Neurodiverse Friendly: Zen Garden

From January 2022 as part of our commitment to try and meet the needs of all children, we are pleased to offer bookable slots for Creative Play for children and families with neurodiverse conditions.

These 25 minute slots are free but prebooked and are designed to be for one family group at a time where the child (or their grown-up) has a neurodiverse condition and would benefit from a closed creative play session. This might mean that the lights and sound are lowered or that some of the sound effects are more predictable, it might just mean that the session only has that family in so you can investigate the space in your own time

Getting here:

The address is The Hullabaloo, Borough Road, Darlington, DL1 1SG

Parking:

The entrance to The Hullabaloo is on Borough Road. There are some short stay car parking spaces on Borough Road and the streets that come from it (Melland Street, Sanderson Street and Middleton Street).

Alternatively, there's a carpark just behind the theatre off Brunswick Street, that is £2 for 4 hours or £3.20 for 12 hours. This carpark uses the Connect Cashless Mobile App to pay and the code for that carpark is displayed clearly.





Other carparks include one on Hird Street and Park Place West which are council run.

These are £4 per day or £1 per hour.

The machines accept cash, card or contactless payments.

Note that these carparks are over a busy road with a traffic light crossing opposite the entrance to Darlington Hippodrome.

When you arrive:

Please arrive 5-10 minutes before your chosen slot

Press the doorbell so staff can let you inside.

The doors will open outwards so step back.



As you go through the main doors you step into the café space.

The café will be open for families / groups who are booked onto these sessions. You will be able to purchase hot and cold drinks and light snacks.

The Hullabaloo and the café space will be closed to the general public during this time.





The creative play space is through the grey double doors straight ahead of you as you enter The Hullabaloo



Hullabaloo Host

This is Catherine, our Hullabaloo Host. Catherine will be on hand during your visit to help with anything that you may need to make your visit more comfortable. Look out for Catherine in our blue Hullabaloo t shirt.

Zen Garden

Behind the grey doors is our creative play space, Zen Garden.

Zen Garden is Zen Garden is a play adventure inspired by the peace and calm of the natural world.



inside this space you will find activities for you and your group to enjoy together for 25 minutes at a time. These include:

Sandpit

Explore the texture and play with the sand, creating patterns together.



Projection screen

Dance with the flowers and create rainbows in our interactive projection where you make it happen.



Stepping stones

Dance and move amongst the grass and step over the stones, can you hear the birds tweet?

Toilets:

There is one accessible toilet available in The Hullabaloo and more available directly next door at Darlington Hippodrome. These accessible toilets have space for a wheelchair but do not have hoists in place. Other toilets are available at The Hullabaloo.



Space:

Please speak to Catherine our Hullabaloo Host if you need a quiet space during your visit and we would be happy to accommodate.

If you have any further questions or queries, please contact us on 01325 405680 or info@theatrehullabaloo.org.uk