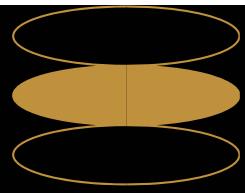


“Cinderella” Detention Diva

A musical written by
Andrew Holgate



SPOTLIGHT SCRIPTS



Synopsis

Full Synopsis of the Play

Title: *Cinderella – The School Remix*

Genre: Modern Pantomime / Comedy Musical

Running Time: Approx. 90 minutes (with interval)

Overview:

Set in a chaotic modern-day school, this hilarious and heartwarming retelling of *Cinderella* reimagines the classic tale with TikTokers, science nerds, villainous teachers, and a disco-dancing fairy godmother. It blends modern school life, panto-style humour, pop culture, and musical numbers into a sparkling, high-energy show perfect for young performers and family audiences.

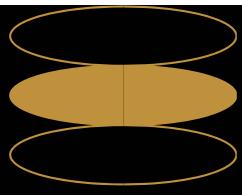
Plot Summary:

Scene 1 – It's Just a Normal Day... NOT!

We meet Cinderella — just an ordinary student — mocked by the TikTok gang and loaded with chores by the villainous Ms. Grime and Ms. Sludge. DJ Detention gets the day started with typical school chaos. Buzz, the school heartthrob, is introduced. Cinderella's day starts badly and gets worse. Mopsly (the janitor/fairy godmother) quietly observes everything. The Nerd Squad (Jazz, Toby, and Nim) offer some comic relief, and Dusty and Binny cause general mayhem.

Scene 2 – Corridor of Chores & TikToks

Grime and Sludge put Cinderella to work cleaning the corridor while the TikTok gang take selfies and dance. Cinderella tries to clean around them but ends up humiliated. Buzz passes by but doesn't truly see her. Grime and Sludge ramp up their punishment. Mopsly notices Cinderella's misery and begins to plan something magical.



Scene 3 – A Royal Announcement

DJ Detention announces the upcoming school talent show with a dramatic flair. Buzz expresses frustration with superficial students and wants someone “real.” The Nerd Squad unveil their latest invention — the *Enlarging Machine* — and use audience volunteers to comically enlarge objects (baby boot to welly, small toy to large teddy). It malfunctions on the third try, spraying water at the audience. Grime and Sludge arrive to make a speech but are interrupted by Dusty and Binny triggering unexpected music, forcing them into an unplanned duet.

Scene 4 – Transformation Time

Mopsly reveals her magical identity to Cinderella and transforms her with a comical combination of glitter, slapstick magic, and a sparkly pair of Crocs. With encouragement from Dusty and Binny, Cinderella gains confidence. Mopsly warns her: be home by 10:30pm or the spell breaks. She rushes off to the show with hope and excitement.

Scene 5 – The School Talent Show Begins

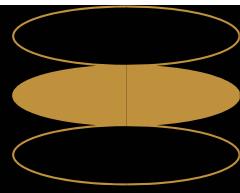
The school talent show kicks off. TikTokers do a painfully trendy routine. The Nerd Squad present another ridiculous act. Buzz takes the mic to perform and sees Cinderella in disguise — and is captivated. They dance and connect. Grime and Sludge try to intervene but are ignored. DJ Detention hypes the crowd. It’s Cinderella’s big moment.

Scene 6 – Mopsly Makes a Move

Mopsly senses the spell is weakening. Cinderella starts to notice something’s off — sparkles dim, the Crocs begin to wobble. Grime and Sludge plot to expose her. Dusty and Binny attempt to stall things, creating distraction. Mopsly casts a last-ditch sparkle cloud to buy time — but the clock is ticking.

Scene 7 – The Dance Begins

Buzz and Cinderella are alone on stage for a romantic moment. They begin talking — awkward and sweet — but Dusty and Binny interrupt with cringe one-liners. Just as the two start to bond, the magic starts glitching again. Time is nearly up. Cinderella starts to panic. DJ Detention announces the final round of the talent show.



Scene 8 – Magic Meltdown at 10:30

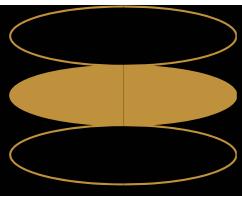
At exactly 10:30pm, all magical elements collapse in chaotic fashion. Cinderella's hair falls, makeup melts, outfit disintegrates, and one Croc falls off dramatically. She flees the stage, leaving Buzz stunned and holding the sparkly Croc. Mopsly shrugs, Dusty and Binny scream, and chaos reigns.

Scene 9 – The Search Is On

Buzz goes full detective mode, determined to find the owner of the Croc. Dusty and Binny offer their help as "Croc Detectives," bringing disguises and nonsense gadgets. They interrogate TikTokers, the Nerd Squad, even staff. Grime and Sludge make one last attempt to trick Buzz, but Mopsly shuts it down. Cinderella stays hidden.

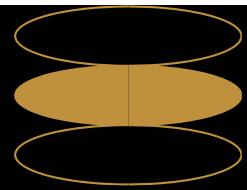
Scene 10 – The Final Reveal & Curtain Call

Cinderella appears, confesses the truth, and Buzz recognises her instantly. The Croc fits. Grime and Sludge object, but Mopsly uses her sparkle-mop sceptre to shut them down. DJ Detention declares Cinderella the winner of the show. The full cast launches into the feel-good final number: "It'll Be Alright", ending with a dance party and curtain call.

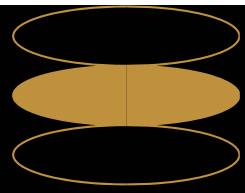


Cast List

Character	Description	Performance Skills Required
Cinderella	Humble, kind student who gains confidence through magic	Strong acting, emotional range, light singing
Buzz	Popular student who seeks something real	Charisma, stage presence, some singing ability
Mopsly	Janitor/fairy godmother in disguise	Comedic timing, physical comedy, warm stage presence
Ms. Grime	Strict, dramatic villain teacher	Over-the-top delivery, strong voice for comic singing
Ms. Sludge	Clueless sidekick villain	Slapstick skills, funny facial expressions, good timing
DJ Detention	Energetic school announcer, chaotic host	Strong voice, comic instincts, improvisation skills
Dusty	Comedic duo partner (loud one)	Clowning, physical humour, verbal speed
Binny	Comedic duo partner (deadpan one)	Subtle comic timing, physical comedy, strong reactions
Roxy	TikTok queen, sassy and stylish	Confident movement, comedic arrogance, good dancer
Zane	Cool but clueless TikTok boy	Comedic timing, poses confidently, some dance
Keisha	Trendy TikToker with an attitude	Sass, stage presence, confident dancer
Toby	Nerd Squad leader, overkeen and awkward	Fast-talking, expressive, comic delivery
Jazz	Musical nerd, smart with flair	Quirky charm, musicality, fun physicality
Nim	Quiet genius, strong but silent type	Strong facial acting, expressive body language
Mr Trunchley	Miserable Headteacher with little patience	Deadpan comedy Minimal stage time



Ensemble	Students, staff, parents, dancers, extras	General movement, facial reactions, optional singing/dancing
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Props

Props Required

Scene 1 – It's Just a Normal Day... NOT! Mop and bucket (Mopsly), DJ mic and clipboard, school bags, phones

Scene 2 – Corridor of Chores & TikToks Detention slips, cleaning supplies (spray, cloths, bin bag), TikTok props

Scene 3 – A Royal Announcement Enlarging machine prop, baby boot, wellington boot, tiny bear, giant teddy, tennis ball, water pistol

Scene 4 – Transformation Time Glitter/confetti, Crocs, wand or sparkle-mop, costume items, light-up effects

Scene 5 – The School Talent Show Begins Talent show signs/posters, DJ booth setup, ring light/phones, cue cards, mic

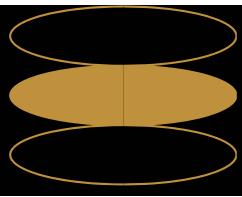
Scene 6 – Mopsly Makes a Move Glitter blast effect, glowing Croc, Mopsly's sparkle mop/wand

Scene 7 – The Dance Begins Banana phone (Binny), detective trench coats/hats, locker or bench (optional)

Scene 8 – Magic Meltdown at 10:30 Clock chime/bell SFX, Croc prop, failing costume parts, glitter explosion/confetti

Scene 9 – The Search Is On Croc, clipboard, fake disguises (moustache, wig, scarf), Nerd gadgets

Scene 10 – Final Reveal & Curtain Call Croc (fit test), sparkle wand, DJ mic, confetti cannons, curtain call items



Scene 1 – Its Just a normal day....NOT!

Brief Synopsis:

It's a brand-new school term at the dreariest school in Britain: Grimewell Academy for the Occasionally Gifted. We meet our heroine, Cinderella "Ella" Sparks, being bossed around by the awful Deputy Heads while her mates prepare for another year of school rules, boring assemblies, and worse—no school talent show! This scene sets the tone with a chaotic ensemble entrance, audience interaction, and introduces key players and the school's oppressive, ridiculous environment.

Cast Members in Scene:

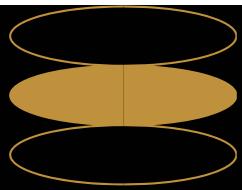
Cinderella "Ella" Sparks
Buzz McFly
Ms. Sludge
Ms. Grime
Headmaster Trunchley
DJ Detention
Nerd Herd (Toby, Jazz, Nim)
Cool Gang (Roxy, Zane, Keisha)
Ensemble (Students, Teachers, Lunch Ladies, Janitors)

Song in Scene:

"Welcome to Grimewell" – Parody of "Welcome to the Jungle" or similar school-rock anthem with rewritten lyrics.

Projected Background – Scene 1:

A scruffy secondary school playground — graffiti walls, soggy goalposts, crooked signage that reads "Welcome to Grimewell Academy: Aim Lower!" Bins overflowing. Seagull eating a chip.



Scene 1 cont....

Sound of school bell – loud, painful. Lights up on the full cast frozen in a tableau of school chaos.

Song 1 “Welcome to Grimewell”

[Intro – Spoken, over feedback & sirens]

BUZZ (spoken):

Welcome to Grimewell, baby.
Leave your dreams at the gate...

[Verse 1 – Ensemble (shouted lines alternated)]

Welcome to Grimewell, it's a learning fight!
Lunch is grey, and nothing's right!
Teachers sneer, the lights all flicker,
You'll lose your mind—and your dinner quicker!

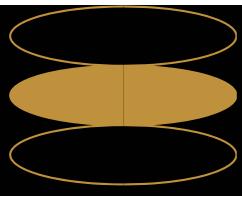
We've got tests and tension,
Homework detention!
Your hopes and dreams?
They're in suspension!

[Chorus – Full Ensemble]

WEL-COOOME TO GRIMEWELL!
We got rules and rage!
Where the walls smell weird,
And the Head's our age!

WEL-COOOME TO GRIMEWELL!
Better tuck your shirt!
You can run, but not escape—
This place is built to hurt!
(You're in Grimewell now!)

[Verse 2 – Smaller groups & solos]



Cool Gang:
We slide through corridors, chewing gum and fate!

Nerd Herd:
They banned our robots AND our online slate!

Lunch Ladies (chanting):
Today's surprise? It's brown and bold,
Is it lasagne? Who knows—it's cold!

[Bridge – Call & Response]

BUZZ:
Who's got fun?

ENSEMBLE:
Not us, not here!

BUZZ:
Who runs this place?

ENSEMBLE:
Sisters full of fear!

BUZZ:
Who's got dreams?

ENSEMBLE:
We DO—somewhere!

BUZZ:
Then shout it loud and mess their hair!

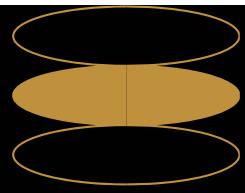
[Chorus – Reprise with more chaos]

WEL-COOOME TO GRIMEWELL!
We got no free will!
Where your brain cells rot,
And you freeze on the hill!

WEL-COOOME TO GRIMEWELL!
The bell don't save ya!
It's survival of the sass—
With a side of broken paper!

[Final Breakdown – chant-style, huge energy]

No smiling...
No talking...
No dancing in the hall!
No singing...
No freedom...
NO FUN AT ALL!



**Welcome to Grimewell—
Now sign the register...
Or ELSE!**

Music ends on a comic drum crash. Students scatter into action. Ella is revealed centre stage with mop and bucket. Buzz skates in on a scooter wearing sunglasses.

BUZZ:
(*to audience*)
HELLOOOOOOO, GRIMEWELL! Give me a "Ugh!"

AUDIENCE:
Ugh!

BUZZ:
Give me a "Why am I even here?!"

AUDIENCE:
WHY AM I EVEN HERE?!

BUZZ:
Perfect. It's Term One, Day One, and morale's already through the floor! Oh hi Ella

ELLA:
(*to Buzz, sighing*)
Hi Buzz They made me polish all the doorknobs with my toothbrush again. That's the third time this week!

BUZZ:
Wait—you only own one toothbrush.

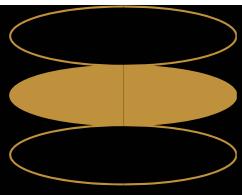
ELLA:
I know. I know. shh shh (to Buzz) look its Sludge and Grime

Enter Ms. Sludge and Ms. Grime. Thunder sound effect. Dramatic villain music sting.

MS. SLUDGE:
Ahhh, the stench of teenage sweat and unfulfilled potential.

MS. GRIME:
It's like perfume to me, Sludgie.

MS. SLUDGE:
(*to audience*)
Children. Ugh. Germ-ridden, TikToking, ungrateful...



MS. GRIME:
(to Buzz, *glaring*)
Where's your tie, boy?

BUZZ:
I'm wearing it—round my ankle. It's fashion.

MS. GRIME:
In detention, ankle fashion is punishable by jazz flute solos.

MS. SLUDGE:
(to Ella)
And YOU! Cinderella! Why are you standing upright? Who authorised standing?

ELLA:
I just wanted to breathe.

MS. SLUDGE:
Well, don't. That's reserved for teachers and the high-achieving!
Headmaster Trunchley enters in full academic robes, tripping over a cone.

TRUNCHLEY:
Welcome, students! What a splendid start to the term! Now, some announcements...
He flips through a scroll, which unravels to the floor.

TRUNCHLEY:
Number one: due to budget cuts, textbooks will be replaced with Google searches.
Number two: the school hamster has been promoted to Head of Wellbeing.
And finally—brace yourselves—the annual talent show has been... CANCELLED!
Gasps from everyone. DJ Detention screams into a wireless mic.

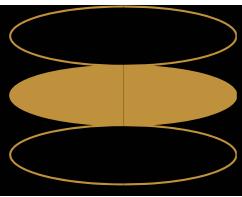
DJ DETENTION:
CANCELLED?! But that's my time to SHINE, baby!

MS. SLUDGE:
Talent? In THIS school? The only thing these kids can do is lose their PE kits and make memes of (*Insert Teacher's Name*) asleep in class!

MS. GRIME:
They wouldn't know culture if it TikToked them in the face.

ELLA:
(quietly, to herself)
But... I was going to sing this year...

BUZZ:
(to Ella, with a wink)
Not if we have anything to say about it.



MS. SLUDGE:

(hearing)

WHAT was that?

BUZZ:

Uh—I said I need the loo.

MS. GRIME:

Then off to Detention you go! Think about your bladder choices.

TRUNCHLEY:

Now, let's all go to Assembly Hall for this term's Motivational Film Presentation...

"Mildew: A Growing Threat."

ENSEMBLE:

(moaning)

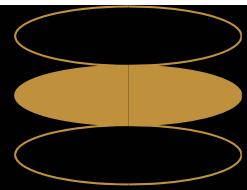
Ughhhhhh...

Lights dim as the cast begins to shuffle off. Ella lingers. Buzz pats her shoulder.

BUZZ:

We'll figure something out. Trust me, Cinders. You are the show.

End scene with music sting reprise: "Welcome to Grimewell" chorus—short outro version.



Scene 2 – “Corridor of Chores & TikToks”

Synopsis:

Cinderella is being loaded with outrageous school chores. Buzz tries to help. The nerdy trio cause chaos with a malfunctioning robot. The cool gang mock Cinderella and get obsessed with filming the drama for their TikTok channel. A strange, dusty old supply teacher appears, raising eyebrows – she seems weird... but watch this space.

Characters in Scene:

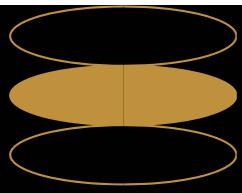
- Cinderella
- Buzz
- Ms. Grime
- Ms. Sludge
- Nerdy Trio: Toby, Jazz, Nim
- Cool Gang: Roxy, Zane, Keisha
- “Mrs. Mopsley” (Fairy Godmother in disguise)
- Ensemble: Students, cleaners, lunch ladies, etc.

Song in Scene

Clean it up - Students pop out with mops, bins, lunch trays and dance in a TikTok-style flash mob

Projected Background:

A bright school hallway, with lockers, graffiti, and posters saying things like “Year 11 TikTok Dance-Off Finals – THIS FRIDAY!”



SCENE 2

(Lights up on Cinderella, surrounded by mess – holding a mop in one hand, a tray of mystery meat in the other, and a bin bag looped around her foot.)

CINDERELLA

I've cleaned the canteen, sorted the lost property, alphabetised the chewing gum flavours, AND taught Ms. Grime's cactus French. And it's only second period.

(Enter Buzz with sunglasses and a mini megaphone.)

BUZZ

Beep-beep! Emergency support incoming! Buzz has arrived—with half a jam tart and zero qualifications!

CINDERELLA

Buzz, I can't take it anymore. Ms. Sludge made me sweep the corridor using only my eyebrows.

BUZZ

Better than that time she made me rewrite the whole school policy using alphabet spaghetti.

(Enter Ms. Grime and Ms. Sludge, looking smug and terrifying.)

MS. GRIME

There you are, Cinderella. Corridor still smells faintly of Year 8. Unacceptable.

MS. SLUDGE

You're on bog brush duty. And the gym mats need deodorising. With your own tears.

BUZZ

You do realise there are rules about child labour?

MS. GRIME

We're *educators*, Buzz. We call it "character building".

MS. SLUDGE

And you can help, too. That drama cupboard isn't going to reorganise itself.

(They strut off, laughing like evil peacocks.)

BUZZ

(grumbling) Great. Last time I went in that cupboard, I didn't come out for three days and came back dressed as Macbeth.