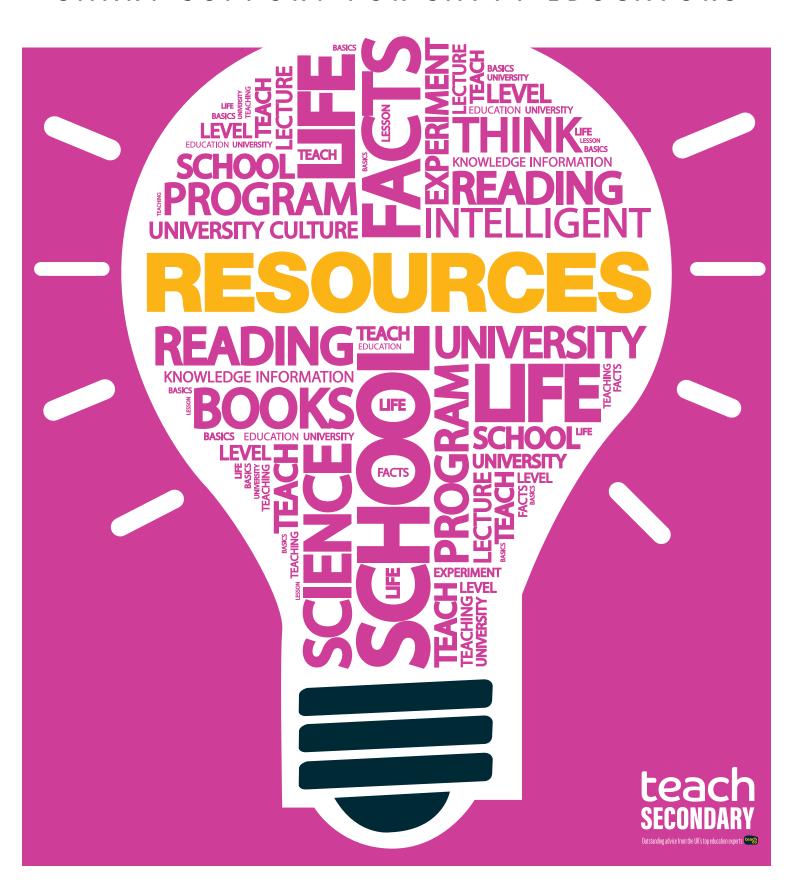
ESSENTIAL School Resources 24/25

SMART SUPPORT FOR SAVVY EDUCATORS





Transform your pupils' accomplishments with something special

KEY STAGE 1 - 3

EVERYONE LOVES A BADGE!

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questions you might have. Contact us today to place your order!



NEED TO KNOW!

Whether it's for an attendance award, a class achievement or a sporting win, our range of pre-made stock and fully customizable badges are the perfect extra touch to mark the occasion.



Use code "TEACHCO1" for FREE shipping on your first stock order.

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A LOOK!

Protect your books with KPC and start saving

money today!

Not only are badges and lanyards essential identity tools, they're also a great way to reward achievements, display school spirit or highlight and commemorate special events. Our products can be custom-made to your requirements or purchased from stock.

Custom orders can be tailored to use the logo, colours and text of your choice – to name but a few examples. This is a great way of promoting your school and showing pride in your community.

Our stock lanyards - which can be used to hold ID cards, keys, or other small items – as well as our stock badges are available in a wide variety of standard

designs, which are tailored to identify and reward specific achievements.

Perfect for any school, they're a cost-effective and speedy option, with free delivery on all stock orders priced at £75 or more.



Ordering from Best

Badges Ltd is easy and

competitive prices and

our friendly customer

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convenient, with

BOOK PROTECTION THAT SAVES YOU MONEY MADE IN

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CONTAC'



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NEED TO KNOW!



KPC was established in 1978 and has grown to be a market leader in the manufacture and supply of book protection products.



All covers are manufactured in Yorkshire at our factory. Any waste from the manufacturing process is fully recycled, meaning there is very little impact on the environment.

KPC is a leading provider of a diverse range of products designed to extend the lifespan of books, helping schools save money and preserve the environment. That's because KPC emphasises reducing, reusing and recycling waste as a core part of its commitment to sustainability.

Books are treasured items that carry stories, knowledge, and memories and play a fundamental part in a student's development. We are all aware that the cost of books has increased substantially over the past few years. It is therefore now more important than ever to ensure these resources are protected.

One way to safeguard your books is by using KPC's book wallets. The covers are custom-made to size and provide a robust and moistureresistant solution designed to stand the test of time. These protective accessories not only prolong the life of your books but also add an attractive aesthetic appeal. All covers are versatile and can be easily applied, removed and transferred to another book.

Don't waste time risking damage to your brand-new books, Call KPC today to discuss how we can help you save monev.



UK manufacturer of **Book Protection Products**





KEY STAGE 3/4

LIFE-ENRICHING EXPERIENCES

SCHOOL TRIPS • TANGIBLE RESULTS



Giving students skills for life with immediate impact Teaching young people to be mentally and physically stronger is at the top of many secondary school agendas. It's true – good grades open doors, but essential soft skills, such as resilience, give young people the tools to overcome setbacks in life.

Outdoor adventure learning at Kingswood plays a vital role in enriching the lives of students, through character building activities in a meaningful and authentic setting.

21ST CENTURY SKILLS

It's not only resilience building that's achievable at Kingswood; it's also expanding a student's capacity to learn in new and challenging environments.

Our experiential learning programmes – particularly the five-day 'Live It' course – give secondary school students a platform to develop and harness their 21st century skills.

Communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking – collectively known as 'the four Cs' of 21st Century skill learning – are attributes widely recognised as being essential for successful academic and working lives.

EVIDENCING IMPACT

Experiential learning creates positive and immediate change. Our latest research, published in the peer-reviewed *Journal of Adventure Education and Outdoor Learning*, finds that young people attending our residentials increased their resilience by 36%, and psychological wellbeing by 23%. 94% of young people stated feeling more self-confident in the month

following their experience.

Kingswood experiences positively impact children's capacity to cope with uncertainty, improve stress responses and create healthier, more adaptable youngsters.

"It was lovely to see the students flourish in all aspects, especially their confidence. Their personal and employability skills were hugely developed."

- Derby College teacher; visited Dearne Valley in March 2023

FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS

Kingswood's outdoor adventures are accessible to all children, including those facing financial hardship or affected by serious illness, whether personally or through a parent or carer. In addition to the government's Pupil Premium funding, fully-funded places are available for children and young people aged 6 to 18 as part of its hardship fund for both schools and groups – terms and conditions apply.



CONTACT



kingswood.co.uk sales@kingswood.co.uk 0800 655 6564





NEED TO KNOW!



Our 11 centres each offer unique benefits, with activity choices spanning water sports to archery, and accommodation ranging from dorms to ecopods, allowing you to find perfect fit for your students.



We are committed to green initiatives and making a positive change to the environment. In 2024, we planted over 500 trees to offset our carbon emissions.



Our support for teachers takes the stress out of trip planning, via an innovative portal that brings everything together in one place. Pre- and post-visit questionnaires and toolkits help to illustrate learning and impact, enabling you to link your trip to tangible results.

KEY STAGE 3/4

HUE HD PRO VISUALISER WITH CARRY CASE

EASY TO USE · AFFORDABLE · STEM.ORG AUTHENTICATED™ · PORTABLE · PLUG & PLAY



classroom camera

Inspire your students with the flexible and affordable HUE HD Pro visualiser, featuring 1080p resolution, built-in microphone and LED lights. Now includes a new shockproof carry case, complete with USB-C adapter, and is priced at £59.95 + VAT, with school discounts available.

The HUE HD Pro is a multi-purpose, lightweight and portable USB camera that works straight out of its brand new case, with no training required.

Compatible with Windows, macOS, Linux and Chrome OS, the HUE HD Pro can be used immediately with any application that recognises a USB camera, such as QuickTime or Windows' and Chrome's 'Camera' apps. It also works with video conferencing applications to enable remote teaching.

The package includes a perpetual single-user licence of HUE Intuition software, which can be installed on multiple computers for use at school and at home. HUE Intuition enables you to:

- · Record videos
- · Annotate images
- · Capture photos
- · Stream online
- Flip/ mirror video streams

The camera's 360° neck can be rotated and angled for a multitude of uses – set straight ahead for use as a facecam, downwards to view documents, or manipulated in real-time to examine objects more closely.

Teachers are currently using

across the curriculum in many innovative ways each day, whether it be to share students' work for peer editing, analyse and annotate texts or for live modelling, marking and problem solving purposes.

It's also ideally suited to demonstrating practical science experiments; recording teaching techniques for later review; creating video assessments; digitising paper resources; and for delivering hybrid, flipped and blended learning.

Discounts are available for schools and MATs – contact us for details.

CONTAC



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♠ ② ※ ⑤

@huecameras





NEED TO KNOW!



It's easy to set up and ready for immediate use with any application that supports a USB camera — simply plug and play.



Use it to capture images, record lessons for later analysis or enlarge text for students with SEND, with no prior training required.



Comes with a 3-year warranty and friendly, human customer support – and has won multiple awards: "There are alternative 'cameras' available, but none quite as accessible and versatile as this one."

– Rob Wraith, Teach Secondary Awards Judge



KEY STAGES 2 AND 3

CONWAY CENTRES

RESIDENTIALS · ADVENTURE · TEAMWORK · CONFIDENCE





conwaycentres.co.uk



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01248 714 501



Come and visit the 'Best Residential Experience' With four residential centres across Cheshire and North Wales, Conway Centres pride themselves on offering a unique residential experience that leaves a lasting impression for years to come...



"I first brought a small group of students to the Conway Centre in 1974. I loved everything about the week as much as the students did... it was a life-changing experience. I returned with a wide range of students almost every year until my retirement from teaching. The best outdoor classroom ever!"

- Retired Teacher

With over 50 years of experience, schools go back to the Conway Centres year after year, confident that they will have a life-changing experience every time. Schools love that students (and teachers!) take away so much from their residential trip.

"Great to see the life skills that our pupils gain from the residential. It is the one trip all pupils talk about for years after." – Ashton on Mersey, visited in July 2024

At Conway Centres, they believe that there is so much children and young people can gain from a residential. Boosting confidence by tackling the high-ropes; bringing learning to life with a curriculum-linked residential; navigating their way through walking hotspots; working as a team while canoeing – a residential at Conway Centres has many personal, academic, physical and social benefits.

"When I was doing via Ferrata I had to step off a high ledge, and I said, 'I can't do it' – and the instructor said, 'I wouldn't tell you to do it if you couldn't do it'."

- Student visitor

Schools and students often say that the highly qualified staff at Conway Centres is what truly sets them apart. At Conway Centres, the supportive team will encourage and support your pupils to believe in themselves.

Whether they're cheering on their friends from the sidelines, working with a team to create a raft before going out on the water, or wanting to push themselves out of their comfort zone, the Conway Centres' expert tutors will support children in achieving the unachievable...

- NEED -TO KNOW!



Nestled in the forest, the cosy **Delamere** centre is perfect for first time or younger visitors.



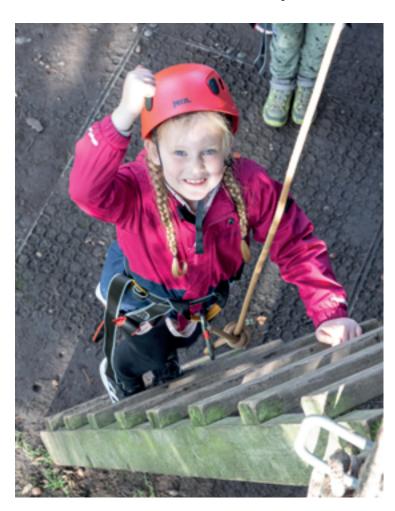
With its Iron Age replica roundhouse, the **Burwardsley** centre brings the history curriculum to life and is perfect for KS2 classes.



The centre set in **Tattenhall** village offers canoeing, tree climbing and zipwire activities. Tattenhall also specialises in providing immersive WW2 experiences, complete with its own Anderson shelter.



Anglesey is home to high adventure, making it perfect for older primary children and secondary students. With land-based, high-ropes, water-based and arts activities available, there really is something for everyone.



KEY STAGE 3/4

COST-EFFECTIVE CHARGING SOLUTIONS

TECHNOLOGY • SECURITY • MANAGEMENT • SUSTAINABILITY



0800 130 3456





Michelle Knox, Storage and Charging Specialist at LapSafe® tells us why its ChargeLite® range can improve device management and save on vital space and budgets. The range consists of trolley solutions, a desk and wall unit, and a standalone locker.

HOW DOES CHARGELITE™ BENEFIT CAMPUSES AND THEIR STAFF?

ChargeLite[™] has completely transformed the way learning devices are stored and charged. Traditionally, you'd find devices scattered around rooms, occupying multiple sockets – a process that wasn't practical, safe, nor secure. It could also be costly, with devices often becoming damaged or

misplaced. ChargeLite™ eliminates these challenges by being able to charge and store up to 32 devices simultaneously, all in one compact and convenient unit.

HOW DO YOU ENSURE THAT DEVICES ARE CHARGING SAFELY?

ChargeLite™ features our intelligent charging system called ChargeLine™. This

incorporates advanced safety features, such as in-rush, surge and residual voltage protection, to protect users and devices. Devices are also kept at an optimal temperature by encouraging maximum airflow through a series of ventilation holes.

CAN CHARGELITE™ BE CONNECTED TO THE NETWORK?

Yes – we know that keeping devices up to date with the latest software and security patches is essential for optimal performance, which is why ChargeLite™ can be connected to your network to allow for remote software updates and maintenance. This saves a significant amount of time for IT managers.

IS CHARGELITE™ COST-EFFECTIVE?

Absolutely! With ChargeLite™ ensuring devices are properly stored and maintained, schools can prolong the lifespan of their technology assets. This translates to significant cost savings by reducing the need for frequent device replacements. By prolonging the lifespan of their devices and optimising their energy consumption, schools can also reduce their environmental footprint and contribute to a greener future.



NEED TO KNOW!



ChargeLine™
Charging incorporates
advanced safety
features to protect
users and devices,
for complete peace
of mind.



Remote Device Maintenance allows for seamless updates, ensuring that devices are always running smoothly.



Utilising steel
construction with neat
cable management,
these robust and
reliable units are built
to withstand the test
of time.



KEY STAGES 3 AND 4

ONLINE ALTERNATIVE PROVISION

DFE-ACCREDITED • FLEXIBLE • 100% LIVE • COST-EFFECTIVE

CONTACT



academy21.co.uk



contact@academy21.co.uk



0800 208 8210

Academy 21



A comprehensive curriculum and effective reintegration solution Academy21 is the UK's leading online alternative provision specialist. We work in partnership with schools and local authorities to provide students who have additional needs or challenging circumstances access to the high-quality education they need and deserve.



Every student deserves a high-quality education tailored to their needs. Academy21 is trusted by over 1,000 schools across 130 local authorities to deliver just that – excellent teaching and wellbeing support, with flexible commissioning and timetabling options. Having supported over 5,500 young people facing barriers to education last year, we stand out for the following reasons:

A VARIED CURRICULUM

We offer a comprehensive, balanced curriculum for Key Stages 3 and 4. Our core and additional courses help students close learning gaps and prepare to sit their GCSEs with more confidence. Plus, we deliver our provision via 100% live and interactive lessons to improve student engagement and reignite a love for learning.

TRUSTED BY THE DFE

We are the first alternative online provision to be accredited by the DfE. In our Ofsted report, our provision was noted for its ability to build confidence and support students in making progress and reintegrating into mainstream education.

HYBRID OPTIONS

Because we are 100% online and offer flexible scheduling, students can attend their physical school for part of the day to build confidence while taking other lessons online via Academy21. This split can be adjusted over time, enabling effective reintegration into mainstream education.

ATTENDANCE AND REINTEGRATION

Academy21 can help you meet the requirements set out in the DfE's latest 'Working together to improve school attendance' guidance (see bit. ly/esr24-A21). It is an effective tool for removing barriers to education, and enables schools to adapt education for those with additional needs.

- NEED -TO KNOW!



"Pupils' attendance improves; evidence shows that the approaches taken enable pupils to make progress, and in many cases, successfully reintegrate back into their school or other educational placements." — Ofsted Accreditation Report 2024



"I was really struggling with my mental health and was certain I wasn't going to do my GCSEs this year. However, you all made me look forward to each of your lessons... I felt motivated and happy. Thanks to you I'm able to complete my GCSEs." — Olivia, Y11



"Lilia was out of school due to health issues. Since she joined Academy21, the school has been very supportive. She is still on roll with her local school, and there has been really, really good communication between them, us and Academy21."— Lilia's mum, Coralie

KEY STAGES 4 AND 5

METHUEN DRAMA STUDENT EDITIONS FROM BLOOMSBURY

ENGLISH · DRAMA · GCSE · A LEVEL

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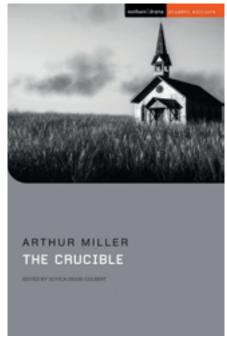


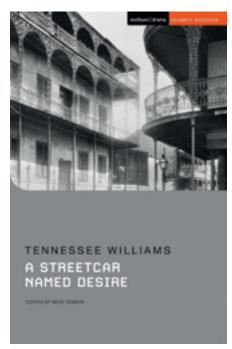
@MethuenDrama



Expertly annotated texts of modern and classic plays designed for students. Each edition contains the complete text of the play, as well as expert commentary that provides students with an in-depth look into the play's background, themes and production history.

Including editions of some of the best-loved and frequently taught GCSE and A Level plays, the Methuen Drama **Student Editions** series has been designed specifically for students, with helpful notes for classroom discussion, expert commentary and analysis of key themes for independent study and revision.





NEED TO KNOW!



Additional support for teachers can be found at each edition's website entry on bloomsbury.com, which includes author Q&As, discussion questions and classroom posters



Every Student Edition is available as a printed paperback or eBook, and can therefore be used in the classroom, at home or on the move!



An exclusive 20% school discount is available if purchasing more than 10 copies – school accounts can be set up at bloomsbury.com

What you'll find in every Student Edition:

- · The complete text of the play
- An introduction giving the background to the play, alongside discussion of the social, political, cultural and economic context in which it was conceived and created
- A chronology of the playwright's life and work, and a review of the play's production history – as required by many exam boards
- Questions for further study and exam preparation, with suggestions for primary and secondary reading

"Must-haves for any students exploring these modern classics, or indeed anyone teaching literature or drama"

- Teach Secondary

New Editions in the series include:

- Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* (9781350245778)
- Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* (9781350245013)
- Arthur Miller's *A View from the Bridge* (9781350245785)
- Tennessee Williams' A Streetcar Named Desire (9781350108516)

Coming soon – publishing September 2024 to February 2025:

- Danai Gurira's The Convert (9781350366275)
- Francis Turnly's *The Great Wave* (9781350402379)
- Willy Russell's Blood Brothers (9781350386198)

And many more...

SEE IT IN ACTION

Subscribe to the Bloomsbury English and Drama for Schools newsletter for sneak previews, extracts and additional support resources for teachers – visit bloomsbury. com/newsletter





KEY STAGE 3 AND 4

WRITING IN A CHANGING WORLD



SUSTAINABLE . ECONOMICAL . INNOVATIVE . QUALITY

© TAKE A LOOK!

Sustainable writing instruments for both teachers and pupils More than a philosophy, the Pilot 'WRITE BETTER WITH LESS' principle represents our approach, which is aimed at reducing the ecological impact of our production while preserving the standards of quality and innovation in our writing instruments.

At Pilot, we aim to constantly innovate while sustainably limiting our impact on the planet. Transforming our pens to make them ever more eco-friendly is a genuine technological and human feat. We're continuing to refine our efforts and improve our standards via an action plan based on four essential pillars – our '4R's of 'Recycle', 'Reduce', 'Refill' and 'Reclaim'.

RECYCLE – Limiting our use of plastic to a strict minimum. The extraction of raw materials needed to produce plastic represents 77.8% of a pen's carbon footprint, which is why, since the 2006 introduction of the Pilot Begreen range, we have preferred to use recycled plastic to make our pens.

REDUCE – We're all wrapped up in using less plastic. Since 2010, we have reduced quantities of virgin plastic by over 80% by using recycled plastic and FSC-certified cardboard. In 2020, we went even further. Our Begreen range is now available with 100% recyclable cardboard packaging.

REFILL – Change the refill, not the pen. Over 60% of our

products are refillable, which has enabled our end users to rethink how they consume. Using the same product several times, instead of throwing it away, is a gesture that's simple, economical and ecological.

RECLAIM – Less plastic in our oceans to reduce pollution. In partnership with the recycling

company TerraCycle, Pilot is adding reclaimed ocean waste to the recycled PET material used to manufacture the Iconic B2P range.

Pilot aims to offer a wide range of Begreen products to meet all your writing needs, at the same price and high quality as our standard products.





CONTACT

pilotpen.co.uk



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NEED -



Back in 2006 we launched our Begreen range – eco-designed products that are 85% refillable and manufactured with a minimum of 70% recycled plastic. This pioneering approach has allowed Pilot to become the first manufacturer worldwide to offer more environmentally-friendly writing instruments.



B2P – from Bottle to Pen! In 2021, for the first time anywhere in the world, we began making use of plastic waste reclaimed from beaches in the composition of our B2P range. These pens are made of at least 86% recycled plastic bottles, of which 2.5% are recycled ocean plastic.



At the start of 2023,
Pilot continued to
demonstrate its
environmental
commitment by
partnering with the
Marine Conservation
Society – the UK's
leading ocean charity.
Pilot continues to make a
charitable donation of 5p
from the UK sale of every
Pilot B2P Gel rollerball
and B2P Ecoball.





Develop Brilliant Speaking

We examine a resource that sets out to help children find their true voice and grow in confidence...



AT A GLANCE

- A new customisable teacher resource for boosting KS3 oracy skills in English
- Tried and tested lesson plans, PowerPoints, videos and worksheets
- Challenges all learners with inspiring activities on relatable topics
- Supports the transition from primary to secondary school
- · High-quality, evidence-informed oracy teaching

Collins

REVIEW BY JOHN DABELL

Oracy skills need to be taught, just as we routinely teach the skills of literacy, mathematics, science and so on. It could even be argued that oracy is the beating heart of a school, being both a curricular and pedagogical concern that improves cognitive development and academic achievement.

The issue, however, is that while many teachers possess knowledge of what oracy skills are, some will lack confidence in challenging and stretching pupils' speaking and listening abilities.

Teaching oracy well is something that can require considerable amounts of CPD.

Enter Develop Brilliant Speaking - an exciting teacher pack developed by assistant headteacher Djamila
Boothman, which focuses on teaching and improving speaking and listening skills in the classroom, alongside strategies for promoting and embedding oracy across the curriculum.

Written by a leading secondary school teacher, the contents are packed with practical advice, guidance and tips for improving oracy at Y7. At its heart, this resource is all about empowerment via helping students to find their voices, and confidently articulate and air their thoughts and feelings. This they do through activities that variously touch on debating, interthinking, speech-writing, listening, responding and working collaboratively.

Develop Brilliant Speaking contains 10 punchy lesson plans with accompanying

PowerPoints - the latter of which include an introduction to oracy, as well as presentations on non-verbal aspects of oracy, working with others, active listening and ways of boosting confidence.

The customisable lesson plans come complete with worksheets, homework activities, engaging tasks and even some thought-provoking videos, which, as you'd expect, present many prompts for class discussions. There are also additional notes to support oracy across the curriculum, along with guidance on how to continue developing these skills post-Y7.

What's interesting is how the pack doesn't just focus on one category of oracy per se, but also encompasses physical, linguistic, cognitive and cultural, social and emotional oracy. There's a clear recognition that oracy skills are perhaps best embedded across the teaching and learning of all subjects – thus making this resource a sound springboard for fostering a whole school approach to oracy, since

it contains subject-specific suggestions for practice across the school.

Oracy remains a hot topic. Research has shown that the most effective classroom talk occurs when teachers have a clear sense of how to provide supportive and productive contexts for said talk, where participation and productive dialogue is actively encouraged. This resource can serve as a transformative teacher training tool and professional development toolkit, in the service of helping students develop into more articulate and active citizens.



VERDICT

- ✓ Slots easily into any KS3 scheme of work
- ✓ Builds social skills and empathy, while facilitating meaningful interactions
- Supports efforts at improving social mobility and equity
- Prepares students for participation in the wider world
- ✓ Can improve academic outcomes

PICK UP IF...

...you are looking to unlock the power of effective communication, and help your Y7 students become more confident and articulate individuals.

...you want to ensure that student voice is an essential aspect of the secondary school experience.

Priced at £75; find out more at collins.co.uk/DevelopBrilliantSpeaking





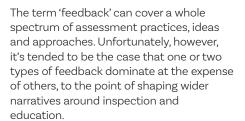
The Teacher Toolkit Guide to Feedback

Keen to improve your use of feedback but unsure where to start? The answers you seek may well be here...

AT A GLANCE

- Focuses on techniques to transform feedback practice
- Details nine real-life case study examples
- Presents scaffolded ideas, worked examples, infographics, charts, diagrams and templates
- Contains a range of recommendations, tips and suggestions for applying feedback ideas
- Features a foreword penned by Professor John Hattie

REVIEWED BY: JOHN DABELL



In The Teacher Toolkit Guide to Feedback, Ross Morrison McGill seeks to engage with all the varieties of formative assessment that teachers might turn to, and covers a range of strategies for use both inside and outside the classroom. The book presents an admirably nuanced picture of the feedback methods teachers can draw on, showcasing what effective verbal, nonverbal and written feedback looks like.

A series of chapter-length case studies delve into particular assessment challenges, documenting how the relevant school sought to address it, and the results their actions had. Each study then concludes by highlighting the crucial role that feedback techniques played in each respective scenario, and how well they support students in answering three crucial questions of themselves – 'Where am I going?', 'How am I doing?' and 'Where to next?'

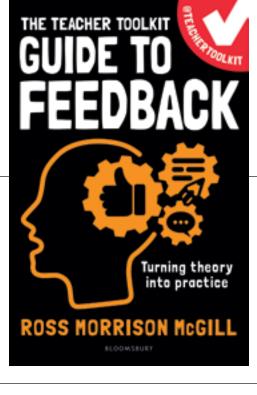
Outside of the case study chapters, readers can expect a rich mix of writing around the latest research and evidence concerning feedback, plus lots of practical advice. These different sides to the book are presented in a clear, user-friendly way that could well inspire you to give ideas such as the 'Orange Box approach', 'the KFC method' and the 'Praise, probe, identify, plan and lock' a try within your own setting.

QR codes peppered throughout the book contain helpful links to further reading and research – including an additional welcome message from McGill, as well as notes on the different factors that can influence feedback, aspects of social research, further case study nuggets and accompanying downloads.

A defining feature of the book is how it eschews any surplus – stripping away the dense edu-jargon in favour of breaking down the theory involved in feedback down to its essentials, thus enabling teachers to grasp the essence of the ideas the book discusses without being bamboozled.

The valuable insights, useful advice and real-world examples found within *The Teacher Toolkit Guide to Feedback* should go some way towards helping you realise those benefits within your own setting, while also giving you a deeper understanding of the different forms that formative assessment can take. It also provides an important reminder that perhaps the most powerful diagnostic tool teachers have within their armoury is the teacher-pupil conversation.

What you get in this book is a toolkit of evidence-based practical ideas, masses to



reflect on and a springboard for making formative assessment relevant, efficacious and impactful. It's relevant for pedagogical leaders, classroom practitioners and TAs, and will be extremely useful during any reorganisation of the culture surrounding feedback within your school.



VERDICT

- Shows how educational theory can be turned into useful practice
- Sets out ways of developing self-regulated learning and performance
- ✓ Signposts the way towards effecting positive change in your school's teaching and learning
- ✓ Clear, jargon-free explanations
- ✓ Ideal for teacher training and staff development sessions

PICK UP IF...

...you're looking for tried and tested strategies that intelligently link teaching, learning and assessment in ways that can transform your school's approach to feedback for the better.

Priced at £12.99; find out more at bloomsbury.com/education





Employable Me

An interactive online resource to help young people prepare to enter the world of work

AT A GLANCE

- · Created and delivered by the charity Young Enterprise
- A comprehensive online course divided into discrete units
- Covers all the essentials of job-hunting, such as CV writing and interview technique
- Includes further useful units on knowing your USP and cleaning up your social media presence
- Presented in a lively and accessible way

REVIEW BY: MIKE DAVIES

Do you remember your first job interviews? Perhaps you'd rather forget them - the squirming self-doubt, the panic of being under-prepared, the cringeworthy replies born from ignorance and/or naive arrogance...

The careers advice provided at secondary school should go some way towards preventing these kinds of issues. And yet, while the overall quality of careers advice has dramatically improved over the years (particularly when compared to my own school days), the limited time and resourcing that schools can dedicate to their careers offering mean that advisors and teachers often face an

uphill struggle.

Step forward, Young Enterprise. As a national charity committed to helping young people succeed in the ever-

changing world of work, Young Enterprise is dedicated to empowering those leaving full-time education to make the most of their potential. That includes providing invaluable practical guidance to those taking their first tentative steps into the jobs market through its YE Learning Zone platform and comprehensive Employable Me online course.

Employable Me covers all the key aspects of job-hunting in an enjoyable and accessible way. As you'd expect, students are given essential advice on how to craft a good CV, prepare for interviews and generally give the best possible account of themselves - all of which is presented via

separate units that students can work through at their own pace.

What really impresses me about Employable Me are the inclusion of additional thought-provoking activities that are designed to make users think beyond the obvious employment essentials. For one thing, there's a whole unit dedicated to helping learners consider their own unique selling points - because after all, why would any employer invest in someone who doesn't even know themselves what makes them special?

There's also a unit dedicated to encouraging young people to clean up

dedicated to

social media"

their social media "There's a unit presence. I'll bet that there are plenty of people who now wish, back in the day, that they'd had someone other than their parents or teachers telling

> them to delete this comment, or think again about posting that content. Because which young people are ever going listen to what they have to say about social media?

> The information is conveyed throughout in a range of interesting and interactive ways that are a million miles away from the dry, airless careers sessions of my youth. Also included are brief questionnaires to help learners crystalise their self-knowledge, short video clips that serve to illustrate sound interview techniques and mini-quizzes to check for understanding.

Once students have completed the



course, they receive a personalised certificate. Most importantly, however, they'll have gained valuable insights into how they can best showcase their skills and talents to potential employers. Good job!



VERDICT

- ✓ Fronted by relatable presenters
- ✓ Imparts practical and valuable advice
- √ Thoughtfully laid out and designed
- ✓ Extends far beyond basic employability skills



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