

Frequently Asked Questions

What performance spaces do you have at Smock Alley Theatre?

There are four performance spaces, the Main Theatre, the Studio Theatre, the Boys' School and the Banquet Hall.

The **Main Theatre** at present is a large and versatile black box space which can hold 200 people approximately. The **Studio Theatre** is a smaller space which holds approximately 80 people in raked seating. It is a black box space with two walls of exposed brick work. There are dressing rooms, a green room and toilet facilities with it.

The unusual **Boys' School** space can hold approximately 60 people. There are beautiful exposed brick walls and a sloping metal gangway, with a railing, that winds its way along the walls up to a second floor door. This gangway can be used for standing viewers.

The **Banquet Hall** is beautiful and impressive with an ornate plaster work ceiling, plastered walls and stained glass windows from the theatre's time as a church. There are wooden floors and oak tables and benches. It can hold 200 people approximately and its dimensions are - width 13M, length 25M, height 6.2M

When is the theatre available for hire?

The Boys' School and Studio Theatre are available for weekly hire for performances between 1100 and 2300 from Sunday to Saturday. The Banquet Hall is available for day-time hire for conferences and events between 0900 and 1800 from Monday to Sunday. The Main Theatre is currently undergoing refurbishment and is not available for hire, but exceptions can be requested.

Are there limits on how the spaces can be used?

No, Smock Alley Theatre operates flexible and versatile performance spaces and technical support is offered to ensure the space can be utilised to the full.

How do we access the space?

All three performance spaces are accessible from Exchange Street Lower, Dublin 8. We have a fully accessible front-of-house area: toilets and theatres are all at foyer level or accessible by ramp. Please indicate if you or anyone in the party needs any other access requirements with which we can help.

Do you have a rehearsal room?

The performance spaces can be hired for rehearsal at a rehearsal rate.

Can TV/film production companies hire the space for filming?

Filming can be carried out in our theatres, foyer and backstage areas with permission from management.

Do you have special rates for registered charities?

No; as a registered charity ourselves we feel we have made our rates as fair as possible.

Can you sell tickets for my event?

No, Smock Alley Theatre does not currently provide box office facilities. We can recommend a number of box office service providers to your company.

Central Ticket Bureau – www.ctb.ie or 0818 205 205
Ticket Master – www.ticketmaster.ie or 01 6486000

Do you have bar facilities?

No, we currently do not have bar facilities. Smock Alley Theatre has a public music and singing licence which allows alcohol to be served on the premises but not to be sold. Part of the current refurbishment plans will include a theatre bar where alcohol will be sold before and after a performance in the theatre.

Do you provide catering for events?

Smock Alley Theatre can organise catering for your event if required. Currently, we are happy to recommend Silk Road Café (situated at Chester Beatty Library, Dublin Castle, Dublin 2, examples of their catering packages are on this website) or you may source your own caterers subject to suitability.

Do you have green rooms and dressing rooms?

Yes, our Studio Theatre has a green room with kitchen facilities and a male and female dressing room. Both dressing rooms have toilet and shower facilities, and are equipped with mirrors and lighting. The Boys' School and Banquet Hall currently do not have green rooms or dressing rooms, however, it is intended to provide these as part of the refurbishment plans.

How many toilets do you have?

Our Studio Theatre has ladies, gents and wheelchair accessible toilets. Our Boys' School and Banquet Hall share ladies and gents toilets and are wheelchair accessible.

Do you have a foyer area?

The Studio Theatre has a foyer area with seating and room for box office set up. The Boys' School and Banquet Hall do not have a foyer area. However they do have adequate space to set up a box office area at the entrance to the space. We do not provide a coat rail or cloakroom.

What are the refurbishment plans?

The refurbishment has been split into three phases to make it more economically viable. We are currently completing the first phase.

Phase one will deliver the following:

1. Alley Theatre - 212 seats plus 52 standing positions. This space will have access from Essex Street West and the Quays at Exchange Street Lower.
2. Smock Alley Theatre - Studio. 95 seats.
3. Smock Alley Theatre - The Boys School. 70 standing positions.
4. Four studio and rehearsal spaces
5. A new home for the Gaiety School of Acting - The National Theatre School of Ireland
6. A new cultural tourism initiative based on the history of Smock Alley Theatre to include a museum visitor experience, a tour, an educational experience for schools and a popular summer theatre season.