



Guidelines on the appropriate adult to young person ratios for workshops and performances

Children aged under 8 years

Children under 8 years will not normally be involved in BYT activities. However, if you are working with children under the age of 8 you should provide staffing ratios of one adult per 8 children for regular youth theatre activity. BYT guidance in working with children under 8 years is to have a maximum of 20 children in any one group.

Children and young people aged eight and over

There is no actual legislation on this for young people over the age of 8. The following are guidelines only and are based on BYT's understanding of the activity taking place.

Children aged 8 to 11 years

NAYT recommends that for regular youth theatre activity (ie rehearsal or workshop) you have a ratio of 1 adult to 12 children and a maximum group size of 20. If you are taking children aged 8 to 11 on an outing, trip or any environment which is not where their usual activity takes place (excluding residential), the ratio should be 1 adult to 6 children.

Young people aged 11 to 18 years

BYT recommends that for regular youth theatre activity you have a ratio of 1 adult to 15 young people with a maximum group size of 25.

For safeguarding purposes, it is recommended that a minimum of 2 adults are present at all times* regardless of the group size.

*It will be appropriate that a parent or other volunteer helper is at immediate hand, 'on call'.