

LEADS ROLES – KEY CHARACTERS*

**These will be double casted, so 12 students will be assigned to these roles*

Key characters with large speaking and singing roles, including solo songs:

MATILDA WORMWOOD

Vocal Range: B3–D5

Character Description: A brilliant, imaginative, and courageous little girl with an extraordinary mind. Matilda loves reading and learning but is neglected by her parents and bullied by her headmistress, Miss Trunchbull. Despite this, she uses her intelligence, wit, and telekinetic powers to fight for justice and kindness.

Traits: Smart, brave, compassionate, determined, independent.

Character Type: Lead, strong actor-singer

Acting Style: Realistic, emotionally grounded, with moments of comic timing.

Note: Needs strong acting ability to be able to carry emotional and comedic moments; must handle dialogue-heavy scenes and some solo singing; a performer who can balance innocence with determination.

Solo songs: Naughty, Naught Part 2, Quiet

MISS HONEY THE TEACHER

Vocal Range: F3–D5

Character Description: Matilda's gentle, kind, and nurturing teacher who sees Matilda's potential when no one else does. Despite her own difficult upbringing under the tyranny of Miss Trunchbull, Miss Honey represents warmth, compassion, and quiet strength.

Traits: Gentle, patient, caring, loving, quietly strong.

Character Type: Gentle heroine

Acting Style: Naturalistic, heartfelt, sincere.

Note: need warmth in both voice and presence — she's the emotional heart of the show.

Solo song: This Little Girl

AGATHA TRUNCHBULL THE PRINCIPAL

Vocal Range: A2–G4

Character Description: The terrifying headmistress of Crunchem Hall Primary School. A former hammer-throwing champion, she rules the school with cruelty and intimidation. She despises children and delights in punishing them. Usually played by a male performer for comedic effect.

Traits: Intimidating, loud, cruel, larger-than-life, darkly comedic.

Character Type: Comic villain

Acting Style: Exaggerated physical comedy, pantomime-style.

Note: This role could be played by a male or female student; requires big stage presence and bold choices— think “cartoon villain meets PE teacher; physicality is key (marching, shouting, looming).

Solo songs: The Hammer, The Smell of Rebellion

Key characters with speaking parts only:

MR WORMWOOD

Character Description: Matilda's dishonest, loudmouthed, and self-absorbed father. A sleazy used-car salesman who prides himself on being clever and belittles Matilda for loving books. Provides much of the show's comic relief.

Traits: Loud, boastful, foolish, overconfident.

Character Type: Comic villain

Acting Style: Broad comedy, exaggerated physicality.

Note: Strong comedic timing required; good opportunity for a confident performer who loves over-the-top acting.

MRS WORMWOOD

Character Description: Matilda's self-absorbed, dance-obsessed mother. She cares more about ballroom dancing and her own appearance than her daughter. A flamboyant comic character.

Traits: Vain, dramatic, flamboyant, neglectful, self-centred, superficial.

Character Type: Comic diva

Acting Style: Big, flashy, over-the-top.

Note: Must be comfortable performing with high energy and sass.

MRS PHELPS THE LIBRARIAN

Character Description: the friendly librarian who listens to Matilda's imaginative stories and treats her like an equal. She's the first adult in Matilda's world to really see and appreciate her intelligence. Her scenes serve as a gentle emotional counterbalance to the chaos of the Wormwoods and Trunchbull.

Traits: Kind, patient, encouraging, imaginative.

Acting Style: Naturalistic, warm, nurturing with a touch of wonder/narrator-type.

Note: Requires warmth and expressive storytelling; great role for a strong actor who may not be a strong singer.

LEAD ROLES - FEATURED CHARACTERS*

**One student will be allocated to each of these 13 roles.*

Matilda's classmates with speaking and singing roles:

LAVENDER

Vocal Range: Ensemble

Character Description: Lavender is kind and bright and quickly decides that Matilda is her best friend; should be an actress that can portray Lavender's likability and friendliness.

Traits: Playful, daring, loyal, confident.

Character Type: Comic sidekick / storyteller

Acting Style: Energetic, naturalistic with cheeky delivery.

Note: Needs big personality and clear voice for narration moments; works well for a performer who loves audience interaction.

BRUCE BOGTROTTER

Vocal Range: C4–E5

Character Description: Bruce has the bad luck to get caught after eating Trunchbull's cake. Bruce goes through quite the transformation throughout the show and has some important solos, so needs to be a good actor and singer.

Traits: Friendly, brave, relatable.

Character Type: Everyday kid hero

Acting Style: Comic realism with courage.

Note: Needs energy and charm vibe; must handle the famous cake scene with confidence.

AMANDA

Vocal Range: Ensemble

Character Description: Amanda has a few solos and lines, but her most featured moment is when Trunchbull throws her through the air using her pigtails; should be a good singer and mover for this role.

Traits: Sweet, small, bright, good comic reaction.

Character Type: Featured student

Acting Style: Natural and cute.

Note: Good for a performer with expressive acting; should be confident in physical stage moments (pigtail toss scene).

NIGEL

Vocal Range: Ensemble

Character Description: Nigel is always in a bit of a panic; he has a few solos and some great featured moments including the threat of being placed in 'The Chokey' by Trunchbull.

Traits: sweet, anxious, looks for direction and protection from other students

Character type: Featured student

Acting Style: Nervous but enthusiastic

Note: should be a strong actor and singer in this supporting role.

ERIC

Vocal Range: Ensemble

Character Description: Eric is a confident classmate who has the very first solo line of the entire show as well as some featured moments with Matilda.

Traits: confident, engaging

Character type: Featured student

Acting Style: Energetic, natural presenter/storyteller

Note: Needs to be an expressive actor with a confident singer with a loud voice.

ALICE, TOMMY AND HORTENSIA

Alice and Tomy Vocal Range: Ensemble

Character Description: Alice and Tommy are classmates who each sing solos and Hortensia has a few lines spoken in rhythm.

Traits: Friendly, reactive, brave, sometimes silly.

Character Type: Dancing ensemble characters with lines

Acting Style: Natural, expressive, full of energy.

Note: Great for team players who work well in group scenes; good role for singers and dancers who may be newer to the stage; must sing and move confidently in “School Song” and “Revolting Children.”

Featured characters that sing a duet:

THE ESCAPOLOGIST

Vocal Range: B3–E4

Character Description: a character of Matilda’s creation who is a male performer in the circus together with his love The Acrobat. Everything this character does is grand and exaggerated – he’s performing for the cheap seats at the back!

Traits: Kind, loving, tragic.

Character Type: Storybook figure (Matilda’s imagination)

Acting Style: Expressive, grand, fairy-tale tone.

Duet: sings ‘Acrobat Story 1 (Part 1) with The Acrobat

Note: expressive voice and physical storytelling ability; must be a solid actor and mover in this fun featured role.

THE ACROBAT

Vocal Range: A3–E5

Character Description: the female acrobat in the circus who is a character of Matilda’s creation together with her love The Escapologist.

Traits: Kind, loving, tragic.

Character Type: Storybook figure (Matilda’s imagination)

Acting Style: Expressive, graceful, fairy-tale tone.

Duet: sings ‘Acrobat Story 1 (Part 1) with The Escapologist

Note: expressive voice and physical storytelling ability; must be an actress willing to give it her all!

Featured characters with smaller speaking roles:

MICHAEL WORMWOOD

Character Description: Matilda's dim-witted older brother. He rarely speaks but provides physical comedy through clueless reactions.

Traits: Slow, simple-minded, lazy, deadpan, funny in his obliviousness.

Character Type: Silent comic

Acting Style: Physical comedy, minimal dialogue.

Note: Perfect role for someone with great physical or facial comedy; few lines, but lots of potential for timing and expressions.

RUDOLPHO THE DANCE TEACHER

Character Description: the hilarious, self-obsessed dancer teacher of Mrs Wormwood.

Traits: flamboyant, self-involved

Character Type: funny feature role

Acting Style: exaggerated and comical

Note: great for a comedic performer who moves well.

SERGEI THE MOB BOSS

Character Description: Sergei is the Russian mob boss who has swindled by Mr Wormwood. Though he shows up looking for payback, Matilda has had quite enough of revenge, and Sergei lets the Wormwoods escape.

Traits: criminal mind, cunning, intimidating

Character Type: bold featured role

Acting Style: expressive, strong character

Note: this is a great featured role for an actor who can embody Sergei's intimidating presence.