



99th Inverclyde Music Festival 2026

Speech Syllabus

Class	Age	Time	Fee
401 SOLO VERSE - Primary 1 & under Award: Infant Award Test: The Dustman - Clive Sansom (The Book of 1000 Poems :Collins)	Primary 1 and under		£4.00
402 SOLO VERSE - Primary 2 & under (Not competing in Class 401) Test: Things I like -Marjorie H Greenfield (The Book of 1000 Poems :Collins)	Primary 2 and under		£4.00
403 SOLO VERSE - Primary 3 & under (Not competing in Classes 401 & 402) Test: My Colours by Colin West (Julia Donaldson - Poems to Perform: Macmillan)	Primary 3 and under		£4.00
404 SOLO VERSE - Primary 4 & under (Not competing in Classes 401, 402, 403) Test: Yellow Butter by Mary Ann Hoberman (Julia Donaldson - Poems to Perform: Macmillan)	Primary 4 and under		£4.00
405 SOLO VERSE - Primary 5 & under (Not competing in Classes 401,402,403,404) Test: Blame by Allan Ahlberg (Julia Donaldson - Poems to Perform: Macmillan)	Primary 5 and under		£4.00
406 SOLO VERSE - Primary 6 & under Award: Wilson McCulloch Trophy (Not competing in Classes 401,402,403,404,405) Test: Dinner-Time Rhyme by June Crebbin (Julia Donaldson - Poems to Perform: Macmillan)	Primary 6 and under		£4.00
407 SOLO VERSE - Primary 7 & under Award: Confederation Life Trophy (Not competing in Classes 401,402,403,404,405,406) Test: The Visitor by ian Serrailier (Julia Donaldson - Poems to Perform: Macmillan)	Primary 7 and under		£4.00
408 SOLO VERSE - 12 Years & under (Not competing in Classes 401,402,403,404,405,406,407) Test: She Finds Fossils -Michaela Morgan The Big Amazing Poetry Book Chosen by Gaby Morgan (Macmillan)	12 and under		£5.00

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409 SOLO VERSE - 14 Years & under Award: Thomas Aird Darrah Memorial Trophy (Not competing in Classes 401,402,403,404,405,406,407,408) Test: Rum Tum Tugger by TS Eliott (Julia Donaldson - Poems to Perform: Macmillan)	14 and under		£5.00
410 SOLO VERSE - 16 Years & under (Not competing in Classes 401,402,403,404,405,406,407,408,409) Test: Nocturne - Eugene O'Neill (www.poemhunter.com/poem/nocturne-60/)	16 and under		£5.00
411 SOLO VERSE - 18 Years & under Award: Ray Linn Craig Trophy (Not competing in Classes 401,402,403,404,405,406,407,408,409,410) Test: A Smuggler's Song - Rudyard Kipling (www.kiplingsociety.co.uk/poems_smuggler.htm)	18 and under		£5.00
412 SOLO POEM - NOT IN DIALECT - 12 Years & under Own choice of poem, not in Scots dialect. Poem should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original poem, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk. Test: Own choice of Poem (3 minutes maximum length)	12 and under	Up to 3 mins	£4.00
413 SOLO POEM - NOT IN DIALECT - 14 Years & under Own choice of poem, not in Scots dialect. (Not competing in class 412). Poem should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original poem, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk. Test: Own choice of Poem (4 minutes maximum length)	14 and under	Up to 4 mins	£5.00
414 SOLO POEM - NOT IN DIALECT - 18 Years & under Own choice of poem, not in Scots dialect. (Not competing in classes 412,413) Poem should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original poem, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk. Test: Own choice of Poem (4 minutes maximum length)	18 and under	Up to 4 mins	£5.00
415 SOLO POEM - IN DIALECT - 12 Years & under Award: Friendship Trophy Own choice of poem, in Scots dialect. Poem should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original poem, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk. Test: Own choice of Poem (3 minutes maximum length)	12 and under	Up to 3 mins	£4.00
416 SOLO POEM - IN DIALECT - 14 Years & under Own choice of poem, in Scots dialect. (Not competing in class 415). Poem should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original poem, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk. Test: Own choice of Poem (4 minutes maximum length)	14 and under	Up to 4 mins	£5.00

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417 SOLO POEM - IN DIALECT - 18 Years & under Own choice of poem, in Scots dialect. (Not competing in classes 415,416). Poem should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original poem, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk. Test: Own choice of Poem (4 minutes maximum length)	18 and under	Up to 4 mins	£5.00
418 BURNS POEM - Primary 7 & under Award: Anne Mills Memorial Trophy Test: My Hoggie by Robert Burns (Burns for Bairns: Alloway Publishing)	Primary 7 and under		£4.00
419 BURNS POEM - 12 Years & under (Not competing in Class 418) Test: McPherson's Farewell by Robert Burns (Burns for Bairns: Alloway Publishing)	12 and under		£5.00
420 BURNS POEM - 14 Years & under Award: Duncan Bain Trophy (Not competing in Classes 418,419) Test: Now Westlin Winds - Robert Burns - Burns for Bairns, Alloway Publishing	14 and under		£5.00
421 BURNS POEM - 16 Years & under Award: Robert Buchanan Trophy (Not competing in Classes 418,419,420) Test: Epistle to Davie - Robert Burns - Burns for Bairns, Alloway Publishing	16 and under		£5.00
422 BURNS POEM - 18 Years & under (Not competing in Classes 418,419,420,421) Test: Lament of Mary Queen of Scots - Robert Burns - Burns for Bairns, Alloway Publishing	18 and under		£5.00
423 SCOTS POEM (excluding Burns) - Primary 5 & under Award: Jackie Mills Shield Test: Feart by Liz Niven (Anither Hantle O Verse: Poems in Scots for Children by Bette NMS Enterprises Ltd)	Primary 5 and under		£4.00
424 SCOTS POEM (excluding Burns) - Primary 7 & under Award: Judith Paris Trophy (Not competing in class 423) Test: A Dug A Dug by Bill Keys (Anither Hantle O Verse: Poems in Scots for Children by Bette NMS Enterprises Ltd)	Primary 7 and under		£4.00
425 SCOTS POEM (excluding Burns) - 12 Years & under (Not competing in classes 423,424) Test: Break-In Rainbows - Janet Paisley - The Kist Anthology, Nelson Blackie	12 and under		£5.00
426 SCOTS POEM (excluding Burns) - 14 Years & under Award: The '43' Club Trophy (Not competing in classes 423,424,425) Test: The Twa Corbies - Anon - The Kist Anthology, Nelson Blackie	14 and under		£5.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
427 SCOTS POEM (excluding Burns) - 16 Years & under (Not competing in Classes 423,424,425,426) Test: The Poacher To Orion - Violet Jacob - The Kist Anthology, Nelson Blackie	16 and under		£5.00
428 SCOTS POEM (excluding Burns) - 18 Years & under Award: 1st District Council Trophy (Not competing in classes 423,424,425,426,427) Test: Sir Patrick Spens - The Kist Anthology, Nelson Blackie	18 and under		£5.00
429 INVENTIVE STORY TELLING - Primary 5 & under Competitors are asked to tell a story, of approximately two minutes duration, which includes three words given by the adjudicator five minutes beforehand.	Primary 5 and under	Up to 2 mins	£4.00
430 INVENTIVE STORY TELLING - Primary 7 & under Award: The Elma Paton Award (Not competing in class 429) Test: Competitors are asked to tell a story, of approximately two minutes duration, which includes three words given by the adjudicator five minutes beforehand	Primary 7 and under	Up to 2 mins	£4.00
431 WRITE & RECITE - Primary 7 & under Competitors write and then recite a poem of their own composition. Written poems should be between 10 and 25 lines. Poem choices should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original poem, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk. Test: Competitors recite a poem of their own composition.	Primary 7 and under		£4.00
432 WRITE / RECITE - 15 Years & under (Not competing in class 431) Competitors write and then recite a poem of their own composition. Written poems should be between 20 and 35 lines. Poem choices should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original poem, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk. Test: Competitors recite a poem of their own composition.	15 and under		£5.00
433 PUBLIC SPEAKING - 14 Years & under Competitors explain how they achieved, made, grew, discovered or used something of special interest. Maximum of 3 minutes.	14 and under	Up to 3 mins	£5.00
434 PUBLIC SPEAKING - 18 Years & under (Not competing in class 433) Competitors give a talk on a topical subject. Maximum length 5 minutes.	18 and under	Up to 5 mins	£5.00
435 DRAMATIC MONOLOGUE (excluding Shakespeare) - 14 Years & under Own Choice of Dramatic Monologue. Maximum of 3 minutes. Monologue should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original text, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk.	14 and under	Up to 3 mins	£5.00

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436 DRAMATIC MONOLOGUE (excluding Shakespeare)- 16 Years & under (Not competing in class 435). Own Choice of Dramatic Monologue. Maximum of 3 minutes. Monologue should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original text, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk.	16 and under	Up to 3 mins	£5.00
437 DRAMATIC MONOLOGUE (excluding Shakespeare)- 18 Years & under (Not competing in Classes 435, 436) Own Choice of Dramatic Monologue. Maximum of 3 minutes. Monologue should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original text, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk.	18 and under	Up to 3 mins	£5.00
438 DRAMATIC DUOLOGUE (excluding Shakespeare) - 15 Years & under Own choice of Dramatic Duologue. Maximum of 6 minutes. Competitors must not use scenery and should provide their own prompt if required. Cuts in dialogue may be permitted where relevant to aid performance. Dramatic Duologue should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original text, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk.	15 and under	Up to 6 mins	£5.00 per duo
439 DRAMATIC DUOLOGUE (excluding Shakespeare) - 18 Years & under Own choice of Dramatic Duologue. Maximum of 8 minutes. Competitors must not use scenery and should provide their own prompt if required. Cuts in dialogue may be permitted where relevant to aid performance. Dramatic Duologue should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original text, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk.	18 and under	Up to 8 mins	£5.00 per duo
440 SHAKESPEAREAN SOLO - 18 Years & under Own choice of solo speech. Maximum of 4 minutes. Competitors must not use scenery and should provide their own prompt if required. Cuts in dialogue may be permitted where relevant to aid performance. Speech should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original text, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk.	18 and under	Up to 4 mins	£5.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
441 GROUP VERSE - SCHOOLS - Primary 1 - 4 Award: Jill Jones Memorial Shield For Group Verse Speaking no movement, gesture, mime, costume or hand props are permitted, although suitable grouping is allowed. The emphasis will be on clarity and harmony of speech, as it expresses understanding of the set poem. Group of any size Test: Voices of Water by Tony Mitton (Julia Donaldson - Poems to Perform: Macmillan)	Primary 1 to Primary 4		£7.00 per group
442 GROUP VERSE - PRIMARY SCHOOLS Award: Wilson Mackay Trophy (Not competing in class 441) For Group Verse Speaking no movement, gesture, mime, costume or hand props are permitted, although suitable grouping is allowed. The emphasis will be on clarity and harmony of speech as it expresses understanding of the set poem. Group of any size Test: From a Railway Carriage by R L Stevenson (Julia Donaldson - Poems to Perform: Macmillan)	Primary 7 and under		£7.00 per group
443 GROUP VERSE - OPEN - 14 Years & under Award: Mrs Ryrie Orr Trophy (Not competing in Classes 441,442) For Group Verse Speaking no movement, gesture, mime, costume or hand props are permitted, although suitable grouping is allowed. The emphasis will be on clarity and harmony of speech as it expresses understanding of the set poem. Group of any size Test: Miss Creedle Teaches Creative Writing -Gareth Owen The Big Amazing Poetry Book Chosen by Gaby Morgan (Macmillan)	14 and under		£8.00 per group
444 GROUP VERSE - OPEN - 18 Years & under Award: Beltrees School Trophy (Not competing in Classes 441,442,443) For Group Verse Speaking no movement, gesture, mime, costume or hand props are permitted, although suitable grouping is allowed. The emphasis will be on clarity and harmony of speech as it expresses understanding of the set poem. Group of any size Test: Saturday Night at the Bethlehem Arms -Gareth Owen The Big Amazing Poetry Book Chosen by Gaby Morgan (Macmillan)	18 and under		£8.00 per group
445 SOLO VERSE - GAELIC - PRIMARY 1 - 3 Own choice of any Gaelic Poem. Maximum of 2 minutes. Poem should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original poem, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk.	Primary 1 to Primary 3	Up to 2 mins	£4.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
446 SOLO VERSE - GAELIC - PRIMARY 5 & Under Not competing in Class 445 Own choice of any Gaelic Poem. Maximum of 2 minutes. Poem choice should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original poem, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk.	Primary 5 and under	Up to 2 mins	£4.00
447 SOLO VERSE - GAELIC - PRIMARY 7 & Under Not competing in Class 445 or 446 Own choice of any Gaelic Poem. Maximum of 2 minutes. Poem choice should be uploaded to Play and Perform, no later than the 1st of December. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original poem, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk.	Primary 7 and under	Up to 2 mins	£4.00
448 TELL A JOKE - Primary 5 - 7 Each performer should tell a funny story / joke, lasting no longer than 1 minute. They should not expect the audience to participate in this i.e.no questions and answers. Competitors should also provide the adjudicator with the original text, on arrival at the Festival check-in desk.	Primary 5 to Primary 7	Up to 1 min	£4.00