

Youth Circus Parent/Guardian Pack 2017

Welcome

This leaflet is designed to give you information regarding our Youth Circus Programme, and should be read in addition to our Community Class Members Pack.

NoFit State Circus was founded in 1986 by five friends. Over the years we have grown and developed and now run an education youth circus programme, adult classes and outreach programmes, all alongside our award winning international touring circus.

We are delighted your child has come to join the circus!

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What we need from parents/guardians:

- You must pre-pay for your child, this is essential for us to be able to estimate teacher to student ratios.
- If your child arrives without payment we will endeavor to contact you to pay over the phone, if we cannot reach you, We will require your child to sit out of the class until collection.
- Parents/guardians have full responsibility of the child until the children/young people are called into class.
- The trainers take on a duty of care during the scheduled class time.
- You must remain with your child until the class begins. (jedis signed off 'To Arrive/leave allow are the exception to this rule) this section is available in the Youth Circus ICE PAR-Q form.
- To collect your child promptly from class. If you're running late please call Reception to let them know. If you are consistently late to collect your child then we reserve the right to ask you not to attend.
- If the adult collecting your child isn't you, the reception/ trainers must be informed.
- To ensure your contact details and other information are up to date.
- To understand our refund policy. All class or workshop fees are non-refundable, unless the class is cancelled by us. If your child is unable to attend due illness or injury it is at our discretion that a postponement will be offered where possible. A £10 administration fee maybe charged.

What we need from your child:

- For your child to wear appropriate clothing. Tracksuit bottoms with a t-shirt, either fitted or one you are able to tuck in are ideal as well as a long sleeved top/hoodie. Combat trousers, baggy clothing, shorts and trousers with pockets on the side of the leg are not suitable for these activities. If children do want to wear a skirt, please ensure they wear leggings as well.
- To have a plastic bottle of water (no other food or drinks are allowed in the space).

Before the class begins:

- Arrive before your class is due to start, let Reception know you're here and what class you are attending.
- Sign the relevant sign in sheet.
- Let Reception know and provide contact details of who will be collecting your children if you're not collecting yourself.
- Encourage a toilet stop on the way to the session.
- Wait until the trainer is ready to collect your child before your child enters the training space.

Water bottles can be stored with their shoes or taken into the space.

While the class is on:

- We understand that if it is the child's first class there may need to be a settling in period. We encourage parents/guardians to discuss any concerns they have regarding separation issues with the child's trainer. We would hope after the first or second class that any anxieties the child may have had have passed, but we will obviously assess as needed.
- Once they are happy we ask parents to leave and return at the pick-up time. The reason we do not encourage parent viewing is that we want to create a safe nurturing environment for the children, so they can try new things without the sense of an audience. We will have regular sharing opportunities so you can see the skills they develop.

After the class please make sure you:

- You are in time to collect your child. If you are going to be late, contact Reception at the earliest opportunity. If you are consistently late to collect your child then we reserve the right to ask you not to attend.
- Take the opportunity to chat with the trainer, if needed, on how your child/ren is/are doing.

Bursaries

As a charity we strive to keep our classes accessible to all. We have a limited number of bursary. If financing your child/ren's classes is a concern you can apply for a bursary by going to the Bursaries link in the Useful Contacts and Links section on our website.

http://www.nofitstate.org/community/bursaries?_ga=2.101465601.1853202623.1501261232-240891711.1477060013

We welcome the offer of supporting a bursary place for another child. Please email bethan@nofitstate.org.

Supporting your child's circus adventure

We are a charity and donations help to develop the programme we can deliver. You can donate at <http://www.nofitstate.org/support>.

Safeguarding

We have a Safeguarding, Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy in place, a Safeguarding Officer and methods/procedures to ensure that you child is looked after whilst in our care.

Stay in the loop

The Head of Youth Circus & Dedicated trainers will be available after class to discuss any concerns. Please keep us in the loop before the class of any health or emotional issues your child may be experiencing and feedback to Head of Youth Circus about what the child is enjoying or is not enjoying. We endeavor to accommodate an individual's needs and development.

There is a regular emailed community newsletter so you can stay in touch with what's going on. Please sign up to be kept up to date, just fill in the boxes at the bottom of our website.

Photography and filming

On the Youth Circus ICE PAR-Q form there is section for permission for us to use photos. We ask that parents do not share any photos or videos on social media of any classes, workshops or performances.

Circus Birthday Parties

We offer circus birthday parties! For more information, please follow the link on our website.

Career Development

We have a successful record of helping former Youth Circus participants to gain further education places and careers in circus and the arts. Keep us updated of your child's circus career aspirations as we will help in this as much as we can.

Feedback

We welcome your feedback and encourage conversation between parents, children and trainers. If you have any concerns, you can speak in confidence to any of our Contacts listed below.

Useful Contacts and Links

Contacts

Community Programme Manager – Kate Parry	kate@nofitstate.org
Head of Youth Circus - Olga Kaleta	YouthCircus@nofitstate.org
Programme Administrator – John Hosken	ProgrammeAdmin@nofitstate.org
Safeguarding Officer – Jo Richmond	jo@nofitstate.org
Reception – Beth, Jen, Jo, Leaf and Rachel	receptioncover@nofitstate.org

Policies

All our policies are available on request.

Safeguarding, Child and Vulnerable Adults Protection Policy

Antibullying Policy

Cancelation/Refund Policy

Links

Feedback <http://www.nofitstate.org/community/community-feedback>

Bursary Application <http://www.nofitstate.org/community/bursaries>

Circus Birthday Parties <http://www.nofitstate.org/community/childrens-birthday-parties-0>

We hope you enjoy your time with NoFit State!

Best wishes,

Olga Kaleta

Head of Youth