



## Save the date!

Virtual School would like to invite all Year 5 and Year 6 Calderdale CLA to take part in this year's Poetry Slam! Poetry Slam is an exciting opportunity to work with published poet Matt Abbott in a writing workshop and have the chance to perform your very own poem at the Victoria Theatre! These are free events, paid for by Virtual School.

**Matt Abbott's workshop**  
**Saturday 3rd February 2024, 9:00 – 2:00 pm**  
**Piece Hall, Halifax**

Matt's workshop will "inspire pupils to find their creative spark; write in their own voice; and break down any barriers when it comes to poetry."

**Poetry Slam Performance**  
**Monday 22nd April 2024, 6:30pm**  
**Victoria Theatre, Halifax**

To book a place, please email [rabia.amini@calderdale.gov.uk](mailto:rabia.amini@calderdale.gov.uk)



Matt Abbott

## A little more about Matt



Matt Abbott is a poet and educator from Wakefield. His debut kids' poetry collection 'A Hurricane in my Head' was published by Bloomsbury in July 2019. It was one of the selected titles for National Poetry Day, which led to a live appearance on Blue Peter. Matt's debut one-man show 'Two Little Ducks' earned a string of 5\* and 4\* reviews during a full Edinburgh Fringe run in 2017 and on a 22-date UK theatre tour in 2018. He started life as a poet on the indie music scene in Yorkshire as a teenager; initially inspired by Linton Kwesi Johnson, Gil Scott-Heron and Dr John Cooper Clarke.



Matt's book - A Hurricane in My Head tackles the themes of friendship, bullying, technology and the life of a modern teenager. These poems say the things we can't always put into words; they may make you laugh, they may make you cry, but they will most definitely make you reminisce, escape, discover... This is a truly stunning collection from Matt Abbott, nationally acclaimed writer and performer, with poems that will make you want to become a poet and put your own words to paper – much to the perplexity of any careers advisor!