

Season 2023/2024



Show your students another side to English !

Theatre for schools



Pickles is the original English language theatre company which has presented shows and workshops in secondary schools for students learning English as a foreign language since 2008.

All the vocabulary, conjugation, grammar and various expressions used in our plays are appropriate for the curriculum and english level of your students.

The actors speak slowly and clearly, and use repetition so that students can fully follow the storyline and are kept enthralled by the show.

In addition, a classroom pack is available online, so that teachers can prepare the students for the show and thereby maximize their theatre experience.

Our plays - specially commissioned for the company - are full of comedy, action, songs and much much more.

We tour in France, Belgium, and Luxemburg.

native-English speaking actors

We are a bunch of experienced and passionate people:

exclusively **native-English speaking actors**,
four managers
and artistic directors **overflowing with imagination**

...in short, only the best kind of people!



And you know what? **We will adapt ourselves to your school's facilities.**

We just need a large area to set up our stage and perform in.

This space could be a gymnasium, a canteen, a large classroom or the school hall.

We stand at the crossroads between theatre and education



We have been offering interactive shows in a level of English catered to secondary school students since 2008.

Students are able to understand and enjoy the show, regardless of their level of English.

Our activities

Gossip & Crime

Show for pupils aged 11 to 14
Suitable for older Primary and younger Secondary school learners

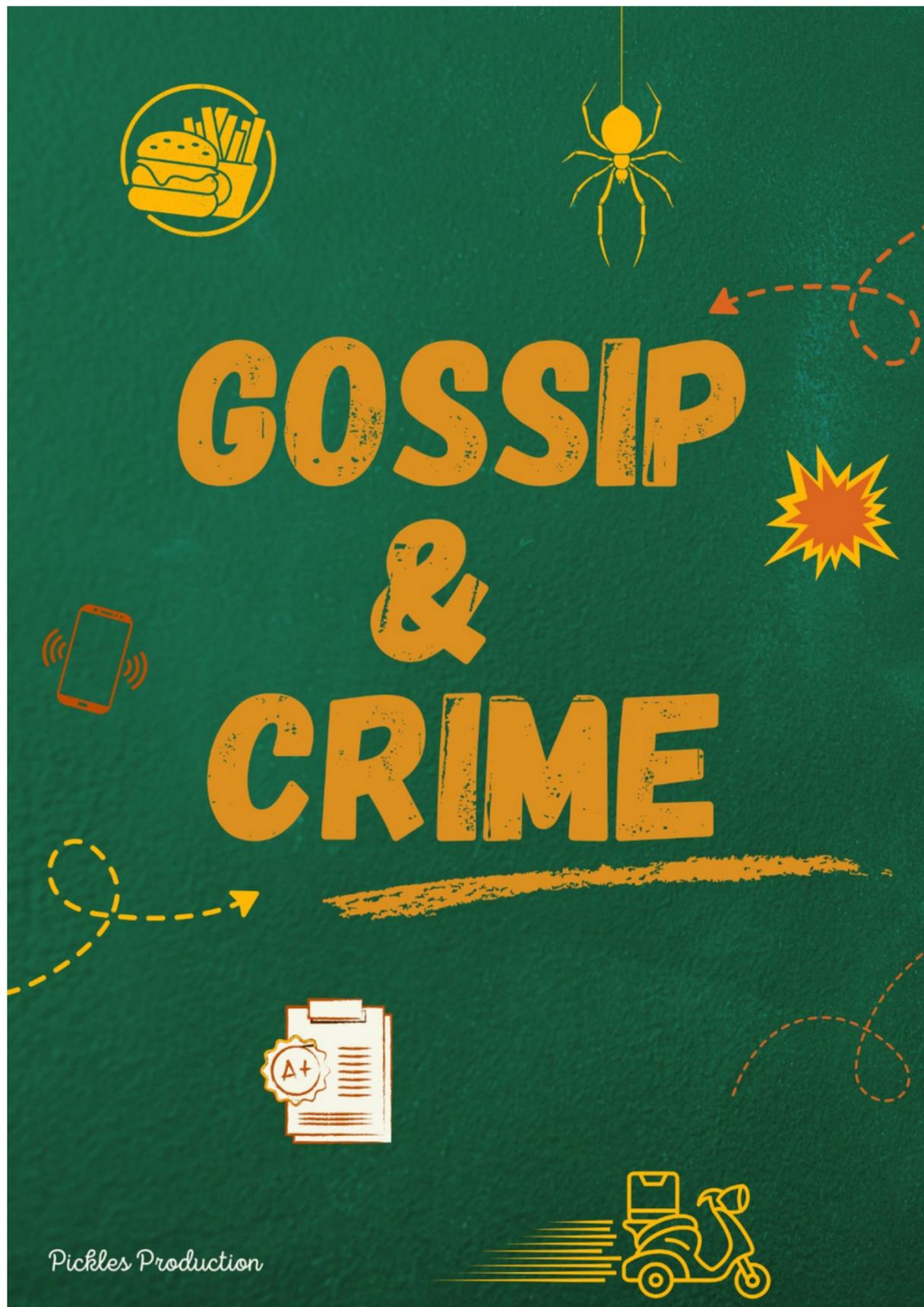
Opening night

Show for pupils aged 15 and up
Suitable for Secondary and High school learners

Workshop - Season 9

Theatrical workshops
Suitable for everyone





GOSSIP & CRIME

For pupils aged 11 to 14

It is great being the daughter of a super detective but... it is not the answer to all of life's problems.

Nicky O'Neil is desperate. Her best friend, Lauren, has gone missing and has most probably been kidnapped by an evil criminal!

And what is worse? No one wants to help Nicky find Lauren!

Nicky is going to need your help to find her friend, will you be up to the job?

Will Nicky find her friend safe and sound?

Suitable for older Primary and younger Secondary school learners



OPENING NIGHT

For pupils aged 15 and up

One evening, at the Unity Theatre in Dublin, it is the opening night of a new show. The audience has come in droves to see the famous actress, Madison Reese, the talk of the town. But right in the middle of performing she falls to the floor... dead. Was it a crime or an accident?

Superintendent Mike O'Neill is in charge of the case.

Backstage at the theatre, everyone seems to have an alibi!
But, we know, a criminal is at large...

Suitable for Secondary and High school learners

WORKSHOP SEASON 9

100 minutes of fun, theatre and English!

EACH WORKSHOP IS AN EXPLORATION
LED BY ACTORS AND FUELLED BY THE
DYNAMICS OF THE GROUP

IMMERSE YOUR
STUDENTS IN ENGLISH
FOR 100 MINUTES
WITH NATIVE ENGLISH
SPEAKERS.



LET'S USE
THEATRE TO
EXPLORE AND
CREATE SILLY
GAMES AND
CREATIVE
PLAYS.



WORKSHOP SEASON 9

Let's use theatre to explore and create silly games and creative plays.

We offer a playful and educational blend of English language and physical activity.

Each workshop is an exploration led by native English-speaking actors and fuelled by the dynamics of the group: exploration is encouraged, the language barrier is broken and everything becomes a reason to play and to improvise.

We adapt our workshops so that they are suitable for all ages and English levels.

If asked in advance, we are also able to adapt our workshops to focus on a specific theme (Shakespeare, ecology, travel, etc..)

Suitable for everyone

We run very lively workshops and perform shows with songs, dancing and most importantly, audience participation.

Students are able to understand and enjoy the show, regardless of their level of English.

We stand at the crossroads between theatre and education.

Our activities create a bond between the actor and the audience and, through a shared experience, strengthens social cohesion among the students.

Theatre is an activity that teaches young people the value of teamwork and builds relationships.

With Pickles by EITC, interaction is everything: the audience and the actors react and relate to each other.

WHY PICKLES ?



AND YES, ENGLISH CAN BE FUN!

Acting is a fun way to practise a language, there are many benefits:



It motivates language learning, pupils love it



It adds variety to lessons



It introduces pupils to different cultures



It provides a platform for cross-curricular work



It sets up good language learning practises



It promotes fluency: pupils understand and retain the language more easily

"Pupils enjoy themselves just as much as they would if the show were in their native language."

"The play inspires and encourages them to communicate in a different language."

"They learn to value their own contribution and to better understand their role within a group."

"Even shy children can enjoy performing when they're pretending to be someone else!"

General information:

- Up to 3 activities possible in the same school on the same day.
- If you wish to have more than 3 activities, there is the possibility to perform in your school across multiple days
- It is free for chaperones (teachers, supervisors, etc.)
- Travel costs: 50€ (return journey per day)

Show rates:

- 9€ per student
- Minimum 60 students per performance
(recommended maximum 130 students / performance)
- Length of the show: 60 minutes

Workshop rates:

- 540€
- 30 students
- Length of the workshop: 100 minutes



But hang on, how did it all start?

Lots of great stories start with “Once Upon a Time...” and we think that the Pickles by EITC story is a great story so, let’s tell it properly.

Once upon a time, a Belgian social worker called Xavier Hock was infatuated by adventure, theatre, freedom and craziness! On Saturday the 9 of August 1997 he set foot for the first time on Irish soil, this journey was about to change his life forever! He was meant to stay there for just 3 months, on an internship, but he ended up living there for over 12 years!

One month after arriving in Ireland, he leaves his internship to join a wonderful group of French speaking actors. These actors were travelling all across Ireland, from village to village telling stories and performing plays in French for Irish students. These shows were there to help students learn the French language!

For over 10 years, Xavier travelled all over Ireland. These were some of the best years of his life where he met some of the most amazing people! Talking about amazing people, in November 2000 in Dublin, Xavier crosses the path of Christine Béziat!

Christine, originally from Toulouse in the South-West of France, finds herself in Dublin for an internship within a company. Christine is also passionate about theatre and foreign languages. She too was only meant to be in Ireland for 3 months and ends up staying there for over 10 years!

In 2008, Xavier and Christine create the *Emerald Isle Theatre Company* (EITC) a theatre company that offers English speaking plays as a pedagogical tool for students learning the language of Shakespeare in Belgium and France.

In 2010, Xavier and Christine leave Ireland to dedicate themselves completely to the EITC adventure, which will later become Pickles by EITC!



A little bit of history

In January 2009, for the first time, EITC perform their original English speaking shows on the continent! More precisely, in Belgium, where Xavier calls home, and Midi Pyrénées, where Christine hails from.

The first two years are pretty mental, Xavier is still on the Irish roads with the French shows while Christine starts to tour with a team of Irish actors in Belgium and the South-West of France! After two whirlwind years, they decide to focus solely on the Emerald Isle Theatre Company.

From that moment on everything went very quickly: in less than 10 years the company EITC becomes Pickles by EITC having quadrupled the number of shows and therefore the number of actors!

In 2015 the company adds another string to their bow by adding theatrical workshops to their list of activities.

But none of this would have been possible without the help of many different people who joined the company!

Arnaud, Mollie, Edith and Loïc who are part of the production team; Martin, their casting director based in Dublin; François, Eric, Agathe, Marion, Charlenry, Chloé, Léa, Cédric, Lucile their band of tour managers; Jane, their education consultant as well as English teacher, Karine the company's accountant and many many more!

All these people have contributed to what Pickles by EITC is today!





Contact Us

We'd love to hear from you!



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