



# Useful Organisations No.16: Polka Theatre

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Useful Organisations

Byline:

The UK's only permanent performance space for young audiences.

## Polka Theatre ? Where Theatre Begins?

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Polka Theatre is the UK's only theatre for young audiences with its own permanent performance space. Located in Wimbledon, Polka is known as a pioneer the world over and is currently celebrating its 21st birthday. Artistic Director Vicky Ireland has forged strong links with authors and a host of top names have either written specially commissioned plays, or else worked with Polka on adaptations of their books. Jacqueline Wilson, Jamila Gavin, Malorie Blackman, Michael Morpurgo and Allan Ahlberg have all recently had work staged at Polka. The theatre's schedule meets the needs of family and schools audiences, with two performances every day from Tuesday to Friday during term-time, as well as at weekends. Productions in Polka's main auditorium are generally suited to children aged 5-13, while the Adventure Theatre focuses on ages 3-5. Polka's Education Officer devises workshops for schools and a variety of courses are on offer during the school holidays.

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