

# Warming up and Microphone Technique

## Warming up

- Stretching
- Neck & shoulder muscles and frontal neck and chest facia
- Laryngeal manipulation
- Tonal sweeping
- Pencil test

### **Clear delivery**

- Drink plenty of water (still not carbonated)
- Avoid dairy products e.g. chocolate, milky coffee, milkshakes. Herbal tea is fine
- Steam inhalation. Eucalyptus/Menthol
- · Importance of hydration for vocal health

## Distance to the microphone

- Ideal: One full hand span and 25 degrees off Axis to avoid plosives
- Standing is best for good diaphragm control and energy levels
- Use a Pop Shield if provided

#### Your clothes and other extraneous noises

- Soft cotton fabric is preferable
- Avoid starched linen, leather and man-made fibers
- Remove jewelry and other adornments e.g. earrings
- Switch off mobile phone.

#### Mic' Technique

- Beware of Plosives as these will cause "popping"
  - Easily avoided by small head movement at delivery
  - Delivery 25% off axis of microphone
- Beware Clicky vocal delivery caused by "dry mouth"
  - Small issue but very time consuming in post production for editor
  - Take water before each take/remove excess from mouth
- Always aim for a clean "in point"
  - Before each take fill lungs, establish silence, pause then start
  - If performing with another actor ALWAYS leave air between
  - Dialogue so files can be created easily in post production