

SPEECH & DRAMA CLASSES

Friday, 13 November 2026 – Cheese Hall, Devizes Town Hall

VERSE SPEAKING

The Kathleen Budd Cup for Verse Speaking will be presented at the Festival Concert on Saturday, 21 November 2026.

One piece in each class to be performed from memory.

Age categories refer to **School Years**.

	Time Limit
Class NC13 Verse Speaking (non-competitive)	4 mins
A non-competitive class open to everyone, including adults, whether beginner or an advanced performer.	
Class VS1 Verse Speaking (Reception Year)	4 mins
Own choice of poem.	
Class VS2 Verse Speaking (Year 1)	4 mins
Own choice of poem.	
Class VS3 Verse Speaking (Year 2)	4 mins
Own choice of poem.	
Class VS4 Verse Speaking (Year 3)	4 mins
Own choice of poem.	
Class VS5 Verse Speaking (Year 4)	4 mins
Own choice of poem.	
Class VS6 Verse Speaking (Year 5)	4 mins
Own choice of poem.	
Class VS7 Verse Speaking (Year 6)	4 mins
Own choice of poem.	

SPEECH & DRAMA CLASSES (continued)

	Time Limit
Class VS8 Verse Speaking (Year 7) Own choice of poem.	5 mins
Class VS9 Verse Speaking (Year 8) Own choice of poem.	5 mins
Class VS10 Verse Speaking (Year 9) Own choice of poem.	5 mins
Class VS11 Verse Speaking (Years 10 & 11) Own choice of poem written by Maya Angelou, Simon Armitage or Roger McGough.	6 mins
Class VS12 Verse Speaking (Years 12 & 13) Own choice of poem written by Maya Angelou, Simon Armitage or Roger McGough.	6 mins
Class VS13 Verse Speaking to a Musical Backing Own choice. Performers are advised to adhere to the rules regarding Copyright (page 25) and Electrical Equipment (page 7).	6 mins
Class VS14 Share a Poem (11 & under) A poem for 2 to 4 voices. Movement is permitted. Own choice. Performers are encouraged to explore unison techniques as well as solo speaking.	5 mins
Class VS15 Share a Poem (13 & under) Details as VS14.	5 mins
Class VS16 Share a Poem (15 & under) Details as VS14.	5 mins
Class VS17 Share a Poem (18 & under) Details as VS14.	5 mins
Class VS18 Sonnet Class (18 & under) Own choice. A sonnet by any poet.	5 mins

SPEECH & DRAMA CLASSES (continued)

READING AT SIGHT

Passages to be read will be set by the adjudicator. Competitors will be given time to read the passage through before performance.

	Time Limit
Class RS1 Reading at Sight (9 & under)	3 mins
Class RS2 Reading at Sight (11 & under)	3 mins
Class RS3 Reading at Sight (13 & under)	3 mins
Class RS4 Reading at Sight (15 & under)	3 mins
Class RS5 Reading at Sight (18 & under)	3 mins

PROSE READING

Performers are reminded they must provide a copy of their choice for the adjudicator. Please remember these are reading classes, not memorised performances.

Extracts should include both narrative and dialogue.

Class NC10 Prose Reading (non-competitive)	3 mins
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A non-competitive class open to everyone, including adults, whether beginner or an advanced performer.

Class PR1 Prose Reading (9 & under)	3 mins
Class PR2 Prose Reading (11 & under)	3 mins
Class PR3 Prose Reading (13 & under)	3 mins
Class PR4 Prose Reading (15 & under)	5 mins
Class PR5 Prose Reading (18 & under)	6 mins

The Wiltshire Gazette & Herald Cup will be awarded at the Festival Concert.

SPEECH & DRAMA CLASSES (continued)

	Time Limit
Class PR6 Recital on a Theme (11 & under)	8 mins
Performers must present at least one prose item and one verse reading coupled with an introduction to the theme, linking the selections and a conclusion.	
Class PR7 Recital on a Theme (13 & under)	8 mins
Details as PR6.	
Class PR8 Recital on a Theme (15 & under)	8 mins
Details as PR6.	
Class PR9 Recital on a Theme (18 & under)	8 mins
Details as PR6.	

GROUP SPEAKING

Own choice. Minimum of three performers.

Class GS1 Group Speaking (9 & under)	4 mins
Class GS2 Group Speaking (11 & under)	5 mins
Class GS3 Group Speaking (13 & under)	6 mins
Class GS4 Group Speaking (15 & under)	7 mins
Class GS5 Group Speaking (18 & under)	8 mins

SPEECH & DRAMA CLASSES (continued)

Saturday, 14 November 2026 – St Andrew's Church, Devizes

ACTING

The Wharf Theatre Cup for Drama will be presented at the Festival Concert.

One own choice item.

MONOLOGUE

Class NC11 Monologue (non-competitive) 4 mins

A non-competitive class open to everyone, including adults, whether beginner or an advanced performer.

Class MO1 Monologue (7 & under) 4 mins

Class MO2 Monologue (9 & under) 4 mins

Class MO3 Monologue (11 & under) 4 mins

Class MO4 Monologue (13 & under) 5 mins

Class MO5 Monologue (15 & under) 5 mins

Class MO6 Monologue (18 & under) 6 mins

SHAKESPEARE

Class MO7 Shakespeare Scene (13 & under) 5 mins

Class MO8 Shakespeare Scene (15 & under) 6 mins

Class MO9 Shakespeare Scene (18 & under) 6 mins

Class MO10 Shakespeare Scene Duo (13 & under) 6 mins

Class MO11 Shakespeare Scene Duo (15 & under) 6 mins

Class MO12 Shakespeare Scene Duo (18 & under) 6 mins

SPEECH & DRAMA CLASSES (continued)

DICKENS SCENE

Class D1 Dickens Scene (13 & under)	5 mins
Class D2 Dickens Scene (15 & under)	6 mins
Class D3 Dickens Scene (18 & under)	6 mins
Class D4 Dickens Scene Duo (13 & under)	5 mins
Class D5 Dickens Scene Duo (15 & under)	6 mins
Class D6 Dickens Scene Duo (18 & under)	6 mins

DUOLOGUE

Class NC12 Duologue (non-competitive)	4 mins
A non-competitive class open to everyone, including adults, whether beginner or advanced performers.	
Class DU1 Duologue (7 & under)	4 mins
Class DU2 Duologue (9 & under)	4 mins
Class DU3 Duologue (11 & under)	4 mins
Class DU4 Duologue (13 & under)	5 mins
Class DU5 Duologue (15 & under)	5 mins
Class DU6 Duologue (18 & under)	6 mins

GROUP DRAMA

Group Drama classes are for a minimum of three performers.

Entry fee for Group Drama Classes is £12.00.

Class GD1 Group Drama (11 & under)	4 mins
Class GD2 Group Drama (13 & under)	4 mins
Class GD3 Group Drama (15 & under)	5 mins
Class GD4 Group Drama (18 & under)	8 mins
Class GD5 Adult Group Drama	10 mins