

What follows is a copy of the notes that were left on the timeline at the EGM 21st April 2012

What is Drama?

Drama is to understand the world through experience and social discovery. It is to understand how the world functions and imagine alternatives.

A means of experiencing that which is unfamiliar, or that which is familiar in an unfamiliar way.

A way of 'knowing' and, socially, creatively, expressing that 'knowing' the world.

Using innate ability to 'play' as the tool for personal development.

Understanding and developing humanity
roles
fun
imaginative
creativity

Understanding the self in relation to others and the world.
Working collaboratively with others to share this discovery.

Drama is a way of exploring what the world means through different contexts.

Exploring a story/theme from various viewpoints and making emotional connections to them in order to develop a deeper understanding.

Exploring and experiencing.

Drama is the physicalisation of the imagination.

Drama is the process of actively engaging the human with the world through a fictive, felt collaboration.

What is Teaching?

supporting and inspiring
learning

Teaching is exploring,
progressing and sharing our
understanding of the world,
and preparing ourselves for
it.

guiding
inclusive learning
setting up people for happy,
fulfilled lives with skills
morally, socially and
practically

Teaching is bringing the
world and the child into a
dynamic relationship

Enabling
Giving the tools to take
control

Teaching - scaffolding and
negotiating understanding
for + with others

Being responsible for the
humanising for every human
being

Teaching is to hold hands to
explore the world

Passing on skills/experiences
to help equip others

A multilateral (rather than
didactic) process of
transmitting and sharing
experiences, values, skills
and knowledge that societies
require to survive.

What does it mean to be the National Association for the Teaching of Drama?

To analyse + synthesize effective ways of channelling 'play' and engaging with teachers to share and disseminate these approaches.

A space for sharing practice with like-minded professionals working in different areas of teaching + learning.
Creative Professional Development.

Being a source of inspiration to encourage people to continue teaching/learning through drama.
Being a listening post and a voice for teachers.

NATD is sanity within the madness, clarity in the confusion, principles against the barbarism, champions of internationalism.

to protect and promote creative, expressive ways of seeking, negotiating, expressing meaning/understanding

a way of linking D/E together showing what 'Drama' should look like

To ensure drama is appreciated and cherished nationally in all establishments

knowledge on sharing effective teaching styles within drama and other platforms
Training

~~1982~~ 1977

@ the time there was:

- a political move to the right
- a climate of fear (cold war, protect & survive)
- Education as it stood @ the time (compulsory) had been around for nearly 40 years
- Comprehensive schools had been introduced 5 years previously
- Dorothy's writing was being shared with a wider audience
- All schools were attached to LA's.

Standing for.

Putting drama at the heart of the school curriculum

TODAY

- child-centred
- humanising
- internationalist

HOPES

That we will continue to draw others into our work, that we will continue to evolve

FEARS

The 'tools' to oppose us are getting sharper

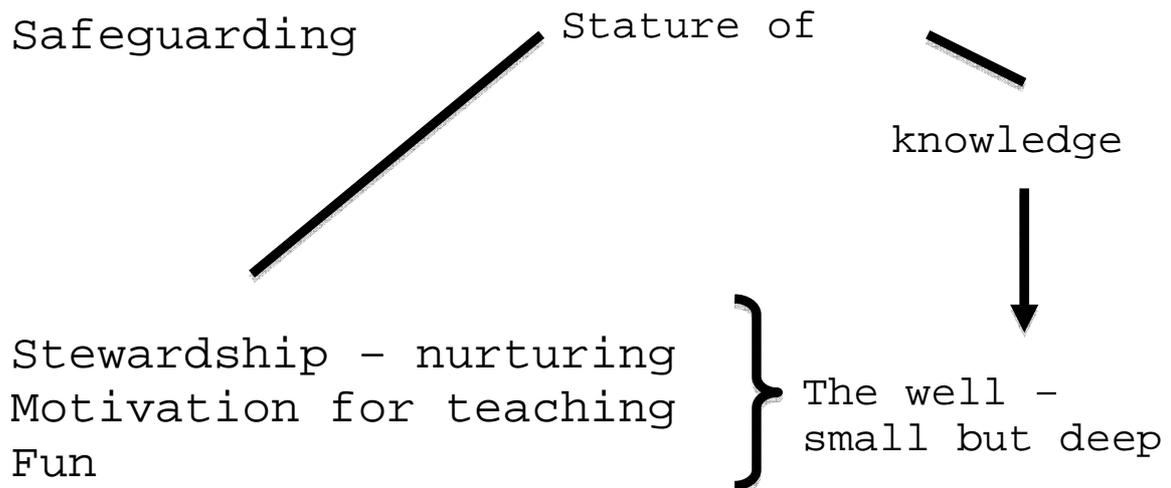
1982 → 1989



umbrella and a home
- fellow travellers
trying to make sense of a) arts
education and b) how to remain human
in the face of marketisation of
education (progressive education under
attack).

Leadership towards progressive,
humanist ed.
Values led - teaching at the forefront
(DH) - Dorothy teaching DM/H & David
Hornbrook

Now



Future

Leadership
Stability (name?)
Teacher education
International
Values

1982: Forum in which teachers of drama could share ideas + practice.

Theorists and practitioners prevalent at the time:

↳ Dorothy Heathcote

↳ Gavin Bolton

↳ Brian Way

Etc...

We don't know much about what the Association stood for in 1982.

Today: Should it be for sharing practice or campaigning for 'drama' as a subject?

Should it be for 'drama' or 'theatre'?

Suggested name change to incorporate drama as a means of teaching.

Are we channelling that drama is a way or the best way to teach?

Future: Less of the “what” and more of the “why”...

↳ Not losing sight of why it is so important to use drama

Loss of sense of ‘position’ – what is happening now
Internally we largely agree – but lack of selling ourselves – a voice to other teachers, school + policy makers.

Would a change of name clarify “NATD’s” position?

- perceptions of “Drama”
- challenging prescribed world, rather than “patching up” the broken system.
- make the association more accessible to those using drama

NATD doesn’t have enough confidence to present itself under current banner.

- more accurate title would empower us.
- motivating + galvanising teachers nationwide, not just dealing with your own probs. in school.