

## Speech & Drama

The marking scheme that most of us are familiar with has been in use for several decades. Whilst the scheme has served us well there are concerns it does not provide a wide enough scope for adjudicators to fully appraise the level of performance over a wide range of abilities.

The British and International Federation of Festivals (BIFF), in consultation with festivals and adjudicators, proposes introducing a new scheme that better reflects the wider variety of festivals and allows more flexibility in use of language and assessment of performance.

The overriding purpose of the new scheme is to offer festivals and performers a more flexible and affirmative framework that ensures consistent standards at all festivals, enables adjudicators to assess a performance on three levels:

- Artistic criteria
- Technical criteria
- Communication criteria

Attached to this communication is a summary of the new scheme, which can also be viewed on the festival website – [www.wmaaf.co.uk](http://www.wmaaf.co.uk)

BIFF, recognising this will be a major change, has asked Worthing, as one of three established festivals to trial the scheme and seek feedback from performers, teachers, festival personnel, audience members. If you wish to share a view please email your observations to – [wmaafoffice@gmail.com](mailto:wmaafoffice@gmail.com)

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