

Age Guidance for Event Submission

To appropriately set audience expectations, our Festival categorises events into eight different age bands. We've created this guide to use as a reference when deciding the age band for your event.

2–4 years

Events suitable for 2–4 years will be primarily hands-on and play-based, and should be designed to allow young children and their families to engage together.

Consider using very simple language, minimal text and kit and materials which can be used by children independently or collaboratively with a grown-up.

5–7 years

Events suitable for 5–7 years will be primarily hands-on and play-based activities, workshops or shows which consider the language capabilities and attention spans of younger children.

Consider using language which reflects the Early and First levels of the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence. Any text should be written using language suitable for younger children, while kit and materials should be suitable for independent use.

7–11 years

Events suitable for 7–11 years may be hand-on activities, workshops, shows and presentations which consider the language capabilities and attention spans of children, while also introducing more complex concepts using simple explanations.

Consider using language which reflects the First level of the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence. Kit and materials should be suitable for independent use.

8–12 years

Events suitable for 8–12 years will be hands-on activities, workshops, shows and presentations which consider the language capabilities of children, while also introducing more complex concepts. Hands-on elements can include opportunities for independent, self-directed exploration.

Consider using language which reflects the First and Second level of the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence. Kit and materials should be suitable for independent use

Teens

Events suitable for teen audiences will be hands-on activities or workshops, shows and presentations which consider the language capabilities of young people, while also introducing more complex concepts. These can be longer experiences. Hands-on elements can include opportunities for independent, self-directed exploration.

Consider using language which reflects the Third and Fourth level and Senior Phase of the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence. Kit and materials should be suitable for independent use.

Adults and young people

These events are aimed at general adult audiences, but should be suitable for people aged 12+ who may attend with a parent or guardian. As there may be young people in attendance, please be mindful of content and language from a safeguarding perspective.

Over 18s only

These events should be aimed at a general adult audience and will be marketing as 18+. All events contained alcohol or adult themes will be sold as 18+.

All ages

These events should be suitable for family audiences. Our main family Festival audience comprises families with children under the age of 10. Content complexity should be aimed at a knowledge level of approximately 8–10 years to ensure audiences feel able to engage with the concepts.

Events suitable for all ages should have capacity for interactivity to allow for younger audience members to participate. It is important to remember that adults without children may also engage with these events.