



PETERBOROUGH DRAMA FESTIVAL 2026

Thank you for entering the Peterborough Drama Festival for 2026. Your support is greatly appreciated. We hope that the information included in this document will be useful for you, which includes key information and event timings.

GENERAL INFORMATION:



PERFORM | EDUCATE | INSPIRE

Affiliated to the British and International Federation of Festivals

- The enclosed pages detail each of the festival events by day.
- The enclosed timesheet states the running time of each class.
- Please ensure that you arrive in time for the start of the class.
- All entrants will be expected to remain for the duration of the class.
- Parents & Carers are invited to remain as audience members.

DONATIONS & PROGRAMMES:

As we are a small drama festival and registered charity, we are very grateful for all donations given to help us maintain the legacy of the festival.

We will be accepting donations on the day of the festival.

We will also be selling programmes for a nominal fee of £2.00, which contain entrant information and additional information about the festival.

REFRESHMENTS:

At the Saturday event, there will be hot and cold drinks and a selection of light snacks including crisps, biscuits & cake available to purchase.

PAYMENTS:

We can accept cash and card payments at the festival this year.



The Peterborough Drama Festival is a registered charity number 1032610.

www.peterboroughdramafestival.org.uk



pdfsecretary@hotmail.com



PETERBOROUGH DRAMA FESTIVAL 2026

FRIDAY 6th MARCH 2026: SCHOOL SHOWCASE EVENT



VENUE:

**Brookside Methodist Church, Gunthorpe Road,
Peterborough PE4 7TG**

EVENT DETAILS :

**Our school showcase of Prose Reading
will begin at 1.00pm and we expect to
finish by 1.45pm.**

**Entrants should arrive between 12.45pm
and 1.00pm.**

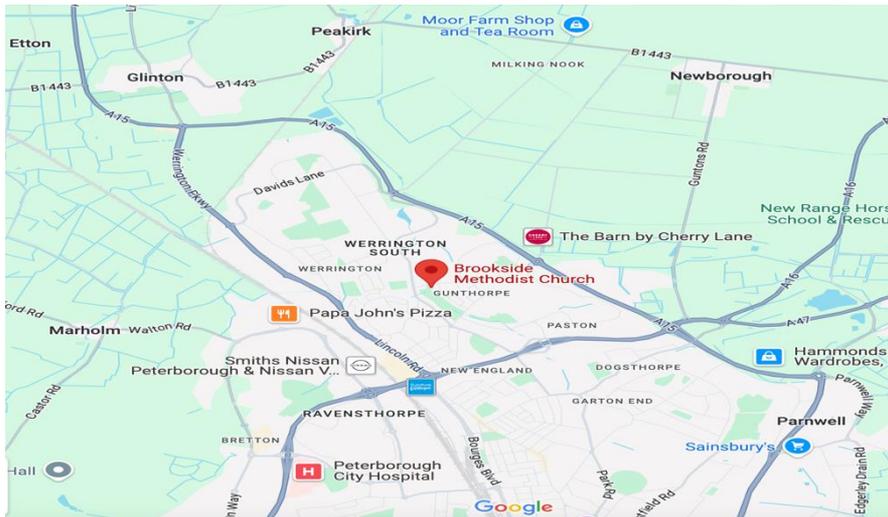
**Our Choral Speaking showcase will begin
at 2.00pm and we expect to finish by
3.00pm.**

**Entrants should arrive between 1.30pm
and 2.00pm**

**All groups are required to stay for the
period of the competition and enjoy being
audience members, as well as performing.**

**Coaches should drop off and collect from
Gunthorpe Road. Minibuses may park in
the car park.**

**If schools wish to invite Parents/Carers,
they are very welcome. There is limited
parking available at the rear of the church
in the car park.**



The Peterborough Drama Festival is a registered charity number 1032610.

 www.peterboroughdramafestival.org.uk



 pdfsecretary@hotmail.com



PETERBOROUGH DRAMA FESTIVAL 2026

SATURDAY 7th MARCH 2026: DRAMA FESTIVAL



VENUE:

**Brookside Methodist Church,
Gunthorpe Road, Peterborough PE4 7TG**

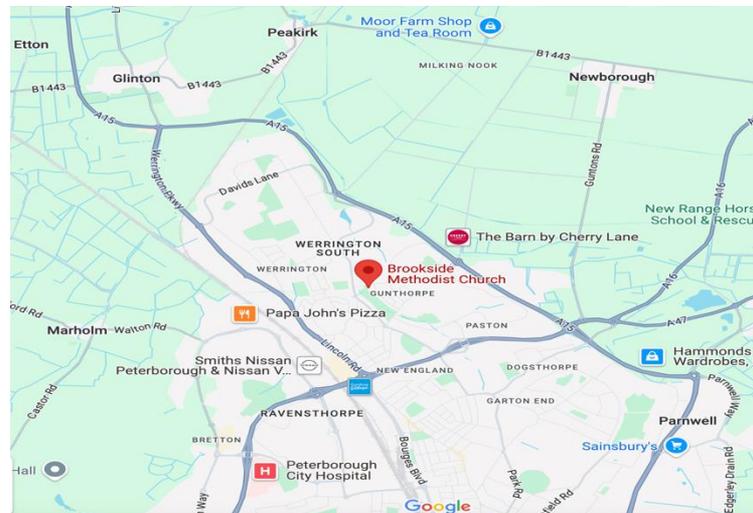
EVENT DETAILS:

Our venue will be open from 9.15am.

**Please arrive at least 15 minutes before
your class start time (as outlined on the
attached timesheets).**

**Parking is available at the rear of the
church building.**

**Please enter through the main doors and
attend the reception table to sign in.**



The Peterborough Drama Festival is a registered charity number 1032610.

 www.peterboroughdramafestival.org.uk



 pdfsecretary@hotmail.com



PETERBOROUGH DRAMA FESTIVAL 2026

SATURDAY 7th MARCH 2026: TIME SHEET

ROOM 1 - THE SANCTUARY

Start time:	Class category:	Year groups:
9.30am	Prose Reading	Years 3 – 6
9.55am	Verse Speaking	Years 2 – 4
10.15am	Solo Acting	Years 7 – 9
10.50am	Duo Acting	Years 5 – 6
11.25am	Shakespeare	Years 10 – 11
11.35am	Prose Reading	Years 7 – 8 & Years 9 – 10
12.00pm	Duo Acting	Years 7 – 9
12.30pm	LUNCH	
1.30pm	Group Acting	All ages
2.50pm	Verse Speaking	Years 5 – 6
3.10pm	Solo Acting	Years 5 – 6
3.35pm	Solo Acting	Years 10 – 12
4.00pm	Duo Acting	Years 11 – 12
4.30pm	END OF SESSION	

The Peterborough Drama Festival is a registered charity number 1032610.

 www.peterboroughdramafestival.org.uk



 pdfsecretary@hotmail.com



COPYRIGHT RULES AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

The Peterborough Drama Festival has entered into an agreement with the Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society which means that entrants do not have to seek copyright permission for any poetry, prose or solo dramatic items performed to a time limit of 10 minutes.

Solo and dramatic items must be announced with title and author at the time of performance to qualify for copyright indemnity and the performers must not change the words or gender of the character.

Duologues and group dramatic performances are not covered by this agreement and copyright for these should be sought by the performers at the time of entry.

Performers and teachers should know that authors are directly reimbursed as a result of their works being performed.

All time limits must be strictly adhered to, otherwise penalty points will be imposed.

Adjudicators' decisions are final.

Ages must be reckoned as at the first day of the Festival. In duologue and group classes the class is determined by the oldest competitor.

Competitors should give a copy of their script/readings to adjudicators at the time of performance.

Further information about entries will be requested in February 2026 to enable the committee to submit relevant copyright performance information.

Trophies:

Responsibility for engraving trophies rests with the winning competitor.

Trophies won at the Festival must be returned. A trophy agreement will need to be signed at the festival and will include the returning date and arrangements.





FESTIVAL CATEGORIES & RULES

CHORAL SPEAKING

Groups are required to perform a poem, or an extract from a poem, in a lively and imaginative style. This may include vocal sound effects, occasional solo voices, small groups speaking separately, juxtaposition, echoes and many other effects to create the atmosphere of the poem. The group must work as a disciplined choir, speaking and moving together. Some groups even set the tone of the poem in the way they move onto the stage. The piece must have a title. A copy of the poem must be given to the adjudicator's clerk before the performance. Choirs must be no fewer than eight and no more than thirty. The time limit is ten minutes and poems must be taken from themes listed in the year's festival syllabus. With the exception of Key Stage One classes, all performances must be unaided.

VERSE SPEAKING

Each age group is set a different theme such as "The Sea", "Winter", "Space" or "Night".

Competitors (with their teachers) choose a poem within this given theme that may be recited within the two minutes time limit. The poem must be learnt. No copies should be used for performance on the day, but a copy should be given to the adjudicator's clerk on the day of performance. Adjudicators are looking for expression, interpretation, communication and enjoyment.

PROSE READING

Each age group is set a different theme, genre or author such as "Mystery", "Legend", "Fairy Tale" or "Sea", "School" and "Magic". Competitors (with their teachers) choose a book that fits the appropriate title and they prepare a short passage from the book that is read on the day of performance, lasting no more than two minutes. The actual book must be used on the day – no photocopies. Adjudicators look for expression, confidence, communication with the audience and an understanding of the text. Competitors should try to make the book come alive so that their reading is dramatic and entertaining.

STORY TELLING

Competitors choose and prepare their own story, either traditional or original, up to three minutes in length. No script should be used on the day. Stories must be told, not read. Story tellers may sit or stand for their performance. Any kind of story from thriller to fairy story may be used, but all must be suitable for a family audience. Adjudicators are looking for confidence and clarity in a story that captures interest through the use of expression, tension or humour, communication of meaning, different voices and dramatic pause.

SHAKESPEARE

Under this section, competitors perform a sonnet or speech from a play. The time limit is three minutes. No costume or make-up is allowed. Hand held props may be used. The title of the piece should be clearly announced with a brief introduction setting the scene. Adjudicators are looking for a dramatic performance faithful to the works of Shakespeare. Adjudicators will look for good communication with the audience and a clear empathy with the character. A script should be given to the adjudicator's clerk before the performance begins.

SOLO ACTING

Competitors perform an appropriate speech from a play lasting up to three minutes. No costumes or make-up may be used. The performance should begin with the title and a brief introduction to set the scene. Small hand props may be used if appropriate. A table and chairs will be available if needed. Adjudicators are looking for a convincing and sincere performance where the audience believe in the character and the scene is brought alive through words and movement. A script should be given to the adjudicator's clerk before the performance begins.

DUOLOGUE

Similar to the solo acting classes, but the extract from the play may last up to five minutes and is performed by two people. In addition to the key points listed under solo acting, adjudicators will also be looking for interaction, relationship and response between the two characters in the play. A script should be given to the adjudicator's clerk before the performance begins.

GROUP ACTING

Performers present an appropriate extract from a play up to ten minutes in length. (A "group" must be no less than 3 and no more than 6 members.) The rules for solo-acting and duologue apply. The play should be suitable for a family audience. A script should be given to the adjudicator's clerk before the performance begins.