

# The Royal Grammar School High Wycombe

## “SHREK” AUDITION INFORMATION



**First round auditions – SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> OR MONDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023**

**Venue:** RGS, Queen’s Hall

**What to wear:** You don’t need to wear school uniform. Something comfortable you can move in. Please think about footwear, trainers would be ideal.

### **Timings:**

10:30 - 12:45 – Years 7-9 – singing, acting and movement audition

12:45 - 13:15 – Years 7-9 – optional character dancer audition

14:15 - 16:30 – Years 10-11 – singing, acting and movement audition

16:30 - 17:30 – Years 10-13 – optional featured dancer audition

17:30 - 19:30 – Years 12-13 – singing, acting and movement audition

### **Who Can Audition?**

Anyone from RGS and female identifying students from partner schools. Candidates who are interested in a lead or speaking role must do an individual audition which will include both acting and singing.

### **What happens at the audition?**

- **MOVEMENT/ DANCE:** We will teach you a bit of movement with a song from the show and then you will perform this in groups.
- **ACTING:** You will be asked to read a section of script provided on the day. You may be asked to read again with a different accent, or with a different given direction
- **SINGING:**

#### *YEAR 7 TO 9:*

- You’ll learn a section of a song from the show and you’ll be asked to sing a short section on your own

#### *YEAR 10 to 13:*

- Prepare a song of your own choice. You may choose any song (**Ideally from a musical similar to SHREK**) that shows off voice and character.
- Try and cut the song to about 2 minutes long (or less)
- Bring your own sheet music for your song, or please bring a backing track. Ideally, you will not sing Acapella.
- If you would like to be considered for a lead role, it will be helpful if you are familiar with the songs that the character sings.
- Friendly advice: Please try and know your chosen song off by heart.
- You may be asked to stop before you have finished the whole song. This could be for any number of reasons, please do not think it is a bad thing.

**CHARACTER AND FEATURED DANCER AUDITIONS:** You will learn a more challenging dance than the group auditions, which will be in the style of the show.

**Recall Date:** SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

**Show Dates:** Wednesday 20<sup>TH</sup> – Saturday 23<sup>RD</sup> March 2023

**See you at the audition. Good luck!**

## Character Descriptions

### **SHREK (High Baritone):**

Our story's title character. A big, green, terrifying ogre who lives alone in a swamp. He embarks on a journey to rid his land of fairytale creatures and, along the way, finds an irritating friend and falls in love with Fiona. Begins as a grumpy hermit, but reveals his layers and eventually becomes the hero. Excellent singer and actor.

### **DONKEY (Tenor):**

A talking donkey who joins Shrek on the run from Farquaad's guards, and subsequently on his adventures. Donkey is irritating but lovable, easily frightened and pushy, but also an optimist with an enormous heart. Excellent singer and comic actor with a huge personality.

### **PRINCESS FIONA (Soprano - Belt):**

A beautiful princess rescued from a tower, she transforms into an ogre every night when the sun sets. Rescued by Shrek and eventually falls in love with him. Quirky, blunt, and multi-talented, she is not an ordinary princess. Excellent singer and actor with great comic timing; ideally should be able to tap dance.

### **LORD FARQUAAD (High Baritone):**

The comically short, ruthless ruler of Duloc. He is in search of a princess to marry so that he can become king. He's outrageous, camp and the totally over the top villain of the story. He requires an excellent singer and comic actor, who is able to play this role on his knees for the whole show.

### **DRAGON (Alto with Big Belt):**

A dragon that has been charged with guarding Princess Fiona in her isolated castle. Fabulous vocals.

### **PINOCCHIO (Falsetto Tenor or Soprano/Alto)**

The leader of the fairytale creatures. Although portrayed by a live actor, Pinocchio is an animated puppet whose nose grows every time he lies. Plenty of sass with a penchant for lying, he leads the troupe of Fairytale Creatures in the musical numbers "Story of My Life" and "Freak Flag."

### **SUGAR PLUM FAIRY/GINGY :**

A gingerbread man, initially kidnapped by Lord Farquaad. His wit and resolution help him both avoid trouble and inspire the rest of the fairytale creatures. This character is portrayed with a puppet, which will be voiced and operated by an actor appearing as Sugar Plum Fairy. Comedic as well as fantastic voice required.

### **MAMA AND PAPA OGRE:**

Shrek's mum and dad. Strong actors and vocals. They open the show.

### **YOUNG FIONA:**

Princess Fiona as a young girl. Sings a solo in "I Know It's Today" with Teen Fiona and Fiona.

### **TEEN FIONA:**

Princess Fiona as a teenager. Sings a solo in "I Know It's Today" with Young Fiona and Fiona.

### **FAIRYTALE CREATURES**

(All have featured roles, whether with lines, solos, dances, or action)

Wicked Witch, Humpty Dumpty, Big Bad Wolf, Papa Bear, Mama Bear, Baby Bear, 3 Little Pigs, 3 Blind Mice, Ugly Duckling, Peter Pan, Shoemaker's Elf, White Rabbit, Mad Hatter, Fairy Godmother etc.

### **ENSEMBLE CHARACTER ROLES**

These include (but are not limited to) Little Shrek, King Harold and Queen Lillian, Angry Mob, Happy People, Duloc Dancers, Captain and Guards, Thelonus the executioner, Knights, Dragon Singers, Pied Piper and Rats, Priest, Grumpy Dwarf.