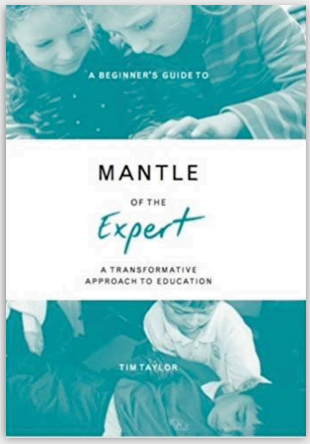
MANTLE OF THE EXPERT

Newsletter

A Beginner's Guide to Mantle of the Expert



£15 + p&p

Try This: Unlocking learning with imagination



£25 + p&p



Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to welcome you to the latest edition of the Mantle of the Expert newsletter. Mantle of the Expert supports educators worldwide in creating engaging and thoughtful classrooms using imaginary contexts for learning. In this edition, we provide key information on available training and support, highlight upcoming events, and share valuable resources designed to enhance your practice.

Planning

Visit our website and discover over 50 Mantle of the Expert contexts written by teachers for teachers. Recent new contexts include: 'Meadow' KS1, Anglo-Saxons, Evacuees, Florence Nightingale, and Maya Civilisation.



https://www.mantleoftheexpert.com/

Mantle of the Expert YouTube Channel



Take a look at our new YouTube channel—a growing resource for anyone working with Mantle of the Expert. The collection includes rare footage of Dorothy Heathcote, as well as film from classrooms where teachers are using Mantle in practice.

In the 1980s, Dorothy Heathcote collaborated with Derek Draper and a group of teachers to create a series of films exploring how drama and Mantle of the Expert can be used in the classroom to generate engaging, purposeful learning. Long held in the archive at Newcastle University, these videos are now available online through our YouTube channel.

The channel also includes BBC documentaries such as Three Looms Waiting, Pieces of Dorothy, and Blackley and Broadene—a powerful film of Dorothy working with a class in the north of England.

MoE YouTube Channel



Dorothy Heathcote Now International Drama Conference

6-9 November 2025

"THE BEST CONFERENCE ON DRAMA IN EDUCATION IN THE WORLD!"

MANCHESTER METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY

Four days of workshops and presentations, with an international line-up of presenters including Cecily O'Neill, Brian Edmiston, Stig A. Eriksson, Tim Taylor, Iona Towler Evans and more.



HOW IT WILL WORK

6 NOV: ONLINE DAY with an international line-up of speakers and panellists

7 NOV: "CREATIVE PRACTICES" DAY - delegates will work for a day with leading practitioners, and take part in a drama session in a local school

8-9 NOV: TWO-DAY CONFERENCE WEEKEND with practical drama workshops, presentations and panel discussions.

You can book for all four days; or you can book separately for the Online day, the 'Creative Practices' day, and the Conference Weekend.

https://www.mantlenetwork.com

NATD Drama Event: Voicing the Real – Teaching In Role

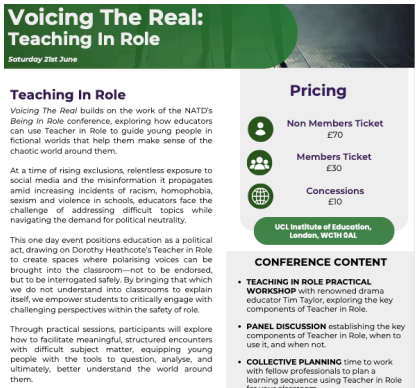
21st June, 2025
UCL Institute of Education, London, WC1H 0AL



TEACHING IN ROLE PRACTICAL WORKSHOP with renowned drama educator Tim Taylor, exploring the key components of Teacher in Role.
PANEL DISCUSSION establishing the key components of Teacher in Role, when to use it, and when not.
COLLECTIVE PLANNING time to work with fellow professionals to plan a learning sequence using Teacher in Role for your classroom.

Pricing:
Non Member Tickets: £70
Members Tickets: £30
Concessions: £10

BOOK HERE



Institute for Imaginative Inquiry SUMMER WORKSHOP

28th-31st July 2025

As part of the Progressive Education Network's Independent Workshop Series the Institute for Imaginative Inquiry will conduct a four-day training at Catherine Cook School in Chicago this summer!



Join us this summer to experience examples of Imaginative Inquiry units for grades K-6 and explore how the conventions, techniques, and philosophy of Imaginative Inquiry strengthen students' social imagination, allowing them to create, reflect, and practice becoming agents of change in our world!



$1,400 per participant (includes workshop, teacher support forum, breakfast, refreshments, and book).

Discounts for early registration, public schools, and groups of 3 or more. Scholarships available.

BOOK YOUR PLACE

Free online course for beginners



This beginner's course to Mantle of the Expert will introduce you to the fundamental elements of the Mantle of the Expert approach and its application in the classroom. Ideal for staff-meetings or self-study.

Online course for intermediate and advanced users

A five unit online course focusing on the methods and principles used to engage children in learning and make Mantle of the Expert work successfully in the classroom. Sign up and study at your own pace. Includes resources, planning, and exercises for practicing in the classroom.

"I have been using Mantle of the Expert in my teaching for 15 years, and this course elevated my understanding and teaching of MOE in leaps and bounds! The course systematizes MOE so that it's not just something you have to figure out on your own. It breaks everything down, naming the components and techniques, and explains each in a step-by-step way. The best part for me was to see and hear examples of these various components and how they are applied to a unit of study. I was able to use what I learned in my teaching immediately."

New Price: £50

Use this code to get a 50% discount: HXIN07Z3AH

Training in Mantle of the Expert 2025/26



Mantle of the Expert is increasingly recognised as a transformative approach to teaching and learning. Our training and professional development offer a uniquely comprehensive pathway, combining INSET sessions, demonstration lessons, one-to-one coaching, and online courses.

To find out how we can support the development of Mantle of the Expert in your setting, please visit our website or get in touch at: admin@mantleoftheexpert.com.

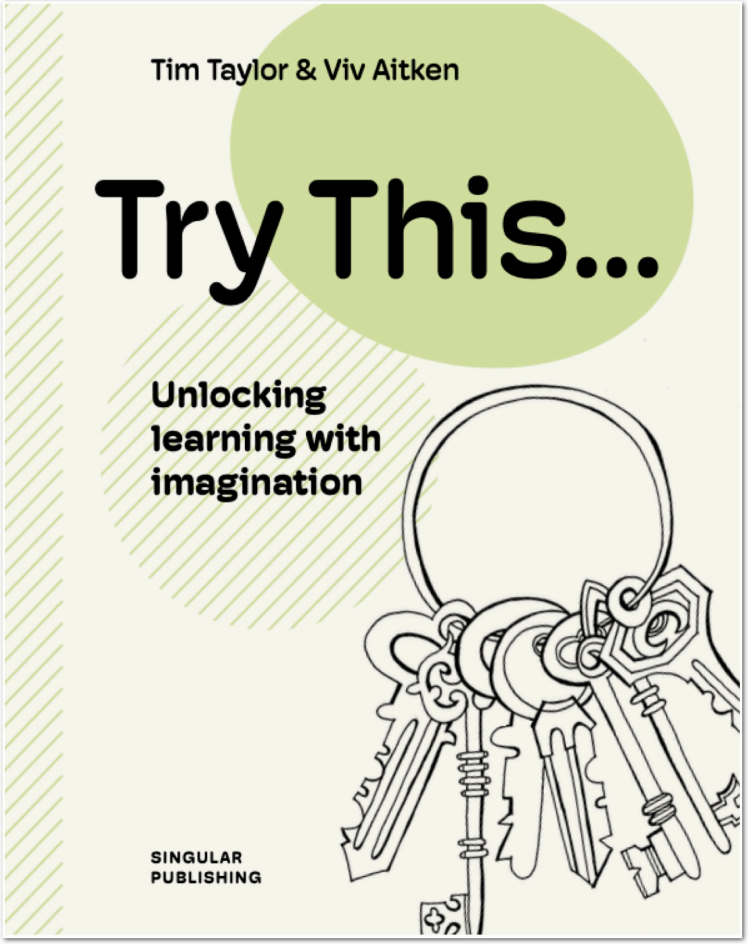
Here are some of the things people have said about our courses:

"Thank you so much for such the inspiring training. Lou and I returned to work full of new ideas! My area for professional development within the three dimensions of MoE was inquiry. I re-planned a lesson based around drama using the skills I had learnt on this training. Wow! The results were amazing. The children were asking a lot more questions and analysing situations but also discussing ways of improving and developing the situation we were in within our story."

"The training really consolidated my learning and gave me fresh ideas on how to engage children in a meaningful ways. This is the most comprehensive and practical training available on Mantle of the Expert. Having practiced MOE in many schools, this course gave me new skills and ideas to take to the classroom. This course is essential for any teacher or practitioner looking to practice Mantle of the Expert, it has revolutionised the way we work in schools."

Contact us

Try This: Unlocking Learning with Imagination



Try This is a great collection of forty tried and tested learning sequences, or 'keys', designed to bring classroom learning alive.

If you are a teacher planning to create active, engaging, rigorous and memorable learning experiences for your students, this book is for you.

All the keys use Dramatic Inquiry; an approach to teaching based on the methods of legendary educator Dorothy Heathcote.

"I am constantly amazed by the miracle of the way thinking about a dramatic idea can in an instant become that of carrying it into action. There is a world of difference between someone in a class saying, 'Well they would take all their belongings with them', and saying, 'Let's pack up and leave'. That is the switch I work for, to enable a dramatic exploration of ideas to take place."
Dorothy Heathcote, Signs and Portents

What people are saying about *Try This...*

"The whole concept, including the metaphor of keys, is brilliant. It is like reading your favourite recipe book, with simple instructions that anyone can follow and return to time and again."
Whakarongo Tauranga, Associate Principal, Knighton Normal School, Hamilton, Aotearoa New Zealand

"What a stunning book this is! Will breathe life into children's learning and joy into your teaching."
Nicole Winter, St Nicholas C of E Primary School, Wantage, UK

"Teachers, if you would like a classroom full of highly invested, engaged learners busily immersed in a context and eager to learn more, then have a little dabble with Try This. You don't even need to read the whole book ... but I bet you do! An absolute game changer."
Julia Baker, Deputy Head Teacher, Bradshaw Primary School, Halifax, UK


Tim Taylor


Viv Aitken