

**Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah Research Project:  
Rethinking SMSC through Participatory Theatre**

**Schools Briefing Document**



**Induction: November/December 2017)**

A half day/twilight session at a central Leeds location for teachers led by the Blahs and C&T to:

- Introduce the project phases and commitment
- Identify key challenges of delivering SMSC in their school/class
- Establish a collective change aim (e.g. with pupils, parents and colleagues) that is inspiring, achievable and reflects participants' needs
- Introduce the Prospero system (bespoke online interactive resources linked to the project)
- Share the script for *The Vultures' Song*

**Design of evaluation (NOV 2017 – FEB 2018)**

Meetings in each of the cohort schools to frame an individual area of enquiry in relation to the change aim and to design how they will evaluate its impact and collect data.

This phase will be further supported by email contact and a virtual forum (e.g. a closed Facebook page).

**Rehearsals: Monday March 5<sup>th</sup> until Thursday March 29<sup>th</sup>**

A twilight/half day session at a central Leeds location will be set up during rehearsals to preview *The Vultures Song*. This will include a further training input around the Prospero system where specific online content and activities relating to the project will be shared, and classroom planning opportunities discussed in relation to participants' areas of interest and enquiry.

Ongoing planning discussions will be supported by a virtual forum, email contact and a handbook of drama related activities.

**Touring: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April until Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

Schools will book in performance(s) of *The Vultures' Song* with their classes in their school. Each performance can engage up to 150 pupils depending on the space available at the school and how this would affect children's ability to view the performance. The normal cost

of one performance for this touring production would be £375, but schools participating in the research cohort can contact us to discuss their requirements.

Following the performance(s) teachers will use the Prospero system in their classrooms to extend learning in relation to SMSC development. Teachers will collect data according to their own individual areas of enquiry and chosen data-collection methodologies. Data will be collated and further evaluation activity carried out by an external project evaluator.

### **Dissemination: September 2018**

Findings will be shared with the cohort.

### **Time commitment**

#### **Structured sessions**

It is anticipated that there would be a minimum time commitment of two days – this would be split across the induction and rehearsal sessions outlined above, the two evaluation meetings and performances in schools. These sessions will be scheduled to minimise disruption to teaching commitments.

#### **Independent activity**

The minimum time commitment for this would roughly equate to one and half days – this would include the independent use of Prospero in the classroom, evaluation activity/data collection and virtual/email support. This activity would be integrated into the school day and not involve any time out of school.