



Somerset
Music



Competition Rules- First/ Primary/ Secondary Schools

- Schools entering must be maintained schools or academies in Somerset or Dorset.
- Children in the Primary category must be aged 11 or under and young people in the Secondary category must be between ages 11 and 18 on 22nd of July 2026.
- The choir must be of mixed age group, this can be across the whole school or a Key Stage for example, but cannot be a class.
- Each choir should sing two contrasting pieces of their own choice lasting a maximum of 7 minutes. These can be uploaded as one or as two recordings.
- Each recording must have someone (likely to be choir leader) state the date the recording is being made on camera at the beginning.
- The recording of each item must be in one take. An entry will be disqualified if there is evidence of such enhancements as dynamic processing, use of auto-tuners, tracking and layering of voices, editing and mixing or any other electronic enhancement.
- The format for each recording must be video only
- Each video must be clearly labelled with the school name, song name and choir e.g. St Mary's, Ave Maria, KS1 choir Song 1.
- The videos must be submitted via this link <https://bit.ly/competition2026> – Once you have submitted your recording the screen will show that 'Jackdaws Music' will be notified that your file has been uploaded and you will receive a confirmation email from dropbox (please check spam, if no email received contact music@jackdaws.org)
- Entries for consideration must be submitted no later than 5pm June 15th 2026. Entries after this date will not be accepted.

- The conductor must not sing with the choir.
- Choirs may use a backing track, however this must be an instrumental version and must not contain any vocals.
- The prizes must be allocated to the music budget of the winning schools.
- Performances will be judged on the following criteria: Intonation, tone quality, diction, ensemble, balance, blend, interpretation of music and text, dynamics, phrasing and communication. The suitability of the chosen songs will also be taken into consideration by the judges.
- The judges' decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into regarding the results. The panel also reserves the right not to award a prize if they feel it is not merited.
- No correspondence will be entered into on comments or rules and regulations by either judges or organisers.
- By entering the competition, participating choirs agree to be bound by the rules and regulations of the competition.

