



### Next Door But One - Casting Callout - *My Mad Mum* 2026 (Schools and Community Tour)

Next Door But One are seeking 2 graduate actors for roles in our next touring production, *My Mad Mum* by Ant Stones. The play will be directed by NDB1 CEO and Artistic Director Matt Harper-Hardcastle and Associate Director Kate Veysey.

All actors must be Yorkshire based due to the ongoing development element of this opportunity, and within 2 years of completing a theatre based training course (this can be degree, college, drama school, or equivalent sustained training). If you are unsure whether you qualify, please email Kate Veysey [kate.ndb1@gmail.com](mailto:kate.ndb1@gmail.com).

#### About 'My Mad Mum'

*Everyone knows Andy and everyone knows his mum. Everywhere he goes he hears people calling her names and whispering behind his back. When the new girl, Harper, arrives at school, they strike up a special friendship, but how long will it be before their home lives start to collide?*

*My Mad Mum* is commissioned by [Our Time](#), a charity that supports children of parents with a mental illness. Set to a soundtrack of modern music, the audience joins the characters as they explore what it means to have a parent with mental ill health and how to support them and themselves.

#### About Next Door But One

Next Door But One (NDB1) are an award-winning LGBTQ+ and disability-led theatre company based in York, promoting creative skills and encouraging community cohesion, particularly with those who face barriers to accessing theatre.

Our established programme focuses on workshops and performances for and with cohorts of the community with disabilities, mental ill health, those experiencing bereavement, unpaid carers, girls and women from lower socioeconomic backgrounds, and individuals from the LGBTQ+ community. Our activity ranges from workshops to touring performances, training programmes and professional development opportunities. Our partners currently include The Snappy Trust, Camphill Village Trust, Converge, York Carers Centre, University of York, Menfulness, Our Time and Clifton Green Primary School. Our mission is to connect people to their creativity and community through the theatre we make and the stories we tell. Our vision is for the arts to play an integral role in unleashing the true potential of every community; to tell every story, to hear every voice and champion the contribution every person makes. Through theatre we can show a world where everything is possible!

In 2023 we joined Arts Council England's Investment Programme as a National Portfolio Organisation, became a Visit York Tourism Award Winner in 'Resilience and Innovation', and recently won the award for 'Outstanding Talent' in the York Mix Hero Awards, 'Community Changemaker' and 'Inclusive Business' at the 2024 York Enterprise Awards, and 'Practising Well' in the Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance Awards. For more information visit: [www.nextdoorbutone.co.uk](http://www.nextdoorbutone.co.uk)

As an equal opportunities and [Disability Confident Committed](#) employer, and [PiPA Charter Partner](#) we are always happy to discuss solutions that allow people to balance and contribute all aspects of their identity with their working life. We will always endeavour where possible to put in place practices for all our company members to contribute their fullest. If you have any questions or would like support applying, please email [kate.ndb1@gmail.com](mailto:kate.ndb1@gmail.com).

### Roles

The show is a two-hander and therefore includes a lot of multi-roling. Actors must be confident movers too.

For both roles we are looking for actors who have recently graduated from theatre training, as the production will provide opportunities for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and we welcome applications for those who are keen to access and benefit from these. As the production will tour to schools, having experience of touring to or working with secondary school young people is preferable.

With the content of the play exploring mental health, young carers and young adult carers, we encourage applications from people with a shared lived experience in any of these areas.

### Role 1: Andy/ Dean/ Mr Fletcher

*Versatile, intelligent actor who is happy working with secondary school children.*

**ANDY:** 16 year old finishing their GCSEs. Full of rage and tired of the way everyone talks about him. He desperately needs someone to talk to. His friendship with Harper is by far the most significant of his life. They enjoy making dance videos for social media, particularly the silliness of it (they are definitely not professionals).

**DEAN:** 16 year old finishing their GCSEs. A footballer and a self-styled 'lady's man'. Arrogant and not shy with his opinions, but hiding an inner sensitivity.

**MR FLETCHER:** Experienced teacher and a good leader. Although he's strict and not to be messed with, he's got experience and knows when to adapt.

Playing age 16

Height Any

Appearance Any

### Role 2: Harper/ Millie/ Miss Knowles

*Versatile, intelligent actor who is happy working with secondary school children.*

**HARPER:** 16 year old finishing their GCSEs. New to the area and worried about fitting in. An expert at keeping secrets. Her friendship with Andy is by far the most significant of her life. They enjoy making dance videos for social media, particularly the silliness of it (they are definitely not professionals).

**MILLIE:** 16 years old finishing their GCSEs. Kind-hearted and innocent. Is used to things going well and is unsure of herself when things go off track.

**MISS KNOWLES:** A recently qualified teacher with a lot to learn. Enthusiastic, but inexperienced. Has high expectations and a rose-tinted view of the world.

Playing age 16

Height Any

Appearance Any

Please note that we are not expecting the actor to look the above ages, just to be able to capture that energy. All actors must be 18 years of age or older.

Due to training opportunities and rehearsals and tour being all based in York, actors must be from Yorkshire or have a base here that is easily commutable.

### The Opportunity

This is an exciting, paid, development and training opportunity for those who have recently graduated from theatre training, providing engagement in a professional touring production, whilst receiving bespoke career development to help graduates sustain and grow their careers.

This will take place in three stages:

Stage 1: The project will begin a 3 day R&D to explore the script, form the team and discuss requests for professional development content. The 2 actors will then have the opportunity to engage in 5 months of multiple workshops with industry professionals, by connecting to our Opening Doors programme. Once we get into rehearsals, bespoke development opportunities for the 2 actors will be delivered during the schedule. These may include (but are not limited to) headshots, showreel sessions, mentoring from experienced NDB1 actors and open casting sessions.

Stage 2: The actors will then go into rehearsal for the play My Mad Mum, supported by the NDB1 creative team. During rehearsals, actors will work with organisations and companies who have lived experience of living with mental ill health and caring responsibilities, as these are the themes of the play. These workshops will explore the characters and storyline to inform the choices the cast and creative team make in producing the performance.

Stage 3: The actors will then tour to 8 Yorkshire secondary schools and 2 public venues.

### Timeline

Sunday 7th September, 10am	Applications Close
Wednesday 1st October	In person Auditions (York - Friargate Theatre)
Friday 10th October	Roles Confirmed by this date
Tuesday 21st-Thursdays 23rd October	R&D in York
November 2025-March 2026	Opening Doors running
Monday 17th April-Friday 8th May 2026	Rehearsals
Monday 11th May-Friday 22nd May	Tour

### Fee

3 days R & D @ £399 (total)

3 weeks of rehearsal @ £610 per week

2 weeks performances @ £610 per week

Please note that there are no additional fees for travel costs as this opportunity is for Yorkshire based artists. However there is additional budget to meet access needs and to respond to any complexities in travel whilst touring (arranged by the company)

*Please note all training within Opening Doors is funded, but you will not be paid to attend.*

### Application process

Please send a self tape of the following script (reading for the role you are applying for) with your name and the role you are applying for, along with a CV and short statement as to why this opportunity would be of benefit to you, to [hello.ndb1@gmail.com](mailto:hello.ndb1@gmail.com) by 10am on Sunday 7th September 2025

If you are shortlisted for an audition, we will contact you by Friday 12th September.

The auditions will be held in York on Wednesday 1st October (note: these will be group/workshop auditions)

Notes on self tape: We are not looking at your filming skills or your set up, we just want to see and hear how you would approach the script and character. However you want to incorporate the lines of the character opposite you is up to you - have someone read in off camera, pre-record the other lines, leave gaps where the other line is. We prefer self tapes to be sent as files, Youtube links (or similar) or cloud storage links (e.g. Gdrive) as platforms like WeTransfer have expiration dates and we would hate to miss out on downloading your self tape(s).

### Contacts:

Questions to [kate.ndb1@gmail.com](mailto:kate.ndb1@gmail.com)

Applications/submissions to [hello.ndb1@gmail.com](mailto:hello.ndb1@gmail.com)

## Side for Self Tape - The Bus Stop

Harper: Hey. Are you--

Andy: Just leave it, ok!

Harper: I'm sorry?

Andy: I don't know who you are, or who sent you, but save it.

Harper: I'm not sure that...

Andy: Whatever you were planning to say, there's no point, alright? I've heard it all before. My mum's a psycho! A freak. She's a nutter. Absolutely hilarious and totally true. She is mental. And so am I. So, do yourself a favour and get lost.

Harper: But... I need to catch the bus.

Andy: You can make the next stop.

Harper: Right... I just...

Andy: You'd better get a move on.

Harper: But I don't know which way to go?

Andy: Nice try.

*A brief pause.*

Andy: Wait... Are you new?

*Harper doesn't reply.*

Andy: I've not seen you before...

Harper: No... I just moved here.

Andy: Right... Then let me give you some advice. You don't want to be seen with me. Not unless you want to commit Social Suicide.

Harper: Ok...

Andy: You're welcome. Just head that way and wait at the next stop. You'll still make it.

*Harper starts to walk the other way.*

Andy: I said the next stop's down there.

Harper: Yeah. I heard you...

Andy: You're going the wrong way.

Harper: Actually, I think I forgot something, anyway. So...