

Goodbye my friend

Reducing the cast size

Minimum Cast Number: 17

Here is our suggestion to reduce the cast size without compromising the plot.

Firstly, you can, of course, perform all scenes and songs which will give you a production lasting 90 mins +. However, we advise you choose a handful of scenes and songs to perform, to create a bespoke production of a length that suits you. As an example, we have chosen scenes 1, 2, 4, 7, and 8 and have suggested ways you can reduce the cast to the 17 minimum – details below. However, you can choose any scenes to perform and reduce the cast using our example as a guide.

Most of the speaking characters appear in only one scene. This allows for the 'doubling-up' and 'tripling-up' of parts played by your cast (although swift costume changes may be necessary) thus reducing the number you need to fulfil all the main roles - see suggestions below:

| Speaking Part | Also playing part/s |
|------------------|---|
| Teacher (Sc 1) | Teacher (Sc 2), Bus Driver (Sc 4), Angel #3 (Sc 7) and Child #1 (Sc 8) |
| Sarah (Sc 1) | Teaching Assist. (Sc 2), Child #1 (Sc 4), Gabriel (Sc 7) |
| Peter (Sc 1) | Child #1 (Sc 2), Child #2 (Sc 4), Mary (Sc 7) and Child #2 (Sc 8) |
| Becky (Sc 1) | Child #2 (Sc 2), Child #3 (Sc 4), Joseph (Sc 7) and Child #3 (Sc 8) |
| Hannah (Sc 1) | Child #3 (Sc 2), Child #4 (Sc 4), Donkey front (Sc 7) and Child #4 (Sc 8) |
| Simon (Sc 1) | Child #4 (Sc 2), Child #5 (Sc 4), Donkey back (Sc 7) and Child #5 (Sc 8) |
| Lee (Sc 1) | Child #5 (Sc 2), Child #6 (Sc 4), Innkeeper (Sc 7) and Child #6 (Sc 8) |
| Oliver (Sc 1) | Child #6 (Sc 2), Child #7 (Sc 4), Shepherd #1 (Sc 7) and Parent #1 (Sc 8) |
| Lucy (Sc 1) | Infant #1 (Sc 2), Child #8 (Sc 4), Shepherd #2 (Sc 7) and Parent #2 (Sc 8) |
| Laura (Sc 1) | Infant #2 (Sc 2), Announcer (Sc 4), Shepherd #3 (Sc 7) |
| Josephine (Sc 1) | Teacher (Sc 4), Angel #1 (Sc 7), Wise Man #1 (Sc 7) and Teacher (Sc 8) |
| William (Sc 1) | Helper #1 (Sc 4), Angel #2 (Sc 7), Wise Man #2 (Sc 7) |
| Mum (Sc 1) | Helper #2 (Sc 4), Teacher (Sc 7), Wise Man #3 (Sc 7) and TA (Sc 8) |

Increasing the cast size

To 100+

Simply do the whole production with a different child playing each character!

You could also have a dedicated choir seated to one side of the stage, to sing all songs – number unlimited.

Please get in touch if you have any further questions about staging this musical – we're always happy to help!