



ISA

A Cappella
Competition



Open to All Ages
Tuesday 17 March 2026
Leighton Park School, RG2 7DE
Spaces are limited, don't delay your entry.

DEADLINE

Tuesday 16 December 2025

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

isaschools.org.uk | isaarts@isaschools.org.uk

ISA
ARTS

Open to all ages, this competition challenges singers to work together to produce an unaccompanied vocal performance. The live event provides an opportunity for pupils to perform to an audience and watch their fellow vocalists.

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.

The competition is open to all ages. Maximum 20 students per group. Entries are welcome from any kind of singing group, including ensembles, choirs and barbershop quartets. Must be a group no individuals.

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.

Year Groups

Schools can submit a maximum of three entries in total per school. Groups with mixed ages must be entered into the age category of the oldest pupil. (Please note that some year groups might be combined for the judging process).

- EYFS
- 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 online entry form on the ISA website [here](#) by **Tuesday 16 December 2025**. You must be logged in to the website to access the entry form, any staff member can create a login with their school email address. Pupils or parents must not submit entries themselves.

You must have obtained appropriate permissions from your Head/HoD for pupil and staff absence from school, including appropriate cover for staff and any associated costs.

Before submitting an entry, please ensure that you are able to attend the event as late cancellations mean that other schools miss out on opportunities and cause considerable inconvenience to the organisers. All entry should be regarded as a definite commitment to attend the event.

Judging Criteria

- Balance & Blend
- Dynamics
- Rhythm
- Intonation
- Arrangement & Interpretation
- Energy

Rules

- Each performance should only use the voice, no instruments are allowed.
- You may have a conductor if required.
- Any genre of song is allowed.
- Each performance can last no longer than 5 minutes in total.
- You can perform one song in its entirety or a mash-up of different songs.
- No original songs.
- You may use a pitch pipe if needed.
- Each school can enter two groups maximum per category and a maximum of three entries in total.

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