



NAME:

Marie Hood

ROLE:

Head of Drama

INSTITUTION NAME

Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre

LOCATION

Gloucestershire, England

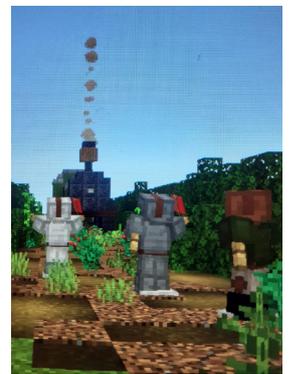
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WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO DIGITAL THEATRE+?

In March 2020, we knew that for our young people having access to the arts during lockdown would be essential to ensuring both their wellbeing and their academic success.

HOW DO YOU USE DIGITAL THEATRE+?

We have now used Digital Theatre+ with all of our year groups. For our youngest students in Year 7 and 8, we have used shows to launch their own creative projects. For example, after watching *The Railway Children*, students were asked to create their own box set designs for the show.



For our Arts Award and GCSE students, analysing and evaluating live theatre is essential to their academic success and having access to productions like *Things I Know To Be True* has been invaluable. The actor interviews, supporting notes and the ability to easily watch specific extracts of the play have been superb.

Our oldest students, studying the BTEC in Performing Arts, use the platform to watch and explore as many different performances as they possibly can!

HOW HAS DIGITAL THEATRE+ HAD A POSITIVE IMPACT IN YOUR CLASSROOM?

Digital Theatre+ has opened the door to many theatrical experiences that our students would not otherwise have had access to.

We still strongly believe that watching theatre live is the best experience for our young people but we are also aware of the many barriers - even in 'normal' times - to being able to do this. Part of our job is to break those barriers down and we're grateful for what Digital Theatre+ has done to help with this.

WHAT MAKES DIGITAL THEATRE+ VALUABLE FOR TEACHING DRAMA?

Every time we show a young person a performance we are showing them that a future in the Performing Arts is a real possibility. That is invaluable.