

# TEACHER NOTES

## PRACTICAL EXPLORATION

The show **BACK TO THE FUTURE: The Musical** was developed over many years. The performers were able to explore their roles with the Director John Rando in the rehearsal room, to develop detailed characterisations. Here is a selection of rehearsal techniques which you can use with your students, to explore the characters of Doc and Marty:

### REHEARSAL TECHNIQUE 1

## EXPLORE ACTIONS AND OBJECTIVES

The character's objective is their conscious desire for a scene. In any given scene, a character must always be actively pursuing their objective. A handy trick to ensure that actors are always actively playing their objectives (rather than passively playing the emotion) in any given scene is to use a technique called **actioning**. Actioning the scene is when an actor takes their character's lines and applies an action (a verb or doing word) to each line to help guide their vocal delivery. With actioning you are always specifying how your line is affecting someone else. (Helpful Hint – if it's not doing anything to the person you are talking to then the line is not active!)

A) Divide your class into pairs and label them A and B. A's will play Doc Brown and B's will play Marty Mcfly. Hand out **Student Worksheet 14 - Actioning and Objectives**. Students can practically explore playing the 'objectives' and 'actioning the text', using the ideas in brackets.

### REFLECTION

See how this affects their vocal choices. The actions which they choose should inform their use of pitch, pace, pause, volume and tone and ensure it is varied from line to line.

B) Handout **Student Worksheet 15 - Explore Actions and Objectives**. Students can practically explore this section of text and jot down ideas for the objectives and actioning in the scene.

