Schools

Our schools section has many classes designed specifically for schools and care homes to enter. There is a wide and varied range of classes available.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES 24th April 2026

Due to the number of entries each year, items exhibited MUST be collected between 4.30 and 6pm on Saturday of the show - after this time, items will be discarded as we do not have any storage facilities.

County Antrim Agricultural Association reserves the right to amalgamate or split classes according to the number of entries.

enter and pay online at:-
https://showingscene.com/organisation/ballymena-show

or send paper entries and payment to:-
Show Secretary, County Antrim Agricultural Association, Ballymena Showgrounds, 30 St Patrick's Link, Town Parks, Ballymena, Co. Antrim, BT43 7FU

Photographs of school cup winners will take place at 3.30pm - could all cup winners ensure they attend the home industries area at this time
30/05/2026 08:30

Homes Section

Kindly sponsored by Stirling Trophies
This section is open to all residents of nursing, residential homes and day centres
All entries to be brought to the home industries stand on Thursday 28th May from 2pm - 6pm
Individuals own work, no groups
Entry fee: 30p per entry
Prize Money : 1st £5, 2nd £3, 3rd £2

The Ballymena Medical Supplies Trophy is presented to the home/care centre gaining the most points in classes 64 - 69 based on 1st - 3 points, 2nd = 2 points, 3rd = 1 point
Ring: home industries area

Judges

Marlinda Orr (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
64	Coloured In Picture - Templates Provided By Show	
65	Any Painting - Any Medium - Framed Or Unframed	will be judged on artwork only
66	Any Small Craft Item	
67	Any Large Craft Item	
68	A Knitted Item	
69	A Card For A New Home	

Schools Craftwork Section

All entries to be brought to the home industries stand on Thurs 28th May from 2pm - 6pm
Classes confined to school children only
Identification of exhibitor must not be displayed on the front of any exhibit
All schoolchildren can enter either via their school or on their own but pupils must be from the stated class restriction
Entry Fee: 30p per entry

The Janes Kitchen Cup will be awarded to the school gaining the most points in classes 70 - 102 based on 1st = 3 points, 2nd = 2 points, 3rd = 1 point
The Kennedy Trophy will be awarded for the best article in ceramics
Prize Money: 1st £5, 2nd £3, 3rd £2
Ring: home industries area

Judges

Annabelle Woodcock (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
70	A Person Made Out Of A Kitchen Roll Tube - Key Stage 1	
71	An Upcycled Object - Key Stage 2	
72	An Original Lego Model, Not From a Kit - Key Stage 1	
73	A 3D Item - Key Stage 2	
74	Collage Of A Flower - Using Paper/Sweet Wrappers - P1 and P2 only	A4 portrait- mounted on paper or card
75	A 3D Item - P3 Or P4 Only	
76	Any Article In Ceramics - P5, P6 or P7 classes only	
77	Any Small Craft Item - P1 Pupils Only	
78	Any Small Craft Item - P2 Pupils Only	
79	Any Small Craft Item - P3 Pupils Only	
80	Any Item Depicting An aspect Of "The World Around Us" - P4 Pupils Only	
81	Any Item Depicting An Aspect Of "The World Around Us" - P5 Pupils Only	
82	Any Item Depicting An Aspect Of "The World Around Us" - P6 Pupils Only	
83	Any Item Depicting An Aspect Of "The World Around Us" - P7 Pupils Only	

Schools Artwork

All artwork and hand writing entries to be brought to reception, Ballymena Showgrounds on Friday 15th May before 5pm and placed in the entry box marked school entries
Classes confined to school children only
Identification of exhibitor must not be displayed on the front of any exhibit and names should only be written on the back
Individuals own work, no groups
All schoolchildren can enter either via their school or on their own but pupils must be from the stated class restriction

All work to be mounted on card or paper unless using canvas

Entry fee = 30p per entry
Prize Money - 1st = £5, 2nd = £3, 3rd = £2
Ring: home industries area

Judges

Marlinda Orr (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
84	Painting Entitled "People Who Help Us Or My School" - P1 Pupils Only	A4
85	Painting Entitled "An Underwater Scene Or My Favourite Animal" - P2 Pupils Only	A4
86	Painting Entitled " On The Farm Or My Favourite Food" - P3 Pupils Only	A4
87	Painting Entitled "A Spaceship Or A Garden Creature" - P4 Pupils Only	A4
88	Any Medium - Entitled "My Hero/Heroine Or My Favourite Toy" - P5 Pupils Only	A4
89	Any Medium - Entitled "A Person From History" or Design And Name A Minecraft Mob - P6 Pupils Only	A4
90	Any Medium - Entitled "My Hobby" Or Design And Name A Masked Singer Outfit - P7 Pupils Only	A4

Schools Writing Section

All writing entries, in their classes to be brought to Reception, Ballymena Showgrounds on Friday 15th May before 5pm and placed in the entry box marked school entries
Classes confined to school children only.
Identification of exhibitor must not be displayed on the front of the exhibit and names should only be written on the back.
Individuals own work - no groups
All schoolchildren can enter either via their school or on their own, but pupils must be from the stated class restriction
Entry fee: 30p per entry
Prize money: 1st £5, 2nd £3, 3rd £2

All work to be mounted on card or paper
Ring: home industries area

Judges

Roberta Gray (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
91	A Piece of Writing Entitled "My Favourite Tv Programme" - P4 Pupils Only	A4 Portrait Single Side Only
92	A Piece of Writing Entitled "The Best Things About My School" - P5 Pupils Only	A4 Portrait Single Side Only
93	A Piece of Writing Entitled "The Best Book Ever Is..." - P6 Pupils Only	A4 portrait Single Side Only
94	A Report On Any Topic Studied This Year - P7 Pupils Only	A4 Portrait Single Side Only

Schools Poetry Section

All writing entries to be brought to reception, Ballymena Showgrounds on Friday 15th May before 5pm and placed in the schools entries box
Classes confined to school children only
Identification of exhibitor must not be displayed on the front of any exhibit and should be written on the back
Individuals own work - no groups
All schoolchildren can enter either via their school or on their own, but pupils must be from the stated class restriction
All work to be mounted on card or paper
R & C Graphics Shield will be awarded for the best overall poem
Entry fee: 30p per entry
Prize money: 1st £5, 2nd £3, 3rd £2
Ring: home industries area

Judges

Roberta Gray (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
95	An Acrostic Poem Using The Word "Ballymena"	P5 pupils only, A4 portrait, single side only
96	An Poem Entitled "Happy Days"	P6 pupils only, A4 portrait, single side only, minimum 8 lines
97	A Poem Entitled "School Memories"	P7 pupils only, A4 portrait, single side only, minimum 8 lines

Schools Handwriting Section

All writing entries to be brought to reception, Ballymena Showgrounds on Friday 15th May from before 5pm and placed in the schools entries box
Classes confined to school children only
Identification of exhibitor must not be displayed on the front of any exhibit
Individuals own work - no groups
All schoolchildren can enter either via their school or on their own, but pupils must be from the stated class restriction
Entry fee: 30p per entry
Prize Money : 1st £5, 2nd £3, 3rd £2
Ring: home industries area

Judges

Alison Killough (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
98	Handwriting - "The Woodpecker" by Elizabeth Madox Roberts	Portrait - P3 Pupils Only
99	Handwriting - "The Farmyard" by AA Attwood	Portrait - P4 Pupils Only
100	Handwriting - "I Am" by Lucinda Jacob	Portrait - P5 Pupils Only
101	Handwriting - "Seaside Sounds" by John Foster	Portrait - P6 Pupils Only
102	Handwriting - "The Foal" by Jean Kenward	Portrait - P7 Pupils Only

Special Schools Section

Kindly sponsored by Francis Dinsmore Ltd
All entries to be brought to the Home Industries Stand at Ballymena Cattle Market on Thursday 28th May from 2pm - 6pm or baking, if desired, can also be brought on Friday 29th from 10am - 12 noon
Classes confined to pupils of special schools only
Identification of exhibitor must not be displayed on the front of any exhibit
Individuals own work - no groups
Entry fee: 30p per entry
Prize money: 1st £5, 2nd £3, 3rd £2

The Secretaries Trophy will be awarded to the special school gaining the most points in classes 103 - 116 based on 1st = 3points, 2nd = 2 points, 3rd = 1 point
Ring: home industries area

Judges

Suzanne Knowles (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
103a	Any Painting/Drawing - Foundation Stage	
103	Any Painting/Drawing - Key Stage 1	A4 Mounted Landscape or Portrait
104	Any Painting/Drawing - Key Stage 2	A4 Mounted Landscape or Portrait
105	Any Painting/Drawing - Key Stage 3	A4 Mounted Landscape or Portrait
106a	Any Small Craft Item - Foundation Stage	
106	Any Small Craft Item - Key Stage 1	
107	Any Small Craft Item - Key Stage 2	
108	Any Small Craft Item - Key Stage 3	
109a	Any Group Project(max size 24" X 24") - Foundation Stage	
109	Any Group Project (max size 24" x 24") - Key Stage 1	
110	Any Group Project (max size 24" x 24") - Key Stage 2	
111	Any Group Project (max size 24" x 24") - Key Stage 3	
112	Any Painting/Drawing - Key Stage 4/5 - A4 Mounted - Any Medium	Landscape or Portrait
113	Any Craft Item - Key Stage 4/5	
114	A piece of Writing Entitled " My Favourite Things" - Key Stage 4/5	A4 Portrait One Side Only Mounted
115	Four Marshmallow People	
116	Any Greeting Card	

Nursery/Play Schools Section

All entries to be brought to the home industries stand at Ballymena Livestock Market on Thursday 28th May from 2pm - 6pm
Classes confined to pupils of nursery/play groups/schools only
Identification of exhibitor must not be displayed on the front of any exhibit
Individuals work only, no groups
Entry fee: 30p per entry
Prize Money : 1st £5, 2nd £3, 3rd £2

An award will be presented to the Nursery/Playschool gaining the most points in section 117 - 122
Ring: home industries area

Judges

Pearl Scott (Judge)

Number	Name	Description
117	Decorate A Plastic Flower Pot	
118	A Painted Hand Print Picture	A4 Landscape Mounted
119	A Facemask	
120	A Painted Stone	
121	A Painting Of Summer	A4 Mounted
122	An Animal Made Out Of Leaves	A4 Mounted