

iArt: Competition Information for Schools

At a glance

- **Who can enter:** Full IAPS member schools
- **Maximum entries:** One per age category (maximum 5 entries total)
- **Theme:** Contrast
- **Entries open:** Monday 19 January 2026
- **Deadline:** Noon, Friday 20 March 2026
- **Submit via:** IAPS website online form
- **Contact:** competitions@iaps.uk

Eligibility

To take part, schools must:

1. Be a full member of IAPS.
2. Enter only one piece of art per age category (e.g. one piece for Years 5 & 6, not one from Year 5 and one from Year 6).
3. Ensure entries are the individual work of a single pupil, created during the 2025–2026 academic year.
4. Group work will not be accepted.
5. Once submitted, entries cannot be edited, altered, or replaced.
6. By entering, schools give permission for artwork photographs, pupil photographs, and details (full name, school, year group) to be shared with local press, on the IAPS website, and on social media, should the artwork be shortlisted.
7. Copyright of all entries remains with the artist.
8. For privacy concerns, contact the Sport and Pupil Experience Team at competitions@iaps.uk.
9. Please read our [privacy notice](#) for further details.

Age categories

There are five categories for the iArt competition:

1. Years 1 & 2
2. Years 3 & 4
3. Years 5 & 6
4. Years 7 & 8
5. Years 9, 10 & 11

Please note each school may enter one piece of art per age category. The maximum number of entries one school can make is 5 if you submit one piece per age group.

Competition theme: “Contrast”

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All submissions must relate in some way to the theme for this year's competition: **Contrast**

This theme is of course open to the interpretation of the entrants. The aim of the theme is to make the competition cohesive and encourage pupils to be imaginative.

Competition timeline

- Competition opens: **Monday 19 January 2026**
- Submission deadline: **Friday 20 March 2026**
- Winners announced: **by Tuesday 19 May , 2026**
- Prizegiving evening: **June, 2026** (more information to follow)

Types of artworks accepted

There is no set format for entries and artwork can be submitted in any medium.

Submissions can be paintings, drawings or models, of any size and using any art supplies.

While IAPS encourages pupils to create original artwork, pupils – and particularly, younger pupils – should feel free to just paint / draw / create something which reminds them of the theme.

Submitting entries

Entries must be submitted online using the online form. Staff should use their own login details when submitting entries. If you have not used the IAPS website before, you will need to register first by completing the registration form on the site.

You must submit two photographs with your entry:

- The artwork
- The pupil holding or standing alongside their artwork

Photographs should:

- Fill the frame with the artwork as much as possible
- Be at least 3,000 pixels on the longest edge
- Have all names, school details, and identifying information removed from the image

These photographs will be used by IAPS to create the winners' framed prize.

Judging process

IAPS encourages pupils to be as imaginative as possible and entries will be judged on:

- Interpretation of the theme
- Creativity in exploring the theme
- Overall design and presentation

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- That indefinable quality that draws you in and makes the artwork memorable

Artwork will be shortlisted by IAPS Art Subject Advisor, Charlotte Bell, Head of Art at Caterham Prep. Our guest judge will then select the winners.

Prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place in each age category.

Winner and Prizegiving

Winners will receive:

- An A3 framed picture of their artwork to take home
- A voucher

The winners of each category will be invited to attend a prizegiving evening in June, normally held in London. Winning artworks will be displayed, and prizes will be awarded at the event.

Contact

For any questions, please contact the Sport and Pupil Experience Team at competitions@iaps.uk.