



## **Activities: Key Stage 3**

### **First interview with Charlyne Francis playing Donna Joan**

- 1) Find the Week 1 audio interview with Charlyne Francis who is playing Donna Joan. Charlyne discusses the character of Donna Joan (time code 6m 15s to 7m 30s) and the reasons for her being a villain. Charlyne suggests that making the character a woman, as in this production, adds a further layer to the reasons for her behaviour. For instance she mentions that women are often left out of discussions by men.
- 2) Work with a group of fellow students. Discuss the points Charlyne makes in the interview and what difference having the part played by a woman makes to the way you see the character.
- 3) Pick out some quotations which show that Donna Joan is a villain. Next, decide on words and phrases which show how being a woman gives more reasons for her character being badly behaved.
- 4) Create a poster with an image of Donna Joan from the Playing Shakespeare web-site. Surround the image with the quotations you have found in the play and add words and phrases which show how making the character a woman adds to the reasons for her villainous behaviour.