



## Pre-show guide to **The Lightless Pumpkin Returns**

This guide explains a bit more about what to expect on your trip to see **The Lightless Pumpkin Returns**, a family musical by She Productions.



### **Each performance:**

- Begins in the East Riding Theatre café bar.
- Leads the audience around the outside of the building, guided by our friendly staff to Beverley Library. Approximately 100m walk on pavements.
- Finishes back at East Riding Theatre café bar.
- Has live music played by the actors on a guitar, piano and banjolele.
- Uses colourful decorations & gentle sounds to add to the Halloween atmosphere.
- Has a 'Calming Pumpkin Patch', a safe space located just off the café bar where you are welcome to visit at any time if you need a bit of quiet.

### **Encourages you to:**

- Talk to each other
- Wiggle & fidget if you feel like it.
- Take time out if you need to - Enjoy yourself!

## Area 1- 'Pumpkin Patch'

East Riding Theatre Café bar



## Area 2- 'Vegetable Patch'

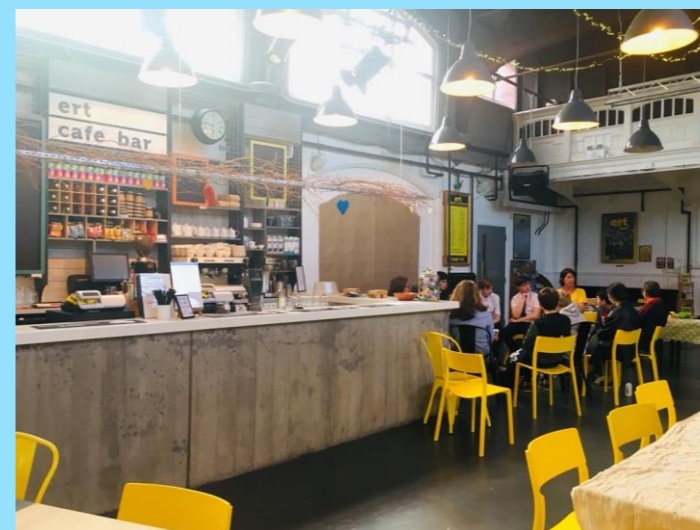
Around the outside of East Riding Theatre to the Children's Area in Beverley Library



The theatre staff and cast lead the audience to each location.

## Area 3- 'Snail Patch'

East Riding Theatre Café bar



**We understand that some people like to know exactly what to expect before they visit the theatre, so be aware that if you do read on there will be some spoilers.**

**If you are leaving us now, then we look forward to seeing you at the show!  
Feel free to contact us at [admin@sheproductions.co.uk](mailto:admin@sheproductions.co.uk) for any further info.**

### **When you arrive:**

If you haven't printed your tickets at home, head to the box office located in the café bar to collect them. Hold onto these as you will need them to start your Pumpkin Adventure.

Seating in the café bar is unallocated so find somewhere to sit, grab a drink or snack from the bar & relax.

We encourage the younger audience members to sit on the blankets & carpet on the floor but choose wherever makes you feel comfortable.





**It is time for the show to begin.**

## Patch 1- 'Pumpkin Patch'

**We have a cast of 3 actors who will narrate the story as well as playing lots of different characters. They will use costume & different voices so that you know when they have changed character.**

Our story is about the Lightless Pumpkin, Benny BanShe, Bonny BanShe, Ray BanShe.



**Benny Banshee-** Quiet & thoughtful, you will always find Benny with her head in a new novel.

**Bonny Banshee-** twin sister to Benny, she is always buzzing with energy. She loves adventures and dreams of being a Ninja one day.

**Ray Banshee-** Bonny & Benny's younger brother. Ray LOVES Halloween and everything about it especially the pumpkins!

We start our adventure with a song '**Meet the BanShes**' sung by Bonny and Benny, but not everything goes to plan when Benny interrupts Bonny. The twins get into an argument about who is better, Benny with her books or Bonny with her tales of adventure.

The song eventually carries on, but it is interrupted again by Ray who is so excited about her favourite time of year: Halloween.

The three siblings get ready for the Pumpkin procession, an event where all pumpkins are lit and proudly displayed to 'Light up the night'. But Bonny's Pumpkin won't light up, she starts to cry and wail. The sisters don't know what to do, so they decide to tell a story: The Lightless Pumpkin Returns. The siblings argue about who has to play the pumpkin, Ray is finally chosen.

The story begins and The Lightless Pumpkin is introduced: a runaway pumpkin who doesn't fit in. He used to be anxious about what the other Pumpkins thought of him but now he has realised that it is good to be different and he goes around helping others to embrace their difference.



Ray leaves the café bar, as the Pumpkin, and the twins gather everyone and explain the Pumpkin Halloween rules:  
**Number 1-** when we shout 'Grab a Grown-up' all the children must grab their grown-up's hand as quickly as they can!  
**Number 2-** When we say 'Pumpkin Smile' everyone should make a big semi-circle around the actors.

The twins lead everybody on an adventure to the next magical patch, the Vegetable patch!

**We will remain in the 'Pumpkin Patch' for approximately 15 minutes**

## Patch 2- 'The Vegetable Patch'

**It is time to go on an adventure to find The Lightless Pumpkin, we must go via Patch 2, 'The vegetable patch'. Our journey 'The Pumpkin Procession' will last approximately 5 minutes.**

As we enter the Vegetable Patch we meet the Lightless Pumpkin once more, who shares with the BanShe's that meeting new friends helped him overcome his sadness.

The Lightless Pumpkin invites everyone to join in his special song. Towards the end of the song we meet Clarice Cucumber, a campaigner and activist for ethical chopping of fruit and veg and Tulula Tomato, a tap dancing, trampolining, amateur actor.

They ask the Lightless Pumpkin to help them as the snails have invaded the Vegetable patch and are eating all the Pumpkins, and without the Pumpkins the Halloween Pumpkin party will be ruined!

The Lightless Pumpkin decides to help and leads the way back to the 'Snail Patch' at the East Riding Theatre.



**We will remain in the 'Vegetable Patch' for approximately 15 minutes.**

## Patch 3- 'Snail Patch'

**It is time to go and help the Vegetables from the Snail invasion at 'The Snail patch'.**

**Our journey 'The Pumpkin Procession' will last approximately 5 minutes and head back to East Riding Theatre Café Bar.**



Stepping into the Snail Patch we first meet Sylvie and Cyril Snail who begin their 'Snail' rap and encourage everyone to join in.

The Lightless Pumpkin puts on a loud, scary voice to get the attention of the Snails. The snails explain that they did not mean to do anything wrong and invade the patch. They had escaped from France, looking for a better life where they won't be cooked and eaten. They were so hungry that they ate the Pumpkins without thinking.

They realise they want to change and say they are sorry and sing with each other.

Each character realises they can all live together; it just takes a bit of teamwork and respect.

**Our adventure around the whole Pumpkin patch will last approximately 45 minutes.**