

Audition Notice

***Punk Rock* by Simon Stephens**

Directed by Bradley Adams and Bethany Brooks

Performances Monday 18th September to Saturday 23rd September 2023
Read Through Tuesday 25th April 2023 at 7:30pm
Auditions Thursday 4th May at 7:30pm and Sunday 7th May at 5pm

Rehearsal period starting from Tuesday 11th July 2023. Weekday rehearsals will be Tuesday and Thursday evenings - 7:30pm-9:30pm. Weekend rehearsals will be Sunday afternoons 2:30pm to 5pm.

For further information or a copy of the script please contact the PA Britt Adams.

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Synopsis

Mock exams are fast approaching at Kingswood Preparatory School. Seven sixth form students gather in the Upper School library to revise and socialise. Lilly is new to the college. She is befriended by William, a fantasist and Oxbridge hopeful, who offers to show her around. William quickly falls for Lilly, unaware that Lilly has already struck up romance with the athletic Nicholas.

Bennett, accompanied by his girlfriend Cissy, passes the time by tormenting Chadwick and anyone who sticks up for him. Tanya is in love with a teacher. This disjointed group all have their own problems. The beginning of their adult lives is nearing, and tensions are high when it comes to preparing for their final months of college. However, are mock results all they have to worry about or is there something far worse heading their way?

This play contains some strong language, sexual references and violent scenes.

Characters and Audition Pieces

Characters are approximately upper sixth form age (17-19); however, these are stage ages and may be flexible. Suitable for ages 14-25 to audition with some flexibility on the upper end. Looking for an adult actor or older youth who may be over 25 to play Dr Harvey.

William Carlisle

William spends most of his time in the Upper Library where he meets Lilly. He quickly develops feelings for her and attempts to initiate a relationship which backfires. One day he hopes to get an offer for Oxbridge and has high aspirations in life. William is also a compulsive liar whose mental state slowly deteriorates throughout the play. He eventually begins to drink heavily. It appears that there is only a matter of time before he snaps.

Audition Pieces:

Page 80 "Can you turn the light back on" to page 81 "Don't come into school."

Page 88 "I did warn you" to page 92 "I don't want to talk about this anymore."

Page 101 "Not everybody feels like I feel" to page 102 "Not spend too much money."

Lilly Cahill

Lilly has moved from Cambridge to Banstead and is new at the sixth form. She has spent her life moving from school to school and has not been able to settle somewhere for long. She is befriended by William, who develops feelings for her. These feelings are not reciprocated, and Lilly informs William that she does not want to date anyone. In the meantime, Lilly begins a relationship with Nicholas who she appears smitten with. Whilst navigating a new life and meeting new friends Lilly struggles with her mental health and develops negative coping strategies like self-harm.

Audition Pieces:

Page 36 "He asked me out" to page 38 "go round and tell them."

Page 42 "Do you think about that?" to page 44 "You're not fat."

Page 77 "You know" to page 78 "Please tell me."

Bennett Francis

Boisterous and arrogant, Bennett spends his time bullying others to distract himself from his own struggles with his sexuality. Most of this bullying is targeted at Chadwick. In a relationship with Cissy, it is clear that he does not treat her well.

Audition Pieces:

Page 44 "Bennett enters" to page 46 "Chadwick enters."

Page 49 "Chadwick have you got any money" to page 50 "Everybody's being quiet."

Cissy Franks

Appears confident and put together on the outside with some insecurities on the inside. Spends her time dreaming of a better life outside of Kingswood. Cissy has a strict mother who will not accept anything less than an 'A' even in her mock exams. In a relationship with Bennett but it is clear he does not treat her well. However, she often joins in with Bennett's humiliation of Chadwick.

Audition Pieces:

Page 42 "Do you think about that?" to page 44 "You're not fat."

Page 44 "Bennett enters" to page 46 "Chadwick enters."

Nicholas Chatman

Athletic and charming, enjoys going to the gym and playing lacrosse. Described as "muscular," Nicholas is popular and considers himself a ladies' man; he confidently believes he can seduce a student teacher. Wears branded clothing and appears fashionable. Nicholas is in a relationship with Lilly but asks her to keep this a secret.

Audition Pieces:

Page 36 "He asked me out" to page 38 "go round and tell them."

Page 88 "I did warn you" to page 90 "I don't want to talk about this anymore."

Tanya Gleason

Tanya lacks confidence and struggles to stand up for herself. She daydreams about a life with Mr Anderson. The others tease her for this, but she is all set on them spending their lives together. Tanya grows in confidence slowly in the play resulting in her becoming the target of Bennett's bullying after attempting to stick up for Chadwick.

Audition Pieces:

Page 12 "Are you Lilly?" to page 14 "Set fire to your tie."

Page 42 "Do you think about that?" to page 44 "You're not fat."

Chadwick Meade

Achieved a scholarship to the sixth form for his sheer intelligence. He does not feel like he fits in as he is one of the only students whose parents are not paying a large amount for him to attend. Surrounded by others who have rich parents, he is frequently bullied by others for being different. Chadwick is the main target for Bennett to torment, but he suggests there are worse things in store for him if he leaves the Upper School library. He wonders when this torment will ever end.

Audition Pieces:

Page 49 "Chadwick have you got any money" to page 50 "Everybody's being quiet."

Page 53 "I don't think I deserve" to page 55 "You get out of here."

Dr Richard Harvey:

Psychiatrist at Suttons Manor Hospital medium secure unit. Appears in one scene. Can be male or female. Suitable for older youth or an adult performer.

Audition Piece:

Page 96 "Do you know who I am?" to page 97 "Certainly."