

WIMBLEDON BOOKFEST

Writing Competition Guidelines

Categories

There are three age categories in the Junior Competition:

- **Key Stage 1** - Years 1 & 2
- **Key Stage 2 (Lower)** - Years 3 & 4
- **Key Stage 2 (Upper)** - Years 5 & 6

There are three categories in the Senior Competition

- **Key stage 3** - Years 7 - 9
- **Key Stage 4** - Years 10 & 11
- **Key stage 5** - Years 12 & 13

There is also a **separate category for SEN schools**.

Selection of Entries

Teachers are responsible for selecting and submitting entries.

- A maximum of **three entries per genre, per age category** may be submitted. For example: 3 stories and 3 poems for KS1.

Word Count

- The maximum word count is 500 words.
- Please check entries carefully before submission.
- Entries exceeding the word limit will not be accepted.

Independent Work

Pupils should complete their writing independently, without support from parents or teachers.

Creativity and originality are central to the competition, so please avoid over-guiding pupils. A Writing Resources Pack will be available to provide appropriate support without compromising independence.

Use of AI

- The use of AI writing tools is strictly prohibited.
- We rely on teachers to screen entries carefully. Any submission suspected of being AI-generated will not be accepted.

Judging Criteria

Our judges — a diverse panel of authors, writers, journalists and educationalists — will assess entries based on:

- Imagination
- Creativity and originality
- Energy and vitality
- Structure and clarity

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Results

- **Winning** entries, **runners up** and those awarded a **distinction** will be published in our anthology.
- Winners and runners up will also be invited to our **prize-giving event in October**.
- All children whose entries are submitted by teachers will receive a certificate.

Entry Procedure

Please ensure the following guidelines are followed:

- Use the **Wimbledon Bookfest writing template** and complete all required information.
- Entries must be **typewritten** and submitted in an editable format (e.g. Word or Google Docs).
- Submit each entry as a **separate document**. Please do not combine multiple entries into one file.
- Save each file using the child's name in the following format:
First name + surname (or initial) + school identifier
 - Example: *JamieG_StMatts*

Submission Process (new this year)

We have created a **SharePoint folder** for uploading entries.

You can access the folder by:

- Scanning the QR code below or
- Following the link provided (also sent via email)

If you experience any difficulties accessing the folder, entries may be emailed to:

Fran Baxter at education@wimbledonbookfest.org

- Please also upload or email the **Teacher Submission Form**. This allows us to cross-reference all entries and ensure none are missed.
- **You will receive email confirmation shortly after your submission. Please get in touch if you have not received this.**

We look forward to receiving your amazing entries! If you have any questions, please email Fran at education@wimbledonbookfest.org

QR code & link for entry submissions

[submit entries here](#)

