



78th
NUNEATON
FESTIVAL OF ARTS
2026

NEEDLECRAFT
SYLLABUS



Art, Craft, Needlecraft, & Photography entries.

Before bringing in your entry would you please take a photograph of it and email it to Val at publicity.officer@nuneatonfoa.org.uk

This will help us compile a Power Point Presentation for the winning entries, which will be shown at the Presentation of Awards event.

Please label them as **Section: Class Number: Title: your Name;**
EG: Art; 14; Happy Day; Jill Smith

**NB: THERE IS NO QUALIFIED
FIRST AIDER ON SITE AT THIS EVENT**



www.nuneatonfoa.org.uk

Registered Charity Number: 1041379



Nuneaton Festival of Arts DATES 2026



SECTION	ENTRY DATES	ADJUDICATION/ COMPETITION	EXHIBITION	COLLECTION OF WORK	*PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
CREATIVE ARTS					
ART	Fri 27 th & Sat 28 th February	Fri 6 th March	Sat 7 th March - Sat 18 th April	Tues 21 April - Sat 25 th 10.30 - 4.00pm	Saturday 21 st March 2.00pm - 5.00pm
CRAFT	Mon 23 rd & Tues 24 th March	Wed 25 th March	Mon 30 th March - Mon 13 th April (Easter: Closed Friday 3 rd April - Monday 6 th April)	Tues 14 th April & Wednesday 15 th April	Tuesday 21 st April 5.30pm - 7.30 pm
NEEDLECRAFT	Mon 23 rd & Tues 24 th March	Wed 25 th March	Mon 30 th March - Mon 13 th April (Easter: Closed Friday 3 rd April - Monday 6 th April)	Tues 14 th April & Wednesday 15 th April	Wednesday 22 nd April 5.30pm - 7.30 pm
PHOTOGRAPHY	Tues 14 th & Wed 15 th April	Fri 17 th April	Mon 2 nd April - Fri 1 st May (Closed Mon 4 th May)	Wed 6 th May	Sat 9 th May
ORIGINAL WRITING	Sunday 1 st March	N/A	Winning entries displayed in Nuneaton Library		J:Wed 6 th May A: Fri 15 th May
					* Winners to be notified,
PERFORMING ARTS					
PIANO	TBC	TBC	N/A	N/A	Awarded on the day
SPEECH AND DRAMA	Mon 9 th March	Mon 27 th , Tues 28 th & Wed 29 th April	N/A	N/A	Awarded on the day
STAGE DANCE	Fri 7 th March	Sat & Sun 25 th & 26 th April. Sat & Sun 2 nd & 3 rd May Sat & Sun 9 th & 10 th May Sun 17 th May	N/A	N/A	Awarded on the day
VOCAL	Fri 27 th February	Thurs 30 th Apr Fri 1 st May Sun 10 th May.	N/A	N/A	Awarded on the day
WOODWIND STRINGS AND BRASS	Fri 20 th February	Sat 9 th May Possible Fri Eve 8 th May	N/A	N/A	Awarded on the day

Executive Committee

President: The Worshipful The Mayor of Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Chair: Mrs Gwyn Evans

Email: festival.chair@nuneatonfoa.org.uk

Hon. Secretary: Mrs Jane McConnell

Email: secretary@nuneatonfoa.org.uk

Publicity Officer: Mrs Val Squires

Email: publicity.officer@nuneatonfoa.org.uk

Tel: 0745 4242648

Vice Chair: Mrs Val Squires

Email: vice.chair@nuneatonfoa.org.uk

Hon. Treasurer/Trophies: Mrs Marjorie Owen

Email: finance@nuneatonfoa.org.uk

Email: marjorieowen24@gmail.com

Digital Officer: Mrs Jane Hanson

Email: jmh109@talktalk.net



Needlecraft Section Secretary: TBC

Email: needlecraft.section@nuneatonfoa.org

Needlecraft section takes place at The Atkins Building, Lower Bond St, Hinckley LE10 1QU See pages 9 and 10

Entry Dates: Mon 23rd & Tues 24th March 2026

Adjudication: Wednesday 25th March

Exhibition: Monday 30th March - Monday 13th April TBC (Easter: closed Friday 3rd April - Monday 6th April)

Collection of Entries: Tuesday 14th April & Wednesday 15th April

Presentation of Awards: Wednesday 22nd April

5.30-7.30 pm at the Salvation Army Citadel, 1 Victoria Street, Nuneaton CV11 5QE

WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED

ENTRY FEES

Age	*Single Entry	**Group Entry
Under 18 years	£2.00	£5.00
18+	£4.00	£6.00
***Concessions	£3.00	£4.00

***Single Entry is one piece of work produced by one person**

****Group Entry is work done on one entry by more than one person (1 entry only allowed)**

Adjudicator: Nicola Moreland

I was a teacher for 35 years and thoroughly enjoyed teaching History to 11-18 years old and working with teachers to develop their classroom pedagogy. I even found ways of combining my love of textiles and the arts by teaching a module in Russian art to my A Level students!

I have been sewing and knitting for nearly 50 years and like many of us I was taught by my mum and grandmother. I have always looked for ways to continue to learn and develop my skills by attending embroidery and sewing lessons by extremely knowledgeable tutors; seeking out exhibitions and talking to textile artists both at a local and national level; being a member of The Embroiders Guild; completing textile design modules; and I have attended specialist workshops led by The Royal School of Needlework and the V & A.

I am looking forward to adjudicating once more in 2026.

Trophies/Awards

**Trophies are awarded for a nominal year only.
Please return by the date on the Trophy receipt.**



The **Danielle Haddon Cup** - Best entry in kit classes 501-504

The **Textile Cup** - Best entry in Fabric Collage classes 505-508

The **Dress Cup** - Best entry in Dressmaking classes 525-526

The **Knitting Trophy** Best entry in hand/machine knitting classes 536

The **Christine Barnes Crochet Cup and The Margaret Zseli Crochet Trophy**- Adjudicator's decision

The **Beryl and Stan Thompson Trophy** - Best entry depicting a scene (e.g. local)

The **Soroptimist Cup** - Best Entry in adult class

The **Junior Cup** - Best entry under 18's

The **Inner Wheel Club of Bedworth Needlecraft Shield** - Best entry group under 18's (if none, best adult group)

The **Museum Centenary Cup** - Awarded at the Adjudicators discretion

The Jean Lapworth Memorial Fund Award

£50 will be awarded in the Needlecraft section to the entrant who, in the Adjudicator's opinion shows particular promise.

1. The prize money will be used by the recipient to purchase materials, tuition or something else relevant to Needlecraft.
2. The recipient undertakes to submit a written report to the Chair of the Festival Committee outlining how the money has been or is intended to be used no later than July 31st following the competition

Miss Jean Lapworth (1926-2022) was involved with Nuneaton Festival of Arts since 1963. She was chair of Needlecraft Section from 1965-1969 after which she was involved with the NFA committee and also a Friend of the Festival.

Miss Lapworth was also a well-known local teacher in Nuneaton, involved in Local History groups and the preservation of Hartshill Castle amongst other things.



Copies of the Safeguarding/GDPR/Privacy Policies can be found in the main syllabus/from the website
(www.nuneatonfoa.org.uk) Any queries should be addressed to the Festival Secretary: secretary@nuneatonfoa.org.uk

NEEDLECRAFT SECTION RULES

1. **Amateurs only.**

2. **Booking** a time slot for entry

Bookings need to be made only to deliver your entries (see no12)

via Ticket Tailor/Nuneaton Festival of Arts from January 2026

If you cannot access the internet or have any problems please contact Lillian at lillian_dowling@hotmail.com or Val on 0745 4242 648

3. **Entry form** - Please bring a completed entry form together with your work and entry fee to the **ATKINS BUILDING on entry day**. To comply with the Safeguarding Policy procedures the official Nuneaton Festival of Arts entry form **MUST** be completed and signed.

4. **Receipt** - Please retain your receipts safely as it will be needed when you collect your work at the end of the exhibition.

5. **Payment** - may be made by cash, *BACS or bank card.

***ADD 'THE PREFIX 'NC' TO YOUR PAYMENT REFERENCE**

Sort code: 30-96-26 A/C: 80044268

6. . **Entries** - **'DUE TO THE SPACE AVAILABLE AT THE ATKINS BLD AND THE LARGE NUMBER OF ENTRIES WE ARE NOW RECEIVING, WE HAVE HAD TO RESTRICT THE NUMBER OF ENTRIES PER PERSON/SCHOOL/COLLEGE PLEASE NOTE NUMBERS OF ENTRIES ALLOWED'.**

Individuals 3 entries per person. Nurseries 5 entries.

Infant schools 15 entries. Junior Schools 20 entries. Primary schools 35 entries

Secondary Schools and Colleges 35 entries

Group Entry is work done on one entry by more than one person (1 entry only allowed)

If more entries are entered than the maximum stated amount then they will be refused entry

ALL WORK MUST BE ORIGINAL AND HAVE NOT BEEN ENTERED INTO THE FESTIVAL BEFORE

If you do not find a class for your entry, please bring your work along and we will find a class to fit your work. **ALL WORK MUST BE ORIGINAL AND HAVE NOT BEEN ENTERED IN THE FESTIVAL BEFORE.**

7. **Sizes** - as there is limited exhibition space, please note the maximum size required in all sections is **90cms x 90cms**

Oversized GROUP entries can be adjudicated, but due to reduced hanging space it may not be hung or displayed; please contact Section Secretary before the entry day.

8. **Late entries**- cannot be accepted

9. **Labels** - All 2D work must have **two** labels with name, (and school or group if applicable) title of work and **Festival** class number **one** on the back of the work and **one** attached by string to the back of entry so that it can be seen clearly when hung over the face of the work.

3D work - If fabric please attach one label attached with a string with a safety pin.

Other 3D please attach a label on a string appropriately to your material.

Please note most of these items will be open display. See pages 9 and 10

(Schools may put child's name on front if they wish to)

10. **Framing** -If framing your entry, the framing needs to be firm, rigid and sturdy in good condition and appropriate to the size of work. See framing guidance notes on page 9 and 10

11. **Display Cases**-We cannot guarantee your work will be displayed in a case.

12. **COLLECTION - BOOKING ONLY NEEDS TO BE MADE TO DELIVER - NOT COLLECT.**

13. **Results** -Will be available 3 days after the adjudication on the Festival's website and if you have been given an award you will be notified by the Section Secretary with details of the presentation.

14. **LATE COLLECTION WILL BE CHARGED AT £1 PER DAY AND NO RESPONSIBILITY WILL BE TAKEN FOR CONDITION OF ENTRIES AFTER THIS DATE. THEY WILL BE DISPOSED OF AFTER 2 WEEKS.**

Copies of the full rules/safeguarding/GDPR/Privacy Policy can be found in the main syllabus/from the website (www.nuneatonfoa.org.uk) Any queries should be addressed to the Festival Secretary: secretary@nuneatonfoa.org.uk

NEEDLECRAFT - SEWN, KNITTED OR CROCHET WORK INCLUDING LACE

MAXIMUM SIZE IN ALL CLASSES IS 90cms x 90cms

(A) Embroidery - Commercial Kit and Transfers

This work is often bought in a kit form; it could be a picture, tablecloth or items of clothing, all of which have design charted or transferred by means of a hot iron or printed. It can be any kind of embroidery.

CLASS

- 501 Framed or mounted work - Individual Over 18 years
- 502 Framed or mounted work - Individual Under 18 years
- 503 Tablecloths and other household linen etc - Individual Over 18 years
- 504 Tablecloths and other household linen etc – Individual Under 18 years

(B) Embroidery - Fabric Collage

This work may contain such items as buttons, beads, raffia, string, shells etc and is used mainly for decorative purposes eg wall hangings. All material must be stitched to the background **NO GLUE** to be used.

CLASS

- 505 Fabric collage - Individual Over 18 years
- 506 Fabric collage - Individual Under 18 years
- 507 Fabric collage - Group Over 18 years
- 508 Fabric collage - Group Under 18 years

(C) Original Design Surface Stitching, embroidery, drawn, Counted Thread Work

CLASS

- 509 Mounted work - Individual Over 18 years
- 510 Mounted work - Individual Under 18 years
- 511 Mounted work - Group Under 18 years
- 512 Household Linen - Individual Over 18 years
- 513 Household linen - Individual Under 18 years

(D) Quilting, Patchwork and Appliqué

CLASS

- 514 Hand Quilting - Individual Over 18 years
- 515 Hand Quilting - Group Over 18 years
- 516 Machine Quilting - Individual Over 18 years
- 517 Machine Quilting - Group Over 18 years
- 518 Patchwork - Individual Over 18 years
- 519 Patchwork Hand Quilting - Individual Under 18 years
- 520 Patchwork - Group Over 18 years
- 521 Appliqué - Individual Over 18 years
- 522 Appliqué - Group Over 18 years
- 523 Appliqué - Group Under 18 years

(E) All other Needlework (if work contains glue or is woven please enter in the Craft section.)

CLASS

- 524 Machine Embroidery - Individual over 18 years
- 525 Dressmaking and/or Tailoring - Individual Over 18 years
- 526 Dressmaking and/or Tailoring - Individual Under 18 years
- 527 Innovative use of materials - Individual Over 18 years
- 528 Innovative use of materials - Individual Under 18 years
- 529 Innovative use of materials - Group Over 18 years
- 530 Innovative use of materials - Group Under 18 years
- 532 Soft Toys stitched using a pattern - Individual Over 18 years
- 533 Soft Toys stitched using a pattern - Individual Under 18 years
- 534 Soft Toys knitted using a pattern - Individual Over 18 years
- 535 Soft Toys knitted using a pattern - Individual Under 18 years
- 536 Hand Knitting - Over 18 years
- 537 Hand knitting - Under 18 years
- 538 Baby Knitting - Individual Over 18 years + 538a - under 18years.
- 539 Machine Knitting - Over 18 years
- 540 Crochet - Individual Over 18 including soft toys
- 541 Crochet - Individual Under 18 years including soft toys
- 542 Crochet - Group Over 18 years including soft toys
- 543 Lace - Individual Over 18 years
- 544 Sewn Felt work - Individual Over 18 years **All other felt work, please enter in the Craft section**
- 545 Sewn Felt work - Individual Under 18 years **All other felt work, please enter in the Craft section.**
- 546 Sewn Beadwork - Over 18 years
- 548 Non-competitive work - any Needlecraft submitted for written assessment only.
- 549 Individual entries - worked as a group

Class 547 Any other item.

PLEASE NOTE: If you don't find a class for your entry in the list, please bring your work along and we will find a class to fit your work.

Needlecraft Conditions and Guidance Notes 2026

- A. **General:** The aim of these arrangements is to ensure the smooth running, good hanging and security of your work. Exhibits to be displayed in the Atkins building gallery, Hinckley
- NFoA volunteers will arrange and hang works. Artist work must be brought in and collected on the specified date. The Atkins Exhibition officers decision on inclusion will be final.

PLEASE ADHERE TO THE SIZE LIMITS AS ANY OVERSIZED INDIVIDUAL ENTRIES MAY NOT BE ACCEPTED OR BE HUNG. IT MAY BE ADJUDICATED BUT NO PRIZE WILL BE GIVEN

B. **Framing of Work:**

For displays all framed works must be securely screw eyed and strung ready for hanging; those not strung cannot be displayed. The framing needs to be firm, rigid, sturdy in good condition and appropriate to the size of the work. Clip frames are not appropriate

Any works which Atkins Building deems too heavy for the its fittings or not secured to a satisfactory standard will be removed from display. See page 8 For framing

- C. **Labels** - All 2D work must have **two** labels with name, (and school or group if applicable) title of work and **Festival** class number **one** on the back of the work and **one** attached by string to the back of entry so that it can be seen clearly when hung over the face of the work.

D. **Sale of Work:**

- **Entrants over 18 years of age may submit up to 1 piece of their own work to be for sale in this exhibition.**

All sales will be handled by the Atkins Team using the secure payment method at

<https://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/pay> Buyers will purchase the piece when onsite at Atkins Building using the above website via debit/credit cards, paying by credit card will incur a 2.2% surcharge which will be added to the buyers' transaction.

The Atkins Building will take 20% commission on any sale of art displayed in the Gallery and exhibitors will be paid by BACS minus the commission. If you are planning to sell any items in your exhibition or ticketed events, please provide a member of the Atkins Team with your BACS details. Please make sure they are correct as Atkins Building will accept no responsibility if incorrect bank details are given Only works that are present at the Atkins Gallery can be sold through the exhibition.

E. ****Acceptance of Work:**

- On deposit of work, NFoA's volunteers will check off the condition of the works and entrants will be given a receipt. Please bring this receipt on collection day. You will be able to sign up for a collection slot on entry day,
- ***All works shall continue to be displayed until the official end of the exhibition, when they will be available for collection.***
- **Results will be available 3 days after adjudication on the Festival's website.**

F. **Insurance:**

- The Atkins Building and the NFoA do not accept responsibility for loss or damage to articles lent for temporary exhibitions, unless such loss or damage arises directly as a result of negligence on the part of the Atkins, its officer or NFoA.

G. **Events:**

The Gallery will host other functions on some occasions so this area may be utilised for parties, indoor markets, fairs, etc. This will not intentionally impede the works on display but may result in some works being partially concealed or moved temporarily. The exhibition will be promoted alongside the event.

- **The Atkins Building Gallery is open Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm. Closed on Bank Holidays and some Saturdays. Please check before visiting.**

****Bookings need to be made to deliver your entries via Ticket Tailor/Nuneaton Festival of Arts from January 2026**

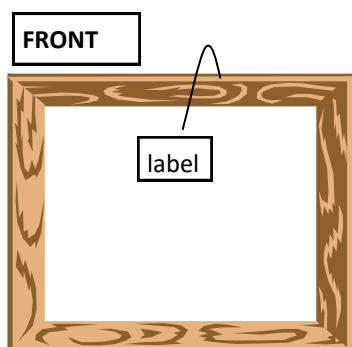
If you cannot access the internet or have any problems please contact Lillian at lillian_dowling@hotmail.com
or

Val on 0745 4242 648

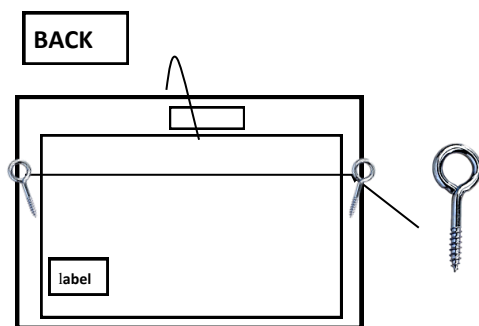
2026 Festival of Arts: Needlecraft Hanging Requirements

All framed wall based work for Craft, Needlecraft, Photography and Art (Art - classes 31-50) being displayed needs to be appropriately strung and labelled. These guidelines are also relevant to any children's work

See also labelling guidance, on page 7 and diagrams/details below:



A label should be attached to the back of the frame that can be hung over the front, to enable gallery staff with the hanging.



Screw eyes should be put into the frame and string attached for hanging. **Please use picture string not wire**, as wire makes the pictures difficult to hang. A second label should be attached to the back of the frame. Please do not attach the label that hangs over the front to the screw eye as this makes it difficult to hide during the exhibition. Please ensure the screw eyes or D rings are attached to the frame of the work and not the board at the back. The frame should be of sufficient thickness to ensure that screw eyes are secure.

LABEL

Artist :
Title:
Class:
Size:
Price/NFS:

Labels need to be attached to all framed and unframed work. Both labels should include the artist's name, title of the work, medium, size, and selling price. If the work is not for sale please use NFS. Information on labels must match the information on entry forms.

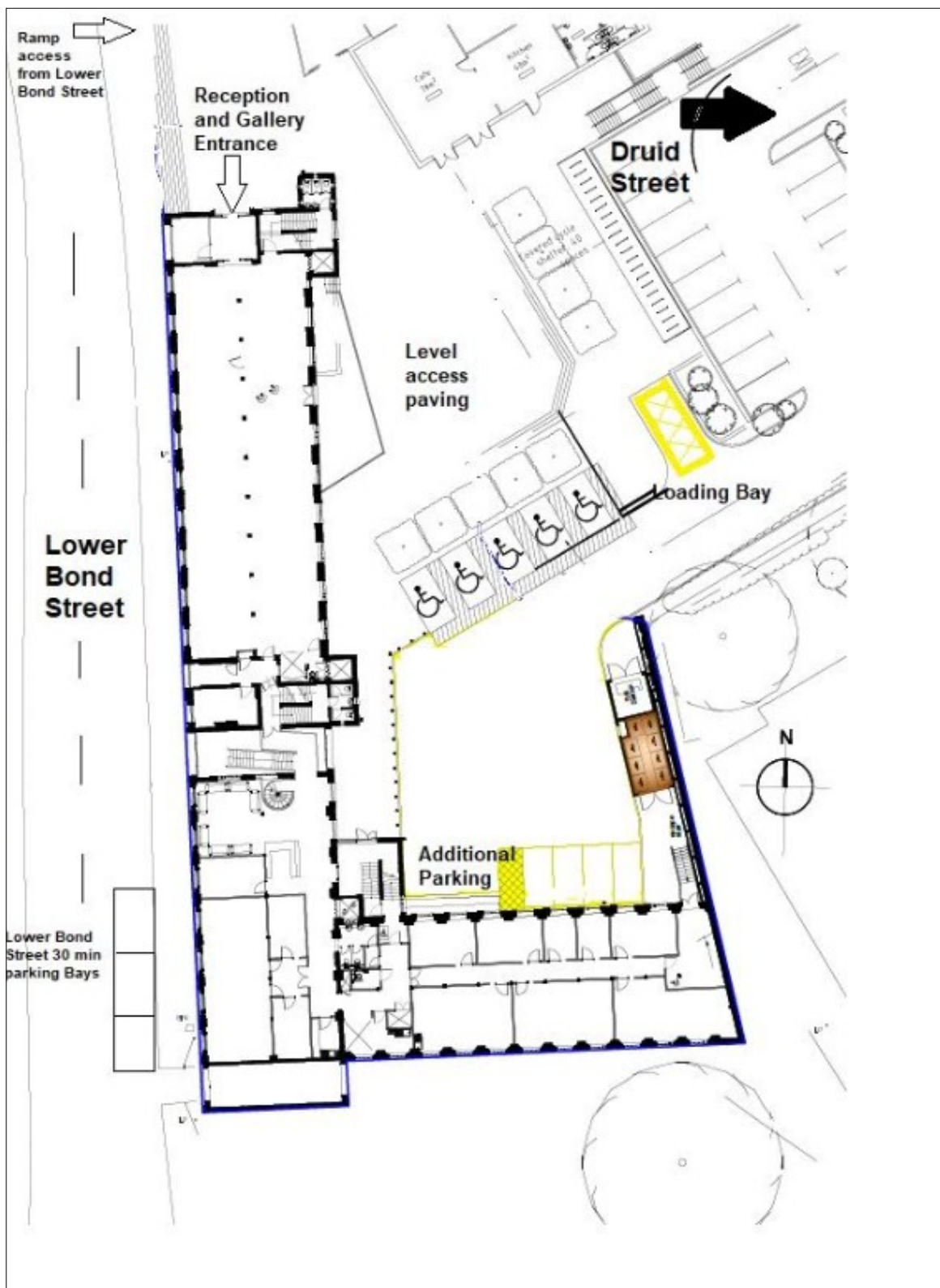
Please note:

Clip frames are not appropriate for hanging and work will not be accepted in clip frames. The Festival reserves the right to refuse any works that do not meet requirements.

There is a charge of £1 per item per day for the storage of uncollected work. All work should be delivered and collected on the agreed dates and times, unless prior arrangements have been made with the section secretary/publicity officer.

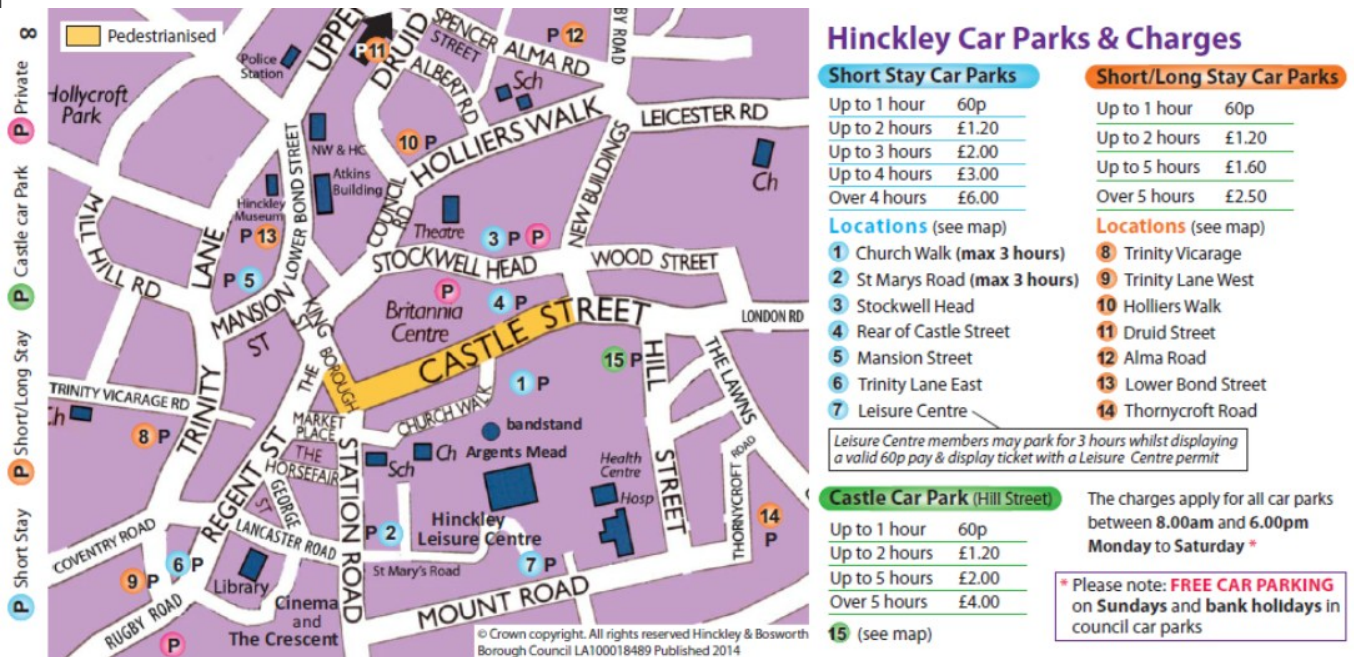
Copies of the Safeguarding/GDPR/Privacy Policies can be found in the main syllabus/from the website (www.nuneatonfoa.org.uk) Any queries should be addressed to the Festival Secretary: secretary@nuneatonfoa.org.uk

ATKINS BUILDING, Lower Bond St, Hinckley LE10 1QU



BUSES TO AND FROM HINCKLEY NOS 48 AND 158 STOP AND PICK UP CLOSE TO THE ATKINS BUILDING.

**Drop off parking for 30 minutes is highlighted.
Access through the NWSL carpark in Druid Street**



Lower Bond Street Long Stay Car Park - opposite main entrance

Druid Street and Holliers Walk Long Stay Car Park – before the rear driveway entrance

Lower Bond Street is on a main bus route and the local Train Station is a 10 minute walk away.

30 minutes no return within 60 minutes spaces are available in the rear Courtyard at Atkins Building and on Lower Bond Street.

Atkins Building 01455 247070

Lower Bond Street

Hinckley

Leicestershire

LE10 1QU

Please note that entering our postcode in Sat Navs etc. will bring you to the front of the building on Lower Bond Street

NUNEATON FESTIVAL OF ARTS 2026 NEEDLECRAFT ENTRY AND INSURANCE FORM

Name of Entrant: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Address:

..... Post code: Tel: No:

Email: School name if applicable:

Age limit for individuals: first day of section competition. Age limit for groups: 1st September following festival or school year group

Method of payment: please tick:

Cash ☐ *Bank transfer ☐ Bank card ☐ ***ADD 'NC' TO YOUR PAYMENT REFERENCE.**

Sort code: 30-96-26 A/C: 80044268

NOTES: a) **SCHOOLS and GROUPS** - list entrants overleaf. Photocopy the form if required. b) **Needlecraft Entry Forms and fees should be taken with the entry to The Atkins Building, Hinckley on the stated days.**

PRIVACY STATEMENT

1. I have read and understand the Privacy Policy on page 73 of the main syllabus/website and agree that the Festival may use the information on this form in accordance with that Policy. YES/NO
2. I have read and accept both the general and section rules of entry and I have read and agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the NFoA's safeguarding policy YES/NO
3. From time to time we take photographs/video footage of participants and /or entries for use with promotions including but not limited to syllabus and programme production, newspaper articles, banners and flyers as well as websites, Facebook etc including use by **ATKINS** and other forms of social media.

I agree to allow NFoA and Atkins usage of photographic image +/- video for other purposes stated above. YES/NO

Signed(Entrant/parent/guardian/carer) Date

Teachers of pupils under 18 years must sign below as well if appropriate

I have ensured consent from all parents/guardians of pupils named on this entry for, except for the pupils indicated overleaf.

Signed Teacher Date

Festival Class No:	Title of entry	Entry Fee	Insurance value	Sale/ NFS	Condition when submitted (to be filled in by NFoA)
XXX	MAX 3 ENTRIES PER PERSON	Total:			

Name of Exhibition: NFoA - Needlecraft Venue: **The Atkins building, Hinckley LE10 1QU**

I/We the entrant/s state that this is the condition of the work prior to exhibiting, as stated above. To be completed with a NFoA volunteer.

Signed by the Entrant/s

Signed by NFoA

Date

Collected by Entrant/s

Signed by NFoA

Date

SCHOOLS/COLLEGES etc list for NEEDLECRAFT entries 2026

Individuals 3 entries per person. Nurseries 5 entries.

Infant schools 15 entries. Junior Schools 20 entries. Primary schools 35 entries

Secondary Schools and Colleges 35 entries

Group Entry is work done on one entry by more than one person (1 entry only allowed)

Festival Class No.	Name	Title of Work	Entry Fee	Ins. Value	Condition when submitted (to be filled in by NFoA).