

LONGWELL GREEN & KINGSWOOD PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL 2025

GENERAL RULES

It is stressed that teachers MUST bring these rules to the notice of all performers

- Any performers who are attending, or have attended, Vocational Training Colleges are ineligible to enter. For performers aged 18 and under (or 25 and under in the Vocal section and open classes in Speech and Drama), **age will be reckoned as of 31st August 2025.**
- This year we will continue to use online entry for all classes. So please use the relevant online entry form on the website for your section. It is easy and calculates the prices for you and we will email you a detailed acknowledgement. Details of the dates and times of your performances will be emailed to you at a later date and therefore we will not use tickets this year. Performers will be admitted free of charge.
- Entrants will perform in the order determined by the Committee and shown in the programme. Performers who fail to respond may forfeit a hearing, unless the Secretary has been informed prior to the start of the class.
- Should entrants be unable to perform, substitute performers are NOT allowed.
- An entry isn't registered until the correct fee is received. This year payment can be made preferably by BACS or by cheque if necessary. Details will be on the acknowledgement email. Any refunds will be at the discretion of the Committee
- Performers will be marked in accordance with the recommendations of the British and International Federation of Festivals as described above. In any Music, Speech and Drama sections, performers must obtain at least 81 marks to qualify for a medal and 84 marks for a trophy. Any Dance performer must obtain 84 marks to qualify for a trophy. **THE ADJUDICATOR WILL ANNOUNCE THE FIRST 3 MARKS.**
- The Secretary reserves the right to limit the number of entrants in all classes, to ensure that each performer may receive a fair hearing.
- Adjudicators may stop any performance when their judgement has been formed. Their decision is final.
- Any protest which a performer or any other person, may wish to make, must be in writing and accompanied by a £10 deposit. Should the Committee, after investigation not uphold the protest, the deposit will be forfeited.
- All trophies are awarded for 11 months and **MUST** be returned in good condition to the relevant Entry Secretary, not later than 4 weeks before the commencement of the Festival.
- The Committee reserves the right to qualify the rules or determine any other Regulation as circumstances require.
- Entrants must perform only **ONCE** in a solo class and must not perform the same work in more than one class. In other sections, performers may enter more than once in a duet, trio or group but with different partners and/or work.
- In each section a Set Piece cannot also be an Own Choice piece.
- In all Own Choice classes, previous winners may not compete again with the same material.
- In all Own Choice classes, copies of the manuscripts/poem/prose must be provided for the Adjudicator, together with the source and publisher, or a mark will not be given.
- The Committee **CANNOT** permit the **PHOTOGRAPHING** or **RECORDING** (audio or video) of any performance.
- Recorded accompaniment is only permitted generally in Dance (see separate Dance Rules). In other sections recorded accompaniment is only permitted if it is defined in the description of a specific class and subject to copyright consideration.
- All performances using music from shows in current production are subject to copyright law and may only be performed as a concert item (i.e. with no props, costume or movement), without the need for copyright permission. Where movement or costume are included in a performance, copyright permission is required. The Festival accepts these entries on the basis that the appropriate

copyright permission has been sought. Performers or teachers with queries on how to obtain permission for performance items should contact Festivals House on 01625 428297 before making entries.

- All music, characterisation and dances should be age appropriate and will be marked accordingly.
- The Committee reserves the right to refuse any entries without assigning a reason.

MARKING SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

(In common with most dance festivals we use the Federation of Festivals marking system thus ensuring uniformity between festivals)

Bands	Band Descriptor
Developing Optional Marks 65 - 69	A performance demonstrating an awareness of technical skills, requiring more consistency & artistry.
Progressing Optional Marks 70 - 74	A performance showing development of technique and/or communication and commitment.
Merit Optional Marks 75 - 79	A competent performance, showing some artistic awareness and/or technical ability.
Commended Optional Marks 80 - 84	A convincing performance technically & artistically, with increasing stylistic & communication skills.
Honours Optional Marks 85 - 89	An excellent performance, demonstrating fluent technical and artistic skills with emerging individuality.
Outstanding Optional Marks 90 - 94	An impressive performance technically and artistically, displaying spontaneity & clear individuality.
Exceptional Optional Marks 95 - 100	A superlative performance, displaying exceptional artistic individuality.

MUSIC SECTION RULES

Music classes will take place on **Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th October** at Longwell Green Community Centre

Performers may bring their own accompanist but an official accompanist can be provided free of charge. Please indicate your preference on entry form.

If the official accompanist is required, COPIES OF OWN CHOICE PIECES MUST BE SENT WHEN ENTERING TO THE ENTRY SECRETARY (See page 2 of Syllabus for the address). Please mark the music with the entrant's name, class and intended metronome mark. If a run through with the official accompanist prior to the festival would be helpful, please contact the entry secretary.

Performers must bring original copies of the music being performed for the adjudicator. Photocopies will not be returned. AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED THROUGHOUT THE DAY TO CLASS WINNERS.

SPEECH AND DRAMA SECTION RULES

Copies of poems may be obtained from Secretary. Competitors need not obtain permission to perform Own Choice pieces, as both set and own choice selections are covered by an arrangement with the Authors' Licensing & Collection Society for which entry fees include the cost. This does not apply to Duologue or Group Presentation for which permission must be obtained. Please note that competitors who run over time may be penalized. All verse must be memorized unless otherwise stated. No gestures in lyrical verse. Own choice pieces must be age appropriate and without offensive language.

FEES: 11 Years and under Solo £5.50 Duologue £7.00
12 Years – 18 years Solo £6.00 Duologue £8.00
19 Years and over Solo £6.50 Duologue £8.00
Groups £2.00 per person to a maximum of £16.00

MUSICAL THEATRE RULES

The emphasis is on a complete performance and presentation, rather than solely a study of music and will show ability in acting, singing, dancing and choreographic skills. Performances must show implicit dramatic content with portrayal of characters and their motivations. This is an opportunity to explore style, form and character through communicating the dramatic context of a musical text. Extracts from plays may be edited to create dialogue moving into musical scenes.

A CD player is provided. All performance must be from memory and clearly introduced. Please note some classes may take place in the evening. We reserve the right to cancel classes, restrict the number of entries into classes or limit audience numbers should it be necessary. Please check the website for regular updates.

COPYRIGHT

The Festival does not accept liability for the infringement of copyright recording or performing rights arising out of an entrant's accompaniment or performance. It contributes to a group licence to cover payment of fees for the use of recorded music at its events. Teachers and Choreographers using tapes created from commercial recordings are advised that they are themselves responsible for seeking permission to re-record from the recording companies concerned. Performers or Teachers with queries on how to obtain copyright permission for performance items should contact Festivals House [British and International Federation of Festivals] on 01625 428297 or email at info@federationoffestivals.org.uk before making their entries.

The use of photo or other facsimile copies of printed material without the publisher's permission is forbidden as contrary to law. However, when material is part of a volume and not published separately, a copy may be made for the Adjudicator, provided that the entrant has already purchased a copy. The photocopy will then be retained and destroyed by the Festival.

PERFORMANCE

Chairs and a table will be provided.

A copy of the musical track you will be using should be sent in advance. The CD should contain one musical track only. All CD's should be clearly marked with the class/number of the entrant. Minimal props and a suggestion of costume essential to the action of the character may be used. N.B. full stage costume is discouraged and may contravene copyright.

Please provide a copy of the script and music for the Adjudicator and a further copy of the script for the CD operator.

TIME LIMITS

Time limits must be strictly observed. Introductions are not included in the time limit. 2 minutes are allowed for set up.

STAGE Dimensions – 4.3m long x 2.4m wide

FEES: Solo £6.50 Duo £9.00 Group £2.50 per person to maximum £20.00.

To present a short piece of dialogue or a piece of devised text with a performance in character with a song from Musical Theatre or Film. The performance should include some movement. In Group Classes items may be linked by a theme.

DANCE SECTION RULES

Dance Rules - to be read in conjunction with the General Rules

1. Longwell Green & Kingswood Performing Arts Festival (in association with Aspire) is for amateur performers only, including performers who may have but no longer train vocationally. For performers aged 21 and under.
2. Age to be reckoned as of **31st August 2025**.
3. There is **NO CLOSING DATE** and entries will be dealt with on a first come, first served basis, and once capacity has been reached no further entries will be accepted.
4. The Committee reserves the right to refuse any entries without assigning a reason.
5. The time limit to each class must not be exceeded under any circumstances and is as stated in the syllabus. If the time is not adhered to, the performer will give up the right to winning the section and can only be placed.
6. Performers may enter twice in any Group class and in duet and trio classes may enter twice with the same partner so long as it is a different genre. This applies to Classical and Cabaret.
7. Music files will need to be uploaded this year. Instructions will be given when you make your entry. A back up music file can be brought on the day in the event of music issue.
8. We reserve the right to start the class 30 minutes prior to the stated time. It is the responsibility of the performers to make their supporters aware of this.
9. The use of recording, photographic and videoing during any performance is not permitted.
10. The Adjudicator's decision in all classes will be deemed final and the right is reserved to withhold awards where, in their opinion, the standard of performance is insufficiently high, or to individuals who infringe the rules.
11. No voice accompaniment with Musical Theatre is allowed. No "Tap Sound Effects" on music for Tap.
12. The Committee reserves the right to amend or alter classes if deemed necessary.
13. Competitors entering Ballet classes may not perform on pointe until they reach 13 years of age.
14. No props are permitted in Classical ballet.
15. Restarts will not be allowed for ages 9 years and over. However, the Committee reserves the right to allow a restart any performers 9 years and over, but they will be ineligible to be awarded a place.
16. All music, characterisation, costumes and dance should be age related and will be marked accordingly.
17. **MEDALS.** Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals will be awarded in all classes. Competitors must obtain 84 marks to be awarded a trophy. Lanyards will be available for purchase.
18. Trophies are held for 11 months only and must be returned to Louise Cooper on the 1st day of the Festival. They should be in good clean repair and if not, this should be notified one month before next Festival.
19. **NO CHANGES WILL BE ALLOWED LATER THAN 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE FESTIVAL.**

DANCE FEES:

10 years and under	Solo fee £6.00	Duet fee £9.00	Trio/Quartet £12.00
11 years and over	Solo fee £8.00	Duet fee £12.00	Trio/Quartet £16.00
All Groups	£22.00		

DANCE STAGE DIMENSIONS:

The available space for dancing is 5 metres by 5 metre for the Longwell Green Community Centre.

The stage dimensions for Backwell School are approximately 15 metres by 10 metres.