

## Information to candidates for PGCE Secondary Drama

Congratulations!

You have been invited to interview for a place on the PGCE Secondary Drama programme at Cardiff Metropolitan University - we are very much looking forward to meeting you and hearing about what you have to offer as a potential teacher of secondary drama. This letter gives you information on what you will be asked to do during the interview day, and also gives you a clear idea of what we are looking for in a potential teacher of drama. It is designed to help you prepare accordingly so you have the best chance possible of being successful.

There will be three parts to the interview process, which may not take place in the order given.

### Part 1

You will be required to undertake tests in literacy, numeracy and digital competence. There will also be an extended writing task in response to an article on an educational topic; this is used to assess your reading, writing and critical thinking skills. This part of the day will take approximately two hours.

### Part 2

You will then participate in a practical task, in which you will be asked to teach something relating to your subject to your fellow interview candidates. You will have ten minutes to do this.

You should aim for something practical, as drama is taught as a practical subject in schools. Please choose from one of the following options as a focus for your practical task:

- An introduction to a theatre practitioner (e.g. Stanislavski, Brecht, Boal, Artaud or Berkoff);
- An introduction to a theatrical style (e.g. Greek Theatre, Victorian Melodrama, 19<sup>th</sup> Century Naturalism, German Expressionism, Theatre of the Absurd, Physical Theatre or Verbatim Theatre);
- An introduction to a performance skill/convention (e.g. characterisation, improvisation, devising, vocal expression, physical expression, narration, monologue, etc.)

### We'll be looking for:

- an engaging, enthusiastic manner;
- thought given to the planning of your session;
- Secure subject knowledge and understanding;
- use of your own drama skills as part of your teaching;
- clear presentation of information/ideas.

**N.B. There is no expectation for you to supply a lesson plan**



**Top Tip**

1. *Keep it simple! We're not looking for a perfect lesson, just your potential, so something small but focused is ideal.*
2. *Choose a topic you feel confident about and comfortable with – remember, we're excited to see what you CAN do, not what you can't!*
3. *Go for it...and enjoy it!*

If you plan to use resources for your short teaching episode, you will need to provide them all, so be prepared and bring them with you. Also, it is worth noting that **there will not be PowerPoint or IT facilities available** so, again, factor this in your plans.

**Part 3** will consist of a short individual interview in which you can explain your motivation for becoming a secondary drama teacher and demonstrate your understanding of the role of the teacher in a mainstream school setting. You will also have an opportunity to ask us questions so that you can make an informed choice. We also want a chance to tell you about our university and PGCE Secondary programme, as we think we have lots to offer a keen and aspiring trainee teacher and are as excited about your future as you are!

We look forward to meeting you at interview and wish you well for the day. Please **arrive 15 minutes before your allotted time** so we can start the programme promptly.

Best wishes,

*Emma Thayer*

Programme Leader for PGCE Secondary Drama



P.s. for more advice about applying to our PGCE Programmes, listen to '**Emma and Tom's PGCE Podcast' Episode 11: So You Want To Become A Teacher.** Available through iTunes, Spotify, or wherever you get your podcasts!