



# ISA

POETRY  
COMPETITION



Open to KS1 - KS5

Students are invited to write a poem  
based on the theme "One Day"

## DEADLINE

Thursday 26 February 2026

Competition open to ISA Members' schools only  
Visit the ISA website for more information

[isaschools.org.uk](https://isaschools.org.uk) | [isaarts@isaschools.org.uk](mailto:isaarts@isaschools.org.uk)

ISA  
ARTS

The ISA Poetry Competition challenges students' creative thinking skills and use of language. We suggest running a competition in house and submitting your best poems.

### Eligibility

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

Open to Year 1 to year 13. Our year groups are based on the UK national curriculum, for more information and to check the correct year group for your students see [here](#). Please ensure you enter pupils according to the UK system, even if your own school's age group system differs.

At ISA, we are committed to making our opportunities accessible, we welcome applications from all pupils, including those with learning difficulties or disabilities. If your pupil(s), those with an EHCP or on the school's SEND register, are working at a level that differs from their age group's key stage, or if your school or student focuses on development and skills rather than year groups, please contact us.

Alternative formats of these guidelines are available on request. Please notify us at the earliest opportunity so we can provide the document accordingly, if required.

### Competition Categories

Schools can enter a maximum of four entries per year group. Each pupil may submit one entry only. We encourage schools to run their own competition in house and submit their successful entries in the competition.

Pupils are invited to write an original poem on the theme "**One Day**". (Please note that some year groups might be combined for the judging process).

- Year 1
- Year 2
- Year 3
- Year 4
- Year 5
- Year 6
- Year 7
- Year 8
- Year 9
- Year 10
- Year 11
- Year 12
- Year 13

### How to enter

Entries must be submitted via the form [here](#) on the ISA website by **Thursday 26 February** at the latest.

- Entries should be PDF or Word document and include the pupils name and year group.
- We strongly encourage students to use the templates provided on our website. However, if they wish to use a different paper it's important for each entry to be titled in the following format: school name followed by the pupil name e.g. SchoolName\_JohnSmith and their year group.
- Make sure the pupil's name, school name and post code, and the age category are written on the entry.
- All entries must be scanned or photographed clearly and submitted online.
- The length of each poem should not exceed 500 words and must fit on one A4 page.

### Judging criteria

- Imaginative ideas
- Structure
- Use of poetic devices
- Rhythm

### Rules

- Each entry must have the title **“One Day”** Students may interpret the title in any way they choose.
- Each entry must include the school name and pupil name on the front of the page.
- Entries can be handwritten or typed.
- Entries can be written in any language, provided an English translation is given.
- All entries must be original work from the pupil.
- Pupils are free to use any poetry form they wish.
- While we recognise the potential benefit of AI, we kindly request that participants are using it for inspiration and support and in line with their schools policies on its use, rather than using it to generate their poems. Please include details about the process of using AI under “any special circumstances” box if applicable, so judges are aware.

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