

Newry Musical Feis

Established 1928

AFFILIATED TO
THE BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF FESTIVALS
FOR MUSIC, DANCE AND SPEECH



2026

Speech and Drama Syllabus Schools Section

Monday 27th April - Friday 1st May 2026

**All Entries Close:
Friday 13th March 2026**

NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED

ONLINE ENTRIES ONLY ARE ACCEPTED
via our website
www.newrymusicalfeis.com

Payment: online or by cheque made payable to
Newry Musical Feis and sent to:

Dr Mary Flynn BSc (Hons) PhD, MBE
72 Chestnut Grove ,
Newry
BT34 1JT

General enquiries to:
info@newrymusicalfeis.com

Speech and Drama Section - Schools

Geraldine Carr
Email: geraldinecarr3@yahoo.com
and
Anne Keenan
annemkeenan@yahoo.co.uk

If you have not already registered as a teacher on our website, please do so to avail of our online entry facility.

In all classes, ages where specified shall be reckoned as at
1st January 2026

IMPORTANT NOTICE

AUDIO RECORDING: VIDEO AND PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT INCLUDING MOBILE TELEPHONES

No unauthorized photography, audio or video recording is allowed at the Feis including all competition halls, backstage and dressing-room areas.

MOBILE PHONES

All mobile phones should be turned off and put away in the Competition Halls.

NEWRY MUSICAL FEIS

Privacy Notice September 2025 Next Review Due: October 2027

The Newry Musical Feis takes great care to preserve your privacy and safeguard any personal data you provide to us. This Privacy Notice explains how we will collect and use your personal data.

We may change this Privacy Notice from time to time so please check regularly to ensure that you are happy with any changes.

1. Who we are

We are the Newry Musical Feis. We are engaged in the application process for registration with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. Our registered address is 14 Windsor Hill, Newry, BT34 1ER

2. What personal data do we collect?

We may collect personal data from you such as:

- Your name
- Your address
- Your telephone number
- Your email address

If you are a teacher, we will collect, through you:

- Names of your performers
- Dates of birth of your performers
- Name of school attended by your performers (only in those Sections where this information is needed to assist in programme planning)

3. How do we use your personal data?

We will use your personal data in a number of ways which may include:

- (a) Processing your entry form to take part in the festival.
- (b) Keeping you updated about your entry to the festival.
- (c) Sending you copies of our syllabus.
- (d) Keeping you updated about future festivals
- (e) Including your name in our printed programme.
- (f) Including the names of your performers in our printed programme.
- (g) Processing your application to be involved in our governance such as becoming a member of our Committee or Voluntary Helper group.

- (h) Responding to a general enquiry made to us.
- (i) Dealing with a complaint or concern raised to us
- (j) Including your photo or name on our website or social media.

4. Who do you share my personal data with?

We will only ever use your personal data to manage your festival involvement with us including keeping you up-to-date with any festival news.

If you are not involved in the festival, then we will only use your personal data to deal with the issue or enquiry that you have raised directly with us.

We will never sell your details to any third party and we do not buy any personal data.

We may share or disclose your personal data if we are required to do so by any law or court order.

5. What is the legal basis for processing my information?

In some cases, we will only process your personal data where we have your specific consent to do so e.g. to include your name in our programme / to use your photo on our website/ to stay in touch with you about our next festival.

We may also process your personal data because there is a legitimate interest for us to do so as part of our work, and it is reasonable to expect that your information would need to be processed by us to complete this work. For example, it is reasonable for us to collect your name, address and contact details to be able to process your festival entry and you would reasonably expect this to happen for your festival entry to proceed.

Whenever we process your personal data under the legitimate interest lawful basis, we make sure that we consider your rights and interests and will not process your personal data if we feel that there is an imbalance, or you would not reasonably expect your data to be processed in this way.

6. How do you keep my information secure?

We have implemented appropriate physical, technical and organizational measures to protect the personal data from improper access, use, alteration, destruction and loss.

Our website may contain links to other sites. While we try to link only to sites that share our high standards and respect for privacy, we are not responsible for the content or the privacy practices employed by other sites. Please be aware that websites that have links on our site may collect personally identifiable information about you. This privacy statement does not cover the information practices of those websites.

Those websites may have their own privacy policies and we encourage you to look at those policies or contact the website operators directly to understand how your personal data is used.

We may send communications to you by email. Email is not a fully secure means of communication, and whilst we do our utmost to keep our systems and communications protected we cannot guarantee this.

7. How do you use cookies on your website?

A cookie is a small file that we store on your browser or the hard drive of your computer if you agree. Cookies contain information that is transferred to your computer's hard drive.

We use the following cookies:

- **Strictly necessary cookies.** These are cookies that are required for the operation of our website.
- **Analytical/performance cookies.** They allow us to recognise and count the number of visitors and to see how visitors move around our website when they are using it. This helps us to improve the way our website works, for example, by ensuring that users are finding what they are looking for easily.

Please note that third parties including, for example, advertising networks and providers of external services like web traffic analysis services may also use cookies, over which we have no control. These cookies are likely to be analytical/performance cookies or targeting cookies.

You block cookies by activating the setting on your browser that allows you to refuse the setting of all or some cookies. However, if you use your browser settings to block all cookies (including essential cookies) you may not be able to access all or parts of our site.

8. Your rights

You have various rights in respect of the personal data we hold about you. These rights are set out in more detail below:

- a. The right to be informed about the collection and use of your personal data;
- b. The right to have access to your personal information;
- c. The right to object to processing of your personal information;
- d. The right to restrict the processing of your personal information;
- e. The right to personal data portability;
- f. The right to rectify your personal information;
- g. The right to erase your personal information;
- h. Rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling.

If you make a request relating to any of the rights listed above, we will consider each request in accordance with all applicable data protection laws and regulations. No administration fee will be charged for considering and/or complying with such a request unless the request is deemed to be excessive in nature.

Upon successful verification of your identity you are entitled to obtain the following information about your own personal information:

- a. The purposes of the collection, processing, use and storage of your personal data.

- b. The categories of personal data stored about you.
- c. The recipients or categories of recipients to whom your personal data has been or may be transmitted, along with the location of those recipients.
- d. The envisaged period of storage for your personal data or the rationale for determining the storage period.
- e. The use of any automated decision-making and/or profiling.

If you want to exercise any of these rights, wish to lodge a complaint, or require further information, please email info@newrymusicalfeis.com or write to:

The Data Manager

Newry Musical Feis,

14 Windsor Hill, Newry,

BT34 1ER

You can also make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office and the contact details and further information about how to do this can be found at: <https://ico.org.uk/>

In certain circumstances we might not be able to provide you with access to some of your personal information, but where appropriate, we will notify you of the reasons for this.

10. How long do you keep my information?

Your personal data will not be retained by the festival for longer than necessary in relation to the purposes for which it was originally collected, or for which it was further processed, subject to certain legal obligations mentioned below. We will retain personal data in accordance with our data retention policy set out below. We review our data retention periods for personal data on a regular basis.

We will hold personal data relating to:

- **Your festival entry** for [9 months] following the end the festival. Trophy winners' details will be retained until the trophies are returned safely to the festival.
- **Volunteering** with the festival for [2 years] following the end of the volunteering period.
- **Legacies or donations** for [2 years] after to legacy or donation is received

We are legally required to hold some personal data to fulfil statutory obligations, for example, to support certain financial transactions.

The law allows you to withdraw your consent to any usage of your data at any time without needing to specify a reason. You can withdraw your consent by emailing us at info@newrymusicalfeis.com

Newry Musical Feis - Child Protection Policy 2024-25

The British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech
work for amateur festivals everywhere to help create thousands of educational performance opportunities for children and young people each year.

The Federation, and our member Festivals, are committed to ensuring safe environments for children and young people and believe that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people, by a commitment to recommend best practice which protects them.

This policy applies to our Board of Trustees, paid staff, Adjudicator, members, volunteers, students or anyone working on behalf of the Federation and our member Festivals.

We recognise that:

- * the welfare of the child/young person is paramount.
- * all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- * working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

The purpose of the policy:

- * to provide protection for the children and young people who participate in our festivals, including the children of festival members.
- * to provide staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of harm.

We will seek to safeguard children and young people by:

- * valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- * adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and safe working practice for staff and volunteers
- * recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- * sharing information about child protection and safe working practice with children, parents, staff and volunteers
- * sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately
- * providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training.

The Federation will review this policy each year in November in line with Safe Network guidance or sooner in light of any changes in legislation or guidance. All changes will be communicated to our member in time for the start of the new Festival year.

Creating a Safer Feis for Everyone

The Federation and its member Festivals use the following policies and procedures to create **Safer Festivals** for everyone:

1. A single, definitive Child Protection Policy adopted by all Federation Festivals.
2. One or more designated Festival Safeguarding Officers (FSO) appointed for each Federation Festival. (Newry Musical Feis FSO Dr Mary Goss, phone: 028 3026 2849)
3. Best practice advice in the form of **Safe Working Practice** and **Festival Child Protection leaflets**, with support and training for all Feis staff and volunteers. Including clear reporting procedures for anyone with a concern about a child.
4. Appropriate recruitment and induction procedures for all new Feis staff and volunteers responsible for providing safe environments for everyone attending / performing at a Federation Festival.
5. All our stewards wear a Feis identity badge. All teachers/parents/guardians/carers are asked to report all incidents of any nature to anyone wearing a Feis identity badge. All reported incidents will be handled in accordance with the **Safe Working Practice** and **Festival Child Protection** best practice advice. In addition we will ensure the availability of a quiet area / room where concerns can be expressed in private.
6. For the duration of the Feis all teachers/parents/guardians/carers are responsible for the continuous care and supervision of their own children/pupils/vulnerable adults. If they are unable to attend personally, they must delegate their responsibilities to an identified adult and ensure that their children/pupils/vulnerable adults are aware of the identity and name of the person responsible for their care. This includes supervision throughout all Feis venues, performance, backstage and dressing room areas that may be provided.
7. Parents, or the responsible adult delegated by parents, should be satisfied that all children or members of vulnerable groups in their care are adequately supervised throughout their time in performance and dressing room areas and make themselves known to a Feis official on entering the vicinity of the dressing room area. All unauthorized adults in these areas will be challenged.
8. No unauthorised photography, audio or video recording is allowed at the Feis including all performance spaces, halls, backstage and dressing-room areas. Where parents/guardians/ carers do not wish photos to be taken at all, then the responsible adult attending should ensure that their child/pupil/vulnerable adult is not included in official authorised photos.
9. Some children and vulnerable adults may have specific needs in order to take part. If this is the case we ask the responsible teachers/parents/guardians/carers to contact the Feis prior to arrival. The Feis actively seeks wherever possible to meet these needs, but must know beforehand in order to prepare support - or to advise that help cannot be provided on this occasion.
10. The Feis's Child Protection Policy and approach to Creating a Safer Feis for Everyone is published explicitly in our Syllabus, Programme and on our website. By completing and signing the entry form (or ticking the appropriate box for online entries) all parents / guardians / carers and teachers of entrants under 18 (or vulnerable adults of any age) confirm that they give (or have obtained) the necessary consents for the entrants to take part in the Feis, Without consent the entry to the Feis cannot be accepted.

NEWRY MUSICAL FEIS

GENERAL COMPETITION BYLAWS (2024 REVISION)

These must be read in conjunction with any current bylaws prepared by each of our Sections

1. Entries must be submitted via the electronic system accessed through www.newrymusicalfeis.com – where a Section is not using the electronic entry system, the appropriate fee (in sterling) must accompany performers' entries.
2. An Own Choice must not be a selection designated as a test piece in the current syllabus.
3. Performers will be admitted free only to the session/s in which they are taking part.
4. Only performers officially submitted for entry in the programme will be allowed to perform.
5. Performers will follow, as far as possible, the order set out in the programme.
6. Teachers are requested to adhere to the time limits as set out in the syllabus.
7. (a) Prizes will be withheld if sufficient merit is not shown
(b) Awards may be made to single entries when recommended by the adjudicator.
(c) In all Classes prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the adjudicator.
(d) The adjudicator is empowered to terminate a performance at their discretion.
(e) The adjudicators decision will be final.
8. (a) Proof of age must be produced if required, and performers must be under the age stated on 1st January in the year in which the Festival is taking place or as stated in the relevant Class. e.g. "under 12" means that the 12th birthday of the entrant will not occur on or before 1st January in the Festival Year "over 12" means that the entrant will have reached the age of 12 before that date.
(b) Where participation is for adult performers only, the term 'adult' refers to any individual who is over 16. This means that the entrant will have reached the age of 16 on or before 1 January in the year in which the Festival is taking place. [N.B. The Music Section has subdivisions within adult Classes]
9. While complaints may be expressed in a variety of ways – verbal and written – we require formal complaints to be presented in writing and submitted by email to info@newrymusicalfeis.com for the attention of the Administrator, within four weeks of the issue arising; this will facilitate fair, consistent, sensitive, and timely handling of the complaint.
10. The Executive Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry.

11. All Challenge Trophies must be returned to the Trophy Secretary of the appropriate Section in good order and condition at least 4 weeks before the opening of the Section to which they belong.
12. Only amateurs shall be eligible to perform [see also point 14].
13. Performers must provide copies of Own Choice pieces for the adjudicator; original copies only may be claimed at the end of the session at which they have been used. In Sections where details of sources used to select Own Choice material must be provided in order for a performance to take place, performers and their teachers must ensure that the guidance provided by the relevant Section Leaders is adhered to strictly so that upset and disappointment can be avoided on the day of the performance.
14. Teachers and professional performers may not compete in their professional subject. For the purposes of this byelaw, those for whom the presentation of their subject is their sole source of income shall be designated as professional performers. Performers who receive an occasional stipend shall not be regarded as professional performers.
15. No unauthorized photography, audio or video recording is allowed at the Feis including all performance spaces, backstage and dressing-room areas. Information about authorization of photography will be provided by Section Leaders in attendance and referenced to our current Child Protection Policy where relevant.
16. The decision of the Executive Committee in all questions arising out of, or not provided for in these byelaws, shall be final, and entries for Classes in all of our Sections are accepted subject to these byelaws.

Executive Committee

Newry Musical Feis, November 2024

Newry Musical Feis

Competition Byelaws (2024 Revision)

SPEECH & DRAMA (SCHOOLS) SECTION

This must be read in conjunction with the
GENERAL FESTIVAL BYELAWS (2024 REVISION)
of Newry Musical Feis

1. All entries are completed on line; entries can be accepted only from a staff member of the school attended by the performer.
2. Absolutely no late entries will be accepted.
3. A performer must not be substituted by another in any Class;
4. An individual must not perform in any class other than that in which they have been entered on the online entry system;
5. No child receiving private speech and/or drama lessons may enter the Schools Section. Children who have attended private speech and/or drama lessons in the past must have ceased those lessons at least SIX MONTHS before entering the Speech & Drama (Schools) Section.
6. The decision of the Committee shall be final in all matters.

Marking scheme update for 2026

The British and International Federation of Festivals (BIFF) have, devised a new marking scheme for performances in the Speech, Music, and Dance sections of its affiliated festivals.

Scan the QR code for full details of the new marking scheme



Marking Band	Descriptors	Criteria
Developing 65 - 69	A performance demonstrating an awareness of technical skills, requiring more consistency & artistry.	An inconsistent performance with an overall need for accuracy and /or continuity and artistic development.
Progressing 70 - 74	A performance showing development of technique and/or communication and commitment.	A generally secure performance in need of artistic development.
Merit 75 - 79	A competent performance, showing some artistic awareness and/or technical ability.	A performance of some ability but requiring greater vocal or physical expression.
Commended 80 - 84	A convincing performance technically & artistically, with increasing stylistic & communication skills.	A performance showing a degree of ability in presentation with developing modulation and interpretation.
Honours 85 - 89	An excellent performance, demonstrating fluent technical and artistic skills with emerging individuality.	Assured and expressive, demonstrating a high level of technical security, imagination and stylistic insight and with a real sense of communication and performance.
Outstanding 90 - 94	An impressive performance technically and artistically, displaying spontaneity & clear individuality.	A performance of heightened sensibility in interpretation which commands audience involvement, sincere in its intention, content and style of the piece.
Exceptional 95+	A superlative performance, displaying exceptional artistic individuality	An astonishingly impressive performance displaying effortless technical control and superlative individuality in its artistic interpretations.

SPEECH AND DRAMA SECTION 2026

Our adjudicators:

Rebecca Vines

Freelance Theatre Practitioner

MA, BA, FRSA, FVCM, LLAM, LALAM, LGSMD, ALAM, ATCL, ANEA, CertGSM

Timothy McCarthy

MA,HDE,FTCL,FLCM,LGSMD,ALAM,PGCA

Monday 27th April - Friday 1st May 2026

1. The Margaret Campbell Perpetual Challenge Cup

First Prize Winners in Classes 1 - 4 (inclusive) will be eligible to compete again for this cup by repeating Class Test Piece on the Final Night.

2. The Rhoda Neary Perpetual Challenge Cup

First Prize Winners in Classes 5 - 7 (inclusive) will be eligible to compete again for this cup by repeating Class Test Piece on the Final Night.

3. The Felix O'Hagan Perpetual Challenge Cup

Presented by Bill and Beth O'Hagan. First Prize Winners in Classes 9 - 12 (inclusive) will be eligible to compete again for this cup by repeating Class Test Piece on the Final Night.

4. The Dympna Murphy Memorial Trophy

Will be awarded to the competitor gaining the highest mark in Class 1 - Primary One. The award will be presented on the Final Night

5. The Margaret Nolan Perpetual Challenge Cup

Will be awarded to the competitor obtaining the highest mark in any one test piece Classes 1-4. The award will be presented on the Final Night.

6. The Ethel Fitzpatrick Memorial Cup.

Will be awarded to the competitor obtaining the highest mark in any one test piece Classes 5-7. The award will be presented on the Final Night

7. Sean Canavan Perpetual Challenge Cup

Will be awarded by the adjudicator to the most promising Solo competitor in P1-P4. The award will be presented on the Final Night.
This does not have to be a winner of a test piece

8. Sean Canavan Perpetual Challenge Cup

Will be awarded by the adjudicator to the most promising Solo competitor in P5-P7. The award will be presented on the Final Night.
This does not have to be a winner of a test piece

9. The Bell Memorial Challenge Cup

Will be awarded to the Adjudicator's choice in the Secondary School Section. This does not have to be a winner of a test piece competition. The award will be presented on the final night

10. The Newry Reporter Perpetual Challenge Cup

Will be awarded to the competitor obtaining the highest mark for any group mark. The award will be presented on the Final Night.

11. The Secondary School Cup.

Will be awarded by the Adjudicator's choice in the Secondary School section. This does not have to be a winner of a test piece competition. The award will be presented on the Final Night.

12. The Betty McElroy Perpetual Challenge Cup.

Will be awarded to the winner in Class 13

13. The Kevin Neary Cup Perpetual Challenge Cup.

Will be awarded to the winner in Class 15

14. The Billy Locke Memorial Challenge Cup.

Will be awarded to the winner in Class 17

15. The Kathleen Harrington Perpetual Challenge Cup.

Presented by St Clare's Primary School Newry

Will be awarded to the most promising Performer in Class 17

16. The W V Hogg Cup.

Will be awarded to the winner in Class 18

17. The Declan Bell Memorial Cup.

Will be awarded to the winner in Class 19

18. The Sean Hollywood Perpetual Challenge Cup.

Will be awarded to the most Promising Performer in Class 19

19. The Newry Credit Union Cup.

Will be awarded to the winner in Class 21

20. The Newry High School Shield.

Will be awarded to the most promising speaker in Class 21

21. The John Kennedy Memorial Cup

Will be awarded to the winner in Class 23

It would be gratefully appreciated that when cups are being returned that they are cleaned and ready for presentation to the new recipient.

PRIMARY SCHOOL SECTION

The Margaret Campbell Perpetual Challenge Cup First Prize Winners in Classes 1-4 (inclusive) and **Rhoda Neary Perpetual Challenge Cup** Prize Winners Classes 5-7 (Inclusive) will be eligible to compete again for this cup by repeating class test piece on the Final Night.

N.B. No child receiving private tuition in Verse-Speaking or Drama may be entered in Primary or Post Primary Classes and every competitor must be entered and taught by a member of his/her school staff. Children who have attended private speech and/or drama lessons in the past must have ceased those lessons at least SIX MONTHS before entering the Speech & Drama (Schools) Section.

CLASS 1 - Primary 1

Test Piece “My Puppy” by Debra Bertulis £4

CLASS 2 - Primary 2

Test Piece “Sunflakes” by Frank Asch £4

CLASS 3 - Primary 3

Test Piece “My Grannies” by June Crebbin £4

CLASS 4 - Primary 4

Test Piece “Chicken Poxed” by Valerie Bloom £4

CLASS 5 - Primary 5

Test Piece “Sleepover Gran” by Debra Bertulis £4

CLASS 6 - Primary 6

Test Piece “How NOT to Impersonate your Mum on the Telephone!”
by Debra Bertulis £4

CLASS 7 - Primary 7

Test Piece “Favouritism” By Trevor Harvey £4

POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS

THE FELIX O'HAGAN PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP

First Prize Winners in Classes 9-12 (inclusive) will be eligible to compete again for this cup by repeating class test piece on the Final Night.

N.B. No child receiving private tuition in Verse-Speaking or Drama may be entered in Primary or Post Primary Classes and every competitor must be entered and taught by a member of his/her school staff. Children who have attended private speech and/or drama lessons in the past must have ceased those lessons at least SIX MONTHS before entering the Speech & Drama (Schools) Section.

CLASS 9 - Boys and Girls over 11 and under 12

Test Piece "Let No One Steal Your Dreams" by Paul Cookson £4

CLASS 10 - Boys and Girls over 12 and under 13

Test Piece "How Was School?" by Lindsay Mac Rae £4

CLASS 11 - Boys and Girls over 13 and under 15

Test Piece "Tree" by James Carter £4

CLASS 12 - Boys and Girls over 15 and under 17

Test Piece "Spider Swallowing" by Brian Moses £4

CHORAL SPEAKING SECTION

(Groups not to exceed thirty members)

CLASS 13 - Over 5 years and under 10 years

THE BETTY McELROY PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP

Test Piece a) "First Day at School" by Roger Mc Gough
b) Own Choice £10

CLASS 15 - Primary Schools over 10 years and under 12 years

THE KEVIN NEARY CUP

Test Piece	a) "Colonel Fazackerley Butterworth-Toast" By Charles Causley	
	b) Own Choice	£10

CLASS 16 -Secondary School over 12 years and under 15 years

THE BELL CUP

Test Piece	a) "The Boneyard Rap" by Wes Magee	
	b) Own Choice	£10

DRAMATIC SECTION

NB ANY ENTRY EXCEEDING THE LIMIT IN ANY CLASS

WILL BE PENALISED BY THE ADJUDICATOR

Adjudicator must be provided with copies of chosen pieces

CLASS 17 - One Act Play or Dramatisation of any story,

young persons under 12 years £10

THE BILLY LOCKE MEMORIAL CHALLENGE CUP

Time Limit: Not exceed 30 minutes

**THE KATHLEEN HARRINGTON PERPETUAL CHALLENGE
CUP WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE MOST PROMISING
PERFORMER IN CLASS 17**

CLASS 18 - One Act Play for 1st, 2nd and 3rd years

Grammar/Secondary/Technical pupils £10

THE W V HOGG CUP

Time Limit: Not exceed 30 minutes.

CLASS 19 - One Act Play for young persons over 12 years and under 20 years £10

THE DECLAN BELL MEMORIAL CUP

Time Limit: Not exceed 30 minutes.

THE SEAN HOLLYWOOD CUP WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE MOST PROMISING PERFORMER IN CLASS 19.

CLASS 21 - Public Speaking over 13 years and under 18 years £10

THE NEWRY CREDIT UNION CUP

Time Limit: 10 Minutes

NEWRY HIGH SCHOOL SHIELD TO THE MOST PROMISING SPEAKER IN CLASS 21

This class is to involve 3 speakers and to be presented in the form of a mini meeting. One speaker to act as Chairman, one speaker to deliver main speech and one speaker to give a vote of thanks. Choice of subject to be left to the speakers.

Class 23 - Good Conversation under 15 years £10

THE JOHN KENNEDY MEMORIAL CUP

Teams of 4, one of which is appointed leader. Teams will be required to maintain an interesting conversation on a topic handed to them by the adjudicator.

No time will be allowed beforehand to prepare the talk.

Time Limit: 6 Minutes

New Bursary Class for 2026

Entries for this class close 1st February.

Young Drama Performer of the Year.

Class 155 Entry Fee £15

This new Competition seeks to discover and support a student intending to pursue a professional career in acting, musical theatre or drama education.

**Entry to this class should be made through
the Speech and Drama Open Section**



**This £1000 Bursary is
to be used to advance the
winner's professional career.**



Open to students aged between 16 – 28 years

**The competition will comprise of two stages:
a video application and a final round.**

Application Requirements

- Entries via our online entry system at newrymusicalfeis.com with a non-refundable application fee of £15
- Artist bio (max 250 words)
- Short cover letter on what you would do with the prize money if you won

When the entries close on *1st February* all performers will be contacted with details of where to send their Cover Letter, Artist Bio and Videoed Performance

First Round: Video Submission

A monologue from a play of your own choice -
Time limit 4-6 minutes.

Video Submission to be received by *1st March*.

Guidelines for Video-

- Videos must be **unedited**, recorded in **one take**;
- All performances must be **live** – no studio effects or **enhancements**
- Performer must be clearly visible at all times
- Acceptable formats: MP4, MOV, AVI

**The Adjudicators will choose from the applications the performers who will compete in the Final Round
which will take place
during the week commencing *27th April*
(Details to follow)**

Two Contrasting Pieces

Competitors will perform the **monologue** which was presented for the first round video submission
and

A poem or prose Time limit- not exceeding 3 minutes

Please note:

Spoken introduction required to introduce your pieces

All pieces must be performed from memory

For both rounds, performances not adhering to the stated time limits will be penalised

Minimal props and costumes allowed. Marks will not be given for props and costumes

No use of recorded sound effects or music

Feedback will be provided to all finalists.

Closing date for entries: 13th March 2026

**UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL
LATE ENTRIES BE ACCEPTED**

Poem Anthology

Where do Wishes Go? Poems by Debra Bertulis Otter –BarryBooks

ISBN 978-1-91307-439-5

Michael Rosens A-Z Puffin Books ISBN 978-0-141-32450-0

LAMADA Anthology of Verse and Prose 2019 ISBN 9780993244322

Country Pie by Fank Asch ISBN 0688801889 or The New Oxford Treasury of Children's Poems ISBN 978-0192761965

The Puffin Book of Fantastic First Poems ISBN 0141308982

The Oxford Book of Children's Poetry ISBN 0688801889

Figgie Hobbin ISBN0330400002

All the Best – Selected Poems of Roger McGough ISBN 978-0-14-194529-3

Class 1 My Puppy by Debra Bertulis LAMADA Anthology of Verse & Prose 2019

Class 2 Sunflakes by Frank Asch Country Pie By Frank Asch Or The New Oxford Treasury of Children's Poems

Class 3 My Grannies by June Crebbin The Puffin Book of Fantastic First Poems

Class 4 Chicken Poxed by Valerie Bloom The Oxford Book of Children's Poetry

Class 5 Sleepover Gran by Debra Bertulis Where Do Wishes Go?

Class 6 How NOT to Impersonate your Mum on the Telephone ! by Debra Bertulis Where Do Wishes Go?

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Class 15 Colonel Fazackerley Butterworth-Toast by Charles Causley Figgie Hobbin

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**All poems are available by email request to
annemkeenan@yahoo.co.uk**