

DRAMA - ENSEMBLE

(Formerly M1 to M4)

Please ensure you also read the 'Overarching Rules' at the end of this section

| A DRAMATIC PRESENTATION WITH MINIMAL PROP USE | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| Section Name | Years | Limit |
| Drama Ensemble Play/Excerpt (Yrs Pre-Primary – 6) | PP - 6 | 10 min |
| Drama Ensemble Scripted/Devised (Yrs 7-10) | 7-10 | 15 min |
| Drama Ensemble Scripted/Devised (Yrs 7-12) | 7-12 | 20 min |
| Drama Ensemble Scripted/Devised by Students (Yrs 7-12) | 7-12 | 15 min |

NOTE:

- Should a performance chosen by the adjudicator to receive the Section Shield, and the Festival Concert Committee select the performance to be in the Festival Concert programme, the performance time will need to be limited to approximately 12 minutes maximum, using minimal props. (Pre-primary - 8 mins)

General Educational Aims and Policy

| | Genre |
|---|--|
| To Think To Be To Create To Do To Share | The Festival caters for solo, duet or group items. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scripted Drama• Student scripted/devised production |

Preparation Details

Whole productions or excerpts may be presented provided that the maximum time limits are **strictly** observed.

Directors are expected to ensure that:

- Productions are both visually and vocally interesting.
- Actors deliver the lines with vitality and energy.
- Actors deliver the lines with clarity and an awareness of meaning and mood.
- Actors think in terms of role to present believable characters.
- Any sound effects (if used) should enhance the production.
- Any selected background or theme music (*if used*) should enhance the required atmosphere and mood.
- There is a **strict adherence** to maximum time limits.
- Teacher scripted productions may be entered in all sections, other than 'Drama Ensemble Scripted/Devised by Students (Yrs 7-12)'.

Organisational Details

- Directors may use appropriate props and costumes to suit character and period
- **Drama Ensemble Play/Excerpt (Yrs Pre-Primary – 6):**
Props to be kept to a minimum. Teachers and students must be able to carry a prop for placement and removal. Props should be handheld and not too excessive in weight – this is a safety concern. It is recommended that Sets are not used.
 - **Music playback facilities will be provided at the venue.** Ensure a teacher is present to advise technician when to play music. A sound technician will be in attendance. Please bring music on either a USB or mobile device (computer/ phone), which can be plugged into the equipment provided. Please bring your own adaptor and aux cord applicable for your device. If using a burnt CD, you will need to bring your own CD player.
 - Open 'whitewash' lighting available at the venue.
- Note: the bell indicates that the Adjudicator is ready, doesn't mean to start
- **Drama Ensemble Scripted / Devised (Yrs 7-10, 7-12)**

Directors must supply set and strike stage crew.

- Set up time is included in performance time
- Directors may use basic lighting ("a wash") which is available, but this must be arranged in advance – check with the Drama Coordinator to confirm.
- **Script/Lighting:** A script and simple, clear and neat lighting plan **must** be handed to the Drama Coordinator upon arrival at the venue.
- Any changes to lighting cues on performance evening will not be accommodated.
- **(For all the details see the Information Memo and any Sound/Lighting Notice that is sent out with the timetable package.)** Timing is to include set and strike
- It is the responsibility of all schools to have a **FIRST AID KIT** or adequate provisions at every performance. Each school is responsible for their own students

Adjudication Performance Criteria

- The extent to which the production was visually and vocally interesting.
- Character sincerity, spontaneity and sensitivity.
- Use of stage.
- Appropriateness of item to age of performers.
- Vitality of voice, its energy, projection and flexibility in delivery.
- Clarity and security of delivery, expressive awareness of meaning and mood.
- The ability of actors to think in terms of role and to present believable characters.
- Effectiveness of timing flow.
- Movement, body response and use of the stage.
- Control.
- Ensemble and teamwork.
- Total effect and impact.
- The extent to which the production was visually and vocally interesting. *If sound effects and costume are included in the performance:*
 - Effectiveness of sound/lighting
 - Effectiveness of make-up
 - Effectiveness of costuming.



Selection Criteria – Pre-Primary Entrants for Drama Ensemble Play / Excerpt

It is with great pleasure that we advise Pre-primary classes will be able to participate in the **Drama – Play / Excerpt** section of the Catholic Schools Performing Arts Festival.

With this in mind, we would like to address concerns Pre-primary teachers may have in preparing their classes for this section and the criteria that needs to be met to ensure success:

- ❖ All children in your class should be able to participate on stage in a meaningful way (i.e. pivotal to the plot/story line and making sense to the children) which may include having some with non-speaking parts.
- ❖ Choose language in your script that works in harmony with your literacy programme, but also encourages acquisition of broader, richer vocabulary, including word play and humour.
- ❖ Include opportunities for children to perform as groups; chanting, dancing or miming.
- ❖ Include opportunities for some to be prop managers or stage arrangers if they are unable to cope with stage performance.
- ❖ Provide for confident and expressive performers (including narrators) to perform monologues or scripted dialogue with others.

The venue has a very large stage with a bank of microphones at the front, so creating a smaller, more intimate section closer to the front will encourage confidence and enable good voice projection.

Narrators have opportunity to use standing microphones.

It is encouraged that movement on and off and around the stage (and your established performance area) should be practised to a high degree to ensure low anxiety during performance. Light and easily transported back drops, screens and or painted boxes provide delineated zones and help children navigate the performance space.

Accompanying music and/or sound effects is encouraged if it assists the performance. Costuming can be as basic or elaborate as is practicable.

Performance Duration is 10 MINUTES (this includes setting up on/off stage.)

Above all, the excitement, fun, preparation and pride of being involved are perhaps the greatest benefits of participation. If you are interested in being involved but are unsure as to how to get started, we are willing to provide advice and professional development. Please contact the Catholic Arts Office for any further queries on 9278 0202



OVERARCHING RULES

The following rules shall apply to all performance categories in the Performing Arts Festival for Catholic Schools and Colleges.

In order to qualify for any Festival award or shield, the following listed rules must be adhered to.

1. Students must be enrolled at a Catholic Education Western Australia Ltd systemic school at the time of performance in the Festival. If unsure, please contact the Catholic Arts Office.
2. No staff member of any Catholic school, or any other adult, may perform on stage. However this rule does not apply to accompanists in Choral Singing, Musical Productions, Instrumental Solo/Duet and Vocal Solo/Duet performances.
3. If entry forms, music or performance item information is not received by the due date, or music, item and/or entry information is changed after the due date or on the performance day/evening, the performance will not be eligible for an Award Certificate and will not be considered for the Perpetual Shield Award.
4. Item names for all Festival performances must be received by the due date, which is published by the Catholic Arts Office. If item information is not received by the due date, it will be ineligible for an Award Certificate and will not be considered for the Perpetual Shield Award (*with the exception of Drama – Solo/Duo, formerly M8, M10-M12*).
5. Performance durations must be within the stated time limits and student numbers must not exceed the maximum limit, as published in the Festival Entry Brochure. If a performance exceeds the time limit or students exceed the maximum number allowed, the item will be ineligible for an Award Certificate or a Perpetual Shield Award.
6. Each entry form must be authorised for submission by the school's Performing Arts Festival Coordinator. The Performing Arts Festival Coordinator will be able to print out a complete list of the school's entries in the Festival (School's checklist).
7. The Principal (or Nominated Representative or PAF Coordinator on behalf of the Principal) must check the list of entries online and tick the box on the online entry, acknowledging the school's acceptance of the Festival Rules and Procedures.
8. It is the responsibility of the Principal to ensure items are appropriate and suitable in content of song, choreography and costume choices (e.g. no inappropriate language or clothing, no references to drugs, suicide, violence or sexual connotations).