



ISA  
ARTS



ISA  
Art

# Competition 2024

Visit the ISA website to submit your entries

Open to ISA Members' schools only

Open to all age groups



ISA

INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOLS  
ASSOCIATION



GASS ART  
EST.1984

With the support of

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

## INTRODUCTION TO THE COMPETITION

The ISA National Art Competition takes place annually, inviting participation from all pupils at ISA schools. It is an excellent platform for schools to showcase their students' artistic talents and for teachers to share innovative practice and ideas. The competition is held in two stages – the Area Art Competitions and the National Final.

Before entering, carefully read this handbook and refer the checklist provided at the end.

At ISA, we are committed to making our opportunities accessible, we encourage applications from all pupils, including those with learning difficulties or disabilities.

*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.*

### 1

#### Qualifications at the Area Art Competition

The Area art competitions will take place in person and will be organised by **the ISA Area Art Coordinators** during either summer or autumn term. Most areas combine the art competition with a Headteacher's meeting, some areas will organise staff inset training whilst the Art is being judged.

Please note, this is not an online competition, schools must bring each artwork to the events.

All ISA member schools are encouraged to submit work for the first stage of the competition. Artworks that secure first place in the regional competitions will automatically go through to the National Final.

### 2

#### The National Finals

The National Finals, second stage of the competition, will coincide with the ISA Autumn Study Conference on 14-15 November 2024 at the Chesford Grange Hotel, Kenilworth.

**All winning entries** from the seven ISA regions must be sent to the National Competition and will be judged by an independent adjudicator.

## AREA COMPETITIONS

ISA Members (Headteachers) will receive information about the competition to be shared with their Art teachers. For additional details, please contact your Area Art Coordinator. Entries submitted to the regional competitions must adhere to the rules and guidelines outlined in this national handbook.

**The winning pieces** from the regional competitions **must be sent to the National Final** at the Chesford Grange Hotel, Kenilworth no later than 11am on 14 November. Practical arrangements for the area competitions are determined locally.

It is important to note that the area competitions are organised by Headteachers and/or art staff who have generously volunteered their time.

### ISA Area Art Competitions 2024

This handbook will be updated with competition details.  
Please visit the Art Competition page of the ISA website for the latest version

**East:** Friday 18 October, Saint Nicholas School, CM17 0NJ – Deadline Friday 4 October.

**London North:** Thursday 10 October 2024, Marriott Hotel, Waltham Abbey, EN9 3LX – Deadline Friday 27 September.

**London South:** Thursday 6 June 2024, Oxford International College, Brighton BN2 7BA - Deadline 3 June.

**London West:** Tuesday 8 October, Norden Farm, Altwood Road Maidenhead, SL6 4PF - Thursday 3 October.

**Midlands:** Thursday 10 October, Malvern St James, WR14 3BA - Deadline Monday 30 September.

**North:** Tuesday 1 October, Queen Ethelburga's Collegiate, YO26 9SS - Deadline Tuesday 24 September.

**South West:** Thursday 10 October, Stover School, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ12 6QG

If you have any queries, reaching out via email to your Area Art Coordinator is usually the best way to communicate.

### ISA Area Art Coordinators

<b>East</b>	Simon Keenleyside	<a href="mailto:S.keenleyside@saintnicholasschool.net">S.keenleyside@saintnicholasschool.net</a>
<b>London North</b>	Emma Mistry	<a href="mailto:emistry@ahsprep.co.uk">emistry@ahsprep.co.uk</a>
<b>London South</b>	Caroline Peck	<a href="mailto:enquiries@oicbrighton.com">enquiries@oicbrighton.com</a>
<b>London West</b>	Martyn Goddard	<a href="mailto:MSG@clairescourt.net">MSG@clairescourt.net</a>
<b>Midlands</b>	Rebecca Harrison	<a href="mailto:head@stdominicspriory.co.uk">head@stdominicspriory.co.uk</a>
<b>North</b>	Helen Stephenson	<a href="mailto:hstephenson@qe.org">hstephenson@qe.org</a>
<b>South West</b>	Caroline Wightman	<a href="mailto:CWightman@stover.co.uk">CWightman@stover.co.uk</a>

## ENTRY FORM

Entries for the Regional Competitions **must be submitted via the online entry form** on the ISA website  
<https://www.isaschools.org.uk/arts/art/art-competition2.html>

In addition, print out and complete all parts of the form in CAPITALS below and fix it **to the back** of each entry, bottom left-hand corner.

Complete all parts of this form in CAPITALS, <b>FIX to the back</b> of each entry, bottom left-hand corner. Printed at this size – please do not reduce. <b>Entry to the regional competition is conditional on agreement to submit any and all class winners to the National Finals. Failure to do so will lead to disqualification from the final.</b>
<b>ISA Area:</b>
<b>School:</b>
<b>Pupil Name:</b>
<b>Class Category:</b> <i>For example, for Drawing Key Stage 2: D2</i>
<b>Title of Piece:</b>
<b>Confirmation of authenticity statement below (Signature of Staff):</b>
<i>We understand that the Association and its representatives cannot be held responsible for loss, damage or breakage of this art piece. Should this piece be submitted to Nationals we undertake to be responsible for its arrival and collection.</i> <b><i>We confirm that this piece was completed under supervision with limited input from staff.</i></b> <b><i>If the pupil(s) had assistance from teaching staff or art technicians at any stage in the process, this must be clearly detailed on an attached sheet.</i></b>

## COMPETITION RULES

Our competition allows a broad range of entries, instead of specifying subjects for each category, providing teachers with the freedom to choose the artwork they submit. However, specific criteria must be met for each class, meaning that not every piece of art created in school can be entered. Please carefully read this handbook before submitting your entry.

### GENERAL

- At Regional and National level, the judge's decision is final, and no discussion may be entertained regarding the selection of winners.
- Only individual pieces are acceptable for submission which includes photographs and group work. Co-mounted multiples artworks are not allowed. (Group items should reflect collaborative work on a single piece, not a group of individual pieces.)
- All winners from the Area Competitions must be sent to the National Final. This is a condition of entry to the area competition. Schools are responsible for making the necessary arrangements.
- Art Staff must confirm that all work submitted is the student's own. Any staff input, including technician assistance, must be declared on a sheet attached to the piece, and on the online entry form.
- Submitted work should be submitted for the age category applicable when the work was created.
- Works should not have been previously submitted to the ISA Art Competition. The work should have been produced within 18 months before the National Finals Exhibition (November 2024), by a student currently attending or who attended the school during that time. Artwork submitted to a previous ISA competition will be disqualified.
- Display boards will be provided by ISA. It is the schools' responsibility to ensure that each piece can be displayed with the correct mounting or hanging mechanism provided (with instructions if necessary).
- **Two-dimensional work** must be prepared for display with Velcro at the back and should not be framed.
- **Three-dimensional work** must sit securely on a floor or table and schools must provide all the display materials (e.g. mannequin/acrylic stand). Please note that the national exhibition is held in a hotel conference room: items cannot be hung from the ceiling or wall.
- Actual pieces of artwork (not photographs) must be submitted in all competition categories at regional and national levels. Photographs are only eligible in the photography classes.

- It is very important to retain artwork intended for exhibition in the Autumn Term; and ensure it is not taken home by pupils at the end of the Summer Term.
- Joint winners are not allowed.
- Each artwork can only be entered for one category at the National Final.
- Schools should carefully read the definitions of the class categories carefully and ensure that items are entered into the correct category and age group. If work is submitted to the wrong category, the competition organiser is authorised to transfer the work to the more suitable category or disqualify it, if it does not meet the guidance given in this handbook.

## Area Competitions

- Entries must be submitted via the entry forms on the ISA website <https://www.isaschools.org.uk/arts/art/art-competition> . Include the **full name** of your school on all entry forms.
- Most areas allow only one entry per school per category (except the South West and London West areas, which allow three entries maximum). If you are considering multiple entries, we encourage schools to run internal competitions and choose the best piece for submission.
- Certificates and prizes for the Area Competitions are at the discretion of each area.
- If your artwork wins first place in any category, ensure you retain it to send to the National Final.

## National Finals

- All artworks awarded first place at the regional competitions must be brought to the National Final.
- In addition, a photo of each artwork will be required from finalists before the event. It is very important to submit a good quality photo as it will be used for the virtual art gallery and for the ISA art brochure. Please submit **only one** photo per artwork.

## Delivery

- Winning schools will receive details for sending work to the National Final by ISA HQ. Schools do not need to attend the final exhibition but must ensure entries reach the conference in time for display. **ISA takes no responsibility for lost or damaged work.**
- Schools are responsible for transporting artwork to and from the National Competition. ISA HQ and the Area Art Coordinator must be informed but cannot take responsibility for any items left in the care of the venue.

- ISA HQ must be aware in advance of any heavy / large piece of artwork with photos and details (2D or 3D). Large piece sent by courier must be delivered the day before.
- Competitors must ensure that awards labels from the area competitions are removed from the artwork before the finals to avoid confusion during the adjudication.
- ISA HQ **won't take responsibility** for undelivered artwork to the finals and **cannot advise schools on the day if their artwork is missing.**

## Collection

- Schools must ensure their pieces are collected by the end of the conference. **ISA takes no responsibility for lost or damaged artwork.**
- ISA HQ must be informed **one week in advance** regarding collection arrangements.
- ISA HQ cannot print return labels – these **MUST** be sent with the artwork, and ISA must be informed of this in advance. **Return labels must be from a courier company with a bar code.**
- If the artwork is collected by a courier, **ensure the driver has the relevant information for collection:** Include the name of school and add your name and email address as the prior contact for the courier, not ISA's contact details.
- All uncollected artwork, with or without packaging will be left at the venue. ISA cannot guarantee that the venue will be able to keep them.
- Every artwork **MUST** be collected on the **TUESDAY** at the end of the conference as there is no guarantee the venue has space to store artworks.

**CLASSES AND CATEGORIES**

Category	Class Code	Age Group	
Art 2D Individual	2D0	EYFS	All 2D work excluding drawings and textiles. 2D art must be mostly flat without large protrusions. Includes painting, collage, printmaking, 2D mixed media etc.
	2D1	Key Stage 1	
	2D2a	Key Stage 2a (yrs 3 & 4)	
	2D2b	Key Stage 2b (yrs 5 & 6)	
	2D3	Key Stage 3	
	2D4	Key Stage 4	
	2D5	Key Stage 5	
Art 2D Group	2DG0	EYFS	2D work as above, made by 2 or more students. Please note the piece should NOT be a group of works, but should be a single collaborative piece made by more than one person.
	2DG1	Key Stage 1	
	2DG2	Key Stage 2	
Art 3D Individual	3D0/1	EYFS & Key Stage 1	All 3D work including soft sculpture, ceramics, wood, plastic, metal, mosaics and 3D mixed media. Excludes flat textile works.
	3D2	Key Stage 2	
	3D3	Key Stage 3	
	3D4	Key Stage 4	
	3D5	Key Stage 5	
Art 3D Group	3DG0	EYFS	3D work as above, made by 2 or more students. Please note the piece should NOT be a group of works, but should be a single collaborative piece made by more than one person.
	3DG1	Key Stage 1	
	3DG2	Key Stage 2	
Textiles Individual	T0/1	EYFS & Key Stage 1	All textile and fabric-based works excluding clothing (unless the piece is designed for display only) and soft sculpture (should be entered in the Art 3D categories).
	T2	Key Stage 2	
	T3	Key Stage 3	
	T4	Key Stage 4	
	T5	Key Stage 5	



Textiles Group	TG0/1	EYFS & Key Stage 1	Textile work as above, made by 2 or more students. Please note the piece should NOT be a group of works but should be a single collaborative piece made by more than one person.
	TG2	Key Stage 2	
Fashion & Accessories	F0/2	EYFS - Key Stage 2	All items designed to be worn as a piece of clothing or accessory. Either group or individual entries
	F3/4	Key Stage 3 & 4	
	F5	Key Stage 5	
Sketchbook	S0/1	EYFS, Key Stage 1	For ease of judging <b>two</b> double-page spreads should be flagged with a post-it note ( <b>three</b> for KS5) to show refinement and progress.
	S2	Key Stage 2	
	S3/4	Key Stage 3 & 4	
	S5	Key Stage 5	
Photography	P0/2	EYFS, Key Stage 1 & 2	All photography excluding any images with significant digital editing, special effects or images created on a computer. These are not eligible for the National Art Competition and should instead be entered into the ISA Digital Art Competition.
	P3	Key Stage 3	
	P4	Key Stage 4	
	P5	Key Stage 5	
Drawing	D0/1	EYFS, Key Stage 1	All drawings in pencil, charcoal, chalk, ink etc.
	D2	Key Stage 2	
	D3	Key Stage 3	
	D4	Key Stage 4	
	D5	Key Stage 5	

## CHECKLIST

### SUBMITTING MY ENTRIES

Read this handbook carefully	
Checked which area my school is in	
Selected the best artworks from my school to enter (most areas max. one per class category)	
Checked which class category each artwork needs to be entered (correct age group and artwork type)	
Completed the entry form on the ISA website for my Area Art Competition (one form per artwork)	

### ENTERING THE AREA ART COMPETITION

Read the information from my Area Art Coordinator about the competition carefully	
Printed an entry form (page 4) for each work, filled in and attached to the back of the work (and attached a separate sheet detailing any adult input, if applicable)	
Prepared all works for display (attached Velcro to 2D work, included any stands/mannequins etc. for 3D work)	
Make arrangements to deliver my school's artworks to the Area Art Competition at the correct time and location	

### ENTERING THE NATIONAL FINAL (IF SELECTED)

Read the information from ISA HQ about the Final carefully	
Send to ISA a good quality photograph of each artwork before the event (only one photo per artwork)	
Make arrangements to deliver and collect my school's artworks to/from the National Final at the correct times and location – and informed my Area Art Coordinator and ISA HQ of my plans	
Made ISA HQ aware of any works that are very large, heavy or difficult to carry.	
Carefully packaged my artworks for transport to the National Final (including any returns labels with barcodes).	

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