

ABERMAIN EISTEDDFOD 2026

SPEECH & DRAMA SYLLABUS

28th September – 3rd October 2026

PLAZA HALL

3 Bathurst Street ABERMAIN

ENTRY \$5.00 Programme \$2.00

ADJUDICATOR *To Be Advised*

**Enquiries: The Director Speech & Drama
Mr Gregory Gilmour
PO Box 335
Cessnock NSW 2326**

Email: abeisteddfod+speech@gmail.com

Phone: Greg Gilmour 0412 690790

**COMPETITORS ENTRY BY COMPS-ONLINE
<https://comps-online.com.au>**

**SET PIECES CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM ABERMAIN
EISTEDDFOD WEBSITE**

<https://www.abermaineisteddfod.org.au/2026-set-pieces-for-speech-and-drama/>

Abermain Eisteddfod Officials:

PRESIDENT:	Mrs Amanda Cochrane
SNR VICE PRESIDENT:	Mrs Cherin McNamara
JNR VICE PRESIDENT:	Mr Greg Gilmour
SECRETARY:	Mrs Vanessa Lovett
ASSIST. SECRETARY:	Mrs Moya Waters
TREASURER:	Mr Scott Gunther

LIFE MEMBERS: Mesdames N Williams, C Parsons, D Whyte
Mr W Parsons
HALL OF FAME: Mrs D Whyte

***Our sincere appreciation is extended to the Friends of the Eisteddfod.
It is their support that makes each year's Eisteddfod possible***

Copyright regulations: *Own Choice Items*

In accordance with the law regarding copyright, the Eisteddfod Committee has obtained a licence for the performance of songs, poems and music from the Australian Performing Rights Association. To enable us to comply with the licence please hand in "Own Choice" copies as early as possible. In "Own Choice" sections a copy of the music or literary selections must be handed to the appropriate official for the use of the adjudicator. Remember that in "Own Choice" vocal sections a copy is also needed for the accompanist.

Errors:

Any errors in the programme can be adjusted if brought to the attention of the Secretary before the commencement of the Eisteddfod.

SPEECH & DRAMA

SPECIAL NOTICE: If the following regulation is not adhered to DISQUALIFICATION may occur.

NOTE RULE 6 To be eligible for a Championship, entrants must have competed in at least **THREE OTHER** Non-Championship sections.

Bible Readings are to be taken from the Good News Bible.

MAXIMUM TIME LIMITS

Own Choice Selections: 3 minutes Character Sketches: 5 minutes
Shakespearean & Duologue: 6 minutes Bible Reading: From Good News Bible

CHAMPIONSHIPS: Prize \$100

SECTION

301. Allcomers	"The Ghost Moth"	Lauris Edmond
302. 16 Years & Under	"Milk For The Cat"	Harold Munro
303. 14 Years & under	"Corroboree"	Annette Kosseris
304. 12 Years & under	"Mr. Smith"	D.H. Souter
305. 10 Years & Under	"Take Care In The Top End"	Harry Lang
306. 8 Years & Under	"The Painting Lesson."	Trevor Harvey

ALLCOMERS OPEN OWN CHOICE Unless indicated

307	Recitation		
308	Shakespearean Selection		
309	Recitation – Australian Poet		
310	Humorous		
311	Character		
312	Prose		
313	Duologue/Trio		
314	Set Piece	"Mirror"	Sylvia Plath
315	Character Sketch		

16 YEARS & UNDER OPEN OWN CHOICE Unless Indicated

316.	Recitation		
317.	Shakespearean Selection		
318.	Recitation - Australian Poet		
319.	Humorous		
320.	Character		
321.	Set Piece	"The Lizard"	Lydia Pender
322.	Duologue/Trio		
323.	Character Sketch from Dickens		
324.	Prose		
325	Bible Reading	Luke Chapter 8 verses 4 – 15 incl.	

15 YEARS & UNDER RESTRICTED OWN CHOICE Unless Indicated

326. Recitation
 327. Set Piece "Jacaranda" Lyn Hurry

14 YEARS & UNDER OPEN OWN CHOICE Unless Indicated

328. Recitation
 329. Character
 330. Humorous
 331. Prose
 332. Set Piece "The ABC" Spike Milligan
 333. Recitation - Australian Poet
 334. Special Restricted Set Piece "A Strange Old Man" Margaret Many
 335. Duologue/Trio
 336. Bible Reading John Chapter 16 verses 4 - 11 incl.
 337. Special Restricted Recitation

13 YEARS & UNDER RESTRICTED OWN CHOICE Unless Indicated

338. Set Piece "Hunger" Robert Laurence Binyon
 339. Recitation
 340. Local Restricted Set Piece "Supply Teacher" Allan Ahlberg

12 YEARS & UNDER OPEN OWN CHOICE Unless Indicated

341. Recitation
 342. Character
 343. Humorous
 344. Set Piece "Castle Adventure" Katherine Blowen
 345. Special Restricted Set Piece "Rainbows" Khalil Gibran
 347. Prose
 348. Duologue/Trio
 349. Bible Reading John Chapter 16 verses 16 – 20 incl
 350. Recitation – Australian Poet

11 YEARS & UNDER RESTRICTED OWN CHOICE Unless Indicated

351. Recitation
 352. Set Piece "The Cat And The Wind" Thom Gynn
 353. Local Restricted Set Piece "The Moon" Robert Louis Stevenson

10 YEARS & UNDER OPEN OWN CHOICE Unless Indicated

354. Set Piece "Lone Dog" Irene McLeod
 355. Character
 356. Special Restricted Set Piece "Yawn Alert" Harry Laing
 357. Prose
 358. Recitation
 359. Bible Reading Exodus Chapter 23 verses 1 - 9 incl
 360. Humorous
 361. Special Restricted Recitation
 362. Duologue/Trio

9 YEARS & UNDER RESTRICTED OWN CHOICE Unless Indicated

363. Set Piece "Zoo Manners" Eileen Mathias
 364. Local Restricted Set Piece "Roger the Dog" Ted Hughes

365. Recitation

8 YEARS & UNDER OPEN OWN CHOICE Unless Indicated

- 366. Recitation
- 367. Set Piece "Eye Spy" Margaret Speter
- 368. Humorous
- 369. Bible Reading Isiah Chapter 28 verses 1 - 9 incl
- 370. Special Restricted Set Piece "Good Company" Leonard Clark
- 371. Special Restricted Recitation
- 372. Character
- 373. Duologue/Trio

7 YEARS & UNDER RESTRICTED OWN CHOICE Unless Indicated

- 374. Local Restricted Recitation
- 375. Set Piece "Bugs" Andrew Chant

6 YEARS & UNDER OPEN OWN CHOICE unless indicated.

- 379. Recitation
- 380. Character
- 381. Humorous
- 382. Special Restricted Set Piece "Crocodile" Gareth Owen
- 383. Special Restricted Recitation

5 YEARS & UNDER OPEN CHOICE Unless indicated

- 384. Set Piece "Somersaults" Jack Prelutsky
- 385. Recitation
- 386. Special Restricted Recitation "Two Funny Men" Spike Milligan

SCHOLARSHIP SPEECH & DRAMA

\$250.00

ABERMAIN EISTEDDFOD RULES & CONDITIONS

1. GENERAL:

- (a) Competitors not ready when called upon are liable to forfeit the right to compete.
- (b) The order in which the competitors will appear shall be determined by the Committee.
- (c) Punctuality is required from all competitors who must be in attendance before the commencement of the section.
- (d) On no account will any competitor be allowed to compete unless the entry fee has been paid.
- (e) A section will not appear in the programme unless there are five or more competitors. The committee reserves the right to vary this rule when such variation is deemed to be justified.
- (f) The competition is open to amateurs only: An amateur to mean one whose regular income is not derived from the exercise of his or her talents in any particular class for which he or she may enter.
- (g) The Adjudicators decision is final. Competitors should not approach the Adjudicator during the period of their competition. Should the Adjudicator be unable to perform his or her duties, the Committee may appoint a substitute.
- (h) The Committee reserves the right to amend the programme at any time.
- (i) Age will be as at the first day of the appropriate category.
- (j) Competitors limited in age must be prepared to supply proof of age if called upon to do so.
- (k) Any competitor performing in a section not in accordance with the category shall forfeit the entry fee for that section and the right to compete.

2. PRIZES:

- (a) In any contest in which only one competitor performs 75% must be scored to make be eligible for a prize.
- (b) First, second and third prizes will only be awarded where twelve or more competitors compete in a section, excluding Adult sections and championships.
- (c) First and second prizes only will be awarded where there are eight to eleven competitors compete in a section, excluding Adult sections and championships.
- (d) First prize only will be awarded where eight or less competitors compete in a section.
- (e) Should any competitor fail to complete his or her performance at the initial attempt in any section, the competitor will be ineligible for a place or trophies but will receive a mark sheet.
- (f) Quite independent of the above, merit cards may be obtained when purchasing the Adjudicator's comment sheets.

3. TYPE OF COMPETITION:

- (a) **OPEN SECTIONS** are those available to Allcomers in their respective categories and age.
- (b) **RESTRICTED SECTIONS** are those confined to competitors who have not won a first place in any Eisteddfod in a section *identical* in subject at that age prior to the closing date of their respective categories.
The rule operates within the category i.e. a win in Vocal does not prohibit entry in Piano.
- (c) **SPECIAL RESTRICTED SECTIONS** are those confined to competitors who have not won a first place in any Eisteddfod in a section *identical* in subject at that age in the respective category prior to the closing date of the Eisteddfod. The rule operates within the category i.e. a win in Vocal does not prohibit entry in Piano.
- (d) **LOCAL RESTRICTED SECTIONS:** are those confined to competitors residing within

the boundaries of the City of Cessnock.

(e) The holder of a Championship cannot compete in any restricted section at that age. Winners in Duets and Duos are excepted.

4. COMPETITION:

- (a) No competitor may render the same item in more than one section.
- (b) No teacher is allowed on the stage with a competitor except as an accompanist.
- (c) In own choice sections a copy of the music or literary selection must be handed to the appropriate official for the use of the Adjudicator. Remember that in own choice vocal sections a copy is also needed for the accompanist, and in instrumental sections a copy for yourself.
- (d) To satisfy the copyright regulations a record must be kept of all music performed. To assist in this mammoth task please hand in with copy, on a separate sheet of paper the following information.
 - (i) **Title (ii) Writer of Lyrics (iii) Composer of the Music (iv) Publisher**
- (e) In own choice sections for the convenience of the Stage Manager, please supply the Title and Composer on a sheet of paper. National, Demi- Character or Song & Dance title only is required.
- (f) The Eisteddfod does not have the services of an Official Accompanist this year. Competitors requiring the services of an accompanist should contact the Secretary for the names of Accompanists who have offered to provide this service for an appropriate fee.
- (g) In own choice sections the quality of the selection will be taken into account.
- (h) A song published in one key, may be transposed to a key suitable to the competitor, unless otherwise specified.
- (i) Unless otherwise stated competitors in Vocal sections may have an accompaniment approved by the committee.
- (j) If backing recordings are approved for use in Vocal sections there ***must only be instrumental backing and not contain any voice.***
- (k) A back-up copy of all recorded backing tapes/CDs should be available in case of malfunction. The Eisteddfod Committee takes no responsibility for failure of any recorded backing music.

5. CHAMPIONSHIPS:

- (a) To be eligible for a Championship entrants, entrants must have competed in at least ***THREE (3)*** other non-championship sections in the same category. Categories for the purpose of this rule are Vocal, Instrumental or Speech and Drama.

6. SCHOLARSHIPS:

- (a) Scholarships are available in Vocal, Instrumental, Speech & Drama. The amount will be determined by the number of applications received in each category.
- (b) Scholarships are open to competitors who have entered and competed in at least ***THREE (3)*** non-championship sections. Categories for the purpose of this rule are Vocal, Instrumental or Speech and Drama.
- (c) Applicants are expected to be present at the sessions when winners are announced. Failure to be present will be construed as non-acceptance unless in exceptional circumstances.
- (d) Scholarship applicants must show on their entry form that they are applying for a scholarship and enclose the appropriate scholarship fee. Mark the entry form with either Intermediate or Junior Scholarship as the case may be.
- (e) Age for Scholarships, Intermediate 13 years & over for Junior 12 years & under.

