



GUIDELINES FOR AUDIENCES

We would ask teachers bringing students to productions at the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre to prepare their students for attending performances, as this is a valuable part of the educational experience.

Here are a few notes for you to use in your pre-visit discussions with your students about being a member of a performance audience and the logistics of the visit.

Teachers

- Please ensure your group arrives at *the Joan* 30 minutes prior to the beginning of a performance or workshop – this enables the event to start and finish on time. We would ask a member of staff to let the Box Office know when your school has arrived and then wait as a group in or near the main foyer for ushering
- During intervals or breaks please ensure all students in your group are ready to return to the theatre at the requested time
- Teachers are to supervise their students at all times during the visit, both inside and outside of the performance and workshop spaces. In the performance spaces please distribute your school's teachers amongst and behind your students, so that you can see them and re-act as necessary

Students

- Food and drink are not permitted in the performance spaces
- Photography and Recording of any kind are not permitted in the performance spaces
- There are three performance spaces at the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre – the Richard Bonyngue Concert Hall, the Q Theatre and the Allan Mullins Room. Each of these spaces has been designed for acoustic sound. All sounds from the stage and the body of the theatre are amplified and can be clearly heard. Audience members sometimes forget that they can be seen and heard. Therefore talking and whispering during the performance is to be discouraged – unless there is a clear invitation by the performers/presenters for audience participation, in which case of course it should be encouraged!
- Everyone in the venue has the right to hear and see the performance, without being distracted by others
- Please turn off all mobile phones, watch alarms and other electronic devices which might cause a distraction during the performance or workshop
- Please follow the directions of the centre staff at all times. Staff members are entitled to ask audience members to leave the performance if these conventions are not followed

By following these guidelines, you and your students will be able to ensure the experience is valuable and enjoyable. We hope you have a great time and welcome your feedback after your visit.