



## AUDITION NOTICE

### ***RULES FOR LIVING***

By **SAM HOLCROFT**

Directed by Yasmin Nixon

Audition Dates: **Monday 17th November 7.30pm**  
and **Sunday 23rd November 2.30pm**

**Production dates:** 2nd to 7th February 2026 at 7.30

**ABOUT THE PLAY** - A brilliantly funny and sharply observed modern comedy, *Rules for Living* takes place over one chaotic Christmas Day, where two grown-up brothers, their partners, and their mother gather for the annual family meal. As the turkey cooks and tensions rise, each character follows their own unwritten “rules” of behaviour — coping mechanisms that spiral into farce and emotional mayhem.

Part board game, part psychological experiment, the play explores how our hidden patterns and learned behaviours govern our lives, often with disastrous results. It’s witty, clever, and full of heart — perfect for actors who enjoy sharp dialogue and physical comedy.

#### **CAST**

**Edith** - The mother. Elegant but controlling, desperate to maintain the appearance of family perfection despite the cracks beneath the surface. Strong comic timing with emotional depth.

**Francis** - The father. A retired judge recently released from hospital and struggling with frailty and frustration. Often silent but a powerful presence.

**Matthew** - The elder son. Successful, cautious, rule-abiding. Struggles to express emotion. Hiding a secret that threatens to surface.

**Nicole** - Matthew’s partner. Spirited, outspoken, and competitive. Feels judged by the family and determined to prove herself.

**Adam** - The younger son. More chaotic and emotional than his brother. Quick-tempered but loveable; carries resentment from childhood rivalries.

**Sheena** – Adam’s wife. Intelligent, anxious, and trying to hold her marriage together while dealing with her daughter’s behavioural issues.

**Emma** (mid-teens) – Adam and Sheena’s teenage daughter. Bright, moody, unpredictable. A small but significant role.

The play takes place entirely within Francis and Edith’s kitchen-diner. It is divided into two Acts, with smaller “scenes” within them. Each Act takes place in real time. There are no scene-changes. The “Rules” will be projected to the audience, so they understand and remember why the characters are behaving the way they are at all times.

Cast Read through on Sunday 7th December.

Rehearsals Commence w/c 08th December 2025. All in the evenings. Dates to be confirmed once cast.

To register your interest and receive an audition pack please email: [yasmin.nixon@me.com](mailto:yasmin.nixon@me.com) with your preferred audition date and the role(s) you’re interested in.

**All are welcome**

**N.B. Non-members are welcome to attend the auditions.**

**If cast you will be expected to join the company (£15.00) and pay a Production Fee of £15.00 to help towards the cost of scripts and the provision of teas and coffees at rehearsals.**

**FOR BOOKINGS VISIT OUR WEBSITE [arundelplayers.co.uk](http://arundelplayers.co.uk) or RING THE BOX OFFICE 07523 417926**