



Laughter is infectious at pandemic Fringe show for children

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Comedy



Tom Solomon believes children can learn and remember at his Covid for Kids show

A professor of neurology who is a world expert on emerging infections believes he can help children prepare for another pandemic with a show at the Edinburgh Fringe.

Over a 30-year career, [Tom Solomon](#), director of the Pandemic Institute at Liverpool University, has in “the day job” led the UK response to a range of deadly threats from Ebola and Zika virus and monkeypox.

He has created a children’s show about Covid-19 which uses fun and laughter “so kids learn and remember”.

He said: “Imagine how much easier it would have been for the public to cope if they had understood before the pandemic, a little bit of how diseases work. If children just understand a bit more as part of their basic education, then we’re all going to be better off.”

Covid for Kids features five comic book “science superheroes” tussling with their nemesis, Corry the Coronavirus, on a stage dressed, said Solomon, with “a massive gob which I had made”.

It’s a fun, interactive show which opens with the professor, an elected member of Council at the Royal College of Physicians, emerging from a giant mouth. A passionate believer in science education Solomon, 56, recognises that children were poorly treated during the pandemic.

“It was tough for kids, because they couldn’t do any of the things that children normally do like going to school and meeting their friends, and they were effectively doing that for the benefit of society as a whole,” he said.

“It’s helpful if they can understand why they did that and how what they did helped bring the virus under control.”

Covid for Kids will be at Pleasance Courtyard, from August 3-16, starting at 10.30am.

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