

***A Midsummer Night's Dream* Production**

Key Info

One of the most famous Shakespearean comedies, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* brings together love, politics, magic and humour in a world where tyranny rules the day, and fairies rule the night.

“The course of true love never did run smooth...”

With a rich and celebrated history of award-winning, five-star Shakespeare productions, Stage2 is thrilled to be bringing you our 150th show: a new production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, by William Shakespeare, featuring a Cast and Crew of 60+ young people, and lots of fresh twists on classic characters.

We are incredibly excited you have taken an interest in joining us in this production, but make sure you have a good read of this so you know what to do and what's going on!

It is extremely important that everyone involved in the show comes to **every rehearsal possible**, unless they have previously pre-informed for that date, as we simply can't rehearse with people who aren't there! Cast members must attend rehearsal for the show all day, whereas chorus rehearse only in the morning session.

Principal roles were cast in the Autumn Term, and rehearsals are happening during the Spring Term. During this, we are paraphrasing the play and starting to block some scenes of the show so we can really hit the ground running when the rest of the Cast and Chorus join us in the Summer.

On the 24th of February, we have the Minor Cast auditions as well as interviews for additional tech roles (see 'Contract' on the Print Table for more info). All Minor and Principal Cast will be required at all rehearsals throughout Summer, 9.30am-5pm (Sundays 14th Apr - 7th Jul, 26th May off for Half Term).

Anyone who signs up to be in the Chorus of the show (**NO AUDITION REQUIRED - JUST SIGN UP**) will be needed on these dates, too, but just for the mornings from 9.30am-1pm (except for dates when there are runs of the show - see below). There will be a workshop option in the afternoons for those who wish to do all day. The Chorus are such vital and recognisable members of **Stage2** shows - we are famous for having large numbers of young people on stage, all contributing to an amazing atmosphere.

“As always with Stage2, no one is one stage as furniture. They have to be alive, animated, ordinary people, even if they have no lines. If you are on stage, you are part of the action.”

Behind the Arras, Lord of the Flies 2023

'**Blocking**' takes place for just under half of the term, and is the time allocated for staging all the scenes and planning the movements of the show. For *Midsummers*, blocking runs weekly from the **14th April - 12th May**.

For the **First Run** of the show on the **19th May**, you will need to have your full costumes ready, and be totally off-script! After a week off for half term, the **Second Run** takes place on the **2nd June**.

'**Polishing**' will take place **9th - 30th June**. It involves taking on the notes from the runs and refining the play, making any last improvements. The **7th July** is the final run before the theatre, so give it your all!

On the **16th July**, there is a **Technical Rehearsal** in the Crescent Theatre, to practise all of the lighting, sound, etc. cues in the show. The **17th July** then has the final **Dress Rehearsal** before opening night, so this is the time to perform the absolute best version of the show before it has an audience! The performances are then **18th-20th July**, with the final performance being a matinée (afternoon show).

If you ever have any questions about dates/your involvement in the production, please email rosie.nisbet@stage2.org or catch her on a Sunday. The Assistant Directors Joel & Lauren are also on hand to help out.

