

NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE

Young Chorus needed for *Sleeping Beauty*

This year's Nottingham Playhouse pantomime is *Sleeping Beauty* which will be written and directed by Adam Penford, Nottingham Playhouse's Artistic Director. Adam will be working with an exciting creative team including Cleo Pettitt, who is designing fabulous sets and costumes for the show, and John Morton, the Playhouse Panto's legendary Musical Director.

We are looking for young performers from Nottingham and the local surrounding area, and who reflect the rich diversity of our city, to form our Young Chorus. The Chorus will perform alongside the professional actors in the panto.

To apply, you must be aged between 9 and 15 years old as of Saturday 25 October 2025 and be available in Nottingham for rehearsals and performances from 3 November 2025 to 17 January 2026. You don't need any prior performance experience – just energy, enthusiasm and commitment.

We are holding a workshop audition day on **Sunday 15 June 2025** to select two teams of six young people, plus two reserves, to appear onstage as the Young Chorus. The reserves will be on standby to cover within each team and also have two guaranteed performances.

Please read the following information carefully. To apply, you will need to complete the application form online.

Please note that there are limited places available for the workshop audition. If audition slots become full before the closing date, we will start a waiting list.

The closing date to apply is **Sunday 25 May 2025 at 5pm.**

To avoid disappointment, please check that you fulfil the requirements below before applying. You must not fall outside the age span specified, or you will not be able to obtain a performance licence.

Requirements

- You must be aged between 9 years old (on or before Saturday 25 October 2025) and 15 years old (16th Birthday to be on or after 17 January 2026) to apply. This is due to Child Performer licensing regulations.
- As a member of the Chorus, no fee is payable for taking part but travel expenses of £6 per day can be claimed for each day you attend costume fittings, rehearsals and performances.

Workshop Details

The audition workshop will be on **Sunday 15 June from 9.30am – 4pm**. First round dance and acting auditions will be in the morning, in group slots from 9am, and recalls will take place in the afternoon from 1.45pm. **You must be available during the full day to attend the slots you are allocated.** If you are not available on Sunday 15 June, we are sorry to say you can't audition for the panto this year.

At the workshop you will work with Rosie (our Choreographer) on various drama and movement exercises.

Please wear comfortable clothes like jogging bottoms and trainers and bring a soft drink.

We will allocate your Sunday 15 June morning workshop slot on a first-come, first-served basis, and you will be notified of the audition time after the closing date, by email.

After your morning slot on Sunday 15 June, you will be told whether you have been recalled. If you are recalled, you must attend again in the afternoon. There will be a gap between morning and afternoon sessions. Final selections will take place after the recalls.

You will receive notification of whether you have been given a place in the Chorus by email in the week after the audition day.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals will be held at Nottingham Playhouse as follows:

- Saturday 25 October 2025, 10am-1pm
- From the week of Monday 3 November 2025, there will be rehearsals held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings and some Friday/Saturdays. A full rehearsal schedule will be circulated to successful applicants closer to the time.

In the week of Monday 24 November there will be both daytime and evening technical and dress rehearsals and the opening performances.

Performances will run between Friday 28 November 2025 – Saturday 17 January 2026. Performances will be shared between the two teams. If there is illness or absence, we may call on the two reserves – so the reserve team members are also vitally important!

The full schedule will be available during the rehearsal period. **Children taking part in the panto must be available in Nottingham for all rehearsals and their designated performances. We will not be able to accommodate holiday absences.**

School Absence

It will be necessary to take some time off school for rehearsal during the days leading up to opening night and also for some performances, so your child must be educationally able to miss some schooling. Parents of successful applicants will need to seek written permission from the head teacher for school absence.

Nottingham Playhouse will also contact your child's school as part of the process.

Licensing

Each child taking part requires a performance licence, which Nottingham Playhouse will coordinate. A licence application pack will be sent to successful candidates following the audition. Please note that we will need a copy of the child's birth certificate or passport as proof of their date of birth for their licence application.

Chaperoning

We have a team of professional chaperones who will be looking after the teams of children during the production.

Please note, if the young performer has access requirements, and would need additional support to be part of the Young Chorus, please let us know as part of the application. Should the application be successful, we would work with the young person and their parents/guardians to support the young person's participation.

How to apply

Please fill in the online application form online [HERE](#) by **5pm on Sunday 25 May 2025.**

Please also attach a head and shoulders photo of the applicant to the application form. This does not need to be a professional photo, it could be a clear photo taken with a smart phone.

If you have any questions

Please contact Leila Glen, Trainee Producer at Nottingham Playhouse by emailing pantochorus@nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk