**Activity: Your Dream School (From Castle and Buckler, 2018: 83)**

***Aim:*** To consider the qualities of effective teachers.

***Rationale:*** A couple of years ago, a reality television series was screened on Channel 4 (UK) called ‘Jamie’s Dream School’. The series questioned whether students who had, for whatever reason, became disengaged with the education system, could be influenced by certain teachers to become re-engaged. The teachers on the programme were perceived ‘experts’ in their fields, with few working in the education sector (for example, Olympic athletes for physical education and outdoor pursuits, famous musicians, academics from Oxford University to teach history and Latin, etc.)

The following activity asks you to decide who would work in your dream school. What teachers would you select to teach various subjects? Your choice of teacher can be one from the present, or the past…yet one who actually existed.

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| *Headteacher* | *English* |
| *Mathematics* | *Science* |
| *Information and Communication Technology* | *Art and design* |
| *Geography* | *History* |
| *Religious Studies* | *Music* |
| *Design Technology* | *Physical Education* |
| *Other?* |  |

As an example, for science, we would choose ‘Johnny Ball’ (ask your parents if you have never heard of him!) or perhaps Prof. Brian Cox (who could also be featured for music if you have a passion for mid-1990s mainstream pop).

Having assigned an individual to each of the boxes, consider the attributes that they all have in common. Aim to list two or three attributes for the collected group.