



# REVISION ON TOUR

GCSE English texts live on stage

*Education Pack!*



# SUPPORTING STUDENTS THROUGH LIVE THEATRE



At **Dickens Theatre Company**, we are passionate about supporting young people through their GCSE English exams.

**Revision on Tour** brings classic GCSE English texts to life on stage through engaging productions performed in theatres across the UK.

Our current productions include:

- **Macbeth** – William Shakespeare
- **Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde** – Robert Louis Stevenson
- **A Christmas Carol** – Charles Dickens

Our productions stay true to the original works while helping students explore the story, characters and key themes in a clear and accessible way.

Designed to support GCSE study while introducing students to live theatre, our productions are ideal for school trips, revision support and wider literary enrichment.

We also offer a free post-show Q&A with the cast and director, giving students the opportunity to ask questions and explore the texts further.

*Ryan and Mel Philpott*

Artistic Director and Producer

# WHY BOOK A REVISION ON TOUR SHOW?

- **Supports Year 10 & 11 GCSE English Study**

Faithful adaptations retaining key themes, speeches and motifs.

- **Engaging & Accessible**

Designed to help students better understand the texts and promotes critical thinking.

- **Narration That Supports Understanding**

The Chorus in Macbeth and Stevenson in Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde guide students through key scenes and themes.

- **Free Post-Show Q&A**

Cast and director Q&A after matinee performances.

- **Suitable for Year 5 & 6**

Helping introduce pupils to classic literature ahead of secondary school.

- **Inventive Ensemble Storytelling**

Professional actors bring multiple characters vividly to life through dynamic multi-roling performance.

- **Affordable School Group Prices**

Special prices for school groups\*

\*Please enquire with your local venue

- **Professional Touring Company**

Performed by professional actors in major theatres across the UK.



# MACBETH

*Touring January-April*

DTC's dynamic adaptation of Macbeth presents Shakespeare's tragedy in a clear and engaging way while retaining the play's original themes, characters, scenes and speeches.

Led by Shakespeare's Chorus, acting as our narrator, this fast-paced production guides audiences through the story with engaging modern verse while keeping Shakespeare's original text at its core.

Performed by an ensemble cast of six multi-roling actors, the production brings Shakespeare's world of ambition, guilt and supernatural intrigue vividly to life.

The production helps students explore themes surrounding kingship, ambition and political instability, while examining how Shakespeare's play reflected the fears and interests of Jacobean society.

## Production Information

- Running time: 1 hour 45 minutes including interval
- Free post-show Q&A available after matinee performances (additional 20 minutes)
- Recommended age 8+

Adapted and directed by Ryan Philpott  
Original music by Paul Higgs



# CURRICULUM LINKS - MACBETH

DTC's adaptation of Macbeth supports key areas of the English National Curriculum across KS2, KS3 and KS4.

## Key Stage 2

### Reading Comprehension

- Plot and character analysis
- Shakespearean vocabulary and literary devices
- Exploring themes and dramatic structure
- Understanding historical context

### Speaking & Listening

- Discussion and interpretation
- Debate and presentation skills
- Responding to live theatre experiences

## Key Stage 3

### Shakespeare in Performance

- Dramatic structure and verse
- Interpretations through live performance
- Staging and audience response
- Shakespearean conventions

### Language & Analysis

- Figurative language and vocabulary choices
- Structure and dramatic effect
- Alternative interpretations through staging
- Critical reading skills

## Key Stage 4

### Themes & Character Analysis

- Ambition and power
- Guilt and betrayal
- Fate and the supernatural
- Psychological decline

### Language, Form & Structure

- Language, form and structure analysis
- Juxtaposition and dramatic contrast
- GCSE terminology and essay support
- Audience response and dramatic effect

### Historical Context

- Jacobean society and beliefs
- Witchcraft and superstition
- King James I and The King's Men
- Power, kingship and political instability



## Key Motifs

- Hallucination
- Prophecy
- Violence

# DR JEKYLL AND MR HYDE

*Touring January-April*

DTC's adaptation of **Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde** retains Stevenson's key themes, characters and speeches while presenting the story in an accessible way.

Robert Louis Stevenson acts as narrator throughout the production, helping students follow the plot and recap key moments through engaging verse.

Performed by an ensemble cast of six actors, the production brings Victorian London to life while supporting students' understanding of the novella's themes and context.

The production explores the social, scientific and intellectual climate of late 19th century Britain, helping students engage with Victorian ideas surrounding morality, respectability and human nature.

## Production Information

- Running time: 1 hour 45 minutes including interval
- Free post-show Q&A available after matinee performances (additional 20 minutes)
- Recommended age 8+

Adapted and directed by Ryan Philpott  
Original music by Paul Higgs



# CURRICULUM LINKS - DR JEKYLL & MR HYDE

DTC's adaptation of Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde supports key areas of the English National Curriculum across KS2, KS3 and KS4.

## Key Stage 2

### Reading Comprehension

- Understanding plot and character
- Exploring themes and literary devices
- Victorian context

### Writing

- Narrative structure and suspense
- Characterisation
- Vocabulary and figurative language

### Speaking & Listening

- Discussion and interpretation
- Presentation and debate skills

## Key Motifs

- Doors and windows
- Light and dark
- Salt and drugs

## Key Stage 3 & 4

### Contextual Understanding

- Victorian society and morality
- Science vs religion
- Crime and class division
- AO3 contextual analysis

### Themes & Character

- Duality and repression
- Good vs evil
- Reputation and deceit
- Darwinism and human nature

### Language Analysis

- Oxymorons and juxtaposition
- Figurative language
- Pathetic fallacy
- Character and setting analysis



# A CHRISTMAS CAROL *Touring Nov & Dec*

With the rest of the cast stuck on a train, Charles Dickens and his faithful tour manager, George Dolby, find themselves forced to take on the daunting challenge of portraying over 30 characters.

Faithful to Dickens' original novella, **DTC's** adaptation of **A Christmas Carol** retains all the key themes, characters and scenes while bringing the story vividly to life through inventive storytelling and performance.

The production helps students explore the novella's social and historical context, including Victorian attitudes towards wealth, morality and Christmas traditions such as reading ghost stories aloud during the festive season.

## Production Information

- Running time: 1 hour 10 minutes with no interval or 1 hour 30 minutes with interval
- Free post-show Q&A available after matinee performances (additional 20 minutes)
- Recommended age 8+

Adapted and directed by Ryan Philpott  
Original music by Paul Higgs



# CURRICULUM LINKS - A CHRISTMAS CAROL

DTC's adaptation of A Christmas Carol supports key areas of the English National Curriculum across KS2, KS3 and KS4.

## Key Stage 2

### Reading Comprehension

- Plot and character analysis
- Victorian vocabulary and literary devices
- Exploring themes including redemption and social injustice
- Understanding Victorian society and historical context

### Writing

- Narrative structure and atmosphere
- Characterisation and Scrooge's transformation
- Descriptive and imaginative writing
- Vocabulary development

### Speaking & Listening

- Discussion and interpretation
- Group discussion and presentations
- Responding to live theatre and storytelling

## Key Stage 3 & 4

### Social & Historical Context

- Victorian attitudes towards poverty and wealth
- The Industrial Revolution and Poor Laws
- Social inequality and Victorian values
- AO3 contextual analysis

### Literary Themes

- Greed and compassion
- Social injustice and redemption
- The meaning of Christmas
- Philanthropy and morality

### Character & Language Analysis

- Dickens' character and setting descriptions
- Figurative language, including similes and metaphors
- Writer's methods and language analysis
- The presentation of children and social issues
- Ignorance and Want as symbols of inequality



## Key Motifs

- Weather
- Time
- Poverty

# FREE POST SHOW Q&A

All matinee performances include a free 20 minute post-show Q&A with the cast and director.

These sessions give students the opportunity to ask questions, explore themes and characters in greater depth, and develop a clearer understanding of the text and production.

The Q&As have become a hugely valued part of the **Revision on Tour** experience, with many teachers and students commenting on how helpful they are in supporting classroom learning and revision.

*'It was an incredibly valuable session, not only from the different questions asked - but the utterly engaging answers and discussions given by the cast. It was fantastic! It was as good as the actual show!'* – Audience Member



# Reviews

## Macbeth

★★★★★

“Utterly enthralling!

– Fairy Powered Productions

“A fantastic evening at Aylesbury Waterside Theatre with our Year 10 and 11 students to see Macbeth. Seeing this wonderful play on stage brings everything we’ve been learning in the classroom to life.”

– The Grange School

★★★★★

“A superbly-entertaining way to present classic plays.” – The View From The Stalls

★★★★★

“Without doubt this combines fun, education and history.” – Apple Radio

“If you are studying Macbeth at GCSE... it all starts with this show. A revelation for my English students.” – Darren Pacey, Crompton House School

## A CHRISTMAS CAROL

“Saw A Christmas Carol tonight in Stamford and absolutely loved it. Great, engaging, funny, emotional - all of it. Fab performances from the two Gents and wholly recommended.” – Audience Member

★★★★★

“Mesmerising.” – Fairy Powered Productions

“A masterclass in theatrical creativity.” – Audience Member

“I was worried my year 11 son wouldn’t be able to follow, but I needn’t have worried! It was so cleverly thought out, so easy to follow and so magical and powerful all at once.” – Audience Member

“With A Christmas Carol on the curriculum for GCSE English, it’s a great chance to bring the story to life for teenagers.” – Living Magazine

## DR JEKYLL MR HYDE

“It was a masterclass in how students should approach GCSE English Literature.” – HWL Expert Tuition Network

“By far the best theatrical production of Jekyll and Hyde that we’ve seen!” – Audience Member

“We came with a group of teenage boys and it was so helpful for them. Especially with the Q&A after.” – Audience Member

“Chilling and delightful” – Morning Star

“At last! DTC have finally given GCSE students the stage adaptation of J&H we have all been crying out for. The characters, the key quotes, Stevenson’s London... leapt from the page. The kids loved it.” – English Teacher, Westcliff High School for Boys

★★★★★ – Theatre South East

# How to book a school trip



School bookings can be organised directly through the **theatre's box office** for the venue you wish to attend. Box Office opening times may vary.

Most venues offer **special prices for school groups**, and teachers or supervisors may receive complimentary tickets depending on the theatre's policy.

Schools can also reserve block bookings without having to pay up front at most venues.

For further information you can contact:

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