

NYTC Student Instructor Expectations

The role of Student Instructor for the National Youth Theatre Company is about assisting the staff to create a safe, enjoyable and creative learning environment for our cast. You are a resource for both the staff and the cast, and you should try to learn as much about both NYTC and the production as you can throughout the programme. In theatre week you will often be the first point of contact for questions about blocking, harmonies, or choreography. Wherever possible you should attend every rehearsal, and make detailed notes of the material covered.

We will assign you specific show related tasks, but you are also welcome to suggest areas of responsibility – if there’s something you’d love to do, please do tell us.

In accepting the Student Instructor with NYTC, you are accepting these behaviour expectations and the requirements of our Child Safety Policy.

As an NYTC Student Instructor, I agree to:

- Ask questions!
- Be an advocate for NYTC, speaking about it positively in all communication forums, both public and online
- Be a role model in my actions and contribute to an environment of trust and inspiration
- Acknowledge and respect the individuality of each cast member, being mindful of specific challenges that could affect a young person’s participation
- Listen to and respect NYTC customer groups, including cast, parents, and volunteers
- Respect each child or young person’s personal space
- Contribute ideas as appropriate, and stay open to feedback.
- Respect and support NYTC’s diversity in culture, religion, race, sexual orientation and levels of ability
- Actively understand the NYTC Child Safety document and ensure it is followed
- Actively understand and role model NYTC’s Health and Safety policies and procedures and understand my responsibilities in the event of an emergency
- Promote a safe environment, where no child or young person receives favouritism, criticism, ridicule, inappropriate physical contact, or is the victim of bullying in any way
- Where physical contact is required between a child or young person and another person, to always seek permission of the child/young person (or people), other than in an emergency situation
- Adhere to NYTC’s risk mitigation policy of avoiding two people being in a situation where they are alone together, and remind others to do so
- Use appropriate language at all times and be a leader in the non-tolerance of offensive language or behaviour

Behaviour Expectations During Rehearsals

- Have fun and encourage a positive and supportive atmosphere
- Invite contribution of ideas and involvement of children and young people in decision making, as appropriate
- Provide appropriate encouragement, support and acknowledgement of effort
- Use appropriate language (physical and verbal)
- Have fun and encourage a safe and supportive atmosphere
- Offer kind and constructive feedback to help learning
- Manage poor behaviour appropriately, escalating to NYTC staff if action is required
- Role model punctuality, arriving at least 15 minutes prior to any rehearsal, ideally 30 minutes prior to a rehearsal involving a large group
- Be actively engaged in the rehearsal room, and leave the room to take a break or eat when needed (no food in the room please)
- Maintain an active involvement within all disciplines (vocal, drama and dance) to the best of my ability
- Role model tidiness and organisation
- Dress appropriately for the role, wearing your show t-shirt whenever possible
- Don't disrupt the rehearsal room - be mindful of appropriate times and venues for conversation with cast, parents, or volunteers