

YOU
BE
THE

JUDGE

Sign up to
become a judge
for the

£10,000

Sovereign Minds
SPEAR Oratory Prize



SPEAR

Sovereign Minds Oratory Prize





Can you help the next generation?

If so, learn how you can register to judge the £10,000 *SPEAR* Oratory Prize.

SPEAR is a national speech-making competition for 16–18 year olds living in the UK. There is no fee to enter.

SPEAR will give speakers a platform to use their voice and propose answers to the world's most pressing challenges.

Whether it's poverty, health, climate change or equality – speakers choose a subject that *really* matters to them from our list of ten *SPEAR* topics.



Saturday 31st January 2026

Share your expertise at our **London-based** qualifying round to help the next generation of changemakers.

North

*Regent High School
136 Chalton Street
London NW1 1RX*

South

*Harris Academy Clapham
3 Clarence Avenue
London SW4 8LD*

East

*Bobby Moore Academy
1 Sidings Street
London E20 2AE*

West

*Drayton Manor High School
Drayton Bridge Road
London W7 1EU*

You be the judge!
REGISTER HERE



sovereignminds.org.uk/judges

Am I able to choose which school I attend?

Yes, you can choose which of our four school qualifier venues is more convenient for you to attend when you register using our [online form here](#).



Am I judging alone?

No, you will be one of a panel of three capable judges.



How long will I be judging for?

We are asking for you to spare **two hours** of your valuable time between 8am and 8pm.

How many entrants will I be judging?

Each speech is 2–3 minutes long and in your allotted time slot, we expect you'll review approx. **20–25 entrants**.



Do I need specific skills or qualifications?

Although there are **no strict qualifications** for you to be a judge, you are required to be impartial, professional and committed to attend your chosen location and time slot.

Prior experience of public speaking, teaching or working in a communications field is beneficial but not essential.

We'd love to understand why you'd like to help, so whatever your "why" is, please let us know during the registration process.

Will I be given judging criteria?

Yes, we will provide a simple scoring system and a laptop for each judge – so there is no need for you to bring along anything but your ability and enthusiasm.



Will I be given tips and advice beforehand?

Yes, we will provide a short judges briefing so you arrive safe in the knowledge that you'll do a great job for our entrants.

Will refreshments be available?

Yes, we will provide hot and cold drinks and snacks.



Will I get more info about the venue?

Yes, we will provide your chosen locations details, transport and parking advice and a map of the venue itself.



Will there be help on the day?

Yes, we will have a large team of helpful volunteers at each venue who will ensure your experience is as wonderful as the entrants.

Q&A

#thespears

STEP UP
STAND UP
SPEAK UP
SIGN UP

sovereignminds.org.uk/judges

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