

SECTION M (M1 – M4)

DRAMA

<i>A Dramatic presentation with minimal prop use</i>				
<i>Code</i>	<i>Categories</i>	<i>Years</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Limit</i>
M1	Play or Excerpt	Preprimary	2017 Trial Year for preprimary in this section only	10 min
M1	Play or Excerpt	1-6		15 min
M2	Play or Excerpt	7-10	Group Drama	15 min
M3	Play or Excerpt	7-12	Group Drama	20 min
M4	Play - student scripted	7-12	Group Drama	15 min

* **NOTE:** Section M1 requiring seating plans are advised that once the timetable package has been sent to schools, the office will allow one week for schools to make changes. After that week **NO** further changes or requests will be regarded.

NOTE:

- **Section M1 – M4** 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 minimum props.
- **Section M1 Pre Primary:** 2017 is a Trial Year for Pre Primaries in this section only. Please refer to the Selection Criteria at the end of this document.

1 General Educational Aims and Policy

To Think To Be To Create To Do To Share	Genre The Festival caters for solo, duet or group items. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scripted drama • Student scripted production
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2 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 sections M1, M2, or M3.

3 Organisational Details

- Directors may use appropriate props and costumes to suit character and period
- **M1:** 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.

- **M2-M4:** Directors must supply set and strike stage crew. (This time is included in the time limit.)
- Directors may use basic lighting ("a wash") which is available but this must be arranged in advance.
- **SCRIPT/LIGHTING:** A script and simple, clear and neat lighting plan **must** be handed to the Drama Co-ordinator upon arrival at the venue. If both sound and lighting are required, please provide a separate prompt script for each. Simple effects like "wash", "dim out", "blackout" and "splitstage lighting" can be provided. More sophisticated special effects lighting and spots are not able to be provided. **(For all the details see the Information Memo and any Sound/Lighting Notice that is sent out with the timetable package.) – Directors may use simple lighting and sound BUT THIS MUST BE ARRANGED IN ADVANCE – contact the Drama Coordinator as per memo.**
- Directors may use available sound production facilities. Sound should be on an MP3 player. CD facilities are available, however, we cannot guarantee that all burnt CDs are compatible and suggest a play list on an MP3 is more reliable.
- 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

4 Adjudication 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.



Performing Arts Festival for Catholic Schools & Colleges

Selection Criteria – Pre-primary Entrants for Primary Drama Section

It is with great pleasure that we advise Pre-primary classes will be able to participate in the **Primary Drama** section of the Catholic Schools Performing Arts Festival for this year. Should the entrants provide performances of an acceptable calibre, it is possible that a request to the committee for future involvement past this single trial year could be made.

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 9241 5241.