



ISA POETRY COMPETITION

Open to KS1 - KS5



DEADLINE

Wednesday 24 February 2027

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

A fantastic opportunity for pupils at ISA Members' schools to showcase their poetry writing skills and have their work read by a renowned poet.

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

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

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 24 February 2027** at the latest. Please note you will need to be logged in to your account to access the entry form.

- For individual entries, all files need to be submitted with the **school's name followed by the student's name e.g. SchoolName_JohnSmith**. This helps us identify clearly each student's entry that has been submitted.
- Entries must be submitted in either a **PDF** or **Word** format only.
- Students must use the templates available on our website. Teachers may print these for use. Each student must use one template only per entry, they cannot combine two together.
- Please only submit a clear photo/scan of the entry, ensure no children appear on the photo.

COMPETITION CATEGORIES

Schools can submit a **maximum of 2 entries per year group**. Therefore, all schools can submit **only 26 entries in total**. We encourage schools to run a competition in house and submit their best entries.

Students are invited to write an original poem on the theme **"Think Big"**. Please note some year groups might be combined for 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 | |

Rules

- Each entry must have the title **"Think Big"**. Students may interpret the title in any way they choose.
- The length of each poem should not exceed **500 words** and must fit on **one A4 page**.
- Each entry must include the school's name and pupil name on the front of the page.
- Entries can be handwritten or typed.
- Poems can be written in any language, provided an English translation is given.
- **AI generated entries will not be allowed in the competition.**
- Entries previously submitted to ISA Arts Competitions will not be accepted.
- Entries must be made by **one student only** (no group entries).
- All entries must be the students original work, which have never been published.