

Contract of membership for the Hippodrome Youth Theatre

We are asking all members and parents to sign a contract that outlines the basic expectations of all HYT members. As you are probably aware HYT is a very popular group with a large waiting list and we expect all our members to show very high levels of commitment.

1. We expect all members to attend every meeting they are required at. If there are genuine reasons why a member cannot attend they need to inform one of the leaders of this at the earliest opportunity by phoning or messaging them on the numbers provided. **Please note that this also applies to meetings outside of show rehearsals.**
2. Rehearsals generally begin at 7.30pm in the evenings. Sunday rehearsals can vary but the times will be provided well in advance. We expect all members to be present at the start time. **This requires them to be there in 'good time'**. The front doors are usually open at least 15 minutes before the start time. It is good practice to aim to be in the building with at least 10 minutes to spare so we can start promptly.
3. We expect members to be **dressed appropriately for rehearsals**. (E.g. Tight fitting jeans are not ideal for dancing rehearsals). Please also wear appropriate footwear. Small slip on shoes are also not ideal for dancing. Jazz shoes are ideal, however, flexible trainers are also more than acceptable.
4. We expect each member of HYT **to treat their fellow cast members with respect**. Any form of **bullying will not be tolerated** and could result in removal of membership.
5. We know that most young people and parents use social media - even we use it! However, we feel it is not appropriate to use these platforms to raise complaints or criticise youth theatre members, the leaders or activities at the youth theatre. If you have an issue that concerns you, we would expect you to use the process given in the letter provided with this contract to deal with it rather than social media. We have a duty to protect our members and volunteers from all forms of bullying. If we feel that a youth theatre member or their parent or guardian breaches this rule then the youth theatre member may lose their place in HYT.
6. When a member commits to being in a show they are then built into the planning of the performance and getting the show on stage. This has obvious cost implications: Costume, set build, props hire, script hire etc... **Should a member drop out (or miss three sessions without reason therefore forfeiting their place) during the rehearsal period then they made be liable to pay costs** towards these. Particularly the cost of costumes which are often designed and made by our team of wardrobe volunteers specifically for each cast member.
7. The cost of membership is £5 per month paid by direct debit.