

2026/7 ACADEMIC YEAR

Bodyswaps Release Recap

Public speaking roleplay, AI coaching debriefs, customisable avatars, in-roleplay hints, and new environments.

Here's everything new in Bodyswaps for the 2026/7 academic year — plus a refresher on the tools you already know.

HEADLINE LAUNCHES

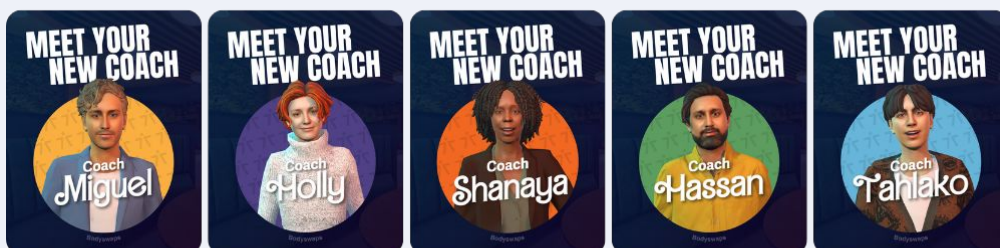
v3.5

Public Speaking Roleplay



v3.6

AI Coach debriefs



v3.7

Customisable avatars





RECAP

2025/6 Rewind

Bodyswaps 3.0 rebuilt the platform around three ideas: immersive roleplays, AI feedback, and cross-device access, so that soft skills training could be personal and scalable at the same time. That foundation hasn't changed.

What's changed since is how much further the AI roleplays can go, and how much more control you have over what learners see and how they're supported through it.

● **SEP 2025** · [v3.3](#)

Multilingual roleplays & content restructure

Roleplays available in 7 new languages, learner reports on every roleplay, and a clearer content category structure.

● **NOV 2025** · [v3.4](#)

AI Assistant & De-escalation

Build a roleplay from a paragraph of text, plus a new De-escalation template and 30+ healthcare exercises.

● **FEB 2026** · [v3.5](#)

Professional Conversations & Bodyswapping

A new roleplay template, the bodyswapping effect inside roleplays, automatic voice mode, and 24 new avatars.

● **MAY 2026** · [v3.6](#)

Public Speaking Roleplay & AI Coach

A standalone Public Speaking roleplay, AI Coach debriefs, and a new Dental Treatment environment.

● **AUG 2026** · [v3.7](#)

Customisable avatars, hints & two environments

Editable roleplay characters and learner attire, in-roleplay hints, plus Courtroom and Retail environments.

Customise scenarios with our AI roleplays

[AI roleplays](#) let learners practise essential skills through free-flowing, emotionally responsive conversations with virtual humans.

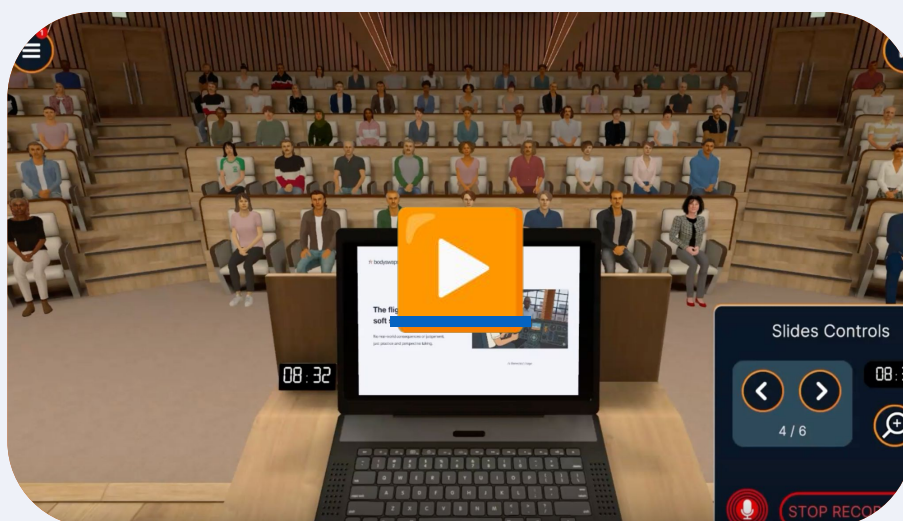
Each interaction is unique: learners speak in their own words, triggering natural, unscripted dialogue shaped by their input.

Educators customise the experience to fit learning goals, while the AI ensures every learner receives relevant, real-time feedback in a psychologically safe space.

Why this works for educators

Tailored, human-like practice at scale — every learner gets a one-of-a-kind interaction shaped by their own words. Customisable templates let educators define parameters, while the AI-led dialogue stays organic. Roleplays slot easily into multi-unit Pathways alongside theory, quizzes, and reflection — including, this year, an optional AI Coaching debrief.

[AI Roleplay in Action](#)



FROM OUR AI ROLEPLAY & OPEN CONVERSATION SHOWCASES

How educators are using AI roleplays

Mike Smith · Northampton College

Diverse Open Conversation sessions delivered to date, scaling across departments: Hair & Beauty consultations, trainee teachers, difficult customer scenarios — plus other templates for university applications, teacher training, debates, and technical support interviews.

Robbie Parmentier · NWTC

Open Conversation roleplays in use for a parent–teacher conference scenario in Early Childhood Education, a counselling skills scenario for Human Services, and faculty training on managing confrontation and supporting students through hardship.

Dr Anna Fairchild · Oaklands College

AI roleplays integrated into 360-degree interactive spaces, bridging virtual debate with real-world communication — including a Mars-themed debate on space colonisation versus Earth sustainability, streamed to a large live audience.

Tong Du · Bow Valley College

An Early Childhood Education classroom debated outdoor play in winter, learners aged 18–60+. Post-session analytics helped reflect on debate clarity. Tong also prompted the avatar Jeremy to emulate childlike behaviour.

[AI Roleplay Showcase Link](#)

[Open Conversation Showcase Link](#)

AI roleplay templates

Job Interview

Build tailored interview scenarios: upload job descriptions, generate relevant questions, and choose who the interviewers will be. Learners can ask for real-time help within the interview, and you can turn on AI-powered follow-up questions to increase the difficulty.

Public Speaking Roleplay

Speeches, presentations, pitches — a safe virtual space to practise any format of public speaking. You set the topic, environment, Q&A style, audience focus and assessment criteria.

Professional Conversations

Customise this template to suit any professional question-and-answer format, from media interviews to EPA professional discussions and everything in between.

Debating

Fosters good listening, emotional regulation and persuasive communication. Personalised feedback helps learners identify areas for growth without the pressure of a live debate.



AI roleplay templates, continued

Active Listening in the Workplace

Customise the virtual colleague and topic of a free-flowing conversation to practise making others feel truly heard.

Active Listening in Healthcare

An AI-powered, free-flowing simulator where learners practise active listening with a virtual patient and get tailored feedback.

Open Conversation

The educator sets the topic, persona, communication style and learner role, plus custom assessment criteria for any conversation dynamic. Currently 1-1 but multi-avatar coming soon.

Building Rapport

Tailor scenarios across different industry settings. Learners are assessed on the 3 Cs: Connection, Comfort & Curiosity.

De-escalation

Set scenarios for learners to practise de-escalation. Learners engage with avatars whose roles, contexts and emotional triggers are defined by the educator.



New: AI Roleplay features

AI Assistant for AI Roleplays

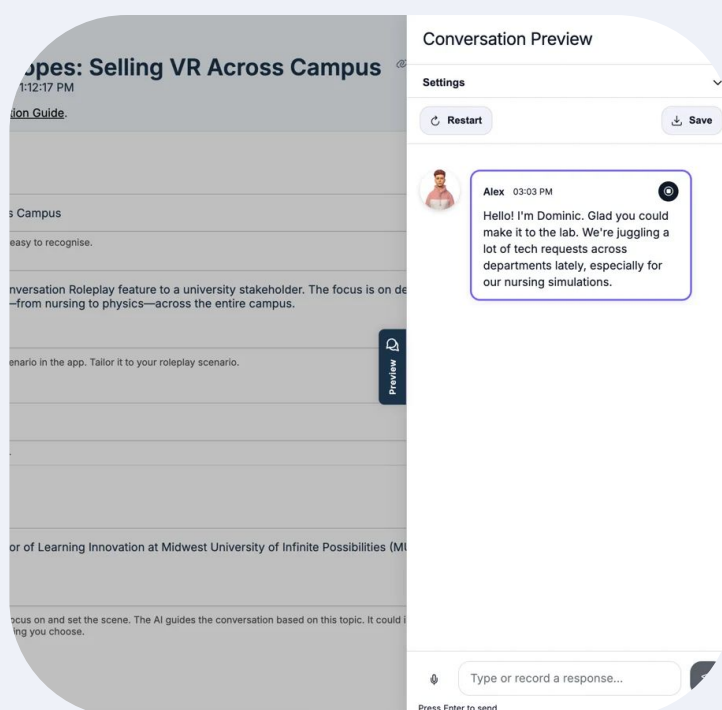
Click [AI Assistant](#) during template setup, type a short paragraph describing your scenario — for example, "a conversation between a nurse and an elderly patient where the nurse needs to show empathy while gathering medical history" — and the assistant fills in goals, tone, difficulty and roles for you. Everything stays editable before you save.

AI Roleplay Preview

Previously, testing a roleplay you'd built meant launching the app. Fine once — but it adds up if you're iterating on a customisation, or checking a new one before assigning it to a cohort.

[AI Roleplay Preview](#) lets you run through a roleplay directly inside the Bodyswaps Go builder, by voice or by chat, and get back a sample learner report.

Check how the AI responds to different inputs, see what feedback it generates, and adjust the customisation before any learner touches it.



New: AI Roleplay environments

Expanded avatars & environments

New avatar and more environments mean more scenarios that actually look like the situation they're simulating — a strong driver of learner engagement.

Dental treatment room

A clinical setting for healthcare programmes that need to practise communication in a dental context.



Courtroom

Built for legal and compliance training, from witness testimony to professional conduct scenarios — now with a courtroom that actually looks like one.

Retail space

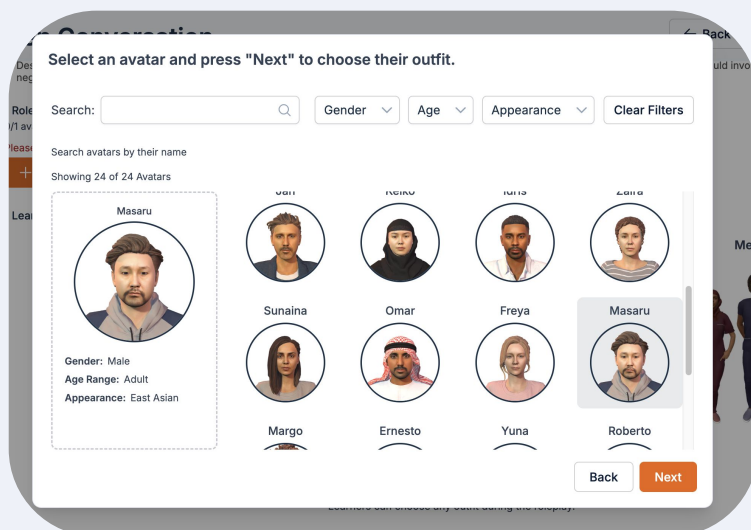
A shop-floor setting for customer service and conflict de-escalation training, giving retail and hospitality programmes a scenario that matches the job.



New: Customisable avatars & in-roleplay hints

Customisable avatars

Edit an AI Roleplay character's appearance, attire and name — and separately edit your learner's own attire to match the scenario.



Hints

Not every learner knows how to move a difficult conversation forward. In every roleplay type (except Open Conversation), learners can now request a hint. You choose whether hints are switched on, per roleplay.

Together, these two changes are about realism and resilience: scenarios that look like the real thing, and a safety net for the learners who get stuck mid-conversation rather than disengaging.

New: Multilingual support & English language levels

Multilingual support

You can now access the roleplay content in English (UK or US), French (FR + CA), German, Portuguese, Spanish (ES + US), Welsh and Polish.

English Language Levels

Set the language complexity of AI avatars & AI-generated feedback to match each learner's ability.

BEGINNER

Simple vocabulary & sentence structure

"Please do not use bad words. This is a debate and we should talk with respect."

INTERMEDIATE

Varied sentence structures, no abstract language

"I'm a bit disappointed by that language. This is a debate, and I think we can discuss things respectfully, even if we disagree."

NATIVE

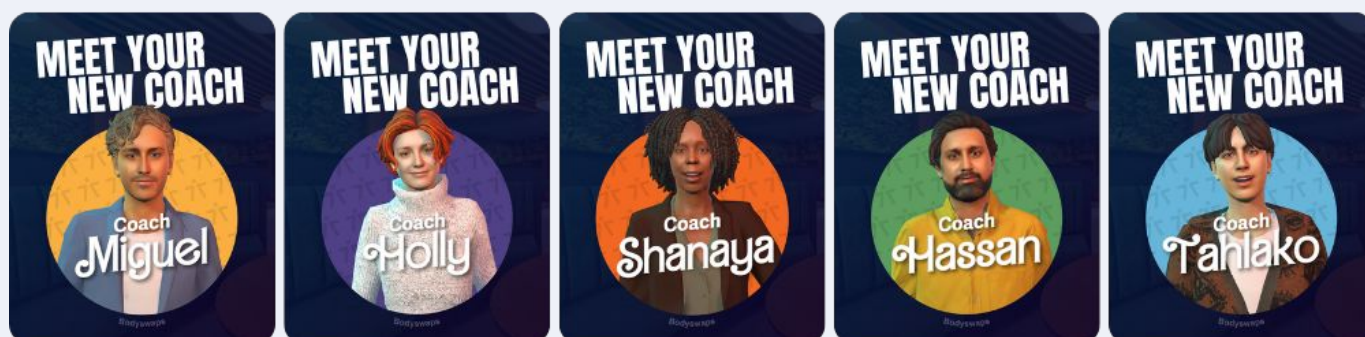
Advanced vocabulary & idiomatic language

"Wow, okay. That's a pretty strong reaction right out of the gate. I was hoping for a more constructive discussion. I'm still here to debate, if you're willing to engage respectfully."

We also released **multi editor abilities**, allowing you to co-edit Roleplays and Pathways with your colleagues, and **graded analytics** in Open Conversation, Professional Conversations, and Public Speaking for custom criteria — visible on both the learner report and in-app.

New: AI Coach

Learners can now debrief with an [AI Coach](#) immediately after a roleplay session. It asks a structured series of questions, referencing their own transcript and feedback where relevant, and guides them towards their own conclusions rather than handing them an answer.



What you control

Choose from five pre-written coaching questions or write your own in Bodyswaps Go. Decide whether the session is skippable, and whether the coaching transcript is included in the learner's report.

[AI Coach in Action](#)



Learner reports

[Learner Reports](#) give educators further insight into how learners are doing, viewable directly in Bodyswaps Go.

Each report provides personalised, actionable feedback based on learner performance, including skill highlights, improvement tips, and a breakdown of responses.

De-escalation Roleplay Report

Laura Morris - May 28, 2026

Summary

Conversation time: 1m 42s

Conversation length: 3 exchanges

Performance

Active listening

Needs work ^

Needs work

Good

Excellent

You did well to paraphrase Ernesto's situation when you mentioned he believed he was leaving today and was ready to go. This showed you were paying attention to his initial outburst. To build on this, don't be afraid to try asking open-ended questions starting with 'What' or 'How' to help him share more. For example, asking how you could help with his transport arrangements might have opened up the conversation. Next time, see if you could seek clarification on his specific worries to show you are truly listening.

Empathy & validation

Good ^

Needs work

Good

Excellent

You made good use of validating phrases like 'I totally understand your frustration' and 'I absolutely hear that'. These were great examples of acknowledging Ernesto's emotions. To de-escalate better in future, be careful not to move too quickly from empathy to explaining the rules. At times, you focused more on the medical reasons for staying rather than his distress about work and bills. To improve, try to sit with his feelings a little longer before offering justifications for the situation.

Collaboration, choice & compromise

Needs work ^

Needs work

Good

Excellent

You did well to express a desire to help Ernesto for his long-term benefit. It was a good attempt to offer a compromise by suggesting extra time with his family. To build on this, next time, see if you could involve Ernesto more in the solution. Instead of suggesting a fix like family visits, you could ask, 'What can we do right now to help with your ride in the parking lot?' This gives Ernesto more agency and control over the situation.

This year, reports can go further

Where a roleplay includes an AI Coaching debrief, educators can choose to include that transcript in the learner report — giving a fuller picture of not just what a learner did, but how they reflected on it.

Pathways

[Pathways](#) are structured, immersive learning journeys that adapt to the needs of every learner. With the pathway builder, Admins and Coaches weave together scaffolded modules, bite-sized theory and practice exercises, AI roleplays, quizzes and questionnaires into an experience that resonates with their learners.

How to build a pathway in Bodyswaps Go

1. Open the Library tab in Bodyswaps Go.
2. Select Create content — Pathway — name it, set visibility, add a description.
3. Add units: AI Roleplays, Exercises, Modules, Quizzes or Questionnaires.

The "supermarket shelf" model

As Liz Leggott from South Yorkshire Primary Care Workforce & Training Hub put it: think of your content as a shelf — modules, custom AI roleplays, and quizzes — that trainers pick from for each cohort. Parker University adds pre-briefings with mental health resources, consent capture, and a concluding quiz.

Prefer something ready to go? Choose from our library of pre-built pathways:

[Emotional Intelligence & Personal Impact](#)

[Navigating Difficult Interactions in Healthcare](#)

[Get Interview Ready](#)

[Fundamentals of Therapeutic Communication](#)

[Interprofessional Communication in Healthcare](#)

[Self-care & Resilience for Healthcare Professionals](#)

FROM OUR PATHWAYS SHOWCASE WEBINAR

How educators are building Pathways

Mary Lee Carter · Parker University

Bodyswaps has been embedded across multiple programmes at Parker University since 2022, with institution-wide access. Use cases include job interview practice for sonography students, mental-health crisis simulations, and geriatrics Pathways for Doctor of Chiropractic students. Mary Lee highlighted Pathways features that made the biggest difference: pre-briefings that surface mental health resources, survey disclaimers and informed consent capture, and concluding quizzes. Next up: a virtual, AI-powered OSCE pathway.

Liz Leggott · South Yorkshire Primary Care Workforce & Training Hub

The Hub adopted Bodyswaps to expand the access, capacity and quality of soft skills training — particularly for international medical graduates — running cohorts of 40–45 trainees with split delivery. Liz described their approach as a "supermarket shelf" model: existing Bodyswaps modules, custom AI roleplays, and knowledge checks with quizzes, all placed on the shelf for trainers to pick from.

[Pathway Showcase Link](#)

New: Educator Home

Logging in as a facilitator now takes you somewhere new: [a single home page](#) that brings together your classes, your recent work, and what's happening on Bodyswaps, so you're not hunting across tabs to get oriented.

First actions



Watch the quick tour

See how Bodyswaps works in two minutes.



Explore the content library

Browse ready-made modules, pathways and roleplays by subject and skill.

First Actions

Educators are now guided through our recommended first steps as new users on the platform, including a platform tour, exploring the content library and creating their first content or class.

News and Alerts

New features, upcoming events and product alerts, surfaced right where you land — no need to go looking for them.

Your Classes

A at-a-glance view of the classes you've recently created or been added to, with a one-click route to Create a Class when you need a new one.

Last Edited

Pick up exactly where you left off. Your most recently created or edited Pathways and Roleplays sit front and centre, ready to reopen — or jump straight into Create Content to start something new.

Library Picks

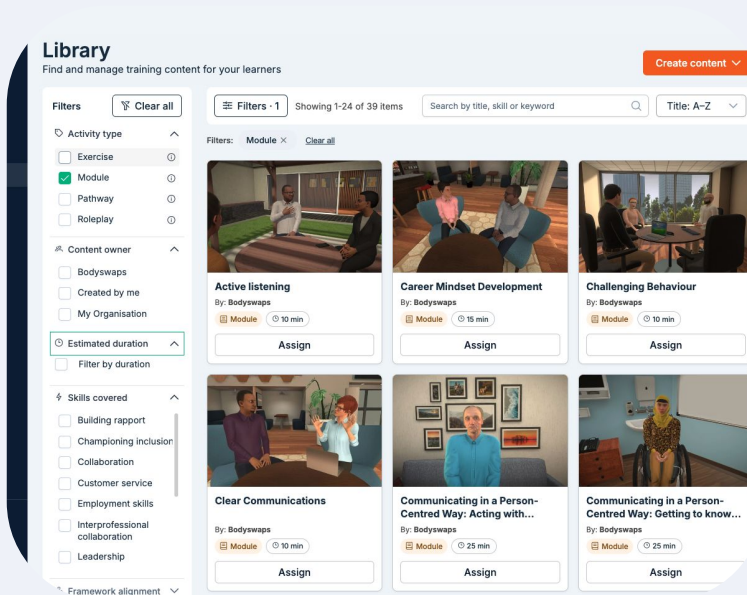
Choose your area of interest and get suggested content matched to it, so discovering something new for your learners takes seconds, not a search.

New: The Library

Every piece of content in Bodyswaps now lives in one place. The [Training Library](#) brings together what Bodyswaps has built, what your institution has built, and what you've built yourself — so exploring, assigning and creating all happen from a single tab.

Explore

Search by keyword, or filter by activity type, skill, and who created it — Bodyswaps, your organisation, or you. Apply "Created by Me" to find your own work in seconds.



Create

Select Create New and choose Roleplay or Pathway to start building. The same setup steps you already know, just launched from a more central home.

Edit

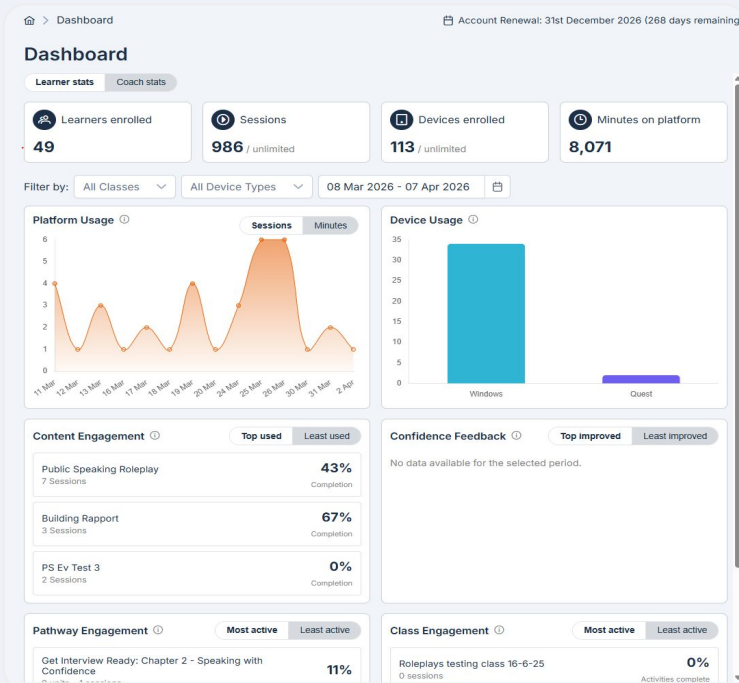
Reopen any roleplay or pathway you've created straight from its Edit tab. Bodyswaps' pre-built modules and exercises stay locked as-is, so you'll only see Edit where it's yours to change.

Assign

Select Assign on any unit and choose your class — or tick multiple classes at once to send it to several cohorts in one go.

New: Dashboards & Reports

We've upgraded your [admin dashboards](#) to give you a much richer view of how your learners are engaging with Bodyswaps, which you can now also export as a CSV file.



Alongside the Dashboard upgrade, a new Reports tab gives you a deeper, more exportable view of what's happening across your account — not just sessions and deployments, but content engagement, pathway engagement, and how usage compares across classes.

What you can see

- Minutes used on the platform over any time period you choose, including when usage spiked
- Which devices that usage happened on
- What content was being engaged with at those times
- Confidence progression across deployed modules, so you can spot where learners are gaining ground — and where they're not
- Pathway engagement, broken down to individual timeframes
- Export any of the above as a CSV

The team is here for you

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