

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 |