



Solomon
Theatre Company
Directing Change in Young People

**COMMUNICATE
AND EDUCATE
THROUGH DRAMA**

ABOUT US

LAST
ORDERS

THE POWER
OF LOVE

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GEMMA'S
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About Us

Solomon Theatre Company produces educational drama productions aimed at KS2, KS3 & KS4 students. Based in Bedfordshire we deliver our production to schools around the UK.

We create appropriate, impacting theatre shows relevant to current issues – frequently very sensitive ones – which resonate with the young audiences and provides information, thought-provoking scenarios and the opportunity to express, explore and develop different responses. We focus on hard hitting and serious issues such as under-age drinking, drugs misuse, knife violence and peer pressure.

Our packages consist of both live performance and interactive workshops. We offer an 1 hour show as a stand-alone or with a 1 hour workshop proceeding which can be delivered to a whole year group at once. We would work with you to make sure the show and workshop are appropriate and well suited to students within your region. While the shows themselves are carefully scripted, we can fine-tune workshop content to suit your own specific priorities.



Performances	Key Issues	Scheduled			Target Audience							
		Autumn	Spring	Summer	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11
Last Orders	Alcohol abuse & sexual health	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11
Power of Love	Relationships & Personal Grooming	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11
Skin Deep	Knife Crime and gangs	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11
Safe	Bullying, Knife Crime and Friendship	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11
Gemma's Wardrobe	Drug Education	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11
Human	Social Media, Self esteem and Alcohol	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11
Choices	Future and high education	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11

Last Orders

Alcohol education for KS3

Last Orders tells the story of two young girls as they embark on a night of binge-drinking at home with disastrous consequences. After inviting Dan, an older boy round, he quickly takes advantage of the girls and the situation, posting **sexual images** of the drunken girls via social media. Dan threatens to post on-line about Cassie being frigid and so she agrees to **unprotected sex**.



Students reliving Cassie's experience in the workshop will gain knowledge on **contraception**, **STIs** and **consent** as well as developing the skills to avoid the pressure to drink alcohol and act irresponsibly.

There are other key messages highlighted on in this story, not just the influence of alcohol. Also:

- The stages of **intoxication**.
- **Sexual health** and making choices.
- **Legal issues:** under-age purchasing of alcohol and other restricted goods, statutory rape, antisocial behaviour and the implications of having a criminal record.
- **Relationships:** positive and negative role models, reputation and respect.

Aimed at Year 8, 9 and 10 students

Show run time	55 minutes
Workshop run time	55 minutes
Set up	40 minutes prior to performance
Cast	4 actors
Space	6m x 6m x 2m, 1x13A supply & parking for 1 medium sized van
Tours	September - December



The Power of Love

Promoting healthy and happy relationships for KS4

Lucy's new boyfriend is fit ... but he's also becoming increasingly **controlling** ... he intimidates her **psychologically** and then **violently**. The choice is hers – will she be like her mum and stay or will she find the strength to follow her own path?

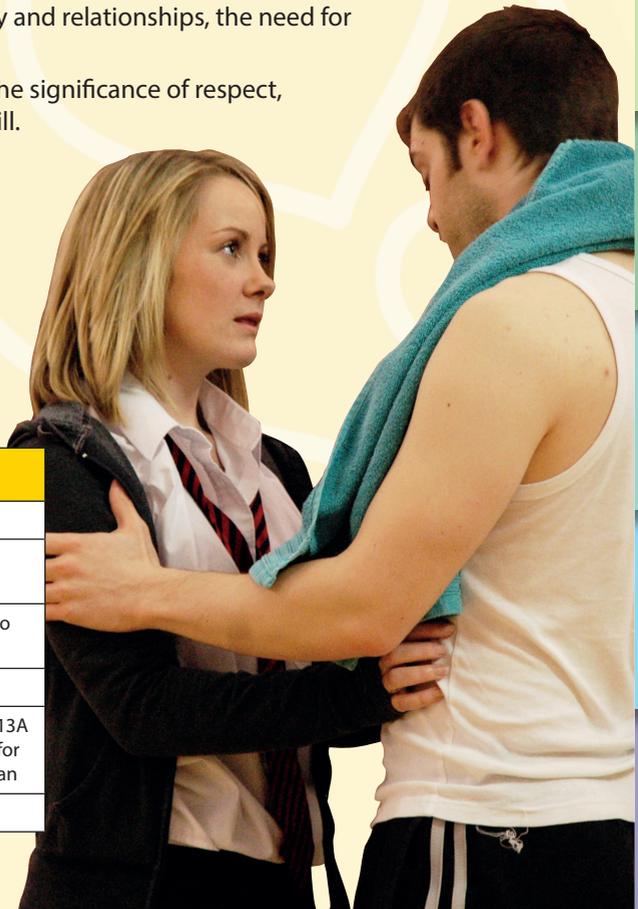
Students are impacted by seeing the varying forms of **abuse** and then discussing the fundamental principles of **respect, trust** and **equality** which are hallmarks of a **healthy relationship** over any social media form.



What students see are key messages surrounding:

- **Exploitation** and the varied forms of abuse.
- **Cyber Safety** – technology and relationships, the need for social media know-how.
- **Healthy Relationships** – the significance of respect, equality, trust and goodwill.

Aimed at KS4 Students	
Show run time	55 minutes
Workshop run time	55 minutes
Set up	40 minutes prior to performance
Cast	4 actors
Space	6m x 6m x 2m, 1x13A supply & parking for 1 medium sized van
Tours	January - April



Skin Deep

Knife crime, gang culture, racism and violence education for KS4

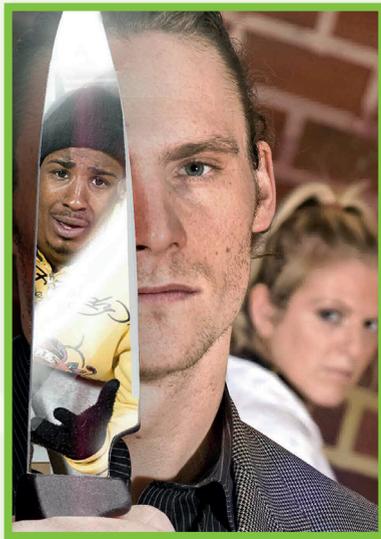
Students see Denny's home life, which is **troubled**, her single parent mum who is 'off her head' most of the time and there's never any money or food. So when she gets **groomed** into a gang by an older man it's no surprise she's bowled over. Cash, phones, alcohol and drugs – why wouldn't she do what he wants?

Audiences see her carrying a **knife for protection** and how this leads to a life changing event for all involved. Based on true events, this hard-hitting show immediately connects with students through compelling dialogue and rap music.

Workshop leaders are trained and equipped to handle **disclosures** and **signpost** students.

Strong messages shown are:

- **Violence**, including **protectionism** and **knife crime**.
- **Extremism** and **prejudice** challenging thinking and developing understanding.
- **Grooming** and **Exploitation** how gangs function and the **consequences** of membership.



Aimed at KS4 Students

Show run time	55 minutes
Workshop run time	55 minutes
Set up	40 minutes prior to performance
Cast	4 actors
Space	6m x 6m x 2m, 1x13A supply & parking for 1 medium sized van
Tours	January - April





Safe

Friendship, bullying & the dangers of carrying a knife

9 year old Sam is being **bullied** by some older boys who he has met in the park after school. They have been **demanding money** from him which he has been taking from home. Polly, his best friend, tries to give advice but Sam is so frightened by the bullies that he brings a **knife** to school for protection.

The message of the play is that carrying a knife will never protect you and is highly dangerous and confiding in your parents or teachers if you are being bullied is the best way to tackle the situation.

Key Issues

- **Bullying** – how to get help.
- The importance of **friendship**.
- The **dangers** of carrying a knife.



Aimed at Year 4, 5 and 6 students

Show run time	35 minutes
Workshop run time	20 minutes
Set up	40 minutes prior to performance
Cast	3 actors
Space	6m x 6m x 2m, 1x13A supply & parking for 1 medium sized van
Tours	January - July

Gemma's Wardrobe

Drugs and self esteem education for KS3

Based on a true story, Gemma is feeling **under pressure** and **overwhelmed** and starts to slip under the negative influence of her 'bad boy' classmate. This leads to her having a **negative spiral** and **experimenting**; first with **alcohol** and then **illegal drugs**.

Students observe Gemma's journey and in doing so learn to discern between supportive and destructive relationships. It is in the workshop that students identify key factors that impact on their self-esteem.

The Key messages that are brought to life by 'Gemma's Wardrobe' are:

- **Health issues** – alcohol, tobacco and illegal drug use.
- **The Law** – use and supply of illegal substances, (class A, B & C drugs).
- **Social Media Pressure** – building self-esteem and promoting positive lifestyle choices.



Aimed at KS3 Students

Show run time	55 minutes
Workshop run time	55 minutes
Set up	40 minutes prior to performance
Cast	4 actors
Space	6m x 6m x 2m, 1x13A supply & parking for 1 medium sized van
Tours:	May - July

Human

Social media, self esteem and alcohol

Every corner we turn we are bombarded by ideals, but what is the real ideal, the real deal?

Human follows the story of two sisters, Piper age 14 and Polly age 16, who are surrounded by rapidly changing technology. One day at a party Piper gets **drunk** and her peers **take embarrassing videos**, which they post on social media for the world to see.

This show explores the pressures for **social media** and the **negative effects** it can have on teenage well-being.

Key Issues

- **Pressures** of Social Media
- **Self esteem** and **confidence**.
- **Consent** for taking videos and photos for others.
- **Alcohol** abuse

Aimed at Year 7, 8 and 9 students

Show run time	50 minutes
Workshop run time	50 minutes
Set up	40 minutes prior to performance
Cast	3 actors
Space	6m x 6m x 2m, 1x13A supply & parking for 1 medium sized van
Tours	January - July



Choices



Choices

Helping students to choose their futures

Lucy, Alex and Shaun are all facing 'decision day' and have to decide on what subjects to study, however, each one faces unique problems.

Whether it is knowing their **learning styles** (kinaesthetic, visual or auditory) or understanding where the **topics** they enjoy could lead them, they also have to overcome **pressure** from peers to stay in their group, from parents to follow a certain learning path or even pressure to conform to gender stereotypes.

Key messages

- Which subjects should I pick for BTEC or A level?
- What career and **learning pathway** options are there for me?
- How do **apprenticeships** work, would they be suitable for my future?

Aimed at Years 9 and 10

Show run time	35 minutes
Workshop run time	20 minutes
Set up	30 minutes prior to performance
Cast	3 actors
Space	6m x 6m x 2m, 1x13A supply & parking for 1 medium sized van
Tours:	October - July

What timings/schedules for a school day work best?

Solomon's performances and follow on workshops run for 55 minutes each, they are intended to fit within a standard 60-minute lesson. **REMEMBER** – plan time for students to arrive and be seated – especially large groups. We are flexible to handle shorter or longer lesson times.

The standard format is for the whole of the year group to see the performance in period 1 and then smaller groups from that year are taken out of timetable throughout the day to see the workshops.

Some schools have two performances and two workshops in a day because their halls are smaller, they want to maximize the impact for their students or they want to reach two year groups.

Can I benefit from including other external agencies?

Definitely, in some areas we work with Police, Council departments, Drugs agencies and Primary Care Trust health professionals. Often co-presenting with additional, parallel workshops, we recommend you discuss this with us and put us in touch with each other so we can share material and ensure all workshops complement each other.

Which space/venue can I use?

The hall is best but we also use drama halls, dance floors and sports halls. Consider the following:

- A stage is good as it gives better sight lines and we would use one if available. The set is 5m wide by 5m deep and 2m high.
- Lighting helps students to engage more and if available a general wash with no state changes is used.
- Also think about sound acoustics.

What are the preparations for a show?

It takes 30 minutes to set up for the performance which is why we arrive 40 minutes before the show start time. We allow 10 minutes to find the contact, sign in and park the van for unloading.

If the performance space is needed for an assembly beforehand, please advise us so we can set up in advance and plan accordingly.

It takes 30 minutes to clear away after the performance, usually this is done in a break time as the set is not needed for the workshops but if the hall space is required immediately after the performance please let us know so we can plan accordingly.



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