
TITLE: BABES IN ARMS POLICY

NEXT REVIEW: October 2026

Children at the Ballet

Ballet is a wonderful introduction to the world of beauty that is live performance. We love it when children attend Royal New Zealand Ballet performances.

Every child is different, and whether they're old enough to enjoy a performance depends on a range of factors, including whether they can sit quietly in their own seat for two hours, the start and finish time of the ballet and the type of ballet being performed. You might also like to consider whether your child will be comfortable sitting in the dark, and how they might react to music when they can't control the volume.

Generally, we recommend children are at least six years old, but it depends on the production and the child. Story ballets based on fairy tales can be enjoyed by pre-schoolers and our Tutus on Tour and children's ballet performances are suitable for all ages. This is at a parent or guardian's discretion: you know your child better than anyone!

Information on individual ballets - including descriptions, the duration, and any notes about adult themes - are available on our website [here](#) - and you are always welcome to contact us by emailing enquiry@rnzb.org.nz for advice about suitability before making a booking.

Babes in Arms Policy

"Mainstage" Performances: All patrons, irrespective of age, require their own ticket for admittance, including infants who may need to sit on a guardian's knee during the performance. We ask that you be considerate of the needs of the surrounding audience if you intend to bring a baby or small child to the theatre.

"Tutus on Tour" or Children's Ballet Performances: Children under two years of age are admitted free of charge and must sit on the lap of the accompanying adult.

Consider selecting an aisle seat when bringing your children in case a quick exit is needed for an unavoidable visit to the bathroom, or for a talkative or restless child. Anyone of any age creating a disturbance will be asked to leave the auditorium.

As a courtesy, we wish to inform you that there are no refunds or exchanges if you must leave the theatre because your child was unhappy or disruptive. If you have special seating requirements, please book your tickets by phone or in person so that you can talk through the options that will help to make your visit to the theatre an enjoyable one.