



Dynamite Young Inspection Report

Relaxed Performance of *Aladdin* - Kings Theatre, Southsea

Date: Thursday 11th December

Venue: Kings Theatre, Southsea

Website: <https://www.kingsportsmouth.co.uk/>

- **Young Inspectors:** Ashley, Lucy, Emma
- **Support:** Michelle, Karen, Lisa

Overview

Dynamite attended the relaxed performance of *Aladdin* at the Kings Theatre, Southsea. The relaxed performance aimed to provide an inclusive and welcoming environment for people with additional needs. Young Inspectors shared feedback on accessibility, staff, safety and surroundings, and fun and enjoyment.

Website & Information

- The website was user-friendly and easy to navigate.
- The 'Access Information' section was clear, detailed, and very helpful.
- Information helped Young Inspectors and supporters feel prepared before attending.

Accessibility

- The relaxed performance was thoughtfully delivered.
- Lighting and noise levels were well managed. With ear defenders, the noise level was perfect for Lucy.

- Sensory packs (ear defenders, resistance bands, and fidget toys) were a great idea and very helpful.
- The cast coming on stage at the start to explain the characters was a positive and well-received feature.
- Characters warning the audience about the ghost helped reduce anxiety, especially as Lucy does not like ghosts.

Toilet facilities:

- The male toilets were somewhat accessible.
- There was a step that could easily be tripped over if you were not aware it was there.
- Long queues suggested there may not be enough toilet facilities, and accessibility could be improved.

Seating:

- Seats were very close together, with limited leg room, which caused discomfort.
- This was the main negative comment from Young Inspectors.

Staff

- Staff were friendly, approachable, and very helpful.
- They were understanding of relaxed performances and individual needs.
- Staff support helped everyone feel welcomed and comfortable.

Young Inspector feedback:

“The staff was friendly and very helpful.”

Safety & Surroundings

- The theatre felt welcoming and well organised.
- A key concern raised was fire safety, as the close seating arrangement could make evacuating everyone safely in an emergency difficult.
- While we understand this may be challenging to address, it is a genuine concern.
- Exits were clearly marked, and staff were visible throughout the venue.

Fun & Enjoyment

- The show was described as amazing, colourful, and engaging.
- Young Inspectors found the performance very enjoyable and a good distraction.
- The relaxed atmosphere allowed people to react freely without feeling judged.
- The bar area felt small for the size of the theatre, but the addition of sensory resources was a positive and calming feature.

Young Inspector feedback:

“Overall the show was amazing. I found it really enjoyable and it was a good distraction.”

Overall Feedback

The relaxed performance of Aladdin at the Kings Theatre was enjoyable, inclusive, and thoughtfully planned. Positive highlights included clear access information, friendly staff, sensory packs, adjusted lighting and sound, and character introductions that helped reduce anxiety.

Some concerns remain around seating comfort, leg room, toilet accessibility, trip hazards, and fire safety during an emergency. Despite these issues, the overall experience was very positive, and Young Inspectors felt welcomed, supported, and able to enjoy the show.



