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ar Gyfer Addysg Gychwynnol i Athrawon

PGCE Drama Welcome Pack: 2023-24

Dear PGCE drama student,

Welcome to the PGCE Secondary Drama programme and congratulations on gaining your place!

In readiness for the busy and exciting year ahead, please complete the tasks detailed below which have been designed to help you prepare for the course. **Deadline = beginning of September 2023.**

1) CONFIRM YOUR PLACE

When you receive this pack, email me at ethayer@cardiffmet.ac.uk to confirm that you will be joining us in September 2023.

2) SELF-ASSESS YOUR SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE

Please look at the list of common drama subject content in Appendix A and self-assess how much you know about each of the topics. This is not an exhaustive list, but a compilation of common content from UK GCSE / Post-16 specifications. The emboldened content is commonly taught in secondary schools and should be prioritised when targeting improvements to your subject knowledge. The most obvious way to do this is to read up on the topic, however, going to see productions of relevant plays or work by appropriate practitioners (or those that have been recorded and streamed online) is also valuable. YouTube is another valid way of getting a sense of performance genre/style/form, just ensure that the videos accessed are of professional and factually accurate material.

Read through the list and be honest with yourself. When you begin the PGCE Drama programme you will be expected to plan and teach lessons on a range of these curriculum areas so it's best that you are aware of your knowledge 'gaps' now.

3) DO SOME READING

Read about teaching and learning in drama, e.g. **(both available as e-books when you enrol)**

- Fleming, M. (2017) *Starting Drama Teaching*. 4th edn. Oxon: Routledge.
- Kempe, A. & Nicholson, H. (2007) *Learning to Teach Drama 11-18*, 2nd edn, Oxon: Routledge.

4) EXPLORE SOME WEBSITES / PODCASTS

Check out these website and podcast recommendations; they will be very helpful to you during the programme:

- [Drama Online](#): The award-winning Drama Online introduces new writers alongside the most iconic names in playwriting history, providing contextual and critical background through

scholarly works and practical guides. You will have full access to all of the materials on this database when you enrol on the programme.

- [Drama Resource](#): Drama consultant, David Farmer's, website
- [Drama & Theatre](#): 1/2 termly drama teaching magazine
- [Emma and Tom Talk Teaching](#): A podcast co-hosted by me and Programme Leader for PGCE Music, Tom Breeze
- [GCSE Bitesize Drama](#): Revision aid for pupils
- [Half Hour Call](#): Open Drama UK's monthly podcast related to theatre and drama education
- [National Drama](#): The website for our main national professional subject association
- [New Curriculum for Wales \(Expressive Arts Area of Learning and Experience\)](#): The Expressive Arts Areas of Learning and Experience curriculum overview
- [WJEC GCSE Drama](#): Take a look at the course specification
- [WJEC AS/A Level Drama & Theatre](#): Take a look at the course specification

Good luck with these tasks. I look forward to meeting you in September!

Best wishes,



Emma Thayer
Programme Leader

Appendix A: Common Drama Curriculum Content

GENRES/FORMS	PRACTITIONERS	CONTEMPORARY COMPANIES
<p>African Theatre Ancient Greek Theatre Asian Theatre Black Theatre Commedia dell'Arte Epic Theatre Feminist Theatre German Expressionism Immersive Theatre Medieval Melodrama Mime Musical Theatre 19th Century Naturalism Pantomime Physical Theatre Post War British Radical Theatre Renaissance Restoration Site-specific Theatre of Cruelty Theatre of the Absurd Theatre of the Oppressed Verbatim Theatre Youth Theatre/Theatre-in-Education</p>	<p>Mike Alfreds Antonin Artaud Pina Bausch Steven Berkoff Augusto Boal Alecky Blythe Bertolt Brecht Peter Brook Edward Gordon Craig Declan Donnellan Marianne Elliott Dario Fo & Franca Rame Rupert Goold Jerzy Grotowski Keith Johnstone Eddie Ladd Jacques Lecoq Mike Leigh Robert Lepage Joan Littlewood Vsevolod Meyerhold Katie Mitchell Erwin Piscator Emma Rice Konstantin Stanislavsky Julie Taymor Polly Teale Robert Wilson</p>	<p>1927 Arad Goch Breach Theatre Company Three Complicité Dirty Protest DV8 Earthfall Forced Entertainment Frantic Assembly Gecko Headlong Hijinx Joint Stock Kneehigh National Theatre National Theatre Wales Paines Plough The Paper Birds Punchdrunk Red Ladder The Royal Shakespeare Co. Shared Experience Splendid Theatre Talawa Theatre Theatre lolo Trestle Theatre Volcano Theatre</p>
Areas of knowledge, skill or understanding	Classroom drama conventions and explorative strategies	PLAYWRIGHTS
<p>Costume design Lighting design & operation Making & using masks Making & using puppets Multimedia design Set design Sound design & operation Stage combat Stage management</p>	<p>Forum Theatre Freeze frame Hot-seating Improvisation Mantle of the expert Mime & movement Monologue / soliloquy Physical theatre Role-on-the-wall Soundscape Spotlighting Tableau Thought tracking Teacher in role (TiR)</p> <p>Here is a great resource put together by expert in drama pedagogy, Patrice Baldwin, which might help you.</p>	<p>At a minimum, look at the WJEC GCSE and AS / A Level specifications for set-texts and familiarize yourself with unknown titles.</p> <p>*Follow the links provided in the main letter to access WJEC specifications.</p>