

Dublin City Council **Bram Stoker Festival**

Stokerland Relaxed Session St. Patrick's Park

Stokerland is open Saturday 1 November 11:00am-4:30pm and Sunday 2 November 9:30am-4:30pm. All are welcome to attend.

We have programmed a **relaxed session of Stokerland** which is open to all and will take place from **9:30am - 12:00pm on Sunday 2 November.**

At the relaxed session, you can expect a tailored experience designed to welcome people who will benefit from a more relaxed environment, including people who identify as neurodiverse, people on the autistic spectrum, sensory and communication disorders, people with ADHD, ADD, tourettes, or with learning disabilities.

What is Stokerland?

Stokerland is a free, pop-up Victorian fun park for families and the eternally young.

With the stunning St. Patrick's Cathedral as a gothic backdrop, our ghoulish gathering features music, choirs, street theatre, a performance tent, free face-painting, a food market, storytelling and draw-alongs, bands, discos and dance parties, walkabout performers, art workshops, spooky science shows and plenty of macabre thrills and ghoulish games for everyone to enjoy.

**Gates for the Relaxed Session open at 9.30am
- please do not arrive before then.**

What will be different at the relaxed session of Stokerland?

The music will be quieter.

There will be no loud noises.

There will be no flashing lights.

Performances will be gentler in nature.

There will be a sensory unit area away from crowds and sounds available for those who require it: our staff will be there to help you.

This relaxed session of Stokerland is free and does not require booking.

Welcome

When you arrive at the park, our friendly event staff will be there to greet you. The staff will be wearing hi-vests like this over their clothes:



Entrance

There are three entrances to St. Patrick's Park.
This is what they look like.



What does Stokerland look like when it's happening?

St. Patrick's Park will look like this while Stokerland is happening. The park will have lots of decorations, open-sided tents, food vendors and areas for play. If you want to move around and/or make noise during your time in the park and the performances that is fine.



Food Vendors

There will be a number of food vendors on site. Here is a picture of the vendors. This is an example of what the vendors will look like. The below options may not be available on the day.



Street Performers

This is Seargent Bobby Bobkins!

He will be performing all around the park on the day.
Keep an eye out for him.



Sensory Unit

If you need to take a break you can go to the Sensory Unit which will look like the picture on the right.

To enter, ask someone in a hi-vis vest where the sensory unit is and they can bring you there.

There may be a short queue to enter as the unit is suitable for one family at a time.

You must bring one guardian into the sensory room and you're also allowed to bring one sibling or a friend if you would like to.



Sensory Unit

Annmarie will be there to greet you.



Performances

Our relaxed performances will take place in these event tents.



Relaxed Performance:

Mobile Music School - Sensory Musical Adventure
Sunday 2 November, 9.45am - 10.45am

About the Session

When you arrive, you will meet the music leader Sophie for a relaxed, hands-on Halloween-themed music session.

Here is a photo of Sophie.

This is a relaxed, drop-in workshop in a covered outdoor stretch tent. Children are welcome to move around, use fidgets, vocalise, join in actively, or simply listen quietly – whatever feels right for them. You are free to come and go as needed to support your child's comfort.



What to Expect

Warm-Up:

Fun Halloween chants with movement and body percussion to get everyone engaged.

Songs:

Learning some spooky Halloween songs together.

Instruments:

Exploring eerie sounds on the recorder and violin.

Creative Play:

Composing our own scary Halloween beats!



Violin



Recorder

Ending & Takeaways

At the end of the session, children can share their spooky music creations, receive a sticker, and (if they'd like) take a photo with the instruments before leaving.

Access & Adjustments

We will do our best to make adjustments where possible — please speak to the session leader before the workshop if your child would benefit from specific accommodations.

Relaxed Performance:

Batilda's Batty Adventure with Play Make Believe
Sunday 2 November, 11.00am - 12.00 noon

About the Session

When you arrive you will meet Louise for a relaxed storytelling session.

Here is a photo of Louise

This is a relaxed, drop-in performance in a covered outdoor stretch tent. Children are welcome to move around, use fidgets, vocalise, or simply watch quietly – whatever feels right for them. You are free to come and go as needed to support their child's comfort.



What to Expect

- Warm-Up: You will take part in a fun bat-themed song to get everyone comfortable and moving.
- Stories: There will be interactive stories told with call-and-response and sound-making.
- Sensory Elements: There will be soft floor mats, a calm corner with cushions, and a basket of sensory/fidget toys (pop-its, ribbons, squishy balls).
- Props & Sounds: Puppets, rain stick, small bells, and a small drum may be used — children may join in or simply observe.



Rain Stick



Drum



Bells

Ending & Takeaways

At the end of the session, children can collect a sticker and have the option to take a photo or have a quick chat with Batilda Glowing before leaving.

Access & Adjustments

We will do our best to make adjustments where possible — please speak to Batilda before the session if your child would benefit from specific accommodations.

The atmosphere will be friendly and informal, with clear ground rules set in a positive way to help everyone feel safe.

A ‘bat cave’ corner with cushions will be available



Bells

St.Patrick's Cathedral has loud bells that sound every day at 12pm.

[CLICK HERE to hear the bells](#) so you will know what to expect!

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I leave Stokerland and come back in?

Yes, you can leave and come back at any time.

Q: Can I bring fidget toys or headphones/ear defenders with me?

Yes! We want you to be comfortable so fidget toys and headphones/ear defenders are welcome.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Will there be food and drink available?

Yes, there will be food and non alcoholic drinks available in the event space. There is no alcohol allowed at this event. You are also very welcome to bring your own picnic or snacks.

Q: Will there be toilets available/where are the nearest toilets?

There are toilets at the event. If you need help finding them on the day please ask someone wearing a hi-vis vest where they are, and they will direct you or can bring you to them.

Very Important Information to Know

What to Wear

This is an outdoor experience, so please dress for the weather. For example, if it is cold you may need some extra layers or if it rains you may need to pack a rain coat.

Accessibility

The venue is wheelchair accessible. Please visit the Stokerland page on our website for further accessibility information.

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