



# ISA WRITE ALONG POETRY WORKSHOP

Open to Year 2 to 6

Online workshop: Wednesday 30 September 2026

Years 2 & 3 workshop at 9:15 - 10am

Years 4, 5 & 6 workshop at 10:45 - 11:35am



**DEADLINE**

Friday 25 September 2026

isaschools.org.uk | isaarts@isaschools.org.uk  
Competition open to ISA Members Schools only

Celebrate National Poetry Day in style with a free live lesson from acclaimed children's poet and National Poetry Day ambassador [Simon Mole](#). Your class will join thousands of other children across the country to play some fun (and quite silly) games and create their own poetic masterpieces.

## **Year Groups and Eligibility**

Only schools whose Head is a Member with ISA are eligible to enter ISA workshops. Any pupils participating must be on the main school's admissions register on the date of the event.

Our year groups follow the UK National Curriculum. For guidance on selecting the correct year group for your student(s), please refer to the UK system [here](#). When completing your application, please enter students according to the UK year group, even if your school uses a different age or stage structure.

## **Access and Inclusion**

At ISA, we are committed to making our opportunities as accessible as possible. We warmly welcome applications from all students, including those with learning difficulties or disabilities.

If a student (including those with an EHCP or on the SEND register) is working at a level that does not align with their chronological year group, or if your school prioritises developmental stages, skills, or personalised progression rather than fixed year groups, please do get in touch with us at the following email address [hannah.lovegrove.campion@isaschools.org.uk](mailto:hannah.lovegrove.campion@isaschools.org.uk). We are happy to discuss individual circumstances and advise on the most appropriate way to apply.

## **Accessible Formats**

Alternative formats of these guidelines are available on request. Please let us know as early as possible if you require this, so we can provide the information in a format that works for you.

If you have any questions, please contact [isaarts@isaschools.org.uk](mailto:isaarts@isaschools.org.uk)

## WORKSHOP DETAILS

Open to Year 2 to Year 6. Schools can register as many classes as they wish.

Registration for the workshop must be completed via the form [here](#) on the ISA website by **Friday 25 September 2026** at the latest.

The workshop will be held online on, please find the times for your year groups below:

- 9.15am – 10am Years 2 & 3
- 10.45am – 11.35am Years 4, 5 & 6

Try out this fun video lesson from Simon as a taster to get your class excited ahead of the event:

- Years 2 & 3 try this: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KMHgf6jBpc>
- Years 4 & 5 try this: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3FZYXFS6bU>
- Year 6 try this: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q7bmeqJ\\_wXM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q7bmeqJ_wXM)

## TIPS FROM SIMON TO HELP FROM THE LESSON

All classes will be muted for the majority of the event, with a staff member sending questions or suggestions via the chat function on Zoom. This interactive element will be a big part of reinforcing that the children are part of a bigger group experience with other schools around the country – so do please use the chat when you can!

Simon will start off with a couple of games and activities to get warmed up and build the key skills you will need for the lesson. He will then take the group through a guided step by step tutorial to write a poem.

On occasions he will ask if any schools want to offer a spoken contribution or perhaps share a favourite line or two from one of the poems – he will do this with enough warning so any classes that want to can let him know in the chat and then organise themselves so a child is near enough to the mic and camera to share an idea/question/poem.

In online workshops like these, it is not always the case that children finish their poems completely by the end of the session. We go for a short sharp burst to get the heart or the start of a poem on the page, and then they may take further time once the class is over to finish their writing without the screen on.

Some children might prefer to work in pairs or groups – this can be fun, provided they're willing to share control over the choices about their poem! Classes may choose to write 1 poem as a whole class to minimise the amount of individual scribing that is required. There will be an additional document sent out to all registered staff to aid younger groups or reluctant writers.