



Saturday 10th October 2026

Blessed Thomas Halford Catholic College
Urban Road
Altrincham
Manchester
WA15 8HT

Syllabus Approved by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. D. V.', written over a horizontal line.

NWRC Feis Secretary



Adjudicators:

Andrea McQuade – Glasgow

Catriona Hale – Midlands

David Moore – Ulster

Charaina Kelly – London

Fiona Kidd – Midlands

John Lonergan – Munster

Mary Elwood – Connacht

Sharon Taylor – Glasgow

Tony Smith - Ulster

Musicians:

Aidan O’Neil – London

Kevin Murphy – Scotland

William Patterson - Scotland

Entry Website:

One Entry per school via Teacher, find our entry pack on:

Treble Check - [Treble Check: Feis Dates](#)

Instepfm - instepfm.com



Dear Teachers, Parents, Guardians and Dancers,

We are delighted to welcome you all to our 5th annual, **"FEIS CHESHIRE"**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support for our Feis; it is a pleasure to see the competition grow from year to year and to witness the incredible talent of the young dancers that join us to compete.

With hearts full of love and memories, we have chosen to run all future 'Feis Cheshire' in honour of Grace's husband Sean Dwyer. Sean was the driving force behind our dancing school; he believed in our whole team, and it is thanks to his devotion and his incredible logistical mind that the Feis has grown to become the success that it is. We miss him beyond belief and hope to continue running a prestigious event each year that he would be proud of. In memory of Sean, we will be presenting 'The Cheshire Crown' at two points within the day. The top three in each open championship will be invited to take part in a step down the line within which the judges will select their winner. There will be a junior and senior competition, within which a perpetual award will be presented to the winner to be engraved and returned the following year.

We will be keeping everyone updated in the run up to the event and on the day via our 'Feis Cheshire' Facebook page and our school Instagram account '@kennedyosullivanschool' so please follow both accounts in advance.

Hosting the event before the Great Britain Championships and in the lead up to all regional qualifying events is an excellent practice opportunity for both solo and team competitors.

We have secured an esteemed panel of adjudicators from across the UK and Ireland, accompanied by of fabulous musicians, Aidan, Kevin and William.

Venue

We are delighted to announce we have secured the fabulous Blessed Thomas Halford College (BTH) again to host our Feis. It is in a great location easily accessible from Manchester airport and all major rail and motorway networks. The venue has recently undergone extensive renovations and now offers state of the art facilities; boasting a championship auditorium with stage, set dance hall with stage, grades hall, and separate presentation and warm up areas.

Catering

Catering will be provided onsite; we will have an offering of hot and cold meals. We will also be providing a tuck shop in the grades and canteen areas throughout the day.

Competitions & Awards

U6-U9 Championships will be judged by a panel of 3 adjudicators. U10 upwards will be judged by a panel of 3 adjudicators for the first two rounds, and a separate panel of adjudicators for Round 3.

Feis Cheshire Mini's

We are thrilled to offer an ungraded competition for any dancer U6 who hasn't yet competed in a graded competition. All the dancers will line up on the stage and perform 16 bars one at a time. Each dancer will receive a special prize for their performance. We look forward to celebrating our Feis Cheshire Mini's!

GRADE TROPHY COMPETITIONS 32 BARS							
	TROPHY REEL	TROPHY HOP JIG	TROPHY LIGHT JIG	TROPHY SLIP JIG	TROPHY HEAVY JIG	TROPHY HORNYPIPE	TROPHY TRAD SET
UNDER 6	N, P	N, P	N, P	N, P	U	U	U7 Ungraded Heavy Jig and Hornpipe
UNDER 7	N, P, I	N, P, I	N, P, I	N, P, I	P,I	P,I	
UNDER 8	N, P, I	N, P, I	N, P, I	N, P, I	P, I	P, I	I
UNDER 9	N, P, I	N, P, I	N, P, I	N, P, I	P, I	P, I	I
UNDER 10	N, P, I	N, P, I	N, P, I	N, P, I	P, I	P, I	
UNDER 11	N, P, I	N, P, I	N, P, I	N, P, I	P, I	P, I	
UNDER 12	I	I	I	I	I	I	
UNDER 13	P, I	P, I	P, I	P, I	P, I	P, I	
Over 13	P, I	P, I	P, I	P, I	P, I	P, I	
FEIS CHESHIRE MINI'S							
16 BARS REEL							
CEILI COMPETITIONS							
2, 3, 4, 6, 8 hand ceili dances (from An Rince Foirne). Figure Dance (teachers own invention).							

PRELIMINARY CHAMPIONSHIPS REEL / HEAVY JIG 40 BARS - SLIP JIG / HORNPIPE 32 BARS			
	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	RECALL
U10, U11, U12, U13, U14, U15	REEL OR SLIP JIG	HEAVY JIG OR HORNPIPE	OPEN SET
15 & OVER	REEL OR SLIP JIG	HEAVY JIG OR HORNPIPE	OPEN SET
OPEN MIXED CHAMPIONSHIPS REEL / HEAVY JIG 40 BARS - SLIP JIG / HORNPIPE 32 BARS			
	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	RECALL
U6, U7	REEL	HOP JIG	LIGHT JIG OR HEAVY JIG
U8, U9	REEL	HEAVY JIG	TRAD SET
U10, U11, U12, U13, U14, U15, U16, U17, U19, SENIOR	REEL OR SLIP JIG	HEAVY JIG OR HORNPIPE	OPEN SET

ENTRY FEES - CLOSING DATE Friday 25th SEPTEMBER 2026

FEIS CHESHIRE MINI'S	£7.00	GRADE TROPHY SOLO'S	£6.50
U6 & U7 CHAMPIONSHIP (3 ROUNDS & INCL 2 SOLO RESULTS)	£35.00	CEILI & FIGURE (PER DANCER)	£6.00
U8- SENIOR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP (INCL 2 SOLO RESULTS)	£45.00	U10-O15 PRELIM CHAMPIONSHIP (INCL 2 SOLO RESULTS)	£45.00
DANCER MAX (GRADES & PRELIM)	£65.00	FAMILY FEE (2 OR MORE CHILDREN)	£95.00
DOOR ENTRY	£8	CONSESSIONS	£4

ENTRIES TO BE EMAILED TO FEISCHESHIRE@GRACEKENNEDYSCHOOL.CO.UK

Bank details and reference number will be provided on receipt of entry, payment to be sent within 24 hours. Entry confirmed once payment received.

Entries after the closing date will incur a £10 administration fee per dancer and must be emailed to us in advance of the Feis.



Additional Information

Feis Cheshire Mini's

This will be run similar to the above but with each child dancing 16 bars. Teachers are welcome on stage to assist their dancers.

Results

All Championships results will be tabulated by Lennie Connell and will be awarded in the presentation room.

All grade results will take place in the Grade Hall.

Vendors

Redmond Rose will be in attendance offering Wig products, Chris Skehill will be there for any footwear and other accessories.

Directions

Directions to the feis can be found at

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/2n9KDRjJ4PbT6CVM9>

Transport

Taxi Service: Passenger Cars 0161 928 1111 (Mobile App available also)

Nearest Airport: Manchester Airport - 12 min drive

Nearest Train Stations:

- Altrincham Tain & Metrolink (Tram Station) – 5 min walk
- Hale Railway Station – 15 min walk
- Manchester Piccadilly Train Station - 30 min drive or tram journey

Accommodation

- Travelodge Altrincham, Grafton Tower, Stamford New Rd, Altrincham WA14 1DQ
- Premier Inn Atrincham, Manchester Rd, Altrincham WA14 4PH
- Marriott Hotel, Manchester Airport, Hale Rd, Hale Barns, Cheshire WA15 8XW

Entries

We would appreciate 1 entry and payment per school.

Entry form to be completed in excel and emailed to

feischeshire@gracekennedyschool.co.uk by Friday 25th September 2026.

Treble Check - [Treble Check: Feis Dates](#)

Instepfm - instepfm.com

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. Ages to be taken from 1st January 2026.
2. Entries will only be accepted from schools currently registered with An Coimisiun.
3. Lodgement of entries at a Feis implies that you accept the rules relating to the Feis in their entirety as laid down by the NWRC and An Coimisiun, and that you accept that the Results of the Feis will be published on the NWRC website.

ADJUDICATORS & MUSICIANS

4. The Adjudicators decisions are final. The Adjudicators should not be approached by any persons other than the Feis Committee.
5. Pupils of an Adjudicator employed at a particular feis may not take part in the Feis even if the adjudicator is judging alternative age groups.
6. Any Adjudicator from outside the NW Region cannot judge an Open Feis in the North West Region within 6 months of their last adjudication in the region. Any Adjudicator from the North West Region cannot judge an Open Feis in the North West Region within 3 months of their last adjudication in the region.
7. An Adjudicator from outside the North West Region may not adjudicate a Class Feis in the North West Region in the 6 months leading up to adjudicating an Open Feis in the Region.
8. All musicians should be competent and abide by the prescribed An Coimisiun metronomic speeds below.

Novice

Reel 122-124 Light jig 116 Single jig 124 Slip Jig 124 Heavy Jig 96 Hornpipe 144

Primary

Reel 116-118 Light jig 116 Single jig 124 Slip Jig 120 Heavy Jig 76 Hornpipe 118

Intermediate/Open

Reel 113 Slip Jig 113 Heavy Jig 73 Hornpipe 113

Traditional Set Dances

Blackbird 144 St. Patrick's Day 94 Job of Journeywork 138 Garden of Daisies 138
King of Fairies 130 Three Sea Captains 96 Jockey to the Fair 90

NOVICE AND PRIMARY GRADE

9. There will be a minimum of 4 Novice Light Dances up to and including Under 11. Only the most basic Steps may be performed in this grade. Children entering the Novice cannot enter the Primary for the same dances.
10. All Novice, Primary, Intermediate, Preliminary and Open Competitions are open to all Regions.
11. Any competitions in Novice and Primary, in which there are 5 or fewer dancers shall not count for grading purposes. However a Dancer may only win 3 such competitions and they then must move up to the next grade. If there are 6-10 dancers in any Novice or Primary competition, then just the 1st placed dancer must move up to the next grade. If there are 11-20 dancers, 1st and 2nd placed dancers must move up to the next grade. If there are 21 or more dancers then 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed dancers must move up to the next grade.
12. There will be no restriction on the step content performed in the Primary grade.
13. A Novice Dancer is a dancer who has not gained a place that requires them to move up in a Novice or higher Grade competition.
14. A Primary Dancer is a dancer who has not gained a place that requires them to move up in a Primary or higher Grade competition.
15. Novice/Primary Trophy Competitions are confined to dancers who have never gained a place requiring them to move up in a Novice/Primary Trophy. Any Dance can be performed for the Trophy but it must have been danced in the Novice/Primary section on the day of the Feis.
16. Dancers gaining a place that requires them to move up in a Novice/Primary Trophy Competition must move up to the next grade for both the Dance they performed to win the Trophy and the Trophy competition itself.
17. Only skirts and tops or a simple current class costume may be worn in the Novice and Primary Grades.
18. In the event of there being no provision for a particular age group, a dancer may dance up an age group, however on attaining first place in any dance, that dancer must remain in the higher grade for that dance for the remainder of the year.
19. At any one Feis, a Novice or Primary dancer may only dance each Solo Dance, the Light Trophy and the Heavy Trophy in ONE GRADE only.
20. Should there be 5 or fewer dancers in any Novice or Primary competition then the Feis Organiser reserves the right to combine age groups to make a double age group. Any dancer/s required to subsequently move up in a double age competition must remain in the higher grade for that dance for the remainder of the year.
21. If a feis syllabus does not provide a heavy dance section in the Novice grade, a dancer may perform their heavy jig or hornpipe in the Primary grade and be offered a choice of either Novice or Primary speed. That is, either 76 or 96 for the heavy jig and either 118 or 144 for the hornpipe. If a feis is pre-entry then the feis organiser will include a space on their entry form to indicate whether the Novice or Primary speed is required in the Primary section. Depending on the number of entries received, a feis organiser may then separate the dancers into Novice / Primary competitions if they wish to do so. If a feis is "Pay on the day",

teachers are reminded to ensure that children know the speed they require.

INTERMEDIATE GRADE

22. An Intermediate Dancer is one who has never won a first place in that particular dance in their present age group.
23. Intermediate Trophy competitions are confined to dancers who have never won an Intermediate Trophy in their present age group. Any Dance can be performed for the Trophy but it must have been danced in the Intermediate section on the day of the Feis.
24. A winner of an Intermediate Trophy Competition must move up to the next grade for both the Dance they performed to win the Trophy and the Trophy competition itself.
25. At any one Feis, an Intermediate dancer may only dance each Solo Dance, the Light Trophy and the Heavy Trophy, in ONE GRADE only, with the exception of intermediate dancers wishing to enter the Preliminary or Open Trophy/Championship.
26. In the event of there being no provision for a particular age group, then a dancer may dance up an age group, however on attaining first place in any dance, that dancer must remain in the higher grade for that dance for the remainder of the year.
27. If there are 6 or more dancers in any Intermediate Competition, then the 1st placed dancer must move up to the next grade. Any competition in which there are 5 or fewer dancers shall not count for grading purposes. However, a Dancer may only win 3 such competitions and they then must move up to the next grade.
28. Should there be 5 or fewer dancers in any Intermediate competition then the Feis Organiser reserves the right to combine age groups to make a double age group. Any dancer/s required to subsequently move up in a double age competition must remain in the higher grade for that dance for the remainder of the year.

PRELIMINARY CHAMPIONSHIPS

29. A minimum number of three Adjudicators must officiate.
30. The first age group for a Preliminary Championship is Under 10.
31. Where a Preliminary Championship is held separate from an Open Championship, three rounds should be offered, namely; Reel or Slip Jig, Heavy Jig or Hornpipe and any Set Dance.
32. Where a Preliminary Championship is combined with an Open Championship, then the result should be taken from eligible dancers' ranking after the first two rounds.
33. Where there are separate Preliminary and Open Championships, dancers can compete in both at the discretion of the Feis organiser.
34. Where a competitor wins two Preliminary Championships they must dance in Open Championship for a period of 12 months thereafter.
35. For grading purposes, two wins will be taken as being in any two year rolling period. Where a dancer does not win a second Preliminary within two years of winning their first Preliminary Championship, then the first win will be deemed as having expired and the dancer starts afresh.
36. Where there are 5 or fewer dancers in a Preliminary Championship that win will not normally be considered for grading purposes. However, where a dancer wins three Preliminary Championships regardless of the number of competitors in each competition, that dancer must dance in Open Championship for a period of 12 months thereafter.
37. Dances performed in a Preliminary Championships do not count for grading in solo competitions.
38. A Solo World Qualifier (in the previous 12 months) will NOT be eligible to compete in Preliminary Championships. This excludes dancers that auto qualified at their Regional or National Oireachtas due to lack of numbers.
39. Dancers placing 1st-3rd in an Open Championship with up to 20 competitors or 1st-5th in an Open Championship with more than 20 Competitors cannot compete in a Preliminary Championship for a period of 12 months.

OPEN GRADE

40. In all age groups any dancer who has previously won an Open Championship before a panel of at least three adjudicators does NOT have to dance Open if they are eligible for a lower grade.
41. In all age groups, (with the exception of under 6 and under 7), where solos and Championships are run separately, competitors must have performed 1 light dance and 2 heavy dances to be eligible for the Premier Trophy/Championship. This does not apply where solos are combined in with the Championship.
42. The wording 'Championship' will only be used where there is a panel of at least 3 adjudicators.

ALL GRADES

43. No block, en pointe, stationary or moving, will be allowed to be performed by any dancers up to and including the Under 11 Age Group. The Under 12 age group is also governed by this rule up until 1st September each year after which they are permitted to perform the movement.
44. Dancers must dance in their own age group for solo competitions if that age group is provided for.
45. Any competitor found to be using artificial carriage aids and subsequently refuses to remove them will be subject to disqualification from that particular competition. Medically prescribed apparatus, proof of which may be required, will be exempt from this.

FIGURE DANCING

46. Figure teams may contain up to 50% from a lower age group.

GENERAL FEIS RULES

47. Make up (including false eyelashes and tanner on the face) will not be permitted for dancers, in either solo or team competitions, up to and including the Under 10 age group, and any dancer in the first two grades (Novice and Primary) up to and including the Under 12 age group worldwide. This rule refers to the age group of the competition, not the actual age of the dancer. Leg tan is NOT part of this rule.

48. Any protest against breach of rules must be made in writing, within 1 hour of the conclusion of the relevant competition and accompanied by a fee of £10.00, which will be refunded should the objection be upheld.

49. Medals will be awarded in accordance with the minimum requirements as laid down by the NWRC:

- 1 medal where there is 3 competitors
- 2 medals where there are 5 competitors
- 3 medals where there are 7 competitors
- 4 medals where there are 10 competitors and
- 1 medal for each additional 10 or part of 10 competitors.

50. The Feis Organiser reserves the right to cancel any competition should there be insufficient entries.

51. In the interest of Health, hairspray and any other aerosols must not be used in any of the dancing areas.

52. In accordance with the ruling laid down by An Coimisiun and in the interest of safety, dancers are asked to be suitably dressed at all times and should not undress in the competition halls.

53. Mobile phones and electronic games must be switched off in all of the dancing areas.

54. Abusive language and offensive behaviour will not be tolerated. Any person acting in such a way will be asked to leave the Feis.

55. Feis Organisers will, as far as is practicable, provide a stage surface suitable for dancing. However, the Feis Organisers cannot accept liability for injuries sustained whilst on the dancing areas. The lodgement of an entry will be deemed to be an acceptance of this provision by a dancer.

56. If parents have any constructive comments to make about any aspect of Feiseanna, these would be welcomed by the council and should be put in writing. It should be noted that anonymous correspondence cannot be dealt with.

57. Any Form of unauthorised photography which has the capability to capture a dancer's image whilst in motion, using electronic or manual means, e.g. mobile phone, standard camera, video camcorder, cine recorder, commercial film, with or without flash enhancement, is expressly forbidden in competition.

Provisional Timetable

Please note competitors must be ready to dance 30 minutes before their scheduled time as competitions may start early. The below provisional timetable is subject to change once entries are received.
The final timetable will be released 1 week before the competition.

MAIN HALL			SPORTS HALL				GYM
			Floor A	Floor B	Floor C		
08:00	U10 & U11 Prelim & Open Championships Alternating 2 rounds	08:30	U6 Novice	U7 Novice	U8 & U9 Novice	08:00	U8 & U9 Champ 3 Rounds
09.15	U12 & U13 Prelim & Open Championships Alternating 2 rounds					09:30	U10 Championship Sets
10.30	U14 Prelim & Open Championships Alternating 2 rounds	10:30	U6 & U7 Primary & U7 Intermediate	U8 Primary	U9 Primary	10:30	U11 Championship Sets
11.15	U6 & U7 Championship 3 rounds followed by Feis Cheshire Minis	12:15	Ceili Competitions			11:30	U12 Championship Sets
12.45	BREAK	12.45	BREAK			12:30	U13 Championship Sets
13.30	Junior Cheshire Crown	13:30	U10 Intermediate	U11 Intermediate	U8 & U9 Intermediate	13:15	BREAK
14:45	U15 Prelim & Open Championships Alternating 2 rounds					14:00	U14 Championship Sets
15:30	U16 & U17 Championship 2 rounds	15:30	U10 Primary	U11 Primary	U10 & U11 Novice	15:00	15 & Over Prelim 2 Rounds
16:15	15 & Over Prelim Sets					15:30	U15 Championship Sets
16:45	U19 & Senior Championship 2 Rounds	17:00	U12 Intermediate	U13 Primary & Intermediate	13 & Over Primary & Intermediate	16:30	U16 Championship Sets
			HALL CLOSED			17:15	U17 Championship Sets
						17:45	U19 Championship Sets
						18:15	Senior Championship Sets
						18.45	Senior Cheshire Crown
	HALL CLOSED						HALL CLOSED