

Name of Exercise: subtext warm-up
Aim of Exercise: To introduce idea of subtext
Length 5-10 mins
Headline/Summary (one sentence): A practical activity that uses a short script to introduce subtext
Possible themes/curriculum links: English
Soft Skills/PHSE: Team work Confidence
Resources/Space required: Can be done stood up behind desks or in a large open space
Step by step: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Divide class into pairs and assign them a's and b's 2. Reveal the script..... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A: Hello B: Hello A: You are late B: I know 3. Ask them to have a go saying the script as if..... 1. They are both angry, 2. They are both sad 3. One is happy and one is sad (switch) 4. One is frustrated and one is panicked (again switch). You can use any number of emotions are differentiate according to ability. 4. Ask them to pick one version and rehearse it with movement and body language 5. Watch a couple and discuss what the story is.... Who is in control? What is happening? Is B sorry they are late? Etc etc 6. Link to 'subtext' – what is the hidden meaning in language? Is it always what we fist think? What impacts meaning in words?
Alternatives: (ideas from different practitioners/context)
Follow Up Curriculum links/suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - English – when looking at a text (e.g the poem 'Name Calling' by Charles Thompson) this activity can help unlock students ability to see things literally. What is hidden in the words we read? -
Follow Up Drama links/suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See plan on subtext extended task for the next stage