

Portsmouth Pupil Poet Laureates



Aims:

- To promote the reading and writing of poetry across the Portsmouth Education Partnership.
- To further language development and oracy and literacy activities that inspire children and young people and impact upon raising standards of attainment.
- To encourage our creative writers to lead with the reading of poetry in schools and to share their own work, which can be commissioned by their own school in relation to events throughout the year. Schools can then publish these via their websites, newsletters, social media etc - print or recorded performance.
- To create a sense of identity and unity for nominated pupil poet laureates by inviting them to collaborative workshops and events with other peers from across the city.



Example Mission Statement:

Portsmouth Grammar School is establishing the pioneering role of a Pupil Poet Laureate. This will be awarded to a Senior School Pupil with a demonstrable commitment to creative expression. This role will help celebrate Arts, Languages, Literature and Humanities. In addition, it will encourage oracy as well as literacy among pupils. There is also a pastoral dimension to the role; medical research suggests that poetry and other forms of creative expression can have a beneficial impact upon mental health.



Example Role Description:

In this position, the Poet Laureate will:

- encourage and motivate pupils to write poetry and promote creative expression.
- compose poetry for assemblies, services, events, and special occasions within the school, as well as mark significant historical/social moments.
- chair a poetry club to work with pupils, inspiring and igniting a passion for literature and language and introducing them to poetry beyond the classroom and the curriculum.
- write on significant issues and current events relating to the school and wider society.
- participate in outreach programs to connect with the wider community, working with other schools and organisations such as The Portsmouth Festivities.
- be published in *Portsmouth Point* and *Portmuthian*.
- hold this role/designation for the tenure of one year.



How to select a Pupil Poet Laureate:

Either:

Run a poetry writing competition to select your most promising poet.

Or:

Select from teacher recommendations.

We recommend offering this role to someone who has proven themselves to be a consistent and reliable writer/orator. (Portsmouth Grammar School have a Year 6 and a Year 13 Pupil Poet Laureate. The role is awarded at the start of each academic year.)



First meeting of Portsmouth Pupil Poet Laureates:

17th March 2023 - Free Creative Writing Workshop 'Spring into Poetry' at Portsmouth Grammar School with the writer Sita Brachmachari from 11:30-2:30pm.

Pupils will need to bring their lunch. Light refreshments will be provided e.g., drink and snack on arrival. Primary age pupils should be accompanied by a member of staff, but local primary schools may group together for one adult to escort a small group of pupils from different schools. Secondary age pupils may be registered and then collected later.

Please contact Bryony Hart, PGS Whole school literacy lead to book attendance at this workshop on the email address below and inform of any dietary requirements.

Limited parking available on site.

NB:

Due to the time of year, schools might want to award this position to Year 5s or Year 10s. These pupils can then take the role into the next academic year, so they get a full year's experience.

For further information and booking contact Bryony Hart B.Hart@pgs.org.uk

A collaborative initiative between the Portsmouth Education Partnership Early Language and Literacy Development Group and Portsmouth Grammar School.