

9th October 2023

Dear Students and Parents,

RGS Musical 2024: Shrek the Musical

After hugely successful performances of *The Producers* in March, the RGS Music Department is delighted to announce exciting plans for a whole school production of *Shrek the Musical*, to be staged in the Queen's Hall (Wednesday 20th – Saturday 23rd March 2024). We have selected this show in part to contrast with our previous RGS musicals and in order to provide plenty of opportunities for students to audition and gain a huge amount of experience, regardless of whether they have performed on stage before or not.

This show is open to all years, with a range of opportunities for both senior and junior students to have featured roles. It is a fun, family musical, telling the story of a green ogre and his adventures after meeting a group of fairytale characters, leading him on a quest to rescue Princess Fiona. *Shrek the Musical* transforms the contemporary children's book and popular animated feature film into a stage musical that is sure to entertain and make audiences believe in happy endings for all.

I am delighted to work alongside Becky Harrison, a professional director and choreographer, who has directed our previous productions of *The Producers*, *School of Rock*, *In The Heights*, and *West Side Story*, whilst also being heavily involved in the local Trinity Theatre Arts school that takes place onsite.

For further audition details, please read the attached file carefully (Audition Information) before filling in an audition form asap: <https://forms.office.com/e/dUqRJYk6me>

Whether you have performed in numerous productions, or if this is your first show, I would strongly recommend coming to auditions and seeing what the show is all about. Do share widely with siblings, friends, and students from neighbouring schools who might also like to join us for first-round auditions.

Audition Dates:

Auditions will be held at RGS in the Queen's Hall on two days, so please attend the relevant slot for your year group on either Sunday 15th October, or Monday 30th October. There is no advantage to choosing either date:

- 10:30-12:45 – Years 7-9 – singing, acting and movement audition
- 12:45-1:15 – Years 7-9 – optional character dancer audition
- 2:15-4:30 – Years 10-11 – singing, acting and movement audition
- 4:30-5:30 – Years 10-13 – optional featured dancer audition
- 5:30-7:30 – Years 12-13 – singing, acting and movement audition

Recalls will be taking place on Sunday 5th November.

Please arrive at RGS 15 minutes before your slot, in comfortable clothes that you can move around in, and with water and snacks.

Costume/Make-up:

If anyone has, or knows anyone with, expertise or interest in making or sourcing costumes, please contact us! This show also requires a large degree of specialist make-up, so if anyone has expertise in this area we would love to hear about it. We welcome any helpers in these aspects so please have a think if you would like to be involved in this sense, or pass on to any young people or adults you know.

Finally, if you have any questions regarding auditions, please encourage your child to speak to me in the Music Office, or indeed email me at naj@rgshw.com. We hope to see you there!

Best wishes,

Mrs Natasha Jashari
Director of Music