

Social Story

You're going to see Rumpelstiltskin!

Rumpelstiltskin is a pantomime. A pantomime is a show filled with talking, dancing, singing and lots of laughter. It is very lively and the audience get to join in by clapping, shouting, booing and singing along. The people on the stage are called actors. The actors will tell the story by talking, singing and dancing.

This story will tell you about some of the things which will happen on stage which might surprise you or trigger a sensory response. It won't spoil the plot, don't worry!

The show is being performed at The Met. The Met is a theatre and music venue in the centre of Bury. You can see lots of information about the venue and what to expect elsewhere on our website.

You will enter the building through the front doors, if you need to pick up tickets you can do this at the Ticket Office and then head up the stairs on the left-hand side, getting your ticket scanned by one of our stewards on the way up.

Someone will help show you where your seat is at the doors to Derby Hall, where the show is taking place.

There are several announcements over the loudspeaker that will tell you how long there is until the show begins.

Once you have taken your seat, when it is time for the show to start the lights in the audience will go darker and you will hear a message on the loudspeakers telling you that the show is starting.

When the show starts you will hear music and singing. If it is too loud then you can cover your ears with your hands. If you have ear defenders you can wear these. You can also ask for a pair at the Ticket Office.

There will also be some bright lights. If it is too bright you can cover your eyes. You can also ask to move to a different seat where the lights might be less bright.

You can leave the Main House if you want to at any point and sit in the Bar area which is our special quiet area. There might be other people in this room.

Rumpelstiltskin will be brought to life by a talented cast of six... Here are their faces when they're not in their costumes.



Andrew Truluck: Winnie the Warden



Lauren Wilson: Cupid



Charlie Hodgkinson: Rumpelstiltksin



Sophie Trueman: *Maria*



Toby West: Badges



Josh Radcliffe: Prince Dierdrick

ACT ONE

At the very start of the show you will hear an evil laugh which will be accompanied by some flashing lights.

Sometimes, the actors will enter from behind you and come through the audience. It shouldn't give you a jump scare as the entrances are usually very gentle. On one occasion there is also an exit through the audience.

In the first scene of the show, there are two effects called 'pyrotechnics'. This is when a small explosion happens on stage. Don't be scared! This is very controlled and very small, you'll just see a small flash of light and a hear a bang. They happen on the corner of the set on both the left and the right to signal Rumpelstiltskin's first entrance and Cupid's first entrance.

There is an arch around the front portion of the stage which occasionally flashes with either white or green lights. This tends to happen around the time of a Rumpelstiltskin entrance or something creepy and magical happening!

Sometimes 'Blackouts' happen where the stage becomes all dark. The first of these happens after Cupid's 'Made you Look' song. Subsequent ones happen...

After Dierdrick says 'That doesn't mean we can't fall in love' in the first scene between Dierdrick and Maria.

After the song 'Maria' (which is a blackout followed by some flashing lights).

This is a puppet called Binbags! He pops up at various different interludes during the show and is a hand puppet operated by a human underneath the piece of set.

During the show at various different moments including some of the songs, the cast will invite the audience to join in. At these points it will get louder in the audience so pop your ear defenders of if you need them.

One of the biggest audience interaction scenes happens towards the end of Act One where Winnie and Badges lead the 'Sausages Song'.

At the beginning of scene four, Badges comes out with a school bell and rings it twice. This will be quite loud and might make you by surprise.

There is a thunder crack in the scene where Maria makes her deal with Rumpelstiltskin.

Every Pantomime features a scene called a 'Slosh' scene. This is where some of the characters make a big mess with something that they are doing on stage. Ours comes a few scenes away from the end of Act One and features Winnie and Badges in the kitchen. During this scene, they come out into the audience with big water pistols and shoot water.

At the Interval the lights will go down and a voiceover will come on telling you how long your break is, this is very loud to make sure that everyone can hear it.

ACT TWO

There is one more firework after the song 'Are you ready for a miracle?' but it doesn't make a bang, it is just like a fountain.



Watch out for the giant hedgehog!

More blackouts happen in Act Two including after the Hedgehog scene and when Rumpel leaves to rescue baby Gretchen.

Rumpel fights a BIG SCARY SPIDER!



At the end of the show there is what's called a 'Walkdown' and Curtain Call where the characters all come back on stage and take their final bows.

There is usually loud music during this moment and some encouragement to the audience to participate, sing along, clap loudly etc.

The room will get very busy and hectic when the audience is able to leave. The lights will come up and people will start to leave their seats. If this is likely to get overwhelming for you, we would advise you to wait in your seat until most of the audience have left. Feel free to also let a member of staff know if you feel like you will need any help with exiting the room or the building.