

**INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE Voice Box Awards 2016**  
**NORTHERN IRELAND'S JOKE-TELLING COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL PUPILS**

**Attention: School Council**

**Hello**

Do you know a good joke? Do you have lots of funny pupils at your school? If the answer is yes, the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists would like to invite your school to take part in a joke-telling competition called the Voice Box awards between 2 November and 27 January 2016. Every school in Northern Ireland can take part and it gives pupils the chance to represent their school at a live grand final on 7th March in Parliament Buildings Stormont!

All schools in Northern Ireland are being invited to send us their funniest joke by 15 February 2016.

Our judging panel will then choose the finalists from 10 primary schools and 10 post-primary schools and they will come to Stormont to go head to head against other pupils.



**WHY TAKE PART IN Voice Box?**

Telling a joke and making others laugh can help everyone build their confidence. As a school council you can use Voice Box to get lots of pupils involved and show off how great your school is! Every school that enters will have their joke featured in the Voice Box 2016 joke book and your school will get a copy of this for your library.

If you are successful, your school's joke-teller will be invited to compete in a live grand final at Stormont on 7 March 2016 with local celebrities, politicians and other pupils and teachers – plus they will have the chance to win an iPad.



NORTHERN IRELAND  
**VOICEBOX**   
**awards**

### What you need to do

Your school council will need to organise your school's Voice Box competition to find your funniest joke and send us your entry to the grand final by 15 February 2016. Perhaps you could organise an X-factor style competition at a school assembly or at lunchtime with the permission of your teachers.

You can use the posters and stickers we have sent you with this letter to encourage other pupils to take part in your competition. You can also download certificates and more posters from our website [www.givingvoiceuk.org/voicebox-ni/](http://www.givingvoiceuk.org/voicebox-ni/) with the help of a teacher or classroom assistant.

You will need to decide who will judge your competition - maybe a pupil from each year. Your funniest teacher could help, or maybe you'd like to invite a local radio presenter or politician? There's a template letter you can use on our website to do this.



Perhaps you could ask a local business to donate some prizes, write a piece in your school's newsletter about taking part, or use your own budget to help run the competition. Or maybe you have your own ideas.

Your school's council can decide exactly how to run your competition and once you've found your funniest joke you need to fill in your entry form and send it to us by 15 February 2016. We will let you know if you are selected for the grand final by 22 February 2016.

We hope that the members of your school council are interested in running a Voice Box competition and we can't wait to hear your best joke!

*Alison McCullough*

Alison McCullough MBE  
Head of Northern Ireland Office, RCSLT

