

You need to:

- Be 13-17 years old
- Live **AND** be educated in Warwickshire
- Submit 3 poems - one should be inspired by Warwickshire and one should be about or inspired by libraries. The third is your own choice
- Write a Personal Statement - tell us in 250 words why you want to be the Warwickshire Young Poet Laureate and how you would promote poetry to a diverse range of people
- (Optional) Send a video of you performing your poetry to libraryevents@warwickshire.gov.uk

Please include your poems and personal statement along with this application form and email it to libraryevents@warwickshire.gov.uk

The closing date for applications is midnight on Monday 1st October 2026. Applicant will be notified whether they have been shortlisted by Friday 23rd October 2026.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to participate in a day of selection activity including a workshop with a professional poet, a short interview and a final performance in front of a public audience on **Saturday 14th November 2026**. This event will take place at Rugby Library. Please ensure you are available on this date.

If you have any queries about the application process or about your ability to attend any of the selection process activities, please email libraryevents@warwickshire.gov.uk.

Candidates will be expected not only to write poetry, but be a poetry performer and ambassador at public events.

Your Details

Name

Age Date of birth

Address Postcode

Email address

School

Please sign here to confirm the poems are all your own, original work

Parent/Guardian permission:

You need your parent/guardian's permission to take part. This covers participation in the performance event and other civic/regional events at which the media may be present. Your parent/guardian must give permission for the poems/information from your entry and your photograph and video footage to be used in Young Poet Laureate publicity. Please ask your parent/guardian to fill this in. We need to confirm this before you are appointed. If your child is selected as the Warwickshire Young Poet Laureate, they will be offered the mentorship of a professional poet. We will seek permission from you to share contact details with the poet to enable this to be arranged.

As a parent/guardian, I give permission for the above named person to apply to be the Warwickshire Young Poet Laureate 2026/7, to participate in any related events and to receive emails from Warwickshire Libraries relating to the Young Poet Laureate role.

Name of parent (BLOCK CAPITALS)

Signature

Date

Email address

Telephone number

You can apply online at warwickshire.gov.uk/youngpoetlaureate or download this form, fill it in and email it, along with your personal statement and poems to libraryevents@warwickshire.gov.uk. Alternatively, you may print this form and post it, with your poems and personal statement to the Library Engagement and Development Team, Unit 4, WCC Hawkes Point, 1 Hawkes Drive, Heathcote Industrial Estate, Warwick, CV34 6LX by **Monday 1st October 2026**. For more information or if you have any queries about the application process and Young Poet Laureate scheme, please email libraryevents@warwickshire.gov.uk.

Data Privacy and Use Statement: We need this information in order to accept and assess your application for the Young Poet Laureate position. We need a way to communicate with you. We will store your details in a way that protects your privacy and process it under the lawful basis of public task. You can read our full Privacy Notice at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/privacys