DIGITAL THEATRE+

> ❞ Digital Theatre+ has helped close the gap between ability levels and allowed me to personalise learning with a variety of visual, auditory and kinesthetic learning aids ❞

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WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO DIGITAL THEATRE+?

Within the new GCSE and A Level specifications, one major requirement is access to live theatre performances. Normally we would attend a performance and then come back to recap the events of the evening. As much as it is important to be able to visit the theatre, I felt the level of detail within the students' answers lacked depth. Digital Theatre+ helped address this issue by allowing me to teach a live theatre production while also revisiting the play as many times as required. By doing this, we are able to stop at key moments and have in-depth discussions, helping us to analyse and evaluate in a much more efficient manner.

HOW DO YOU USE DIGITAL THEATRE+?

In Drama lessons we have had the opportunity to recreate virtual theatre trips due to the ever increasing range of age appropriate shows. Year 7 loved *The Railway Children* and Year 8 are currently using Digital Theatre+ to learn how to write theatre reviews. The great thing is that we have access to glossaries of key technical terms, as well as interviews with designers to help students understand the importance of design choices.

The GCSE year groups have been studying *Funny Girl*. The film quality is exceptional, and we get to see close-up shots of key facial expressions and mannerisms that could be potentially lost in the auditorium. Our A Level students are currently exploring *Things I Know To Be True*. There was a great deal of thought that went into the selection of this piece, including access to the show, full interviews with the cast as well as Scott Graham, the Artistic Director, and access to the teaching toolkit including quizzes, extended questions and evaluation templates. My students also have full access to the text allowing quote referencing much easier when exploring a particular scene.

WHICH RESOURCES DO YOU FIND MOST VALUABLE?

The resource that we have found the most valuable is the live productions. Further access to the interviews with cast members and directors, as well as technical insights from lighting designers, stage managers and sound designers have opened up the wider aspect of work in the theatre.

HOW HAS DIGITAL THEATRE+ HAD A POSITIVE IMPACT?

The students engage far more in discussions if real examples can be given alongside the ideas. It has helped close the gap between ability levels and has allowed me to personalise learning with a variety of learning aids.

We believe every child should experience theatre; it is a chance to visit another world and be a part of a shared experience from different viewpoints. This is something that has not been lost during remote learning; Digital Theatre+ has allowed that to continue.

WHAT MAKES DIGITAL THEATRE+ PARTICULARLY VALUABLE FOR TEACHING DRAMA?

The subscription has allowed students to analyse and evaluate their texts in great detail. The opportunity to pause a particular moment and offer in-depth ideas behind proxemics and expressions is something I now couldn't live without!

The quality of the performance is exceptional, giving students the best possible audience perspective and this is something that is really exciting for them.