



# Shine School Media Awards 2026 Entry Form



The Stationers' Foundation

## Your entry details – general information

Full name of school .....

**Title of entry**

Type of project entered

Newsletter      Online edition

## Website Audio

(\*circle as appropriate)

How many copies of the magazine/newsletter are printed per issue?.....

How many pupils are in the publication team? .....

Please list the names and ages of the publication team (append a separate sheet if necessary)

**IMPORTANT – Please ensure that a good quality JPEG photo (at 300dpi), of your complete publication team, with a list of names, is submitted with your entry to the Shine Awards office.**

## Entry form - contact details and declaration

-  Please print in BLOCK CAPITALS and write neatly and clearly
-  Complete all general information sections of the entry form and provide as much detailed information as possible in the categories you are entering
-  Tell us about the members of the team who have written and produced it
-  You may enter one or more categories, but all entries will be eligible for other prizes awarded at the judges' discretion
-  This school publication project must be pupil-led, but a teacher will need to sign and date the entry form
-  Although it is not compulsory, we encourage you to enter the Society, Community, and Best sustainability initiative category

Full name of school .....

Head teacher's name .....

Main telephone number .....

Website .....

Address .....

Town/City .....

County ..... Postcode .....

Email address .....

***I confirm that the copyright of all text, images, photographs and audio-visual material used in our publication has been checked and clearly acknowledged if from outside sources***

*Please refer to the [CLA Schools' Licence](#)*

Signed (Project Teacher) .....

Name (PLEASE PRINT) .....

***I agree to the terms and conditions of entry to the Shine 2026 School Media Awards and confirm parental consent for the use of photographs on all Shine reports and publicity***

Signed (Project Teacher) .....

Name (PLEASE PRINT) .....

Date .....

Visit [www.shine-schoolawards.org](http://www.shine-schoolawards.org) for full details and conditions of entry

## IMPORTANT

### Please tick the Award categories that you are entering

Kindly note that the Best newspaper front page, Best magazine cover, Best overall digital content, Best overall print content, Best magazine, and Best newspaper and the Harrison Cup awards do not require separate submissions. All eligible entries will be automatically considered by the judges for these awards.

- Best illustration and artwork
- Best cartoon
- Best design
- Best photograph
- The Peter Day award for best audio
- Best business and marketing strategy
- Society, Community, Sustainability
- Writer of the year: Fiction
- Writer of the year: Non-Fiction
- Editor of the year
- Best piece on a designated topic “Abuse of Power”
- Scoop of the year
- Most inspirational teacher
- The Terry Mansfield CBE award for Tomorrow’s Talent

## Best illustration and artwork

Name (PLEASE PRINT) .....

Details of entry – publication title .....

Full name of school .....

**Specify one drawing, illustration, painting, wood/lino-cut, etching or other illustrative process (including digital) that defines your publication, or of which you are particularly proud**

Title of Illustration .....

Page number ..... type of Illustration .....

Name of pupil ..... Age .....

Original size of illustration (mm) .....

Describe your origination techniques and any special effects used for your artwork or illustration with the process used (*pen, pencil, charcoal, pastels, watercolours, oils, acrylics, linocut, woodcut, screen print etc*)

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Was your artwork scanned or photographed for reproduction? .....

If the artwork or illustration was originated digitally, please explain your process and specify the software packages used e.g. *Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop*

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**IMPORTANT – Please ensure that good quality JPEGs (at 300dpi if possible) of your artwork or illustration and a photograph of the artist are submitted with your entry to the Shine Awards office. See [helpful, supportive notes and tips for this category](#) on the Shine website.**

**NOTE: You will find helpful, supportive notes and tips for this category on the Shine website.**



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## Best cartoon

Details of entry – publication title .....

Full name of school .....

Specify one cartoon or comic strip (including online) of which you are particularly proud

Title of cartoon .....

Page number.....

Name of pupil..... Age .....

Original size of cartoon (mm) .....

Describe your origination techniques and any special effects used for your cartoon, with the process used (*pen, pencil, charcoal, pastel, watercolour, etc.*)

Was your artwork scanned or photographed for reproduction? .....

If the cartoon or comic strip was originated digitally, please explain your process .....

**IMPORTANT** – Guidelines and advice for creating original comic and cartoon artwork are available on the Shine School Media Awards website. *Please ensure that good quality JPEG photos (or scans at 300dpi), of your cartoon entry and a photograph of the artist are submitted with your entry to the Shine School Media Awards office.*

**NOTE: You will find helpful, supportive notes and tips for this category on the Shine website.**





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## Best photograph

Details of entry – publication title .....

Full name of school .....

Specify one photograph of which you are particularly proud

**Title of photograph** .....

Name of photographer ..... Age .....

Page number.....

Location of photograph.....

Time ..... Lighting conditions .....

Camera/phone make .....

Model.....

If the photograph is of a person, did you obtain a signed consent from that person (or guardian, if a minor) for the photograph to be used in your publication?

Have you used software to manipulate or enhance your photograph? and if so, please explain your process and reason and specify the software package used

**IMPORTANT – Please ensure that a good quality JPEG photo (at 300dpi) of your entry and a photograph of the photographer are submitted with your entry to the Shine School Media Awards office. –**

**NOTE: Please refer to the Shine website for helpful Hints and Tips for taking your photographs.**

## The Peter Day award for best audio

Details of entry – audio title.....

Full name of school .....

These are some ideas to help your entry

Is your audio broadcast on traditional airwaves, distributed around the school buildings or a loudspeaker network, or shared on streaming platforms?

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Does your audio have a continuous schedule of programmes, an intermittent schedule or a series of digital on-demand programmes?

.....

How can you demonstrate that your audio has a sense of identity?

.....

What makes your audio programmes high quality, creative, fun, entertaining, informative, and useful to the audience? .....

.....

How do you measure your listener participation and that you're getting as many people as possible involved?

.....

**IMPORTANT – Please ensure that a good quality JPEG photo (at 300dpi) of your Best audio team is submitted with your entry to the Shine Awards office together with a list of names from left to right.**

**NOTE: You will find helpful, supportive notes and tips for this category on the Shine website.**



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# Best business and marketing strategy

Publication title.....

Full name of school .....

The judges will be seeking evidence of pupil involvement both in formulating and carrying out a clear Business and Marketing Strategy. This should include: a brief statement about why the publication exists and why it is continuing; more detailed examples of what messages they use, and how they get the finance required (internally and externally if appropriate); details of how they identify and differentiate the target audience(s) of the publication and how that dictates the content; how it is distributed, etc. The judges will welcome evidence of novel ways of enticing and encouraging readership (and sponsorship where applicable) with numeric comparisons with previous years to show progress. Finally, examples of entrepreneurial activities will be welcomed.

**NOTE: You will find helpful, supportive notes and tips for this category on the Shine website.**



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## **Society, sustainability, community**

Whether a charitable initiative you've championed through your work, a project focussing on environmental issues, or a piece to raise awareness on an underserved topic, this category is for you to show how your work has lead the way within your school or local community. We want to read your features, see your photographs or hear your podcasts on what you're doing to engage and understand the world around you.

Details of entry – publication title .....

Full name of school .....

**Title of article** .....

Author .....

Age .....

Page number .....

**NOTE:** You will find helpful, supportive notes and tips for this category on the Shine website.



# Shine School Media Awards 2026 Entry Form



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## Writer of the year: Fiction

Details of entry – publication title .....

Full name of school .....

**Please identify one article for consideration which is particularly representative of the magazine/publication and of which you are particularly proud**

**Title of article .....**

Author.....

Age .....

Page number .....

Are there any other features or pieces in your publication you would like to draw attention to?

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**IMPORTANT – Please ensure that good quality JPEGs of your feature article (at 300dpi) and a photo of the author of the article are sent with your entry to the Shine School Media Awards office.**

**NOTE: You will find helpful, supportive notes and tips for this category on the Shine website.**



## Writer of the year: Non-Fiction

Details of entry – publication title .....

Full name of school .....

**Please identify one article for consideration which is particularly representative of the magazine/publication and of which you are particularly proud**

**Title of article .....**

Author.....

Age .....

Page number .....

Are there any other features or pieces in your publication you would like to draw attention to?

.....

**IMPORTANT – Please ensure that good quality JPEGs of your feature article (at 300dpi) and a photo of the author of the article are sent with your entry to the Shine School Media Awards office.**

**NOTE: You will find helpful, supportive notes and tips for this category on the Shine website.**



# Shine School Media Awards 2026 Entry Form



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## Editor of the year

Details of entry – publication title .....

Full name of school .....

## Who is the Editor?

Name ..... Age .....

## Who are the editorial team members?

Names & ages .....

What was the main focus of the content of the publication?

Tell us about the Editor and how they made a difference to the project, whether it be from a content, personnel or leadership perspective

.....

**NOTE:** You will find helpful, supportive notes and tips for this category on the Shine website.

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# **Best entry on a designated topic 2026 around the theme of ‘Abuse of power’.**

Each year on awards day, students attending vote on next year's designated topic from a shortlist of topics. The entries can take any form: visual, aural, or written. In 2026, the topic will be 'Abuse of power'.

Details of entry – publication title.....

Full name of school .....

**Title of article** .....

Author .....

Age .....

Page number .....

Please tell us your reasons for choosing this submission, and in what ways it has contributed to the topic of 'Abuse of Power':

**IMPORTANT – Please ensure that good quality JPEGs of your article (at 300dpi) and a photo of the author of the article are sent with your entry to the Shine School Media Awards office.**

**NOTE: You will find helpful, supportive notes and tips for this category on the Shine website**

## Scoop of the year

‘Scoop of the Year’ is sponsored by the London Press Club. Its Chair, Doug Wills, explains, “Our London Press Club Scoop of the Year award recognises students who go the extra mile to find great stories on their doorstep. Whether that’s a revealing interview with a local politician, helping support a local public service under threat or telling a human interest story that makes the reader smile – we can’t wait to read all about it.”

Details of entry – publication title

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Full name of school

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Title of article .....

Author .....

Age .....

Page number .....

Please tell us your reasons for choosing this piece and why you think it could be considered a Scoop of the Year:

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**IMPORTANT – Please ensure that good quality JPEGs of your article (at 300dpi) and a photo of the author of the article are sent with your entry to the Shine School Media Awards office.**

**NOTE: You will find helpful, supportive notes and tips for this category on the Shine website**



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## Most inspirational teacher

This Award recognises the excellence of a teacher in leading the development of an editorial product produced by pupils.

Full name of school .....

- The teacher must be nominated by the publication team.
- This citation should be signed by the editor-in-chief (pupil) and endorsed by the head teacher

**Name of teacher nominated by pupil(s) for this special award - (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)**

Department .....

Please tell us in no more than 150 words why this teacher should win an award (attach comments if required)

Signed editor-in-chief (pupil).....

Name (BLOCK CAPITALS).....

Signed (head teacher) .....

Name (BLOCK CAPITALS) ..... Date .....

**IMPORTANT – Please ensure that a good-quality JPEGs of your teacher (at 300dpi) is sent with your entry to the Shine School Media Awards office.**

**NOTE: You will find helpful, supportive notes and tips for this category on the Shine website**

## The Terry Mansfield CBE award for Tomorrow's Talent

In this award category, the judges will be looking for a pupil who has shown outstanding qualities of leadership in the production of a content-based communication. The winner will have demonstrated a good understanding of the elements which go to making up a good newspaper, magazine or website. Additionally, they will have demonstrated effective teamwork in a team-based project and shown evidence of understanding their target audience for the product. In essence, providing 'what readers want'.

**Full name of school**

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**Name of pupil (BLOCK LETTERS)** .....

Age ..... Year Group .....

Area of expertise.....

Please tell us why this pupil should win an award (attach additional comments if required)

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Name (PLEASE PRINT) .....

Date .....

**IMPORTANT – Please ensure that a good-quality JPEGs of your nominated student (at 300dpi) is sent with your entry to the Shine School Media Awards office.**

**NOTE: You will find helpful, supportive notes and tips for this category on the Shine website**

## Entry form checklist

**Please ensure that the name of your school is in the front cover design of your publication.**

**All entries must include:**

- The names of those who gave specialist help, if any
- Name and address of the printer (if not printed in-house)
- A JPEG image (at 300dpi)\* of the front cover of your publication
- If printed six copies of your school's publication
- A JPEG image (300dpi) or Word/PDF file of the best writer's article fiction & non-fiction (if entered)
- A JPEG image (300dpi) or Word/PDF file of the best illustration & artwork (if entered)
- A JPEG image (300dpi) or Word/PDF file of the best photograph (if entered)
- A JPEG image (300dpi) or Word/PDF file of the best cartoon (if entered)
- A JPEG image (300dpi) or Word/PDF file of the best writer Scoop of the year (if entered)
- A JPEG image (300dpi) or Word/PDF file of the best writer of the designated topic (if entered)
- Confirmation of parental consent for the use of photographs in all Shine reports and publicity
- Copyright statement for content, photographs, audio-visual

### Conditions of Entry

1. The Shine 2026 School Media Awards are managed by The Stationers' Foundation, the educational and charity arm of The Worshipful Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers. The Stationers' Foundation, The Stationers Company, Ave Maria Lane, London, EC4M 7DD Tel: 0207 246 0998.
2. The Competition is open to all secondary schools in England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Eire.
3. For schools who publish several editions of a newspaper or magazine in an academic year: Shine will accept an entry in our best cartoon, illustration, photograph or written piece categories from different editions. However, all other categories, including editor of the year & overall content, would be judged on a single edition/audible/video/website.
4. One (if a PDF file) or six hard copies of the magazine, newspaper or newsletter must be provided when entering the Competition. If internet publications require a password or are otherwise protected, login details must be provided.
5. The closing date for entries is **Friday, 1 May 2026**. All publications, login details and supporting material must be received by the organisers by this date.
6. Yearbooks compiled by teachers or other adults are not eligible for the Competition.
7. The publication date of publications entered (including online) must be between **June 2025 and April 2026**.
8. The publication must be a finished product (i.e. printed/high-quality photocopy) and not a concept. Note: if the publication is due to be printed after the closing date, the judges will be pleased to accept photocopies/proofs of the publication in the final stages of production.
9. The format of print entries must be that of a magazine, newspaper, newsletter or booklet and can be stapled, sewn, wire-stitched or perfect-bound.
10. Ideally, the publication entered should be between 16 and 96 pages, but a minimum of eight pages will be accepted.
11. All rights remain with the entrants and the entering school but winning and shortlisted entries may be displayed at the awards ceremony and on the Shine 2026 and supporting partners' websites and may be used for future promotional purposes; and as conditions of entry to the Competition and/or acceptance of any award a licence is granted to The Stationers' Foundation for these purposes.
12. Judging will take place shortly after the closing date. The judges' decisions are final, and no judge will enter into conversation or correspondence about decisions that have been made.
13. Shortlisted entries will be informed by post and/or email.
14. Descriptions of the winners' submissions and those on the shortlist will be published in connection with the Competition for promotional purposes and news reporting.
15. The Stationers' Foundation reserves the right to disqualify any entry that shows evidence of plagiarism.
16. Entrants must pay due regard to copyright law, clearance and related issues and in particular, the provisions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. The publishing industry takes plagiarism very seriously (for helpful information on copyright to assist you with your entry see [www.shineschoolawards.org/copyright-advice](http://www.shineschoolawards.org/copyright-advice)). You must not include or in any way use any copyright material owned by third parties (including words, photographs, graphics, illustrations, audio and video etc.) without appropriate permissions. The sources and/or owners of third party copyright material used with permission must be clearly stated. Any un-credited material will be viewed by the judges as plagiarism and the entry concerned may be disqualified. A list of sources must be provided on a separate sheet of paper and must accompany your entry.
17. Persons completing entries commit that they are authorised to do so on behalf of the entering school.
18. It is a condition of entry to the competition that schools have received appropriate permissions from the parents or guardians of children.
19. These terms and conditions are governed by and shall be interpreted in accordance with English Law. The place of the Competition and event is London. Any disputes arising in relation to the interpretation of these terms and conditions or in relation to any agreement of which these terms and conditions form part, which cannot be settled amicably, shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English Courts.