

# ISA Esports Championship 2026-27

## Overview

The ISA Esports Championship returns for the 2026–27 academic year, providing schools across the association with the opportunity to compete in a structured national esports competition.

Following consultation with member schools and consideration of school calendars, conference dates, and holiday periods, the proposed competition schedule has been designed to maximise participation while minimising clashes with key school events.

All dates listed below are provisional and remain subject to final confirmation following feedback from schools and publication of the ISA National Calendar.

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## Competition Structure

The championship will consist of:

- Registration and team sign-up period
- Minecraft Challenge activities
- Four competition rounds ([Minecraft/Rocket League/Geoguessr](#))
- National Finals event

Further details regarding game titles, competition formats, rules, and eligibility requirements will be published once the competition schedule has been finalised.

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## Key Dates

### Team Registration

Activity	Date
Sign-up Deadline	Sunday 11 October 2026

The registration deadline has been proposed prior to autumn half-term to ensure schools have sufficient time to organise teams and submit entries.

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## **Minecraft Challenge Weeks (Asynchronous)**

Schools participating in Minecraft challenges will be required to sign up by Thursday 1st October.

<b>Challenge Week</b>	<b>Start Date</b>
Challenge Week 1	Monday 5 October 2026
Challenge Week 2	Monday 12 October 2026

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## **Championship Competition Rounds (Synchronous)**

The main championship is proposed to take place across four rounds during November and December. **(Sign Up Closing Date - Oct 11th)**

<b>Round</b>	<b>Date</b>
Round 1	Thursday 5 November 2026
Round 2	Thursday 12 November 2026
Round 3	Thursday 26 November 2026
Round 4	Thursday 3 December 2026

The schedule has been designed to avoid clashes with the Schools and Colleges Winter Conference and autumn half-term periods where possible.

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## **National Finals**

The preferred date for the National Finals is:

**Saturday 30 January 2027**

This date has been selected to allow a suitable gap following the completion of the competition rounds while avoiding conflicts with the February half-term period observed by many schools.

Should operational or calendar constraints require an alternative date, the following weekend remains under consideration:

**Saturday 6 February 2027**

Final confirmation will be communicated to participating schools following consultation.

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## Calendar Considerations

The proposed dates have been developed with reference to:

### Autumn Half-Term

Many schools observe autumn half-term during one of the following periods:

- Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October 2026
- Extended half-term periods used by some independent schools, including approximately 16 October – 1 November 2026

### Students' Esports World Championship (SEWC)

The SEWC is scheduled for the week commencing **16 November 2026**. Competition rounds have been arranged to avoid direct clashes with event activity. Some ISA schools may be travelling for this event as well.

### Spring Half-Term

Many schools are expected to break up for February half-term from **Friday 5 February 2027**, which has been considered when planning the finals schedule.

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## Next Steps

The proposed schedule will be reviewed with schools and stakeholders during the autumn planning period. Feedback gathered through upcoming ISA meetings and conferences will be incorporated before final dates are confirmed.

The final ISA National Calendar is expected to be published in **May 2026**, after which all esports dates will be formally confirmed.

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## Important Note

All dates shown in this document are provisional and may be amended following consultation with member schools, venue availability, and confirmation of the wider ISA events calendar.