



WORCESTERSHIRE CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL

DRAMA SYLLABUS



CATEGORIES:

- ACTING SOLO
- SHAKESPEARE SOLO
- ACTING DUOLOGUE
- ACTED SCENE
- DEvised DRAMA SOLO
- DEvised DRAMA DUOLOGUE
- IMPROVISED DRAMA SOLO
- DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING
- ACTING WORKSHOPS
- NON-COMPETITIVE ACTING OR DEvised DRAMA



WCAF
75TH ANNIVERSARY
2026



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DRAMA Syllabus

These classes are intended to take place on Saturday 14th March 2026 at the Royal Grammar School, Worcester.

All large groups are free of charge and 25% 'early bird' discount is available for solos and duologues until 1st December 2025. We do not believe any performer should miss out due to financial hardship. Please contact us to discuss any free places and bursaries that may be available: admin@wcaf.org.uk

Categories in the drama section this year:

Acting Solo

Shakespeare Acting Solo

Acting Duologue

Acted Scene

Devised Drama Solo

Devised Drama Duologue

Improvised Drama Solo

Dramatic Sightreading

Non-Competitive Acting or Devised Drama

Acting Workshops

Performers who are also singers or instrumentalists and were aged 15 years or under on 1st September 2025 may also wish to enter the Sproule Prize & Trophy for Speech, Drama and Music. Please see the Special Classes section for more details.

Unless otherwise stated, classes are competitive and places will be awarded. Times, dates and venues for all classes are subject to confirmation once all entries have been received. The committee reserve the right to combine and/or separate classes by age or size of group, dependent upon the number of entries received.

Solo performers may enter only one class appropriate for their age on 1st September 2025 and the open class in each of the categories above. Groups of more than one performer (that are made up of exactly the same performers) may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the oldest performer in the group on 1st September 2025 and the open class in each section. However, individuals may perform as part of more than one group as long as they adhere to the age limits. A different piece must be performed for each entry.

Full details of the piece(s) to be performed do not have to be included at the time of entry (simply put TBC) but please ensure entries are updated with the name and author of the work by 16th January 2026 at the latest. Performers must provide a written copy of their extract for the adjudicator (except for improvisation and sightreading classes).

Please also see essential information for entrants at the end of the drama syllabus.

ACTING

Own choice of excerpt from any published play to be performed from memory. Performers must provide a written copy of their scene or extract for the adjudicator. Performers must provide a brief introduction at the beginning of their performance. This is included in the time limit.

Acting Solo

Own choice of one character only from any published play to be performed from memory.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
928 SOLO ACTING - School year 2 and under	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.67
929 SOLO ACTING - School years 3 and 4	Age 7 and 8	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
930 SOLO ACTING - School years 5 and 6	Age 9 and 10	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
931 SOLO ACTING - School years 7 and 8	Age 11 and 12	Up to 4 mins	£10.67
932 SOLO ACTING - School years 9 and 10	Age 13 and 14	Up to 4 mins	£10.67
933 SOLO ACTING - School years 11, 12 and 13 Award: Gala Concert - Trophy Number 205 Mary Mannion	Between 15 and 17	Up to 5 mins	£13.33
934 SOLO ACTING - Open	Any	Up to 6 mins	£16.00
935 SOLO ACTING - Open Adult	18 and over	Up to 6 mins	£16.00
936 SOLO ACTING (COMEDY DRAMA) - Open One humorous character only.	Any	Up to 6 mins	£16.00
937 FESTIVAL PRIZE FOR SOLO ACTING - 20 years and under Award: A prize of £50 will be awarded providing the winner gains a Distinction or Honours certificate. Programme of acting of three contrasting characters of the performer's own choice.	20 and under	Up to 15 mins	£26.67

Shakespeare Acting Solo

Own choice solo acting from one of Shakespeare's plays to be performed from memory.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
938 SHAKESPEARE SOLO - School years 5 and 6	Age 9 and 10	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
939 SHAKESPEARE SOLO - School years 7 and 8 Award: Gala Concert - Trophy Number 183	Age 11 and 12	Up to 4 mins	£10.67
940 SHAKESPEARE SOLO - School years 9 and 10 Award: Gala Concert - Trophy Number 198	Age 13 and 14	Up to 4 mins	£10.67
941 SHAKESPEARE SOLO - School years 11, 12 and 13	Between 15 and 17	Up to 5 mins	£13.33
942 SHAKESPEARE SOLO - Open	Any	Up to 6 mins	£16.00
943 SHAKESPEARE SOLO - Open Adult	18 and over	Up to 6 mins	£16.00

Acting Duologue

Own choice of a scene with two characters to be performed from memory. The same pair of performers may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest in the pair and the open class in this section, but individuals may perform in multiple pairs with different partners as long as they adhere to the age limits. A different piece must be performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
944 DUOLOGUE ACTING - School year 4 and under	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£13.33
945 DUOLOGUE ACTING - School year 6 and under	10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£13.33
946 DUOLOGUE ACTING - School year 8 and under	12 and under	Up to 4 mins	£16.00
947 DUOLOGUE ACTING - School year 10 and under	14 and under	Up to 4 mins	£16.00
948 DUOLOGUE ACTING - School year 13 and under	17 and under	Up to 5 mins	£18.67
949 DUOLOGUE ACTING - Open	Any	Up to 6 mins	£21.33
950 DUOLOGUE ACTING - Open Adult	18 and over	Up to 6 mins	£21.33

Acted Scene

Own choice of a scene for multiple characters from any play (which may include the works of Shakespeare) or adapted from the dialogue of a published novel to be performed from memory. Groups may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest in the group and the open class in this section, but individuals may perform in multiple groups as long as they adhere to the age limits. A different piece must be performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
921 ACTED SCENE - School year 4 and under Group of a minimum of 3 people	8 and under	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
922 ACTED SCENE - School year 6 and under Group of a minimum of 3 people	10 and under	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
923 ACTED SCENE - School year 8 and under Award: 150 Jubilee Cup Group of a minimum of 3 people	12 and under	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
924 ACTED SCENE - School year 10 and under Award: 180 R Hopkins Cup Group of a minimum of 3 people	14 and under	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
925 ACTED SCENE - School year 13 and under Award: 129 WCAF Cup Group of a minimum of 3 people	17 and under	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
926 ACTED SCENE - Open Group of a minimum of 3 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
927 ACTED SCENE - Open Adult Group of a minimum of 3 people	18 and over	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group

DEvised OR IMPROVISED DRAMA

Performers are required to devise a prepared scene, inspired by the stimulus for the relevant class, to be performed from memory. Performers must provide a brief introduction at the beginning of their performance. This is included in the time limit.

Devised Drama Solo

Class	Age	Time	Fee
900 DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - School years 3 and 4 Please base your devising on the theme: 'The Present'	Age 7 and 8	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
901 DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - School years 5 and 6 Please base your devising on the theme: 'Peace'	Age 9 and 10	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
902 DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - School years 7 and 8 Award: 186 WCAF Cup Please base your devising on the theme: 'More than meets the eye'.	Age 11 and 12	Up to 3 mins	£10.67
903 DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - School years 9 and 10 Award: 188 WCAF Cup Please base your devising on the theme: 'The Stranger'	Age 13 and 14	Up to 3 mins	£10.67
904 DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - School years 11, 12 and 13 Please base your devising on the theme: 'The Future'	Between 15 and 17	Up to 4 mins	£13.33
905 DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - Open Please base your devising on a Shakespeare play.	Any	Up to 5 mins	£16.00
906 DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - Open Adult Your devising can be based on any stimulus.	18 and over	Up to 5 mins	£16.00

Devised Drama Duologue

The same pair of performers may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest in the pair and the open class in this section, but individuals may perform in multiple pairs with different partners as long as they adhere to the age limits. A different piece must be performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
907 DEVISED DRAMA DUOLOGUE - School year 4 and under Please base your devising on any character or quote from Dr Seuss	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£13.33
908 DEVISED DRAMA DUOLOGUE - School year 6 and under Award: 164 Jubilee Cup Please base your devising on a fairy tale.	10 and under	Up to 4 mins	£13.33
909 DEVISED DRAMA DUOLOGUE - School year 8 and under Award: 157 Jubilee Cup Please base your devising on the theme of 'Friendship'.	12 and under	Up to 5 mins	£16.00
910 DEVISED DRAMA DUOLOGUE - School year 10 and under Please base your devising on a photograph. Please bring the photograph for the adjudicator on the day.	14 and under	Up to 5 mins	£16.00
911 DEVISED DRAMA DUOLOGUE - School year 13 and under Please base your devising on a contemporary issue.	17 and under	Up to 5 mins	£18.67
912 DEVISED DRAMA DUOLOGUE - Open Award: 129 WAF Cup Please base your devising on a theme of your own choice.	Any	Up to 6 mins	£21.33
913 DEVISED DRAMA DUOLOGUE - Open Adult Please base your devising on a theme of your own choice.	18 and over	Up to 6 mins	£21.33

Devised Drama Group

Groups may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest in the group and the open class in this section, but individuals may perform in multiple groups as long as they adhere to the age limits. A different piece must be performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
914 GROUP DEVISED DRAMA - School year 4 and under Please base your devising on the theme: 'The Seaside' Group of 3 to 15 people	8 and under	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
915 GROUP DEVISED DRAMA - School year 6 and under Award: R Hopkins Cup Number 180 Please base your devising on the theme: 'The Excursion'. Group of 3 to 15 people	10 and under	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
916 GROUP DEVISED DRAMA - School year 8 and under Award: 155 Jubilee Cup Please base your devising on the theme: 'The Woods'. Group of 3 to 15 people	12 and under	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
917 GROUP DEVISED DRAMA - School year 10 and under Award: A - Jubilee Cup - Trophy Number 126 / B - WCAF Trophy Number 96 Please base your devising on the theme of 'Adventure'. Group of 3 to 15 people	14 and under	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
918 GROUP DEVISED DRAMA - School year 13 and under Award: 106 Jenny Cup Please base your devising on your choice of song. Please bring along a copy of the song lyrics for the adjudicator. Group of 3 to 15 people	17 and under	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
919 GROUP DEVISED DRAMA - Open Please base your devising on a topical issue. Group of 3 to 15 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
920 GROUP DEVISED DRAMA - Open Adult Please base your devising on a topical issue. Group of 3 to 15 people	18 and over	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
971 INCLUSIVE CLASS FOR GROUP DEVISED DRAMA Award: WH Austine Trophy Number 1 Any stimulus may be used. Group of 3 to 30 people	Any	Up to 20 mins	£0.00 per group
972 INCLUSIVE CLASS FOR GROUP DEVISED DANCE Award: WCAF Trophy Number 209 Any stimulus may be used. Group of 3 to 30 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
973 INCLUSIVE CLASS FOR GROUP DEVISED DRAMA AND DANCE Group of 3 to 30 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group

Improvised Drama Solo

The adjudicator will give the same stimulus to each performer. Performers will then have time to create a dramatic scene based on this before they perform to the adjudicator and audience. Performers will be given the stimulus in order of performance to ensure everyone has the same amount of time to prepare and will only be able to watch others once they have performed.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
957 IMPROVISED DRAMA SOLO - School Years 3 and 4	8 and under	Up to 1.5 mins	£8.00
958 IMPROVISED DRAMA SOLO - School Years 5 and 6	10 and under	Up to 2 mins	£8.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
959 IMPROVISED DRAMA SOLO - School Years 7 and 8	12 and under	Up to 2.5 mins	£10.67
960 IMPROVISED DRAMA SOLO - School years 9 and 10	10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£10.67
961 IMPROVISED DRAMA SOLO - School years 11, 12 and 13	Any	Up to 3.5 mins	£13.33
962 IMPROVISED DRAMA SOLO - Open	Any	Up to 4 mins	£16.00
963 IMPROVISED DRAMA SOLO - Open Adult	18 and over	Up to 4 mins	£16.00

DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING

The adjudicator will give performers a short passage 5 minutes before his/her performance to read and practice their performance. This will be an extract from a play or published monologue. The performer will then give an acted performance while holding the script to read from.

Dramatic Sightreading

Class	Age	Time	Fee
964 DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING SOLO - School Years 3 and 4	8 and under		£8.00
965 DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING SOLO - School years 5 and 6	Age 9 and 10		£8.00
966 DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING SOLO - School years 7 and 8	Age 11 and 12		£10.67
967 DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING SOLO - School years 9 and 10	Age 13 and 14		£10.67
968 DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING SOLO - School years 11, 12 and 13	Between 15 and 17		£13.33
969 DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING SOLO - Open	Any		£16.00
970 DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING SOLO - Open Adult	Any		£16.00

NON-COMPETITIVE DRAMA

Non-Competitive Acting or Devised Drama

These are non-competitive classes for all abilities, where constructive comments on the performances will be given by the adjudicator, but no places awarded or comparison made between performances.

Own choice of excerpt from any published play to be performed from memory. Performers must provide a written copy of their scene or extract for the adjudicator. Providers must provide a brief introduction at the beginning of their performance.

The age groups are fairly wide because these are non-competitive classes. However, if there are lots of entries, we will split the sections by age and/or number of performers.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
974 NON-COMP ACTING OR DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - School year 2 and under	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.67
975 NON-COMP ACTING OR DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - School year 3 and 4	Age 7 and 8	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
976 NON-COMP ACTING OR DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - School years 5 to 8	Between 9 and 12	Up to 4 mins	£10.67
977 NON-COMP ACTING OR DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - School years 9 to 13	Between 13 and 17	Up to 5 mins	£13.33
978 NON-COMP ACTING OR DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - Open	Any	Up to 6 mins	£16.00
979 NON-COMP ACTING OR DEVISED DRAMA DUOLOGUE - Open	Any	Up to 5 mins	£21.33
980 NON-COMP GROUP DEVISED DRAMA OR ACTED SCENE - Open Group of a minimum of 3 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group

Acting Workshops

These workshops will take place on Saturday 7th March 2026 when the Music classes are taking place, to reduce clashes with entries in the poetry, prose and drama sections. We will do everything possible to ensure that workshops booked do not clash with any of the music sections that individuals are entered into. However, this means that timings for the workshops will not be available until close to the festival day. Please bear with us on this - it means the day will run as smoothly as possible for everyone.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
981 JUNIOR ACTING WORKSHOP - (Age 7-10) Join the team from Worcester Theatres to explore how to become your favourite characters in this fantastic acting workshop that will last approximately one hour.	Between 7 and 10		£6.67
982 INTERMEDIATE ACTING WORKSHOP (Age 11-13) Join the team from Worcester Theatres to explore taking characters off the script and onto the stage in this fantastic acting workshop that will last approximately one hour.	Between 11 and 13		£6.67
983 ADVANCED ACTING WORKSHOP (Age 14-17) Join the team from Worcester Theatres analysing and embodying characters in this fantastic acting workshop that will last approximately one hour and a half.	Between 14 and 17		£10.00
984 ADULT ACTING WORKSHOP (Age 18+) Join the team from Worcester Theatres to psychoanalyse, personify then perform in this fantastic acting workshop that will last approximately one hour and a half.	18 and over		£10.00
951 WCAF DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY ACTING Help us to celebrate our 75th Anniversary! You can perform alone or in a group of any size. Perform any piece with 'Diamond' in the title or about diamonds or anniversaries...or any piece published in 1951 or a piece by a writer born in 1951. Get imaginative, join in and have fun. Don't hesitate to ask if you have any queries or aren't sure what to perform!	Any	Up to 5 mins	£0.00

Essential information for all drama entrants

Performers are reminded that due to Performing Rights restrictions, neither full costume/makeup nor scenery may be used but movement and basic props are permitted. The following items are acceptable: scarves/shawls, headwear, gloves, fans and other hand-held small items. Mobile phones, kindles, iPads, e-readers and laptops are not permitted unless they are required for the use of music and/or sound effects or as a hand prop.

The Festival has an agreement with the Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society. This means that entrants do not have to seek copyright permission for any poetry, prose or SOLO dramatic item. Duologues and group dramatic activity are NOT covered by this agreement and copyright for these items should be sought by entrants.

Unacceptable Language Thresholds: Some works performed explore adult themes and/or contain strong language. However, care should be taken when choosing or devising contemporary pieces. We ask that you present your work in a manner that respects the 'family' orientated nature of WCAF and avoids the unnecessary exposure of younger children to inappropriate themes and language.

WCAF aims to celebrate the best and highest forms of literature and language, and therefore reserves the right to refuse entries that are made up of continuously bad language and/or gratuitous expletives. Therefore, all entrants to the speech, drama and musical theatre sections are now asked to confirm whether their performance contains adult language or content upon entry. If you indicate you have potentially contentious language or themes, we will be in contact to discuss. This does not necessarily mean you will not be able to perform the piece - we just want to make sure that we make appropriate arrangements for you to be able to perform to your best.