

Risk Assessment – Theatre

Area of Operation: visits to the cinema, theatre and shows

Who is at risk?

- Staff
- Students
- Members of the public

Hazards	Risks	Safety Measures to Control Risks
Crowds and confined spaces	Risk of students becoming distressed, overwhelmed, or separated from the group	○ Choose less crowded showtimes or request accessible seating arrangements. ○ Assign seats in a way that enables close supervision. ○ Staff carry ID cards for easy identification and communication with venue staff.
Loud noises or sudden changes in lighting	Potential triggers for distress or anxiety	○ Where possible, choose sensory-friendly screenings. ○ Provide earplugs if needed and prepare students beforehand for any loud scenes.
Access to exits	Risk of students attempting to leave unattended	○ Identify exits and ensure students understand they must stay within the group. ○ Place staff in positions where they can monitor any movements and guide students if necessary.
Interaction with the public	Potential for misunderstandings or conflict	○ Ensure students are briefed on behaviour expectations. ○ Staff trained in de-escalation techniques to address any behavioural issues.
Students's potential behavioural issues	Increased risk of moving around, disrupting others, or wandering off	○ Ensure a high staff-to-child ratio for adequate supervision. - Brief students on expected behaviour and rewards for positive engagement.
Stairs, uneven surfaces, and dim lighting	Risk of trips or falls, especially in darkened areas	○ Remind students to walk carefully and assist where necessary.
Distraction and overstimulation	Risk of students losing focus or becoming overstimulated	○ Choose shorter shows or intermissions if available to allow breaks. - Bring calming items or fidgets if helpful for individual needs.
Use of public toilets	Risk of separation from the group, interactions with strangers	○ Have staff accompany students to toilets as needed while ensuring privacy. ○ Select toilets close to the seating area for easy monitoring. ○ Set clear meeting points near the toilets for regrouping.

Hazards	Risks	Safety Measures to Control Risks
Food and drink availability	Risk of choking, allergies, or spillage injuries	○ Ensure any food brought or purchased aligns with dietary needs and allergies. ○ Staff carry a first aid kit for potential incidents.

To be read in conjunction with the following:

- Student's Risk Assessments
- Participant Consent / Medical Information
- Emergency Action Plan Flow-Chart
- Cinema Age-Appropriate Guidance

Reviewed: September 2025

Approved by: **RAISE-AP** Educational Directors, September 2025

Next Review Date: September 2027