

# Social Story™

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## My In-Person Drama Class with Nashville Children's Theatre

This is Nashville Children's Theatre's Social Story for drama classes. A Social Story is a tool to help improve a child's understanding of expectations during an unfamiliar event and were originally designed to support students who are neurodivergent. However, this can be a useful tool for any student who is unsure about what to expect from a new experience. We are sharing this resource to make NCT classes inclusive for ALL students.



**Today is my first day of drama class! When we arrive at Nashville Children's Theatre (NCT), my grown-up will park in the parking lot, and I will get everything I need for the day out of the car to take with me inside. My grown-up and I will then line up at the podium. There may be other people here for class, too!**



ParkingLot

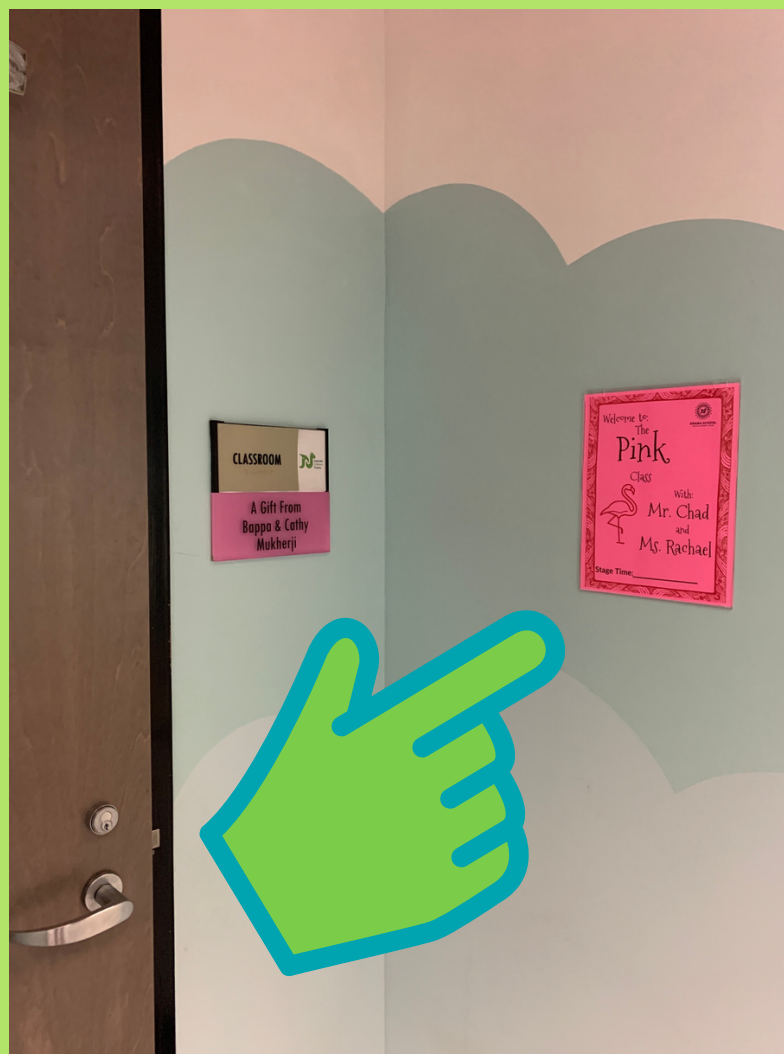


Sign-In Podium

When I am done at the sign-in podium, I will be sent to my classroom down the Education Hallway. I will be given a class color. I should try to look for the color of my class that matches the color of the glass pane outside the door and color above the door. There may be some arrows on the floor that match my class color as well. It is a long hallway so I may have to walk a little bit to get to my room.



Education Hallway



Glass Pane



Color Above Door

At NCT, I can wear a mask while I am in the building if I would like. If my mask breaks or I ever need help, I can ask someone with an NCT name badge for help. It will say their name, what they do at NCT, and the pronouns they would like me to use when I speak about them.



**In my class at NCT, there will be at least one Teaching Artist (TA). The TA leads the class and is the person in charge, just like a teacher at school. Sometimes they may use costumes, props, and puppets. There might also be sound effects and music used in class.**



**When I walk into the classroom, my TA will have something fun for me and my classmates to do while we wait for other students to arrive. This might be a game, craft, or class activity. This is a great time for me to try to get to know the other students in my class.**



There are some different spaces that I may visit while at NCT. Sometimes I may have part or all of class on stage, in a classroom, in the lobby, or even outside!



Lobby



Courtyard



Classroom



Stage

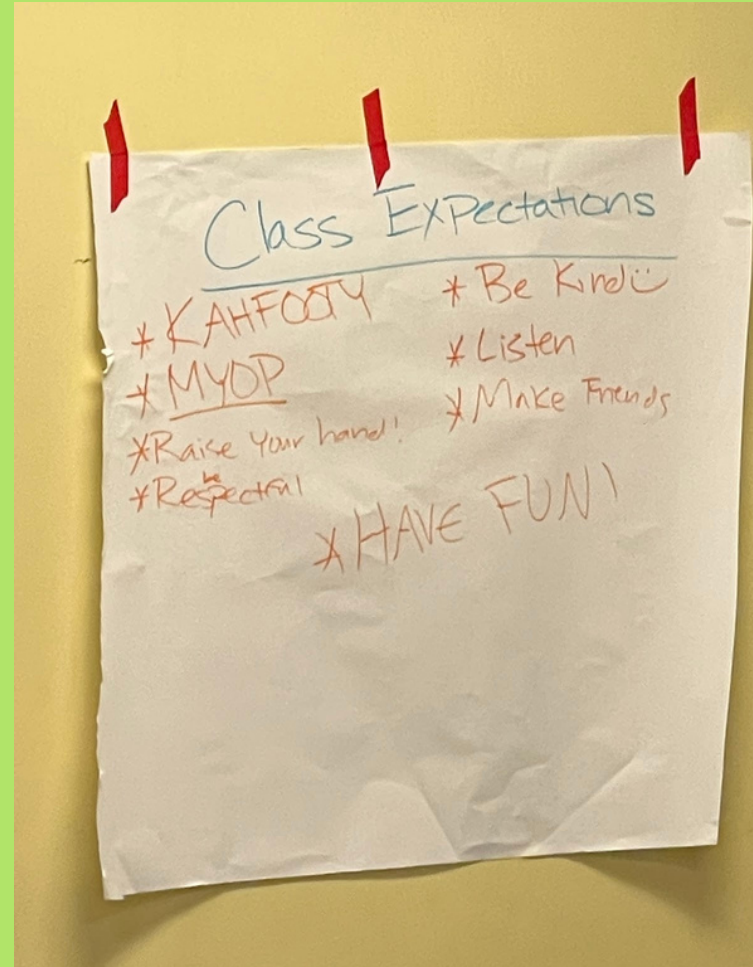


Rehearsal Hall



Upstairs Classroom

On the first day, my TA will tell the class the expectations of the classroom. These are the rules I should try and follow such as keeping my hands to myself, raising my hand when I want to speak, and being kind. My TA may remind us of expectations throughout class and may use an object, do an action or say something specific to get everyone's attention.





**If I have something to say or want to ask or answer a question, I need to raise my hand. The TA will call on me when it is my turn to speak. There might be times my TA doesn't call on me and that is okay. It is important that everyone has an equal turn to share, and my TA will try their best to make sure everyone gets to share their ideas. In order to work as a team, I need to try and listen to others' ideas.**



**My TA will lead the class and help us warm-up and use our bodies, voices, and imaginations (also known as our actor's toolbox). This may get loud as my class discovers their actor voices, but I can cover my ears if I want to. NCT also has noise-cancelling headphones available to me. If I need them, I can ask my TA.**



I am allowed and encouraged to try and have fun, be silly, and do new things. This might require me to be brave. If I get nervous, I can ask my TA for support and take a deep breath. If I get overwhelmed, there is a special place I can sit that NCT calls "the chill out corner." I can sit in the "chill out corner," rest, and watch class until I am ready to participate again.



**During class, I might be asked to use my brain to imagine going on a pretend adventure, act out a story from a picture book, or read from a script. My TA, classmates and I may pretend to be different characters. I will try my best to work with my classmates and focus so I can follow along with what my TA directs me to do.**



**When class is over, my TA will call my name, and I will walk out with my grown-up through the education hallway out the lobby doors. I might be back at NCT soon, as my class might meet more than once. Each class will be a little different from the last one.**



If I do another session after my first series of classes is complete, I might have a different TA with different classmates. I might recognize a game or person in my new class from before and that is okay. NCT loves having me in class and is **VERY** proud of me!



*Bravo*

# Questions?

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