**Instructions for Dynamic Dialogue activities**

**Making Eye Contact**

**Activity to develop students’ confidence and ability to maintain eye contact**

Students to be split into groups, up to 12 roughly.

Groups to stand in a circle and one student (or staff member if easier) starts by making direct eye contact with another member of the group, both members will then walk towards each other maintaining eye contact and swapping places in the circle. Eye contact can only be broken once the students have passed one another. The second student then makes eye contact and begins to swap with another student.

Once everyone in the group has changed at least one space, the rules change slightly. One student is to start in the middle of the group and carry out the similar actions above but the person swapping into the circle must reach the middle, make eye contact with a different student, and then swap with them.

Finally, (if restrictions allow) you can add a high five into the mix. Students must high five the student they are making eye contact with as they pass. Make sure they are making eye contact as they do this.

**Eye contact and story challenge**

Students to work in two different groups. For the groups, one group is standing at the front, looking to the other group that is sitting, and they have to tell a story using only one word each, but while doing so, they have to make sure they are making eye contact with each member of the sitting group.

The rest of the group has to sit down with one hand in the air, which they will begin to lower if the story tellers have not made eye contact. If one person in the group manages to get their hand all the way to their leg they must slap their leg to get the attention of one of the story tellers.

If they are finding it easy, give them a weird prompt to start with. “When the Mushroom decided to leave home…”

**Conveying Emotion**

Play part of an important or powerful speech. A good one is 2 minutes of MLK’s “I have a dream” (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vP4iY1TtS3s>)

Brainstorm and make note of some of the emotions MLK achieves and portrays in this speech. Then ask what other emotions speeches can be used to convey, and note these too.

Split the students in to groups of around 4-6 students.

Within their groups, give them a minute to read a poem. Give each group one of the emotions discussed, even if it is completely contrary to the nature of their poem. Then ask each student to take turns reading the lines in the group’s poem, attempting to convey the emotion their group has been given.

**Presenting Under Pressure**

This is a chance to try out some of their skills in action.

Teacher to put up a slideshow of unrelated images, sometimes funny (slide show included). Each student must speak about a picture in the slideshow unprepared, pretending they are an expert on the subject. When the teacher changes the slide, they then have to continue to be the expert on the next picture, and try and link the ideas if they can too. Keep this going for 2-3 pictures, or as much as is fun. This is done until everyone has had a chance presenting as an expect.