



# **ISA** **BAND** **COMPETITION**

OPEN TO KS1 – KS5  
COMPETITION OPEN TO ISA  
MEMBERS' SCHOOLS ONLY

VISIT THE ISA WEBSITE  
FOR MORE INFORMATION

**DEADLINE**  
**THURSDAY 1**  
**MAY 2025**

**ISA**

**ARTS**

[www.isaschools.org.uk](http://www.isaschools.org.uk) | [isaarts@isaschools.org.uk](mailto:isaarts@isaschools.org.uk) | [@ISAartsUK](https://www.instagram.com/ISAartsUK)

Playing and performing music helps to build students' confidence and mental wellbeing. The ISA Band Competition aims to inspire pupils to practice their musical skills, and to work together to produce a cohesive performance.

### Eligibility

This competition is open to ISA Members' Schools only. Open to KS1-5. Each school may submit up to **three** entries per age group maximum. This competition does not include choirs. Must be groups, no individual entries. We encourage in-house competitions to narrow down the entries.

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) are working above or below their age groups key stage, 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

- Key Stage 1-2
  - Key Stage 3
  - Key Stage 4
  - Key Stage 5
1. Instruments with vocals (group of any size including one or more vocalists)
  2. Instrumental with no vocalists (small group of 2-5 pupils OR large group of 6+ pupils)

Groups with mixed ages will be judged in the category of the oldest pupil.

### How to enter

Entries must be submitted via the online form [here](#) on the ISA website by **Thursday 1 May 2025**.

Schools are invited to film and submit a URL link of a performance - no more than 3 minutes. 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

Please make sure that your videos are accessible to view by anyone with the link. 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' and OneDrive needs to be set with 'share link' to 'anyone'.

### Judging criteria

The following will be taken into consideration during the judging process:

- Pitch
- Rhythm
- Tone
- Musicality
- Stage Presence

### Rules and Guidelines

- This competition does not include purely vocal groups such as choirs
- Pupils can play from memory or with music
- Performances can be self-composed music or covers
- The video must not last longer than 3 minutes
- 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
- 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 pieces. Please include details about the process of using AI under “any special circumstances” box if applicable, so judges are aware.
- Pieces must have been produced within 12 months of the competition deadline. All entries must be submitted based on the pupil’s age and key stage at the time of creation.

If you have any questions, please contact [isaarts@isaschools.org.uk](mailto:isaarts@isaschools.org.uk)  
We look forward to receiving your entries