

Our guide to

SUBMISSIONS

ETIQUETTE

So, you've submitted your play, what next? Should you send follow up emails? Should you wait patiently? What do you do whilst you're waiting? Check out our handy guide to submissions etiquette...

- Have realistic expectations. If you sent your play to a well known theatre (or even a lesser known one!) it's likely they'll receive lots of submissions and it will take a long time to get back to you.
- Think in terms of months, not days!
- Do check out the policies on their website for response times.

- Only send a follow up email if you don't get a response in the time frame that has been set out by the theatre.
- Follow social media for updates - some competitions post results there rather than contacting everyone individually.
- Don't expect feedback unless it's promised. Usually it's not given.
- Be gracious about rejection, who knows, they might be interested in your next play!
- Understand that literary departments are generally understaffed and overworked - so be patient.
- Whilst you're waiting for a response, write something else.
- Don't pin all your hopes on one opportunity.
- Don't get disheartened by rejection - it happens to us all!
- Don't get disheartened by LOTS of rejection - this also happens to us all!
- Don't internalise rejection/ feedback - this is about your play, not you and you can use it to make you a better writer.
- Keep going - you'll never get a play produced if you stop writing them!
- You don't need anyone to validate your status as a playwright - you are one, so focus on what you want and keep sending your work out!