Newry Musical Feis

Established 1928

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

2027
Speech and Drama Syllabus
Open Section

Monday 12th April - Sunday 18th April 2027

Feis Entries Close
Sunday 21st February 2027

Bursary Competition Entries Close
Friday 22nd January 2027

NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED

If you have not already registered as a teacher on our website please do so as entries can only be made via our online entry facility.
Payment can be made online via Pay Pal
or by cheque made payable to Newry Musical Feis.

All enquiries to info@newrymusicalfeis.com

All entries must be completed on or before Sunday 21st February 2027

In all classes, ages where specified shall be reckoned as at 1st January 2027

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT EACH COMPETITOR PERFORMS IN THE ORDER AND NAME THEY APPEAR IN THE PROGRAMME AND WHEN THE NUMBER IS ANNOUNCED ON STAGE.

Speech and Drama Secretary (Open Section)
Mrs Catherine Kerrin
18 Oakvale Avenue
Crieve Road, Newry
BT34 2BQ
Tel: (028) 3026 0740 Mobile: 07709003590
Email: catherinekerrin2015@hotmail.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE
AUDIO RECORDING: VIDEO AND PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT INCLUDING MOBILE TELEPHONES

No unauthorised photography, audio or video recording is allowed at the Feis including all performance spaces, backstage and dressing-room areas.

ALL MOBILE PHONES should be turned off and put away in the performance spaces.

CONTACT:

Dr. Mary Goss
14 Windsor Hill, Newry BT34 1ER
Telephone: (028) 3026 2849
Email: info@newrymusicalfeis.com

NEWRY MUSICAL FEIS

Privacy Notice October 2026 Next Review Due: October 2028

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 registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI107100).
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 - Safeguarding Policy 2026-27

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 and in light of any changes in legislation and guidance. All changes will be communicated to our members 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 Protectio**n 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 Newry Musical Feis Safeguarding 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 (2026)

SPEECH & DRAMA (OPEN) SECTION

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

1. All entries are completed online; entries can be accepted only from recognised teachers of Speech & Drama;
2. A competitor must not be substituted by another in any competition;
3. A competitor must not perform the same piece in more than one class;
4. Competitors must not perform the same piece in two consecutive years;
5. In both solo and group work competitors must take part only within their own age groupings;
6. Please ensure that own choice pieces are age appropriate and suitable for the class and festival audience.
7. In scenes for 2, 3 or 4 an entrant may perform more than once providing that a different part is being performed;
8. Time limit must be adhered to as timing checks may be carried out at any time. The adjudicators decision is final. Any competitor exceeding the time limit will receive a report with no marks.
9. Competitors must not perform in any class other than those in which they have been entered on the online entry system;
10. Each competitor must perform in the order and under the name, which appears in the programme and when his/her designated number is announced on stage.
11. The decision of the Committee shall be final in all matters.
12. **The Key Dates for the Bursary class will be strictly enforced. Competitors are requested to adhere to the dates printed in the syllabus as no late entries will be accepted.**

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.

CANAL COURT HOTEL, NEWRY

Adjudicator

Vivienne Doolan

FLCM, LGSMD, PCT, PCTT

Monday 12th April - Sunday 18th April 2027

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1. **THE COMER PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP**
   Presented by Mrs Deirdre Comer, First Prize Winners in Classes 101-106 (inclusive) will be eligible to compete again for this cup by repeating Class Test Piece on the Final Night.

2. **THE JOSEPHINE AND PHYLISS PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP**
   Presented by Mrs Phyliss Harty. First Prize Winners in Classes 107-112 (inclusive) will be eligible to compete again for this cup by repeating Class Test Piece on the Final Night.

3. **THE IDA ROWE PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP**
   Presented by Mrs Ida Rowe. First Prize Winners in Classes 113-116 (inclusive) will be eligible to compete again for this cup by repeating Class Test Piece on the Final Night.

4. **THE DOROTHY SHEA MEMORIAL CUP**
   Presented by Mr Jack Shea. First Prize Winners in Classes 117-118 (inclusive) will be eligible to compete again for this cup by repeating Class Test Piece on the Final Night.

5. **THE ELIZABETH O'CONNOR SOLICITORS PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP**
   Will be presented to the most promising performer in Classes 101-106 (inclusive).

6. **THE SOROPTOMIST PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP**
   Will be presented to the most promising performer in Classes 107-112 (Inclusive).

7. THE FIRST TRUST PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Will be presented to the most promising performer in Classes 113-118 (Inclusive).

8. THE MACREADY PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Will be presented to the most versatile performer under 10 years.

9. THE TAVEY BROS PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Will be presented to the most versatile performer over 10 and under 14 years.

10. THE P&R MOTOR SALES PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Will be presented to the most versatile performer over 14 years.

11. THE CICELY MATTHEWS PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Will be presented to the performer obtaining the highest mark in Classes 101-106 (inclusive).

12. THE GLORIA JOY PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Will be presented to the performer obtaining the highest mark in any test piece in Classes 107-112 (inclusive).

13. THE REV JAMES MORROW PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Will be presented to the performer obtaining the highest mark in any test piece in Classes 113-118 (inclusive).

14. GABRIELLE PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Will be presented to the performer obtaining the highest mark in any solo class where own choice is permitted - under 12 years, excluding Drama.

15. THE FLORA ALLEN MEMORIAL CUP
Will be presented to the performer obtaining the highest mark in any solo class where own choice is permitted - over 12 years, excluding Drama.

16. THE BEGLEY PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Will be awarded for the highest mark in the Irish Poetry Section.

17. THE THERESE HUGHES MBE PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Will be awarded to the most promising girl speaker.

18. THE KERRIN FAMILY PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Will be awarded to the most promising boy speaker

19. THE FPM CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS CUP
Will be awarded to the Adjudicator's Choice.

20. THE MARY DELARGY MEMORIAL PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Will be awarded to the performer obtaining the highest mark in any solo drama where own choice is permitted.

It would be greatly appreciated if teachers could ask the child to return their cup(s) to the TROPHY SECRETARY when they are requested back, cleaned and ready for presentation to the new recipient.

PLEASE NOTE: Entry Closing Date
Sunday 21st February 2027
NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED

CLASS 101 - Girls under 5
Test Piece "A Musical Family" by John Mole £5

CLASS 102 - Boys under 5
Test Piece "Some Things Don't Make Any Sense at All" by Judith Viorst £5

CLASS 103 - Girls over 5 and under 6
Test Piece "The Swing" by Robert Louis Stevenson £5

CLASS 104 - Boys over 5 and under 6
Test Piece "Listening in Bed" by Tony Mitton £5

CLASS 105 - Girls over 6 and under 7
Test Piece "The Babysitter" by Jez Alborough £5

CLASS 106 - Boys over 6 and under 7
Test Piece "The Park" by Michael Rosen £5

CLASS 107 - Girls over 7 and under 8
Test Piece "The Mer-Child" by Clare Bevan £5

CLASS 108 - Boys over 7 and under 8
Test Piece "I wish I Was a Pirate" by Tony Bradman £5

CLASS 109 - Girls over 8 and under 9
Test Piece "Quieter than Snow" by Berlie Doherty £5

CLASS 110 - Boys over 8 and under 9
Test Piece "The Performing Bag" by Stanley Cook £5

CLASS 111 - Girls over 9 and under 10
Test Piece "Going Hairless" by June Crebbin £5

CLASS 112 - Boys over 9 and under 10
Test Piece "The Sea" by James Reeves £5

CLASS 113 - Girls over 10 and under 11
Test Piece "Spotlight" by Matthew Sweeney £5

CLASS 114 - Boys over 10 and under 11
Test Piece "Be Glad Your Nose is on Your Face" by Jack Prelutsky £5

CLASS 115 - Boys and Girls over 11 and under 12
Test Piece "Cold Feet" by Brian Lee £5

CLASS 116 - Boys and Girls over 12 and under 13
Test Piece "The Witch" by Mary Elizabeth Coleridge £5

CLASS 117 - Boys and Girls over 13 and under 15
Test Piece "Swim Right Up To Me" by Katherine Pierpoint £5

CLASS 118 - Boys and Girls over 15
Test Piece "The Telephone Call" by Fleur Adcock £5

SENIOR VERSE CUP

OWN CHOICE SECTION

BIBLE CLASS

Copy must be provided for Adjudicator.
One passage of scripture to be read - not recited.

CLASS 120 - Boys and Girls over 12 years
Test piece "Own Choice" £5
Time Limit: 3 minutes

SONNET CLASS

CLASS 121 - Girls and Boys over 12
Test Piece "Own Choice" -
Copy must be provided for Adjudicator £5

THE CARMEL KEILTY CUP

YEATS CLASS

CLASS 122 - Boys and Girls over 12
One Poem by W. B. Yeats - Copy must be provided for Adjudicator £5

MARGARET NOLAN PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP

BALLAD CLASS

*** Ballad to be Memorised ***

CLASS 123B - Boys and Girls over 12
"Own Choice" must be provided for Adjudicator £5

JOSEPH CONNELLAN PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP

DRAMATIC SECTION

Time limit in all classes is SIX minutes unless otherwise stated.
The Adjudicator must be provided with copies of chosen pieces.

CLASS 124A - Character Study under 12 years,
Portray one character from any play or book, excluding Shakespeare £5

THE MARGARET RUSHE PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP

CLASS 124B - Character Study over 12 years and under 14
Portray one character from any play or book, excluding Shakespeare £5

THE MARTINA CARROLL PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP

CLASS 124C - Character Study over 14 years
Portray one character from any play or book, excluding Shakespeare £5

THE O'GORMAN/FERRIS PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP

CLASS 125A - Scene for 2, 3 or 4 Under 12 years
Scene to be taken from any play or book. £8

THE FATHER MATTHEW PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP

CLASS 125B - Scene for 2, 3 or 4 - over 12 years
Scene to be taken from any play or book. £8

THE JAMES HOLDEN MEMORIAL PERPETUAL CUP

PROSE SPEAKING

Passage of prose of own choice - **TO BE RECITED NOT READ**
Copy must be provided for the Adjudicator

CLASS 127A - under 8
Time Limit - 2 Minutes £5

CLASS 127B - under 10
Time Limit - 2 Minutes £5

CLASS 128A - over 10 and under 12 £5
Time Limit - 3 Minutes

THE ELEANOR MURPHY PERPETUAL CUP

CLASS 128B - over 12 and under 14
Time Limit - 3 Minutes £5

THE MATT McATEER CUP

CLASS 129 - over 14
Time Limit - 3 Minutes £5

THE TONER CUP

FAVOURITE POEM SECTION

Copy must be provided for the Adjudicator

Class 131 - under 6
Time Limit - 2 Minutes £5

THE SHARON LYNCH NORDON CUP

Class 132 - over 6 and under 7
Time Limit - 2 Minutes £5

THE EILISH MAGUIRE MEMORIAL CUP

Class 133 - over 7 and under 8
Time Limit - 2 Minutes £5

THE BOULEVARD RESTAURANT CUP

Class 134 - over 8 and under 9
Time Limit - 2 Minutes £5

THE GERARD MURPHY CUP

Class 135 - over 9 and under 10
Time Limit - 2 Minutes £5

THE MACAULEY CUP

Class 136 - over 10 and under 11
Time Limit - 2 Minutes £5

THE MRS E. O'DONNELL CUP

Class 137 - over 11 and under 12
Time Limit - 2 Minutes £5

THE MURPHY DAC CUP

Class 138 - over 12 and under 14
Time Limit - 3 Minutes £5

THE BRIGHT SPORTS CUP

Class 139 - over 14 years
Time Limit - 3 Minutes £5

THE MALOCCA CUP

IRISH POEM

Copy must be provided for the Adjudicator
(Excluding the poems of W. B. Yeats and Seamus Heaney)

Class 140 - over 6 and under 8
Time Limit - 2 Minutes £5

Class 141 - over 8 and under 10
Time Limit - 2 Minutes £5

THE JOSEPH AND MARGARET GUINAN MEMORIAL CUP

Class 142 - over 10 and under 12
Time Limit - 2 Minutes £5

THE BETTY McNULTY CUP

Class 143 - over 12 and under 14
Time Limit - 3 Minutes £5

THE CELINE HOLLYWOOD PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP

Class 144 - over 14
Time Limit - 3 Minutes £5

THE O'REILLY "SWEET PEOPLE CUP"

SIGHT READING CLASSES

Performers to read at sight a passage of prose or verse
selected by the Adjudicator.
Competition is to encourage the art of reading aloud.

CLASS 145 - Sight reading under 10 years £5

CLASS 146 - Sight reading over 10 and under 13 years £5

CLASS 147 - Sight reading over 13 £5

PREPARED READING CLASSES

Not to be memorised. Copy to be provided for the Adjudicator.

CLASS 150A - 6 - 8 years £5
Time Limit 2 Mins.

CLASS 150B - 9 - 11 years £5
Time Limit 2 Mins.

CLASS 150C - over 12 and under 14 £5
Time Limit 3 Mins.

CLASS 150D - over 14 years £5
Time Limit 3 Mins.

SEAMUS HEANEY CLASS

Class 152 - over 12 years £5

Copy to be provided for the Adjudicator.

SINÉAD LUNNY PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP

TRADITIONAL POEMS CLASSES

In these Classes the competitors are asked to perform
Traditional Ulster Poems in Ulster Dialect.
Any traditional poet can be used.

Class 153 - under 12 £5

Class 154 - over 12 £5

NEW CLASS FOR 2027

SHAKESPEARE CLASS

Competitors will be expected to act a scene or part of a scene from any Shakespeare play from memory. One or more characters as desired.
Not to exceed five minutes.
Scene may be presented in period costume.

Class 155 - over 12 £5

CLASS 160:– YOUNG DRAMA PERFORMER OF THE YEAR £15

BURSARY: £1,000

Please read both pages carefully before completing your entry.

A three-stage competition:

Stage 1:

Video Submission: Two contrasting pieces of own choice (poetry and/or prose). Time limit 6 minutes.

Submission Guidelines:

- ☑ Videos must be unedited; each piece to be recorded in one take.
- ☑ Performer visible at all times
- ☑ Acceptable formats: MP4, MOV, AVI
- ☑ Each piece recorded separately for upload as a separate file
- ☑ Each file must be labelled with the Class number and performer's name
- ☑ Submit video files via the WeTransfer/Google Drive link which will be sent to all entrants shortly after applications close. (See Key Dates table provided)

Stage 2:

Preliminary Round: Live performance (time limit 12 minutes) for those selected from the video submission stage. (See **Key Dates** table provided)

Repertoire Requirements:

- ☑ Three contrasting pieces of which one must be prose. At least one piece to be by an Irish poet/author.
- ☑ Pieces to be performed from memory.

Stage 3:

Final Round: Live performance lasting 18 - 20 minutes for those selected from Stage 2 (See **Key Dates** table provided)

Repertoire Requirements:

- ☑ A contrasting programme to include at least one extract from a play by William Shakespeare and one poem by a twentieth century Irish poet. The remainder of the performance is at the performer's discretion.
- ☑ Pieces performed in Stages One and Two must not be included in the Final repertoire.
- ☑ An introduction to the programme is essential.
- ☑ Pieces to be performed from memory.

The *Newry Musical Feis Young Drama Performer of the Year Bursary* Competition is designed to provide support to the most promising students who have chosen to pursue professional careers in the Theatre and Drama branch of the performing arts.
The winner of the 2027 Bursary Competition to find The Young Drama Performer of the Year will receive £1,000 which must be used to further their professional development.

Key Dates:

Applications Open	20/11/2026
Applications Close	22/01/2027
Deadline for paperwork submissions	12/02/2027
Deadline for video submissions	26/02/2027
Preliminary and Final Rounds	Week commencing 12th April – exact dates to be confirmed

Above dates will be strictly adhered to - No late submissions accepted.

Eligibility:

☑ Students aged 17 – 25 years on 01/01/2027

☑ Already pursuing – or actively planning to pursue - a professional career in the Theatre and Drama branch of the Performing Arts

Application Requirements:

1. Complete an online entry for the **Young Drama Performer** Class in the **Speech & Drama (Open) Section** via www.newrymusicalfeis.com – non-refundable application fee of £15.

2. Prepare a performer bio (max 250 words)

3. Write a **short cover letter** outlining how you would use the £1,000 bursary to further your professional development

4. Draw up a **repertoire list** you would intend to perform for each of the three stages of the competition. (See guidance on requirements for each stage)

5. Submit the three paperwork elements (bio, cover letter, and repertoire lists) in **Word** or **PDF** format via email to info@newrymusicalfeis.com by the deadline provided above.

The quality of these elements plays an important role in the shortlisting process.

6. Submit a video (time limit 5-6 minutes) of a poetry and/or prose performance of your own choice by the deadline provided above. A link for submission will be sent to all entrants shortly after applications close. (Please see video submission guidelines in the syllabus listing for the Young Drama Performer Class).

Books used in Speech Open Test Pieces for Classes 101-118

Book A: Pick and Mix Poetry – chosen by Julia Donaldson
ISBN:978-1-5290-4416-4

Book B: The New Oxford Treasury of Children's Poem
ISBN:0-19-276196-X

Book C: LAMDA Verse and Prose Anthology Volume 17
ISBN:978-0-9557687-2-9

Class 101 - Girls under 5
A Musical Family - by John Mole - Book A - Page 176

Class 102 - Boys under 5
Some Things Don't Make Any Sense at All by Judith Viorst - Book A - Page 55

Class 103 - Girls over 5 and under 6
The Swing - by Robert Louis Stevenson - Book A - Page 73

Class 104 - Boys over 5 and under 6
Listening in Bed - by Tony Mitton - Book A - Page 87

Class 105 - Girls over 6 and under 7
The Babysitter - By Jez Alboroug - Book A - Page 274

Class 106 - Boys over 6 and under 7
The Park - By Michael Rosen - Book A - Page 116

Class 107 – Girls over 7 and under 8
The Mer-Child by Clare Bevan - Book A - Page 98

Class 108 - Boys over 7 and under 8
I wish I Was a Pirate by Tony Bradman - Book A - Page 292

Class 109 - Girls over 8 and under 9
Quieter than Snow by Berlie Doherty - Book B - Page 63

Class 110 - Boys over 8 and under 9
The Performing Bag by Stanley Cook - Book B - Page 71

Class 111 - Girls over 9 and under 10
Going Hairless by June Crebbin - Book B - Page 51

Class 112 - Boys over 9 and under 10
The Sea by James Reeves - Book B - Page 96

Class 113 - Girls over 10 and under 11
Spotlight by Matthew Sweeney - Book C - Page 95

Class 114 – Boys over 10 and under 11
Be Glad Your Nose is on Your Face by Jack Prelutsky - Book A - Page 286

Class 115 - Boys and Girls over 11 and under 12
Cold Feet by Brian Lee - Book B - Page 79

Class 116 - Boys and Girls over 12 and under 13
The Witch by Mary Elizabeth Coleridge - Book C - Page 118

Class 117 - Boys and Girls over 13 and under 15
Swim Right Up To Me by Katherine Pierpoint - Book C - Page 139

Class 118 - Boys and Girls over 15
The Telephone Call by Fleur Adcock - Book C - Page 156 & 157

Versions of the poems that can be searched for on the internet are generally incorrect and must be avoided in case a performer learns the incorrect version.

Copies of set pieces can be emailed to teachers on receipt of an email request to The Assistant Secretary mariecassidy42@gmail.com