

- **Joe Casey:** Joe is a Camden lad, a "rough diamond" who is sixteen years old at the start of the musical. His life splits into two paths based on a fateful decision he makes on his sixteenth birthday. In one path, he tries to do the right thing, facing the consequences of his actions, while in the other, he makes more questionable choices in pursuit of success. Joe's journey explores themes of responsibility, love, and family values, as he navigates the challenges of growing up and making ethical choices. Costume changes are a major part of Joe's character, emphasizing how different his life could be based on his choices.
  - Playing Age: 16 to early twenties.
  
- **Sarah:** Sarah is Joe's girlfriend, portrayed as the "girl next door" with a slightly more middle-class background. She is intelligent and aspires to become a lawyer. Sarah is torn between her feelings for Joe and her disapproval of the choices he makes. Ultimately, Sarah serves as a moral compass for Joe, and their relationship is tested by the diverging paths they take.
  - Playing Age: 16 to early twenties.
  
- **Joe's Dad:** Joe's dad is a deceased character who serves as a ghostly figure, commenting on the choices made by both versions of Joe. He acknowledges that he made some bad choices in his life. He acts as a guide and a warning to his son, urging him not to repeat his mistakes. Joe's Dad's influence underscores the musical's themes of family, responsibility, and the consequences of one's actions.
  - Playing Age: old enough to be Joe's dad
  
- **Kath Casey:** Kath is Joe's mum, a strong and loving woman who has been "beaten down by life but never beaten". She has a "heart the size of a house" and a fierce love for her family. Kath works to protect her son and instill good values in him. Her Irish heritage is important to her, as her ancestors built Casey Street and the house was given to her family in perpetuity.
  - Playing Age: old enough to be Joe's mum
  
- **Emmo and Lewis:** Emmo and Lewis are Joe's best friends, described as being "loosely related to him and taken in by Joe's Mum". Emmo is a "big kid" while Lewis is more sensitive with a stronger moral compass. They provide comic relief and develop throughout the story, sometimes disagreeing with Joe's choices but remaining loyal to him. Emmo and Lewis are often the butt of Joe's jokes, but Lewis's acting skills create a believable comedy.
  - Playing Age: 16 to early twenties.

- **Billie and Angie:** Billie and Angie are Sarah's best mates, described as "sharp-tongued and sassy" with ambitions to escape their "lowly social beginnings". They are intolerant of men, except "well-bred ones," and are protective of Sarah.
  - Playing Age: 16 to early twenties.
  
- **Reecey:** Reecey is portrayed as a "smiling, charming, superficially likeable force of darkness". He is a school hardman who offers Joe opportunities to get involved in criminal activities. Reecey represents temptation and the allure of a dangerous lifestyle, leading Joe down the wrong path. Despite his charm, Reecey is ultimately untrustworthy, turning on Joe when things get difficult.
  - Playing Age: 16 to early twenties
  
- **Mr. Pressman:** Mr. Pressman is a property developer and is like Reecey, except middle-aged and in control of a large company. He has a less than honest way of dealing with residents who refuse to vacate their properties. Pressman represents corporate greed and the destruction of communities in the name of progress. On the wrong path, Joe agrees to get Kath out of the house.
  - Playing Age: Middle Age.