SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS - OUTDOOR BUBBLES

FOR HOST/BOOKER

The host/booker is responsible for providing a safe environment and adequate supervision throughout the activity.

1. CHOOSE A SAFE AREA

✅ **Safe & enclosed** — the area should be clear, enclosed, suitable and free from trip hazards.

Suitable surfaces: grass, rough concrete, gravel and bark.

Indoor backup plan — Agree an indoor alternative in advance in case adverse weather is forecast.

❌**Never set up near** roads, traffic, open water, stairs, steep drops, building sites or other hazards.

Avoid smooth or polished surfaces such as polished concrete and tiles, as bubble liquid can make these extremely slippery. If in doubt, test the area with dilute washing up liquid to determine how slippery it becomes.

2. SUPERVISION & AUDIENCE SAFETY

✅ All participants must be **supervised by their parent/carer at all times**. **Children under 5, SEN children and vulnerable adults require constant supervision.**

The host/booker remains responsible for ensuring that children and vulnerable adults are appropriately supervised throughout the activity.

Guest Allergy Awareness – The **host/booker is responsible for informing guests, parents and carers** that a bubble performance will be taking place, so that anyone with a **soap or bubble-solution allergy or sensitivity** is aware and can take appropriate precautions.

3. EYE SAFETY

Please ensure **running water is available** for guests during the activity.

If bubble solution gets into the eyes:

- **Do not rub the eyes.**
- Remove contact lenses if wearing them.
- Rinse gently with clean, running water.
- Seek medical advice if irritation persists.

3. AFTER THE ACTIVITY

Ensure running water is available for guests to **rinse their hands and any areas that have come into contact with bubble solution**.

Bubble solution can make surfaces slippery. You may need to **restrict access to affected areas after the activity** to help prevent slips and falls.

✅ Where necessary, **wash away any bubble liquid residue with water**.

🫧 Most Importantly...

We want everyone to have a magical time! Please follow our safety instructions.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact **cheryl@bubblyheaven.co.uk**.

🫧 **Get your FREE Giant Bubble Recipe:**
http://bubblyheaven.co.uk/recipe

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RISK ASSESSMENT- OUTDOOR BUBBLES

(revised 02/11/26)

SECTION 1. Important Information for Risk Assessment

Our bubble entertainment is designed to be **fun, exciting, and engaging** for all ages. To ensure everyone's **safety and minimise risks**, please take note of the following:

- **We do not use fire in our bubble performances**
- **We do use foggers (smoke effects at our discretion).**
- **Safety First:** We will stop the show or activity whenever we deem it unsafe.
- **Host/Booker Responsibilities:** (Actions you must take are highlighted.)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us in advance. **cheryl@bubblyheaven.co.uk**

SECTION 2.

Outdoor Bubbles Risk Assessment

1. Weather & Changing Conditions

Hazard: Slips, trips, and falls during general movement.
Persons at Risk: Entertainer, host staff, and participants.
Risk Rating: Low **Severity:** Medium

- Outdoor bubbling can continue in **light rain and normal wind conditions**, provided the area remains safe.
- **Storm conditions, high winds, lightning, ice or other adverse weather are not safe for bubbling**. If this weather is forecasted and highly likely then the indoor back up plan should be implemented. Heat waves and sunny days are not considered adverse and bubble activities can continue, shorter sessions and longer breaks may be implemented.

- Monitor weather and ground conditions throughout the activity and adjust, relocate or stop the session if conditions become unsafe.
- The entertainer has the final say on whether the activity can safely continue.

Further Actions Required:

- **The host/booker and entertainer should monitor the weather forecast and agree on an indoor backup plan in advance. If adverse weather is forecast or conditions become unsuitable, they should communicate promptly and implement the agreed indoor alternative where available.**

2. Slips, Trips, and Falls

Hazard: Slips, trips, and falls during general movement.
Persons at Risk: Entertainer, host staff, and participants.
Risk Rating: High **Severity:** Low

Control Measures (Including Existing Measures)

- **Host/Booker must provide a safe, trip-free environment** and ensure children are under adequate adult supervision at all times.
- **Encourage participants to keep areas tidy, move sensibly, and be aware of their surroundings,** especially if distracted by the activity.
- **Suitable surfaces:** Grass, rough concrete, gravel, and bark.
- **Avoid:** Smooth, polished concrete & tiles, as they become very slippery with even a small splash of bubble liquid.

Further Actions Required:

- **Host/Booker must consider placement and ground type** and discuss any concerns with Bubbly Heaven before booking.
- **Host/Booker must ensure enough parents/supervisors are present** for adequate supervision.
- **The entertainer will begin the activity with a safety briefing,** reinforcing rules as needed.
- **If unsafe behaviour occurs, the entertainer will pause or stop the activity** until participants are behaving safely.

3. Dangerous Behaviour

Hazard: Boisterous pushing or the use of objects (e.g., sticks, pencils, toy swords) to pop bubbles, posing a risk to others.
Persons at Risk: Other participants in the activity.
Risk Rating: Low. **Severity:** High

Control Measures (Including Existing Measures)

- **The entertainer will remain aware** of potentially dangerous behaviour and stop the activity until the child/children involved stop.
- **Host/Booker must ensure children do not have access to long, pointy objects** before or during the activity (e.g., toy swords, pencils, or similar items that could be a danger to others).
- **Host/Booker must clear the area of noticeable sticks, rocks, or similar items** before the activity begins.

4. Dangerous Use of Bubble Wands

Hazard: Children using bubble wands in a dangerous way (e.g., swinging them around to pop the bubbles or using them as weapons), which may cause harm to others.
Persons at Risk: Other participants in the activity.
Risk Rating: Low. **Severity:** Low

Control Measures (Including Existing Measures)

- **Entertainers should be aware** that this behaviour may occur and **actively discourage** it when noticed.

Further Action Required:

- **Host/Booker and adult supervisors** should remain vigilant and monitor children's behaviour. If children start using the wands to pop bubbles, swing them about, or engage in pretend play (e.g., sword fighting), the behaviour must be stopped. If this behaviour continues, the **activity may need to be paused** or that child **removed from the activity** by the host or parents/carers.

5. Slips or Falls Due to Bubble Solution

Hazard: Slips or falls caused by areas soiled with spilt/dripped bubble solution or residue from popped bubbles.
Persons at Risk: Entertainer, host staff, and participants.
Risk Rating: High. **Severity:** Low

Control Measures (Including Existing Measures)

- **Outdoor Setup:** The entertainer will use a double container system to catch spills and drips from the main bucket, and protect the area around the buckets with a waterproof-backed fabric. However, **we cannot prevent spills from bubbles popping and splashing,** away from the bubble area.
- The entertainer will **bubble in the same area for no longer than 20-40 minutes**. If multiple bubbling sets are performed, the entertainer may need to move locations if the ground becomes hazardous.
- **Supervision:** Participants must be under constant supervision. Adult supervisors must be alert to bubble liquid spillages and clean up immediately if they occur.
- **Cleaning Up:**
    - **Outdoors:** If the area is hard ground (e.g., concrete) and sunny, the solution may dry quickly, posing little risk.
    - If the area is grassy, rinse the ground with water (ideally using a hosepipe) and allow it to dry. This will dilute the solution and reduce the risk to grass and plant life.
- **After the Activity:** The entertainer will inform the host/booker of any potential slip hazards before leaving. The host/booker must either clean the area immediately or leave it to dry, restricting public access if needed.

Further Action Required:

- The entertainer will remain aware of how the bubble solution is affecting the ground and work with the host to move the location if necessary.
- The host/booker must ensure appropriate cleaning is done or restrict access to soiled areas.

6. Lost Child or Accident

Hazard: Lost child/participant or accident resulting from children/participant chasing bubbles into potentially hazardous areas or touching equipment not safe for them.
Persons at Risk: Participants (children).
Risk Rating: Medium/High. **Severity:** High

Control Measures (Including Existing Measures)

- **Enclosed Area:** All bubble activities (especially outdoor) must be conducted in **a safe area, trip-free, ideally enclosed**, away from hazards such as moving traffic, roads, water, canals, lakes, steep hills, stairs, building sites, and cliff edges.
- **Supervision:** Children must have **adequate supervision** based on their age.
    - **Children aged 0-5 years** need **individual supervision** from a responsible adult.
    - **Entertainers are not childcare providers** and are not responsible for wandering children or those chasing bubbles.
- If applicable, on arrival and unloading equipment into the building, if children or vulnerable adults are in the building, the host should provide a member of staff to assist opening and closing doors.
- Children reaching equipment during set-up

- Collisions and falls due to running and boisterous behaviour or placed in a cramped or unsuitable space

Further Action Required:

- The **Host/Booker** must ensure that a **safe, trip-free, ideally enclosed area** is provided and that there is enough supervision, particularly for younger children. The area must not be near moving traffic, roads, water, canals, lakes, steep hills, stairs, building sites, and cliff edges.
- **Hosts, parents and supervisors** must be vigilant and responsible for the children during the activity.
- **If applicable the Host/Booker** to provide a safe entrance into the building so that guests cannot escape via opened doors while the entertainer enters the building to unload equipment.
- Entertainer to ensure when equipment not in use is stored to the side, away from the audience.

7. Allergies

Hazard: Allergies related to bubble solution, latex, or other materials used during the activity.
Persons at Risk: Host staff and participants.
Risk Rating: Low/High. **Severity:** High

Control Measures (Including Existing Measures)

- **Allergy Awareness:** If any of your guests have allergies, the **host/booker must advise them not to participate** in the activity.
- **Precautionary Measures:** Allergy sufferers must not **touch** the soap solution or bubbles. If the allergy is severe, it is advised that they take all necessary precautions to stay safe during the activity.
- **Communication:** The **Entertainer** must be informed of any allergies before the event so they can take proper precautions.
- **Specific Allergens to Be Aware of:**
    - Latex
    - Balloons (if booking balloons)
    - Soap (particularly **Fairy Liquid** or similar)
    - Ingredients like **guar gum**, **polymers**, **J-lube**, **dispersing agents**, **baking powder**, and **vegetable glycerine**, which may be used in bubble solution.

Further Action Required:

- The **Host/Booker** should check with staff and participants for any allergies before the event and ensure that all necessary measures are taken to avoid exposure.

8. Attendees Working with the Entertainer (Child Protection Issues)

Hazard: Attendees (especially children) working with the Entertainer, raising potential child protection concerns.
Persons at Risk: Entertainer, host staff, and participants.
Risk Rating: Low/Low. **Severity:** High

Control Measures (Including Existing Measures)

- **Supervision Requirements:** Entertainers should never be left in sole charge of children (under 18) vulnerable adults. Entertainers are not childcare providers.
- **DBS Checks:** Some entertainers may have a **DBS check**, but it is not a requirement for children's entertainment.
- **Childcare Supervision:** Adequate **childcare supervision** should be provided while the entertainer is running the activity.
- **Responsibility of the Host/Booker:** The **host/booker** must ensure there are enough parents or adult supervisors around to maintain safe and appropriate supervision of children during the activity.

Further Action Required:

- The **host/booker** must arrange for sufficient adult supervision during the event to ensure that children are **not left alone** with the entertainer at any time.

9. Impact on the Environment, Grass, Plant, and Aquatic Life

Hazard: Potential impact on grass, plants, and aquatic life due to bubble solution residue.
Persons at Risk: The environment, including grass, plant, and aquatic life.
Risk Rating: Low/Low. **Severity:** Medium

Control Measures (Including Existing Measures)

- **Grass Care:** After the activity, it is recommended to **wash down any grass area** with water to dilute the bubble solution left behind from fallen or popped bubbles.
- **Wind Conditions:** On **windy days**, the residue from the bubble solution will be much less of an issue, as it will disperse quickly.
- **Grass and Plant Impact:** If not cleaned, the **grass** may turn slightly brown in patches where the solution has been. However, the grass will recover quickly.
- **Protection of Plants: Remove or cover** any precious plants that can be moved or are at risk of damage from the solution.
- **Aquatic Life Considerations:** Avoid positioning the activity **too close to an open pond** or body of water. For small ponds, ensure they are **covered**, and for larger open spaces, position the entertainer **away from the wind flow** of the pond to minimise any risk.
- **Special surfaces for sporting activities** should never be used for bubbling, as the bubble mixture and children running on them could be damaging. For example bowling and crickets greens.

Further Action Required:

- The **host/booker** should plan the position of the bubble entertainment and inform the entertainer of any delicate areas or specimens
- The **host/booker** should wash down any grass areas afterwards.
- Be aware that if the solution does affect the grass, it may cause browning, but this is typically temporary, and the grass will recover quickly.

10. Bubble Liquid Sensitivity or Eye/Skin Irritation

Hazard: Bubble solution causing eye or skin irritation.
Persons at Risk: Participants (including entertainers, host staff, and guests).
Risk Rating: Low - (while the risk is low the chances become high if the child loves to get close to the wand).
Severity: Low

Control Measures (Including Existing Measures)

- **It's the soap used in bubble mixture that may cause temporary irritation.**
- **Access to Water:** Ensure **access to running water** is available at all times during the activity.
- **Eye Irritation:** Children with sensitive eyes should wear eye protection. In the event of **solution contact with eyes**, participants should immediately rinse their eyes with clean, running water. Or use sterile eye wash if available. If irritation persists, seek medical advice.
- We instruct children to stand back from the bubbles and follow our safety guidance. However, if a person is young, has SEN or a learning difficulty and is unable to follow instructions, it is the responsibility of the parent, carer or accompanying adult to ensure they remain at a safe distance and do not come too close to the equipment or performer.
- **Skin Irritation:** Encourage participants to **wash their hands** after the session to remove any bubble solution from their skin and minimise the risk of irritation.

Further Action Required:

- The **host/booker** must ensure running water is accessible during the activity. If running water is not available, they should notify the entertainer in advance to arrange a clean bucket of water for participants to use if necessary.
- The **host/booker** to advise guests there will be bubble entertainment at the event so that anyone with a sensitivity is forewarned.
- The **entertainer** must be vigilant and instruct children to stay back from the dripping bubble wands.
- The **parent/carers** are responsible for keeping participants safe from the bubble mixture if they have a soap sensitivity or allergy.
- The **parent/carers** are responsible for their children and must keep children back from the bubble wands and buckets.

- The **entertainer** is to advise any person suffering with splashed eyes to blink several times, do not rub. Rinse gently with clean water if stinging continues, remove contact lenses if wearing them. Seek medical advice if irritation persists.
- The **host/booker** and entertainer is to advise anyone with continued or persistent eye irritation to seek medical advice.

11. Entering & Leaving Premises – Trip Hazards (Doors, Steps)

Hazard: Trip hazards when entering or leaving premises (e.g., doors, steps).
Persons at Risk: Entertainer, host staff, and participants.
Risk Rating: Low/Medium. **Severity:** High

Control Measures (Including Existing Measures)

- **Awareness:** Be aware of potential trip hazards. If needed, take an alternative route to avoid risks.
- Injury from lifting and carrying equipment
- Host to tell entertainer in advance about stairs, lifts or long carries.

Further Action Required:

- **Host/Booker** to inform the entertainer of any **trip hazards** and ensure safe entrance and exit routes are available.
- A **helper** should be provided to assist with carrying equipment and opening doors if necessary.
- **Host/Booker** to confirm parking close to the entrance and step-free access where possible.
- **Entertainer** to pack equipment into manageable loads and wheeled cases where possible.

12. Bubble Liquid Safety

Hazard: Participants coming into contact with contaminated bubble liquid or risk of drowning for unsupervised children in bubble buckets and trays of liquid.
Persons at Risk: Entertainer, host staff, and participants.
Risk Rating: Low/Medium. **Severity:** High

Control Measures (Including Existing Measures)

- **Awareness:** Bacteria can thrive in standing water. Always use clean bubble liquid for each event and thoroughly clean buckets and mixing equipment before and after use.
- **Terminology:** Avoid calling the liquid "juice" to prevent any temptation to taste or drink it.
- **Use buckets with lids:** Never leave buckets containing bubble liquid unattended. When not actively in use, buckets should be covered with secure lids. Buckets should be clearly labelled with appropriate safety warnings
- **Supervision:** Never leave participants unattended around open buckets of bubble liquid.

Further Action Required:

- The bubble artist must always use clean bubble liquid for each event.
- The host/booker must ensure there are enough parents, supervisors, or carers present to oversee participants at all times, children under 3 years of age must have constant 1-2-1 supervision.

13.Equipment and Materials

Hazard: Equipment, bubble solution or ingredients that do not meet UK safety standards, or that come with no safety information.
Persons at Risk: Entertainer, host staff and participants.
Risk Rating: Low/Medium. **Severity:** Medium

Control Measures (Including Existing Measures)

- **Suppliers:** We buy equipment and ingredients from suppliers who can provide safety information, such as UK or EU safety markings and product safety data sheets.
- **Records:** We keep this paperwork on file for every product we use.
- **Overseas purchases:** Products bought from sellers outside the UK may not carry UK safety markings. If we import goods ourselves, we become the importer and are legally responsible for their safety. This may mean arranging our own safety testing.
- **Advice:** We take proper advice before importing and assess each product before use. Guidance is available at gov.uk/guidance/product-safety-law-compliance-advice-for-manufacturers-and-importers.
- **Insurance:** We check that our own insurance covers the products we use.

Further Action Required: The entertainer checks each new product before first use and keeps the safety paperwork on file. Any product without safety information is not used with participants.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact **cheryl@bubblyheaven.co.uk**.