



ISA BAND COMPETITION

Open to KS1 - KS5



DEADLINE

Wednesday 12 May 2027

Supported by



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

The Band Competition is a chance for bands, groups and ensembles from ISA Members' schools to celebrate their musical talents. All musical styles are welcome.

Year Groups and 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.

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. 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.

Judging Criteria

- Pitch
- Rhythm
- Tone
- Musicality
- Stage Presence
- Teamwork/Ensemble Sound

If you have any questions, please contact isaarts@isaschools.org.uk

HOW TO ENTER

Entries must be submitted via the online form on the ISA website [here](#) by **Wednesday 12 May 2027** at the latest. Please note you will need to be logged in to your account to access the entry form.

Schools are invited to film and submit a URL link of a performance. Videos must not be edited as we need to be able to see the bands, groups and ensembles playing live in one take as if we were in the audience.

- For video entries, **a student from the band must say the school's name at the beginning of the recording**. The time limit will start from the beginning of the performance not at the start of the recording.
- **A working URL link must be given** for the video and accessible for at least 3 months, without a required password. ISA will not accept any files to download or links via SharePoint. Please ensure to check the sharing permissions with your school:
 - YouTube videos will need to be **unlisted**
 - Vimeo videos will need to be **unlisted** and **age rated**
 - Google Drive will need to be set to **anyone with the link**
 - OneDrive needs to be set with a **share link to anyone**

The videos are only for judging purposes and will not be shared elsewhere

COMPETITION CATEGORIES

Schools can submit a **maximum of 3 entries per category as below**. Therefore, all schools can submit **9 entries in total**.

We encourage schools to run a competition in house and submit their best projects.

- Instrumental
- Instrumental with vocals

Junior (Year 1 to 6)

Middle (Year 7 to 9)

Senior (Year 10 to 13)

Rules

- This competition **does not** include purely vocal groups such as choirs.
- Mixed age groups must be entered into the oldest pupil's year group.
- Students can play from memory or with music.
- Performances can be self-composed music or covers.
- The video **must not** last longer than **3 minutes and 30 seconds**.
- Appropriate copyright permissions must be obtained by the school for music and the recording where required.
- We encourage you to film a performance specifically for the competition. Please make sure that video and sound quality are clear enough for adjudication.
- Entries previously submitted to ISA Arts Competitions will not be accepted.
- **AI generated entries will not be allowed in the competition.**