

Ssh ...! Theatre Company



# Education Pack



**Ssh ...!**

*Silence Sometimes Hurts*



# Beyond Wedekind

# Ssh ...! Theatre Company

## Who are we?

We are Ssh ...! Theatre Company. We are a young persons' Theatre Company and are comprised of students from the University Of Lincoln School Of Performing Arts.

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## Aims and objectives

'Ssh...!' strives to communicate with adolescents through the emotional stimulus of the theatre. As a student based company on the cusp of adulthood, our diverse personal experiences have enabled us to echo the authentic voice of youth. 'Silence Sometimes Hurts' aims to mentally and physically evoke a sense of shock and extremis. By reflecting an impression of society, Ssh ...! enlightens an audience to the brutality of life as an adolescent.

Through the physical and visual violation of an audience, our performances will bombard their senses and create theatrical communion. By anchoring the audience to the centre of our productions, our work utilizes their presence as a catalyst for the action.



# Ssh ...! Theatre Company

## Beyond Wedekind

Ssh ...! Theatre Company would like to invite you to our production of *Beyond Wedekind* which is an adaptation of Frank Wedekind's *Spring Awakening*.

The production explores the themes and issues Wedekind presents, expanding and contemporising them to create a documentation of teenage life. *Beyond Wedekind* purposefully discusses taboo subjects, which enable us to display an appropriate, authentic representation of the adolescent world.

As a student based Theatre Company, we are aware of the importance of providing adolescents with the opportunity to voice their true opinions of teenage life. As we believe every voice deserves to be heard and valued. We provide a secure environment where every voice has a chance to shine, learn, grow, and achieve.

Through this we encourage our audiences to talk about the obstacles they face in daily life. Through discussing their transition from childhood to adulthood we aim to diffuse their fears and stresses of growing up.



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In addition to this there will also be a post show discussion, which you are welcome to attend, in which we will discuss the themes and issues the production raises, and answer any questions you may have. This will also provide you and your students with the opportunity to learn more about our Theatre Company.



## Themes and issues

*Beyond Wedekind* dissects the adolescent world; in order to echo an authentic voice of youth the performance discusses subjects which are usually unmentionable in conventional society, and rarely so openly exposed. Due to the adult content of the performance we recommend that audiences are aged fourteen plus. (GCSE level/academic years 10 & 11)

## Need someone to talk to?

The performance openly discusses sensitive social issues such as self harm, drug abuse, alcohol abuse, bullying, body image and eating disorders, and sex and relationships. If you or anyone you know is affected by any of the issues *Beyond Wedekind* raises we urge you to contact any of the organisations listed below for help and advice.



## Self harm helplines:

*YoungMinds*- *YoungMinds provides is a charity that aims to improve the emotional well being and mental health of children and young people: Parents Helpline: 0808 802 5544*

*First signs*- *Provides information and support to people of all ages affected by self-injury. First Signs is managed and led by people with personal experience of self-injury and aims to offer non-judgemental, non-directional advice and information: www.firstsigns.org.uk*

## Drug abuse helplines:

*Talk to Frank* - *Straight up, unbiased information about drugs: 0800 77 66 00 Free (calls from mobiles may vary), Daily - 24 hrs*

*Lifeline Drugs* - *Helpline providing advice, information and support for drug users, their partners, families and friends: 0161 834 7160*



Release- Advice, counselling and information, on drug health, welfare and legal issues: 0845 4500 215

## Alcohol abuse helplines:

Drinkline- Confidential telephone help, info and advice on all aspects of alcohol use and abuse. Calls are free: 0800 9178282 (9am - 11pm, Monday to Friday)

Catch 22 - Helping young people out, because every young person deserves the chance to get on in life, no matter what. Working with young people who find themselves in tough situations: [www.catch-22.org.uk](http://www.catch-22.org.uk)

## Bullying helplines:

ChildLine - Help and advice about a wide range of issues: 0800 1111 Free (calls from mobiles may vary), Daily - 24 hrs

Support Line- Confidential and emotional support on the telephone for children, young adults and adults who are socially isolated, vulnerable, at risk and victims of any form of abuse: 020 8554 9004

Carelina- Telephone counselling service for children, young people and adults on any issue, including relationships, depression, mental health, child abuse, addictions, and stress: 0845 122 8622 (Mon-Fri, 10am-1pm, 7pm-10pm)

## Body image and eating disorders helplines:

BEAT Youthline (Beating Eating Disorders) - Advice on beating eating disorders: 0845 634 7650 Text: 07786 20 18 20 Local rates apply, Mon - Fri: 4:30pm - 8:30pm, Sat: 1:00pm - 4:30pm.

Eating Disorders Support- Callers can feel safe and may talk freely and can expect to be listened to and not judged: 01494 793223 lines are open any time on any day

## Sex and relationships helplines:

Brook - Confidential helpline for people under 25: 0808 802 1234 Free (calls from mobiles may vary), Mon to Fri: 9am-5pm

Terrance Higgins Trust - Support for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgender people: 0845 12 21 200 Mon to Fri: 10am - 10pm, Sat/Sun: 12 noon - 6pm



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## What to expect on the day.

If possible we ask if a member of staff could accompany students to this event as, there will be periods of the day where they will be left unsupervised by members of the company. Particularly between 4.30pm - 5.45pm.

## Student Workshop

Prior to the evening's performance, from 3.30-4.30pm Ssh...! Theatre Company's education team would like to invite you to a free workshop in which we will discuss the prevalent themes and issues the performance raises, and explore them with you practically.

Please wear practical loose clothing and comfortable footwear, (no jeans).

## Workshop Construction

Introduction and warm up

Exercise 1 - Exploring taboo subjects

Exercise 2 - Hot Seating Exercise

Exercise 3 - What is Promenade theatre?

Conclusion and cool down

## Schedule

**Arrival:** between 3-3.30pm

**Workshop:** 3.30pm-4.30pm (will commence promptly)

**Break:** 4.30-5.45pm (please note that we will not provide refreshments, however there are facilities around campus)

**Performance:** 6-7pm (performance will start promptly, so please arrive by 5.50pm)

**Post-show discussion:** 7-7.30pm



# Ssh ...! Theatre Company

## Times and dates

Our production will take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> of May at the Lincoln Performing Arts Centre (LPAC) at 6pm.

## Tickets

Tickets are £3 each/concessions £2. Tickets can be purchased online from [www.lpac.co.uk](http://www.lpac.co.uk), by calling 0844 888 4414 (please note that this service is provided by an external ticket provider. Postage fees and/or booking fees may apply.) Or you can purchase your tickets at the LPAC box office.

## Contact details and directions

The Lincoln Performing Arts Centre is located on the east side of University of Lincoln Campus, and is a five minute walk from the town centre. If you require any further information regarding finding us, or for any further clarification on anything else discussed within this pack, please do not hesitate to contact a member of our team:

- Caroline Larcombe (Education):  
07922827226
- Tom Divers (Public Relations):  
07984611755
- James Best (Marketing):  
07530258712

