

ALTRU DRAMA CIC

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Altru^{☆☆}
INSPIRE | CREATE | EDUCATE



Creative
projects,
workshops and
performances for
primary schools



HELLO FROM US!



Hello!

Thanks so much for picking up our brochure, we're delighted that you want to find out more about Altru and what we do.

This brochure has been designed to give you some information about our most popular 'off the shelf' projects and also to share a bit about who we are and why we do what we do.

We love to chat to teachers and school leaders about how we can work in partnership and our General Manager Dan is available Monday – Friday for conversations and emails.

As well as the work you'll read about here, we also develop and deliver bespoke drama projects. Recently we've completed a big impact Restorative Justice Project, delivered a performance project about issues facing refugees and asylum seekers and created a new Learn and Perform script all about Charles Darwin! As you can see, we love a challenge – and we'd love to talk to you about your project ideas.

Get in touch:

dan@altru.co.uk / 0151 443 0333

WORKSHOPS

At Altru we believe in the power of drama, to help children learn, develop and transform.

We offer curriculum and PSHE based workshops all year round.

On the next 2 pages you'll find information about our most popular formats.

We can also deliver bespoke workshops and projects and love to develop new formats that meet a school's exact needs. Get in touch to have a chat!



LEARN & PERFORM

Learn and Perform is our high impact, wow-starter workshop day – perfect for introducing a topic and getting children excited about learning.

One class spend the day with our drama practitioner, learning all about their chosen topic through fun activities, drama games and role play. Across the day they develop and rehearse a short performance which can be shared towards the end of the school day, with the rest of the school and parents too.

The children play all the parts and because they're in role and immersed in the topic, the learning is fun, memorable and meaningful.

We have over 30 different Learn and Perform topics to choose from; the full list is on the page.

"We have been working with Altru Drama for over 10 years now. We recommend them highly. They are an invaluable part of many of our topics and we believe the Learn & Perform workshop is an important strategy in helping children to more fully understand complex situations, historical concepts or plays. The staff are always of a high quality and our children really enjoy the opportunity to learn in this way!"

Mairead Dowell
Headteacher
St Robert Bellarmine
Primary

EXPLORE DAYS

Explore Days give between 2 and 4 classes the chance to explore a topic in just one day!

You choose your topic and how many classes you'd like us to work with. We schedule the day around your school timetable and hall availability, and plan age appropriate workshops to get your pupils exploring, learning, being creative and having fun.

An Explore Day is the perfect format for multiple form entry schools. Your classes are able to explore their topic in a fun and interactive workshop which is fully accessible for all abilities.

On the next page we have a list of our most popular topics and we can also plan workshops to meet your school's needs, so we can cover almost any topic!

Throughout the year we also provide workshop days for up to 6 classes for themed weeks and celebration events such as Anti-Bullying Week, Children's Mental Health Week, Shakespeare Week, World Book Day and Safer Internet Day.

"The workshop was not what I expected but in a really positive way! This workshop required the children to use themselves fully to express character and create scenarios which was fantastic at engaging the children.

The children were extremely sad when the workshop finished, and many commented on how much they wanted to do it again. It was a very positive experience and I highly recommend Altru Drama!"

Miss Connolly
Class Teacher
Famillo Primary School



DRAMA WORKSHOP TOPICS

HISTORY

- **Ancient Greeks**
- Ancient Sumer
- **Anglo Saxons**
- Early Islamic Civilisations
- **Egyptians**
- Florence Nightingale
- **The Great Fire of London**
- Indus Valley
- **Knights and Castles**
- Mayans
- **The Plague**
- Romans
- **Seaside Holidays of the Past**
- Shang Dynasty
- **Stone Age to Iron Age**
- Titanic
- **Tudors**
- Victorians
- **Vikings**
- World War I
- **World War II**

SCIENCE

- Charles Darwin
- **Climate Change**
- Healthy Eating
- **Powerful Plants**
- Space
- **Under the Sea**

PSHE

- Anti-Bullying
- **British Values**
- Hate Crime
- **Online Safety & Wellbeing**
- Superheroes and Justice
- **Year 6 Transition**

ENGLISH

- **A Midsummer Night's Dream**
- Hamlet
- **Macbeth**
- Romeo and Juliet
- **Shakespeare's Life & Work**
- Twelfth Night
- **Poetry**
- Roald Dahl
- **Traditional Tales**

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THEATRE PERFORMANCES



ANTI-BULLYING

Each year we tour Anti-Bullying performances across the UK, helping children learn about the causes and effects of bullying.

Our 2023 performance is **Superhero School**. This fun and dynamic performance is suitable for everyone from reception to Year 6.

The story follows Max, a science-mad primary school pupil, who is facing bullying and wishes he was different. One morning everything in Max's routine changes – and he finds himself at the Superhero School where he must work out what makes him special and help others too!

The performance is accompanied by a workshop (or workshops) and is performed in your school hall.

We have dates available during November 2023.

ONLINE SAFETY

Our online safety performances are always bang up to date and filled with topical references that will engage and excite your pupils. They're also full of practical hints and tips for staying safe online and ensuring that children consider their wellbeing as they use the internet. In 2024 we're touring **Play Post Share Repeat** – a wacky performance that looks at Tiktok, Snapchat, Instagram, WhatsApp, Youtube and more.

The performance is accompanied by a workshop (or workshops) and is performed in your school hall.

Play Post Share Repeat will be on tour between January and March 2024.

THEATRE PERFORMANCES



MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

At Altru, we are passionate about supporting children's mental health and each year we tour a play for KS1 exploring the issues. **What's Up Alfie?** will be back on tour next spring – helping children learn about the five ways to wellbeing during an exciting journey through Grandad's attic, space, a pirate ship and The Olympics!

In 2024 we'll also be touring a brand new show for KS2 – this is a pilot project with just a handful of dates available. If you'd like to sign up to be a pilot school for this project then get in touch using the details on the back page.

DRUGS & ALCOHOL

Eyes Open is our longest running performance, suitable for Upper Key Stage 2 and full of information about the legal, human and social consequences of using drugs and alcohol. The performance is accompanied by a workshop where children work with the actors to further explore the issues raised.

Eyes Open is a hard-hitting but fun performance, which really engages pupils in taking ownership for their actions and choices, and understanding what the impact of these choices might be.

Touring in the summer term. Book early to secure your preferred date.

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THEATRE PERFORMANCES



CHRISTMAS 2023 PINOCCHIO!

This Christmas we're touring a new adaptation of Pinocchio to schools, libraries and community venues!

This 60 minute performance is suitable for everyone from reception to Year 6 (and teachers will be thoroughly entertained too!) The play features original songs which children can join in with, live music played on stage and lots of audience participation.

And, because this is an Altru play, there will also be a wonderful message and children will be encouraged to read as they see the book used throughout the play to guide the story and the actors.

We're also excited to announce that Pinocchio will be available to book in the summer term of 2024 - as a special treat or a way to bring all classes together.

Tour dates: December 2023 & June/July 2024

"The performance was professional, age appropriate and very engaging. There was a great balance of storytelling, acting, singing and audience participation. Our children with SEND, some of them quite complex, were totally engaged. All of the staff thought the performance was the best they'd seen in or out of school."

Mrs Towsey, Teacher, Heybrook Primary School

MEET OUR TEAM



Kate Cotterell

Founder & CEO

Kate is a former teacher, who set up Altru in 2005 as a response to the needs she saw in her practice. She continues to lead the organisation.

Kate is passionate about the work Altru does and truly believes in the transformative power of drama for children and young people.

Favourite Altru project:
Restorative Justice in schools.



Dan Costello

General Manager

If you make a booking with us, it's very likely you'll speak to Dan!

Dan was an actor and practitioner for Altru before joining the office team where he manages all of the work we do, supporting practitioners, writing scripts and scheduling tours!

Favourite Altru project:
Shang Dynasty Learn & Perform



Barry Mason

Production Manager

Barry worked with Altru as a practitioner and actor on many Anti-Bullying shows and Eyes Open before becoming our Production Manager.

Barry directs plays, builds sets, edits music & casts the actors who visit school. He's also very involved in writing scripts for projects.

Favourite Altru project:
What's Up Alfie (KS1 Mental Health & Wellbeing Performance)

ALTRU PRACTITIONERS



The Altru practitioners are part of a core team, who work with us each month and spend time every year in training and development sessions. As a team we work hard on our practice, ensuring that we're up to date with educational reforms and developments and we're committed to delivering the best possible creative experience for your pupils.

All of our team members are also actors, directors, musicians, puppeteers and writers – they bring a wealth of experience to the team and to your school.

We're incredibly proud of our talented and hardworking team – and we know from your feedback that you love working with them too!

THE ALTRU MISSION



**Altru
Drama**

Since 2005, Altru's mission has been the same – to inspire and educate children and young people through drama and creativity.

We are passionate about the way drama can support children's learning and development:

- helping them to understand difficult concepts
- giving them space and freedom to explore challenging social issues
- inspiring them to achieve more and believe in themselves
- supporting the development of their confidence, communication and problem solving skills
- allowing them to see the world in new and exciting ways

All of our work is designed with children in mind and, wherever possible, in co-creation with children. We work hard to ensure our performances, workshops and projects are of the highest quality and standards because we believe children deserve the best experiences and that their formative arts experiences will shape their view of creativity as they grown up.

GET IN TOUCH



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