

PLEASE NOTE: Due to licencing restrictions a performance fee cannot be paid to any child appearing in this production
Magna Vitae Productions at the Embassy Theatre Skegness:

The Wizard of Oz

Junior Chorus Auditions at the Embassy Theatre, Skegness

SUNDAY 21 September 2025

Registration will take place from **9.30am** in **The Embassy Theatre** foyer.

We aim to be finished no later than 2pm.

Please be prepared to wait onsite for your child but note that no parents/teachers will be permitted into the audition room.

Audition Day Information

- Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian for the duration of the auditions - designated waiting areas will be appointed.
- Magna Vitae and The Embassy Theatre Ltd cannot be held responsible for any child not accompanied by a responsible adult while at the auditions.
- Children must be at least **9 years old** and in **year 4** of school on the **first day of rehearsals** (29 November 2025) and no older than **16** and in **year 11** on the last day of the performances (29 December 2025).

If your child is 16 but NOT in year eleven by the first performance, then unfortunately they will not be able to audition.

NOTE: if your child is above 150cm in height at the time of audition they will be unlikely to be selected – please do not let this put you/them off from auditioning but – if not selected - do make them aware that the storyline of this show calls for shorter/younger chorus members to play *Munchkins*.

Audition Guidelines

- Please wear comfortable clothing and suitable shoes (ideally jazz or ballet shoes please)
- Avoid shiny leotards if possible as the identification stickers tend to fall off these. Please do not wear logo'd "Dance school" T-shirts to audition
- Please tie long hair back.
- Make sure your child has a soft drink with them (not fizzy) and slow energy release foods for snacks. Please ensure your child has had something to eat before they audition as the auditions may take a few hours to complete.
- Should your child be asthmatic, have allergies or any other condition which may require medication, please ensure they have this with them.

How the audition day works

- The children will be taught a dance routine on the day and do not need to prepare anything in advance.
- The audition will be in two parts (*NB – this may change dependent on the number of auditionees*).
- All children will be auditioned in the first session. Those who are successful will be asked to stay on. Those children who are unsuccessful will be allowed to go home. **Please note all decisions are final.**
- Children asked to stay will be kept until the final cast are announced, unless you are advised otherwise on the day.
- Those children chosen for the panto chorus and their parents will be asked to stay after the audition sessions for a chat about licensing and panto guidelines.

What we are looking for

We are looking for 2 teams of up to 12 'junior' members (9-16yrs) to perform in the show and additional reserve team members.

- Each team will perform in half of the performances but will be required at every rehearsal.
- Throughout the day, the audition panel will be looking for able performers who show capability in terms of dance as well as performance ability, enthusiasm and the ability to follow instructions.

What is a reserve team member?

A reserve team member is effectively a standby for the main team.

- A reserve could be pulled into a main team at any time between audition day and the first technical rehearsal.
- A child may pull out of a main team for numerous reasons beyond anyone's control or foreseeing in which case a reserve will be contacted.
- Reserves are NOT called to rehearse the show and will not perform unless a main team member withdraws completely from the show.

If successful, what happens next?

Once we have decided upon our final children, those that are remaining will be split into 'main team' and 'reserve team' members. They will then be given some paperwork stating which team they're in.

To perform in the pantomime all children must be granted a performance licence.

A performance licence is a legal document that all children should be granted through their local council.

- Magna Vitae Productions will email the performance contract to parents which must be completed and returned by the deadline. Magna Vitae will then submit the application to the relevant authority.

Without a performance licence, a child will not be able to perform.

All children will be committed to rehearsals including weekend days and weekday evenings from **Saturday 29th November**. There will also be some daytime rehearsals during **w/c 8th December** (which does mean missing school). The show runs from 16th December to 29th December 2025 inclusive. There are **22 performances**. Your child **MUST** be available for the duration as no rehearsals or performances can be missed.

What impact will the pantomime have on school?

Some rehearsals and performances will be during school time and children must be educationally able to miss some schooling. The Head Teacher will be required to authorise the absences required for performance as part of the licence application. **If the Head Teacher will not authorise the absences, your child will be unable to perform.**

If successful at audition what will I wear?

Character costumes will be provided; these will be shared therefore only very minimal tailoring will be permitted. Sufficient undergarments must be worn beneath (dance leotard) you will be required to purchase one pair of dance shoes for the show, together with two pairs of tights. These will remain your child's property after the show has finished.

IMPORTANT NOTE -

If your child is taking part they must have a chaperone who will have care and control of them and be responsible for safeguarding.

If you are putting your child forward to audition – **you should be prepared to be a chaperone** for your child and others within the rehearsal and performance schedule.

This will require commitment to obtaining a licence.

Please be aware this may be a contributing factor in selection of the junior chorus.

We look forward to seeing you and your child at **9.30am on Sunday 21st September (no earlier please 😊)**
And... remind them to bring their best smile with them!