlined in this document. These recommended ratios may vary according to the needs of your students. Please feel free to discuss this with us.

The school supervisory team must accompany the students throughout the visit to actively

monitor behaviour and intervene as necessary to maximise the educational experience for their students, in addition to considering the experience of other visitors to the venue.

Barking Gecko Theatre Company recommends the following ratios:

In-Theatre Performances:

- K to PP 1 Adult to 5 Students
- Years 1 to 12 1 Adult to 10 Students

Workshops:

- K to PP 1 Adult to 5 Students
- Years 1 to 12 1 Adult to 10 Students

Barking Gecko Theatre Company will provide one (1) tutor per 30 students.

For In-Theatre Performances, school groups will be seated together where possible, to assist with supervision. It is recommended that school supervisory team members are seated amongst students so they can monitor student behaviour.

During workshops, Barking Gecko Theatre Company staff and performers will lead, demonstrate, perform and present activities during workshops with the school supervisory team actively monitoring behaviour and intervening as required.

Identification of Excursion Participants

This is the responsibility of individual schools.

It is helpful to Barking Gecko Theatre Company staff if students are dressed in school uniform, for clear identification, and/ or for school supervisory team members to wear an easily viewed name badge. In a workshop situation, comfortable clothing is recommended.

A Barking Gecko representative will be present on the ground floor foyer of Subiaco Arts Centre to meet you, wearing a Barking Gecko t-shirt and/or name badge. If for any reason the representative is not present, you can locate the Barking Gecko office on the top floor of the Subiaco Arts Centre.

Communication Strategies

Subiaco Arts Centre is equipped with a PA and telephone system for inter-building communication, and if necessary, school supervisory teams can have access to a phone line at the Barking Gecko office.

There are no public phones in, or surrounding the building.

School supervisory teams are encouraged to have access to a mobile phone that they can be contacted on,

and can use to call out during their site visit. (Please note: this must be switched to 'silent' during the performance).

Emergency Response Plan

The Subiaco Arts Centre has a documented emergency response plan which is available on request from Barking Gecko Theatre Company.

Subiaco Arts Centre is equipped with an Emergency Warning System. Firstly, the alert tone will sound (intermittent beep-beep-beep), which is then followed by the evacuation tone, as necessary (oscillating whoop-whoop-whoop). In the case of an emergency, school supervisory teams are required to follow the directions of Subiaco Arts Centre staff, particularly the Front of House Manager who will control all operations according to the nature of the emergency.

School supervisory teams are strongly recommended to meet identified supervision requirements to further support these procedures.

Briefing Students and Supervisors

You will receive a booking confirmation once you have made your booking. Barking Gecko will also contact you one week prior to your scheduled visit.

As Barking Gecko Theatre Company does not brief visitors on arrival, school supervisory teams are encouraged to prepare for the visit by:

- outlining expected behaviours and etiquette with students, particularly in regards to the theatre (e.g. no food and drink in theatre, no taking photos/video, no talking during performance, no use of phones etc)
- discussing the performance/ workshop with students (For all shows, Barking Gecko will provide an Education Resource to facilitate this)
- briefing the students and attending adults about the emergency warning system in place at Subiaco Arts Centre (as mentioned above)

At the end of our in-theatre shows, actors will facilitate a 5 to 10 minute question time, to enable students to gain further insight into theatre and its inner workings. This question time is also used to recognize and share messages from our sponsors, and may include the distribution of merchandise to students.

Other Relevant Details

PERTH INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL		 	Q12 PERTH FESTIVAL 10 FEBRUARY – 3 MARCH perthfestival.com.au RIO TINTO EDUCATION PROGRAM
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If you have any further queries, please don't hesitate to contact the Education Manager on 08 9380 3085.

This information is valid until 31 January 2013

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