

*Julius Caesar*: an exploration into the relationship between space and the reception of Shakespeare in performance by primary school aged pupils.

Researcher name: Henry Bell

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### **Purpose of Study**

I am directing a production of *Julius Caesar* for primary school pupils. Before the pupils attend this production a member of the cast will deliver a workshop in their school about the play, characters, themes and language. The purpose of this project is to investigate how spatial factors enable young audiences to understand and engage with a Shakespearean text.

### **Procedures**

There are three stages to this project:-

1. A workshop that will take place in school that your child will participate in.
2. A production of *Julius Caesar* that your child will attend.
3. A feedback session after the workshop and production that your child will participate in.

I intend to collect data by videoing the workshops, production and feedback session. I will also hand out a questionnaire for your child to complete after the performance.

I will use data that is relevant to my PhD in the body of the text or as a multi-media appendix to the completed doctorate. The video and completed questionnaires will be stored on an encrypted external hard drive in my personal possession until completion of my PhD [2015]. My PhD will be available, if completed, for people to read both in print and on-line at/via the University of Hull library/University of Hull website from the beginning of 2016.

If I intend to use this data in any other context, e.g. book publication, I will re-seek permission from both the parent/guardian and pupil.

### **How much of your child's time will participation involve?**

The workshops will last approximately 120 minutes and will be factored into the school day as part of your child's continuing study of Shakespeare.

The production will last approximately 60 minutes.

### **Will your child's participation in the project remain confidential?**

Responses that I have collected that I will quote in my PhD will be done using a number system. E.g. Pupil 9 or Teacher 12. No one will be named directly.

Sections of video that I will use that will feature pupils will not name any of them directly but faces will be visible due to the nature of the research. These short extracts from the production and workshops will be included as a DVD.

### **Payment**

There will be no payment

### **Potential Risks and Ethical Consideration**

No other risks known to the investigator at this time.

### **Benefits**

Your child will finish the project with a wider understanding of Shakespeare and a greater experience of theatre performance. Their participation in the workshops will lead to further experience and development in their speaking and listening skills as well as a practical knowledge of many of the language techniques and thematic motifs that exist with Shakespeare's work. The aim is also to make Shakespeare a fun and engaging experience for all participants.

**What happens now?**

If your child is interested in taking part in the study you and your child are asked to complete and sign the consent form. Then you will be given more specific instructions. Do not sign if you do not wish to take part. Please feel free to ask any questions that you may have.

**Contact for Further Information**

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If you have any concerns about the way in which the study has been conducted, please contact the Chair of the School of Drama, Music and Screen Ethics Committee.