



INDIAN SCHOOL BOUSHER

(Affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education, New Delhi)

(Affiliation No: 6630203 and School No: 90252)

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ACADEMIC YEAR 2026 – 2027



CIRCULAR TO PARENTS **(GRADES VI-VIII)** **ISTF 2026 AUDITIONS**

ISB/CR/ADM/2026-2027/085

10/09/2026

**Dear Parents and Students,
Greetings from Indian School Bousher!**

We are pleased to inform you that **auditions for ISTF 2026** will be conducted to identify and select talented students who will have the opportunity to represent Indian School Bousher in various events under Music, Art, Dance, and Literary categories.

The auditions are intended to provide students with a platform to showcase their talent, creativity, confidence, communication skills, and artistic abilities. Students who are interested in participating are encouraged to make use of this opportunity and register for the relevant event/events.

The events are categorized as follows:

ART	DANCE	MUSIC	LITERARY
Hook & Create (Crochet)	Indian Folk Dance	Western Vocal Music	Poem recitation - Hindi
Metal Expressions (Wire Sculpture)	Western Dance	Folk Music	Declamation- English
Digital Photography	Classical Dance (Bharatanatyam & Mohiniyattam)	Instrumental Music	Poem Recitation– Sanskrit/Malayalam/Tamil
The Art of Symmetry (Mandala)		Light Music	
MIME		Marching Band	

Registration details

Students who are interested are requested to **fill and submit the Google Form given below:**

<https://forms.gle/atfR4UqKhYbjC8zZ7>

The last date for Registration: 17 September 2026
Maximum number of registrations per student: 2 events

Kindly note that the auditions may take place after school hours or on Saturdays. Parents are requested to arrange necessary transportation for auditions.

We look forward to your enthusiastic participation.

With warm regards,

Himmat S. Dhillon

Himmat Singh Dhillon
Principal, Indian School Bousher



MIDDLE (GRADE VI-GRADE VIII)

EVENT	DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT	JUDGING CRITERIA
MUSIC	1. <u>WESTERN VOCAL</u> In a vocal solo light performance, the singer typically opts for a soft, controlled delivery, with a focus on clear phrasing, emotional expression, and nuanced vocal techniques. Rules & Guidelines: ➤ The performance must be completed within 1:30minutes. ➤ Only one live accompanist is permitted. ➤ The use of pre-recorded or programmed accompaniment, including MIDI files, MP3 tracks, karaoke, electronic keyboard accompaniments, or any other recorded music, is strictly prohibited. ➤ Evaluation will focus on the vocal performance. While live accompaniment is permitted, it will not carry marks and should complement the performance without overshadowing the vocalist. ➤ Participants are responsible for bringing their own musical instrument(s), if required. ➤ Songs must be performed in English and should be suitable for a school-level audience.	❖ Song Selection ❖ Vocal Accuracy (Pitch & Intonation) ❖ Voice Quality & Clarity ❖ Rhythm, Tempo & Expression ❖ Stage Presence & Overall Performance
	2. <u>FOLK MUSIC</u> The Folk Music Competition is designed to highlight the rich traditions of regional and cultural music, encouraging students to explore the diverse forms of folk music. Rules & Guidelines: ➤ Folk Genre: Only traditional Indian folk songs are allowed; film songs are not permitted. Participants must select and perform a song that is recognized as a traditional folk song from any region, language, or culture. This can include regional folk, ethnic music, tribal songs, or folk-based melodies ➤ Time limit: 1:30 minutes for their performance. ➤ Performance Guidelines: ➤ Instruments and Accompaniments- Participants may perform with traditional folk instruments such as dholak, tabla, harmonium, flute, etc. ➤ The lyrics must be respectful and appropriate for all audiences. Lyrics should be appropriate for school standards. ➤ Cultural sensitivity should be maintained in both song selection and performance.	❖ Vocal Quality & Pitch Accuracy ❖ Rhythm & Tempo ❖ Folk Style & Authenticity ❖ Expression & Pronunciation ❖ Stage Presence & Overall Presentation
	3. <u>INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC</u> An instrumental solo performance is when a musician performs alone, showcasing their skill on a particular instrument without any accompanying players or vocalists.	❖ Technical Skill ❖ Expressiveness ❖ Tone Quality ❖ Rhythmic Precision & Timing ❖ Overall Presentation

Rules and guidelines

- Duration of performance should be maximum 1:30minutes.
- Participants should use the built-in accompaniments. Pre-programmed material such as USB drives / Floppy drives/ music / MIDI files / MP3 files/ Karaoke shall not be allowed.
- The contestants should use their own Instrument
Sheet music is allowed; however, performing from memory is encouraged and will be considered in the scoring.

4. LIGHT MUSIC

Rules & Guidelines

- Time Limit: 5 Minutes
- A shruti box or tanpura, either electronic or manual, may be used. In addition, a maximum of two accompanying instruments may be used.
- Pre-programmed accompaniments using electronic keyboards or similar devices, as well as MIDI, MP3, or karaoke tracks, may be used, subject to the rules of the event.
- Participants are responsible for arranging and operating all accompanying materials or equipment required for their performance.
- Only the vocal performance will be evaluated. Background music or instrumental accompaniment will not be assessed as a separate criterion. However, the accompaniment must complement the vocal performance and must not adversely affect the overall presentation.
- Participants must bring their own musical instruments and any other equipment required for the performance.
- The lyrics must be in one Indian language only. Film songs are strictly prohibited.
- The selected song must be appropriate for a school-level competition in its theme, language, and content.

- ❖ Choice of Song
- ❖ Pitch & Dynamics
- ❖ Voice Texture & Clarity
- ❖ Melody & Rhythm
- ❖ Presentation

5. MARCHING BAND

A coordinated musical performance combining brass and percussion instruments with synchronized marching, formations, and disciplined movements.

Rules and Guidelines

Time Limit: 7 Minutes.

- Participants may use only the approved percussion instruments. All instruments must be handled carefully and safely throughout the auditions
- Performance Guidelines:
- The performance should demonstrate rhythmic

- ❖ Rhythmic Accuracy
- ❖ Synchronization & Coordination
- ❖ Musicality & Dynamics
- ❖ Overall Impact

	accuracy, synchronization, coordination, and musicality. ➤ Performers must maintain proper formation, spacing, and discipline throughout the performance. ➤ The performance should incorporate coordinated movement and percussion playing. ➤ Pre-recorded percussion tracks or backing tracks are not permitted	
DANCE	6. <u>WESTERN DANCE: HIP-HOP</u> Hip-hop dance is a fusion dance genre with influences from older street dance styles. Rules and Guidelines ➤ Time limit: Max 1 mins. ➤ The music can be instrumental or with lyrics. The choice of song should be appropriate for school competition. Film songs are not permitted. ➤ Language: Only English songs are allowed. ➤ Choice of costumes should be appropriate for school competition. ➤ Props should be used that compliments well with the dance. 7. <u>FOLK DANCE</u> A traditional dance that represents the culture, customs, and lifestyle of a particular region or community. Rules and guidelines ➤ Solo performance. ➤ Performance duration: 2 minutes. ➤ The performance must present any style of Indian folk dance ➤ Submit the performance audio (MP3) on a USB drive and carry a backup. ➤ Props are permitted according to the theme. 8. <u>INDIAN CLASSICAL DANCE (BHARATANATYAM/MOHINIYATTAM)</u> ➤ Time Limit: 2 Minutes ➤ Participants may present either Bharatanatyam or Mohiniyattam. ➤ The choreography, music, expressions, movements, and presentation must reflect the distinctive characteristics and traditional aesthetics of the chosen dance form. ➤ Props are not permitted during the performance.	❖ Elements of Dance ❖ Rhythm & Synchronization ❖ Entry, Exit & Choreography ❖ Presentation & Audience Appeal ❖ Creativity & Innovation ❖ Expressions & Stage presence ❖ Coordination ❖ Choreography & flow ❖ Prop integration & Technical Execution ❖ Overall presentation & Audience appeal ❖ Elements of Dance Style ❖ Costumes & Accessories ❖ Expression ❖ Angashudhi ❖ Presentation & Audience Appeal

LITERARY

9. ENGLISH DECLAMATION

Declamation in English refers to a formal speech that is delivered with strong emotion and expressive style, often to persuade, inspire, or demonstrate public speaking skills.

It can also mean speaking in a loud, dramatic, or forceful way, especially when expressing strong opinions.

Rules and guidelines

- Time Limit: 4 minutes
- Language: English
 - Participants may deliver an original speech or a well-known speech by a renowned personality, with due acknowledgement of the original speaker where applicable.
- Participants must deliver the speech from memory. Reading from paper, cue cards, props, background music, or electronic devices is not permitted.
- Speeches must not contain vulgarity, hate speech, anti-religious, anti-national, defamatory, or discriminatory remarks.
- Participants are encouraged to present the speech with their own style and understanding while preserving its intended message.

Reference Speeches:

- Swami Vivekananda – Address at the Parliament of the World's Religions (1893)
 - Theme: Universal brotherhood, tolerance, and harmony.
- Malala Yousafzai – United Nations Speech
 - Theme: Education and girls' rights

10. EXTEMPORE [ENGLISH]

An impromptu speaking event where participants are given a topic on the spot and speak about it without prior preparation. It develops quick thinking, confidence, fluency, vocabulary, and effective communication skills.

Rules and guidelines

- Time Limit:
 - Preparation Time: 2 Minutes
 - Speaking Time: 3 Minutes
- The participant will be given a topic on the spot through a draw or selection.
- The speech must be delivered entirely in English while remaining strictly focused on the given topic.
- The speech must reflect the participant's own ideas and expressions. Reading from notes, books, or electronic devices is not permitted. The use of mobile phones, smartwatches, tablets, or any other electronic devices during the performance & preparation is strictly prohibited.
- Participants should maintain appropriate language, gestures, body language, and stage etiquette throughout the performance

- ❖ Content & Relevance
- ❖ Clarity of Speech & Pronunciation
- ❖ Voice Modulation & Expression
- ❖ Confidence & Stage Presence
- ❖ Overall Impact & Audience Engagement

- ❖ Content & Relevance
- ❖ Confidence & Delivery
- ❖ Fluency & Accuracy
- ❖ Vocabulary & Pronunciation
- ❖ Originality & Overall Impact

	11. POEM RECITATION (HINDI) Reciting a Hindi poem with clear pronunciation, expression, rhythm, and confidence. Rules and guidelines ➤ Time Limit: 3 Minutes ➤ Participants may select and recite a dramatic poem of their choice in Hindi. ➤ All performances must be strictly appropriate for a school-level cultural and literary festival. Religious preaching, sectarian or faith-based controversy, political or controversial subjects, violence, abusive or offensive language, harmful influences, or discriminatory content that may hurt the sentiments of any individual or community are strictly prohibited. ➤ Participants are advised to select a poem that is appropriate for their age group and suitable for effective dramatic presentation. 12. POEM RECITATION [SANSKRIT/MALAYALAM/TAMIL] Recitation of a poem in Sanskrit or Malayalam, or Tamil with clear pronunciation, expression, rhythm, and confidence. Rules and guidelines ➤ Time Limit: 4 Minutes ➤ The entire poem must be recited from memory. Printed texts, books, papers, cue cards, mobile phones, props, or any other form of prompting material are not permitted during the performance. ➤ All performances must be strictly appropriate for a school-level cultural and literary festival. Religious preaching, sectarian or faith-based controversy, political or controversial subjects, violence, abusive or offensive language, harmful influences, and discriminatory content that may hurt the sentiments of any individual or community are strictly prohibited.	❖ Appropriate Choice of Poem ❖ Pronunciation, Fluency & Clarity ❖ Dramatic Appropriateness ❖ Expression & Voice Modulation ❖ Overall Performance ❖ Fluency & Diction ❖ Clarity & Articulation ❖ Rhythm, Meter & Pace ❖ Voice Modulation & Intonation ❖ Expression
ART	13. HOOK & CREATE (CROCHET) The Crochet Making Competition celebrates the beauty of traditional art through the craft of crochet. Participants are encouraged to explore and creatively combine Indian mandala-inspired motifs with Omani khunjar-inspired patterns, creating a unique contemporary textile artwork. • Theme: "Bridging Cultures: Indian Mandalas and Omani Khunjar Patterns" • Duration: 3 Hours • Participants must create one original decorative crochet artwork inspired by the competition theme. Possible formats include: • Coaster • Doily	❖ Theme Interpretation & Cultural Integration ❖ Originality & Creative Expression ❖ Stitch Quality & Technical Precision ❖ Neatness, Finishing & Overall Presentation ❖ Complexity & Skill in Crochet Techniques

- Decorative panel
- Small wall hanging
- Mandala-inspired textile artwork
- Other small decorative crochet forms

Permitted Materials

- Crochet hooks of different sizes
- Completely unused yarn
- Cotton, acrylic, wool, or other standard textile yarn

Permitted Tools

- Scissors
- Stitch markers
- Yarn needles
- Measuring tape
- Other standard crochet tools required for finishing

PATTERN & REFERENCE RESTRICTIONS

Participants are expected to demonstrate their own creativity and crochet knowledge.

Therefore:

- Printed crochet patterns are **not permitted**.
- Written patterns are **not permitted**.
- Pattern charts or diagrams are **not permitted**.
- Books, magazines, design references, or other pattern guides are **not permitted** inside the competition area.

Participants may not use pre-designed templates or prepared pattern references

14. THE ART OF SYMMETRY (MANDALA)

The **Art of Symmetry** invites participants to explore the beauty of nature through the language of **mandala art**. Teams are encouraged to create an original composition that reflects the harmony, balance, rhythm, and interconnectedness found in the natural world.

- Theme: "NATURE'S BEAUTY"
- The total working time is **2 hours**

The mandala should communicate the beauty and harmony of nature through creative visual elements.

Participants may draw inspiration from:

- Flowers and leaves
- Plants and trees
- Birds, insects, and other natural forms
- Sun, moon, stars, and celestial elements

- ❖ Creativity & Originality
- ❖ Symmetry, Balance & Precision
- ❖ Theme Interpretation
- ❖ color Harmony & Aesthetic Appeal
- ❖ Neatness, Technique & Overall Impact

- Water, mountains, and landscapes
- Natural textures and patterns
- Cycles, growth, balance, and interconnectedness
- Cultural or traditional motifs may be incorporated where they strengthen the concept.
- The final artwork should demonstrate an effective relationship between form, pattern, color, and theme.
- The artwork must be created on **A4-size 300gsm paper**
- The required materials including paper must bring by the participants.
- Pre-drawn designs, templates, stencils, tracing sheets, or prepared outlines are strictly prohibited.

The following are not permitted inside the competition area:

- Printed mandala designs
- Reference images
- Pattern books
- Prepared design sheets
- Stencils or tracing templates
- Pre-designed geometric layouts
- Digital devices used for design reference

15. METAL EXPRESSION (Wire Sculpture)

Metal Expressions is a collaborative three-dimensional sculpture challenge that invites participants to transform flexible wire into expressive representations of life.

Participants are encouraged to explore **human, animal, botanical, avian, insect, or imaginative life forms**, using wire as the primary medium to communicate movement, character, structure, and creativity

- Theme: FORMS OF LIFE"
- **Time:** 2 hours

Participants are encouraged to move beyond literal representation and explore **movement, gesture, rhythm, texture, balance, and expression** through wire.

Permitted Materials

- The required materials including plywood or hard board base (12x12 inch) must bring by the participants.
- Craft or metal wire of different gauges
- aluminum wire
- Copper wire

- ❖ Theme Interpretation & Concept
- ❖ Creativity & Originality
- ❖ Three-Dimensional Form, Structure & Balance
- ❖ Technical Skill & Craftsmanship
- ❖ Overall Visual Impact & Presentation

- Other suitable sculpture wire approved by the organisers
- Binding or twisting materials

Recommended Tools

- Wire cutters
- Long-nose pliers
- Round-nose pliers
- Measuring scale
- Safety gloves

Other standard hand tools required for wire manipulation must bring by the participants.

16.DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

The **Digital Photography Spot Event** is a practical photography challenge that tests participants' ability to observe, compose, and capture compelling images within a limited time

Participants will work on two photographic genres:

Event Theme: "Seeing Beyond the Frame"

- Still Life Photography
- Portrait Photography

The event is designed to encourage students to experiment with **different focal lengths and lenses**, while demonstrating their understanding of composition, perspective, lighting, focus, depth of field, and camera control.

- Participants must bring their own camera, lenses and accessories.
- Participants must use the camera equipment assigned or permitted for the event.
- Each participant/team must complete the assigned photographic tasks within the stipulated time.
- All photographs submitted must be captured during the competition.

STILL LIFE

Participants will be provided with a set of objects or a still-life arrangement.

- Arrangement of objects
- Camera angle
- Framing
- Light and shadow
- color and tonal relationships
- Depth of field
- Background
- Lens selection

- ❖ Creative Concept & Originality
- ❖ Composition & Visual Organization
- ❖ Technical Camera Skills & Lens Usage
- ❖ Lighting, Focus & Exposure
- ❖ Overall Impact & Storytelling

PORTRAIT

Participants will photograph a designated subject/model provided or approved by the organisers. The portrait should demonstrate an understanding of:

- Facial expression and pose
- Composition
- Lighting
- Background
- Focus
- Depth of field
- Perspective
- Subject–camera relationship
- Appropriate lens selection

ORIGINALITY & AUTHENTICITY

- All photographs must be captured **on the day of the competition.**
- Previously captured photographs must not be submitted.
- Participants may not use stock photographs or downloaded images.
- Photographs taken outside the competition period will not be considered.
- Each submitted image must be the participant's own work.

Participants must submit the required number of photographs as specified by the organizers.

5 Still Life photograph

5 Portrait photograph

17. MIME

- Duration: 2–3 minutes.
- No dialogue: Only gestures, expressions and body movements.
- Theme: Suitable and meaningful for a school audience.
 - Save the Environment
 - Importance of Education
 - Digital Addiction& Responsible Use of Social Media
 - Kindness & Helping Others
 - Say No to Bullying
 - Respect Teachers & Parents
- Music: Background music/sound effects permitted; no recorded dialogue.
- Props: Simple props allowed.
- Costume: Appropriate and simple.

Selection: Based on expression, creativity, body language, confidence and stage presence.

- ❖ Facial Expressions & Emotions
- ❖ Body Language & Gestures
- ❖ Creativity & Originality
- ❖ Clarity of Message
- ❖ Stage Presence & Confidence

For further details:

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