

1. The competition theme is *'What does the Christmas season mean to you?'* and the children are asked to design an image that best describes what the festive season means to them.
2. Each entry must be hand drawn by the child, must be completely the child's own original work and must not copy any other work. Unfortunately, drawings which copy other artwork will be disqualified. Drawings must be flat, so no collages, materials or textures. Please also avoid the use of fluorescent inks or highlighter pens.
3. Children may use drawing packages on a computer or tablet so long as no part of the design is computer enhanced or generated. So, for instance, the use of clip-art is not allowed. Entries in a digital format will not be accepted, so please ask children to design directly onto the competition entry form, or alternatively, to print out designs and affix to the official entry form in the blank space.
4. Children must use the official entry form to submit designs (there is only one version of the official entry form). You can use photocopies of the blank official entry form – please ask in school as these can be provided.
5. There will be two different Christmas stamp sizes produced in 2017: a large and a small size. **It is therefore important that the design can work for both sizes.**
6. Encourage the children to use lots of colour (no black and white images please) and to use up as much of the white space in their design as possible. The reason for this is that the actual stamps will have a white border around the winning designs.
7. For this reason, please ask the children **NOT** to draw The Queen's silhouette nor the value (e.g "1st") symbol within the design area. Also, please ask them to be aware of where The Queen's silhouette and value sits within the smaller version (as can be seen on the right). All we need from the child is their individual Christmas design.
8. All designs should be drawn within the template on the official entry form.
9. After the designs have been completed, please ensure that the name of the child, their age (on the day they finished the design), school name and postcode have been added on each entry form.
10. All children in the UK aged 4 to 11 years can take part.
11. All entries that progress to the final stages of the competition will require the signature of the child's parent or legal guardian. **It is not compulsory to obtain this signature before sending in an entry, however by doing so it will streamline the process if that entry is successful.**
12. Sorry, we cannot return any entries, so please remember to take a copy!