



# 2026 WA Young Writers Award

## Frequently asked questions

### **Is there a theme for the award?**

To encourage innovation and individual ideas, there is no theme for this award.

### **Can I edit my student's story before entering it?**

All entries must be the sole work of the entrant. Stories should not be edited by parents or teachers. The judges will assess students on the quality of their writing

### **Can I use Chat GPT or other AI software to provide a base for my work?**

No, as part of the terms and conditions stories must be an original piece of prose writing. While you may be creating the scaffolding, AI software pulls from other sources to create the work, and it is not original.

### **How should I submit my story?**

You submit a digital copy of your story online.

Fill in the online form and attach a copy of your work. Your entry is not complete until you have attached your work and due to large volumes of entries, staff are unable to follow up on entries that do not have an attachment.

The closing date for all entries is **Monday 10 August, 5.30pm**

### **My class has completed a story-writing task. Can I enter all their stories in the award?**

If the entry is **the sole work of the student** and meets the entry requirements the story can be entered. However, the judges discourage teachers from entering a class set of stories on the same topic or with similar prompts. The award encourages innovation and creativity, and the judges are looking for entries which show these qualities.

### **I am eighteen years old and in my first year of university. Can I enter the award?**

The award is open to Western Australian school students in years one to twelve. University students or high school graduates are not eligible to enter the award.

### **My child is in pre-primary. Can my child enter the award?**

The award is open to Western Australian school students in years one to twelve. Pre-primary students are not eligible to enter the award.

### **My child is home-schooled. Can my child enter the award?**

Yes, providing your child lives in Western Australia and is studying in years one to twelve they can enter the award.

**How can I get updates and reminders about the award?**

You can join the award e-newsletter to get up-to-date information about the award, entry reminders and updates on winners and finalists. Register your email by contacting [award@subiaco.wa.gov.au](mailto:award@subiaco.wa.gov.au)

**What details do I need to register my entry online?**

To register your entry online between Friday 17 July, 9.30am and Monday 10 August, 5.30pm and you will need the following information:

- author's name, age, gender, and school year
- contact information (email, phone, and postal address)
- title of the story and word count

**I need more information, who should I contact?**

For information about the WA Young Writers Award contact Subiaco Library on 9237 9300 or email [award@subiaco.wa.gov.au](mailto:award@subiaco.wa.gov.au).