What happens when an audience is cast as the protagonist of an adventure? Led by Punchdrunk Enrichment's newly appointed Artistic Director, Steve McCourt, this participatory session will explore the company's signature approach to creating narratives that cast the audience as the heroes of an immersive experience. Teachers will leave armed with exercises to offer their students, and a framework designed to aid their creative and devising processes. Students will go on to create work that places the audience at the heart of the story as they are offered a pedagogical approach steeped in positivity, purpose, and endless possibility.

*Punchdrunk Enrichment was founded in 2008 to take the innovative practice of Punchdrunk into schools, community and family settings. Originally part of Punchdrunk, the company became an independent charity in 2021 and is now based in Brent, London. Today, it is a National Portfolio Organisation dedicated to creating transformational, immersive experiences for as wide an audience as possible.*



In this Splendid-style workshop we will be looking at how to devise new work using physical characterisation, chorus, and vocality, whilst rooting the work in socio-political perspectives. The session will be about quickly and accessibly making sense of theory that can sometimes feel abstract on the page. Gen will bring with her a toolbox of techniques, exercises, and approaches to stimulus, leading an energetic workshop that will quickly get you on your feet... get ready to move!

*Splendid Productions are a theatre company and an education company. They create challenging, entertaining, politically engaged theatre for young audiences, and provide expert training in all areas of drama practice and theory.*

*Commedia dell'arte in the classroom: A Practical Toolkit for KS3 Teachers*
Join us for an energetic, one-hour workshop designed to inspire and enrich your KS3 drama teaching practice. This session will awaken the physical performer within you, building your confidence to model expressive, physical theatre in the classroom. Through engaging, accessible techniques, you will begin to develop a toolkit for teaching commedia characterisation and physical comedy, rooted in the stock character movement repertoires. The workshop offers quick and adaptable exercises you can immediately apply to explore slapstick, silent movies, clowning, pantomime, Shakespeare, and, of course, commedia dell'arte itself. You will leave with handouts including historical context, character cue cards, and a ready-to-use commedia scheme of work—plus a fresh set of ideas for approaching classic texts and comedy units with creativity and confidence.

*Learning Through Theatre is an educational theatre company offering global shows and workshops for students, teachers, and performers, both online and in-person. They specialise in commedia dell'arte and physical theatre, including workshops in masks, mime, comedy, puppetry, and storytelling.*

Implement an ambitious Key Stage 3 Drama Curriculum which 'lands' for your students.

In this collaborative session, you will have an opportunity to evaluate your Key Stage 3 drama curriculum. Through small group discussions and sharing best practice you will explore and interrogate specific challenges you are facing within your context. Topics and questions explored will be proposed by the attendees. You will also consider what, and how, to implement teaching ideas and resources from the CPD sessions you have engaged in throughout the day, shaping a clear implementation plan for the term ahead.

*Since 2021, We Teach Drama has created and delivered innovative training and resources for drama teachers worldwide. They won 'Outstanding Drama Education Resource' in 2023 for their 'Think Like a Lighting Designer Workbook & Videos'. They are a partner of Stagecoach Performing Arts Schools, delivering set design masterclasses throughout the UK.*

**All sessions will have a scribe that notes down the exercises and practitioner insight. This will be shared with you after the event.**