

# **Guidelines on the appropriate adult to young person ratios for workshops and performances**



## **Children aged under 8 years**

Children under 8 years will not normally be involved in BYT activities. However, if you are working with children under the age of 8 you should provide staffing ratios of one adult per 8 children for regular youth theatre activity. BYT guidance in working with children under 8 years is to have a maximum of 20 children in any one group.

## **Children and young people aged eight and over**

There is no actual legislation on this for young people over the age of 8. The following are guidelines only and are based on BYT's understanding of the activity taking place.

### **Children aged 8 to 11 years**

NAYT recommends that for regular youth theatre activity (ie rehearsal or workshop) you have a ratio of 1 adult to 12 children and a maximum group size of 20. If you are taking children aged 8 to 11 on an outing, trip or any environment which is not where their usual activity takes place (excluding residential), the ratio should be 1 adult to 6 children.

BYT encourages senior participants to take part in Leadership Training and assist with junior groups.

### **Young people aged 11 to 18 years**

BYT recommends that for regular youth theatre activity you have a ratio of 1 adult to 15 young people with a maximum group size of 25.

It is good practice that a minimum of 2 adults are present at all times regardless of the group size. Clearly, this is not always possible. However, it may be appropriate to have a parent or other volunteer helper 'on call'.