

City of Plymouth Speech & Drama Festival Rules 2025

Plymouth Speech & Drama Festival Rules 2025 Age is as of September 1st 2025 - sections will be split in the students School Year groups.

General Rules

1. The festival is open to **students under 18 years on 1st September 2025**. Only Amateurs may enter this festival. We will shut entries at 350 entries or on the 6th October 2025 whichever is reached first, Priority will be given to students who learn within the **Plymouth Area PL1- PL22**.
2. Students can only compete in their own age category.
3. No competitor may present more than one Performance in any section.
4. **Costumes & Uniforms** are not permitted in any section, This includes Drama school/Dance School uniform tee's. Academic School Uniforms are permitted.
5. All performers should be **ready to perform 30 minutes** ahead of the scheduled section time.
6. All Candidates must present a printed "clean" copy of their peice, for the adjudicator. Please note **no drama school branding should be evident** on the copy.
7. We are an **inclusive festival** and welcome performers with additional needs. Notification of any adaptations required must be stated at entry for the Performance class by email to the speech secretary.
8. The festival reserves the right to **combine age groups where necessary** to ensure smooth running of the event. Any sections with low numbers will be withdrawn.
9. We expect anyone attending The City of Plymouth Speech & Drama Festival to be **polite and respectful** to one another. Failure to do this may result in the offender being disqualified and asked to leave the festival.
10. Any **complaint** must be made in writing on the day the problem has arisen.
11. **Novice Sections** in the Speech & Drama festival are reserved only for students who are entering the festival for the first time.

12. **Time limits** are the maximum allowed including any titles and introductions and **must be strictly observed**. These are clearly stated in our class list.
13. **Hand props only are permitted**, these are items which can be carried by the performer onto the acting space two chairs and 1 table will be provided by the festival which can also be used by any performer.
14. **Certificates & Adjudication Sheets** will be available shortly after the section has ended. They will be outside the Performance room as you leave the building via the main entrance. All reports & certificates must be collected by the end of the festival, Any unclaimed certificates at the end of the last day will be destroyed. They are normally ready for collection within 30mins of the end of the class.
15. **Medals will be awarded to 1st, 2nd & 3rd places**. Classes will have a new style trophy, These are property of the winner. Our special awards, if presented, still remain property of the festival, and must be returned 1st October 2026.
16. **New Marking scheme**
 - Developing-** A performance demonstrating an awareness of technical skills, requiring more consistency & artistry
 - Progressing-** A performance showing development of technique and/or communication and commitment
 - Merit-** A competent performance, showing some artistic awareness and/or technical ability
 - Commended-** A convincing performance technically & artistically, with increasing stylistic & communication skills
 - Honours-** An excellent performance, demonstrating fluent technical and artistic skills with emerging individuality
 - Outstanding-** An impressive performance technically and artistically, displaying spontaneity & clear individuality
 - Exceptional-** A superlative performance, displaying exceptional artistic individuality.
17. **Children must be supervised** by an adult (over the age of 18 years) at all times. The child must know the name of that person.
18. Photography, filming, video or tape recording, and the use of mobile phones **during any performance are prohibited**.

19. **Communication with the Adjudicator** concerning any matters relating to the Competition by competitors, teachers or other interested parties prior to or during the Competition is strictly prohibited.

20. **Entry Fees**

Solo.....£9
Groups.....£25

21. **Spectator Fees** - There is no charge for spectators to watch the 2025 festival. Please be mindful that there is only limited space in the performance room.