



**INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR
SULTANATE OF OMAN**

**CIRCULAR
VI to XI**

ISS/WEBCIR/070/25-26

1st December 2025

INDIAN SCHOOL FILM FEST

Dear Parents & Students,

Greetings!

Under the aegis of the Board of Directors, Indian School Darsait will be hosting the seventh edition of the Indian School Film Fest (ISFF) for the academic year 2025-26. ISFF event genres are as follows:

- Short Film [Max. Duration: 10 mins, Team Size: 5 to 10 members]
- Ad Making [Max. Duration: 1 min, Team Size: 5 to 10 members]
- Health, Safety & Environment Awareness video [Max. Duration: 3 mins Team Size: 5 to 10 members]

Interested students are requested to give their names to Mr. Kannan K, PGT-C.S. (Mob. No.+968 77068190), by 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, 2nd December 2025.

Kindly refer to the ISFF handbook for the guidelines for the events mentioned above.

Warm regards,

Sanchita Verma
Principal
Indian School Sohar





Indian School Film Fest

ISFF 2025

Seventh Edition: 17 January 2026



**Under the aegis of the Board of Directors
Indian Schools, Oman**



**organised by
INDIAN SCHOOL DARSAIT**



THE seventh edition of the Indian School Film Fest (ISFF 2025) is set to be held on 17 January 2026, promising yet another celebration of creativity, cinematic expression and student talent across Indian Schools, International Schools, Private and Government Schools in Oman. ISFF promotes films that reflect core values, creativity, innovation, and social relevance.

Salient Features of ISFF 2025:

- **Student-centric platform:**

The festival is exclusively designed for students of Indian Schools in Oman encouraging active participation in filmmaking, storytelling and technical aspects of cinema.

- **Workshops and Mentorship:**

Pre-fest workshops and mentorship sessions will be conducted by media professionals to guide students in scripting, direction, cinematography and editing.

- **Digital Submission and Screening:**

Film entries will be accepted digitally. Selected films will be screened during the festival event.

- **Expert Judging Panel:**

A distinguished panel of judges from the film and media industry will evaluate the entries based on originality, technical quality, and impact.

- **Multiple award categories:**

Short film

Awards will be presented for the following:

- Best Film
- Best Director
- Best Screenplay
- Best Cinematography
- Best Actor/Actress
- Best Editing
- Best Music





HSE Video – the most impactful video

Awarded to the team whose video best demonstrates relevance, clarity, and a powerful message promoting health, safety and environmental awareness.

Ad Making – the most influential advertisement

Awarded to the team that creates the most compelling, creative and message-driven ad that effectively raises awareness and captures audience attention.

Reels – the most creative reel

Awarded to the team that turns imagination into motion, celebrating originality, innovation, and artistic expression.

- Certificates of participation will be given to all the participants of ISFF.
- The school that secures the maximum points will receive the Rolling Trophy.

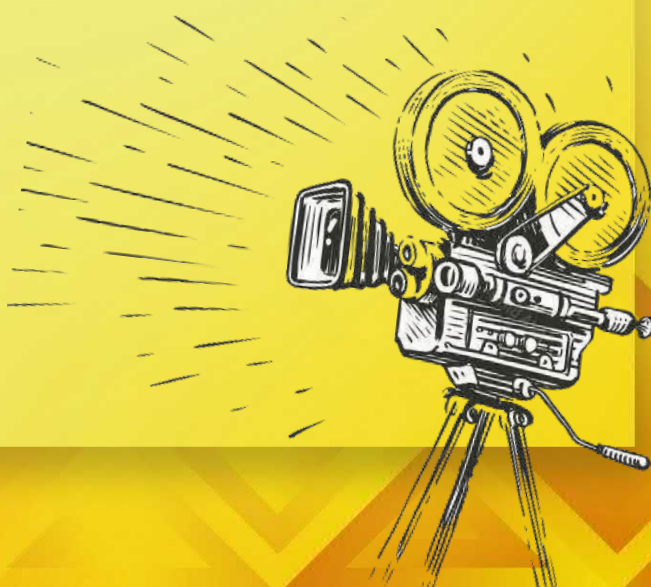
GRADE PERFORMANCE		
A+:	Outstanding	10 Points
A:	Excellent	8 Points
B+:	Very Good	6 Points
B:	Good	4 Points
C:	Participation	2 Points

EVENT DESCRIPTION

ISFF is structured into five core categories, encompassing both competitive and non-competitive events.

CATEGORY:

- Junior (Grades VI to VIII)
- Senior (Grades IX to XII)
- Open (KG to XII)
- Facilitators of Schools
- Children with Special Needs (CwSN)





GENRES:

- Short Film (Code: SF)
- Ad Making (Code: Ad)
- HSE Video (Code: HSE)
- Reels (Code: RL)

ISFF EVENT CATEGORIES AND GENRES TABLE				
Sl. No.	Category	Grade/Group	Eligible Genres	Event Type
1.	Junior (Jr)	Grades VI to VIII	HSE Video, Reels	Competitive
2.	Senior (Sr)	Grades IX to XII	HSE Video, Ad Making	Competitive
3.	Open (Op)	KG to Grade XII	Short Film	Competitive
4.	Facilitators of Schools (FS)	Teachers/Staff	Short Film	Competitive
5.	Children with Special Needs (CwSN)	All grades (CwSN)	Short Film	Non-Competitive

REGISTRATION

All the schools are requested to register for the competition on or before Sunday, 23 November 2025.

Number of entries: Each school is permitted to send a maximum of three entries per category. The host school will forward the entries from each category, submitted by the participating schools, to other schools, which will shortlist the best entry in each category and return the selected entries to the host school.

Each school has to nominate a school coordinator for further communication. School coordinators are requested to register their teams in the excel sheet, which will be shared, and send it to the mail id: isff2025@isdoman.com





EVENT PROCEDURE

- 06 December 2025: (Workshops for participants)

ISFF participants of different schools will undergo workshops conducted by experts on Saturday, 06 December from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. All ISFF participants are required to attend the workshops which will enhance their film - making skills.

- Session 1: Direction
- Session 2: Cinematography and Editing

17 JANUARY 2026

- Screening of selected entries and judgement:
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Venue: School Auditoriums - Senior Section and Primary Section
- Film Fest Award Ceremony:
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Venue: School Auditorium, Senior Section

GENERAL RULES

1. Cultural sensitivity and appropriateness

The film must conform to the standards of school competitions and respect the culture and traditions of the Sultanate of Oman. It should not hurt the sentiments of any member of society and must avoid any affiliation with religious or political groups.

2. Statutory warnings

Appropriate statutory warnings must be included wherever necessary.

3. Student-created content

All aspects of the filmmaking process must be completed solely by students. The involvement of adults or professionals, including acting, is strictly prohibited (This rule applies only to categories 1, 2, 3, and 5). Additionally, the film must not contain any identifiable elements of the participating school (e.g., school name, logo, uniforms, banners, etc.). No previously shot footage may be used.





4. **Role disclosure**

Participants must clearly mention their individual contributions to the film (e.g., scriptwriting, editing, acting, directing).

5. **Language requirement**

Films must be in English. English subtitles must be displayed in all frames.

6. **Copyright compliance**

The film must not include any copyrighted content (e.g., music, video clips, images) unless the participants hold valid rights or licenses to use such material.

7. **Originality of content**

The theme, visuals (frames), and music must be original. Films previously submitted to other competitions will not be accepted.

8. **Plagiarism and disputes**

Any accusations of plagiarism will result in immediate disqualification. In case of disputes, the decision of the jury will be final and binding.

9. **Social media restriction**

Films submitted for ISFF 2025 must not be shared or circulated on social media prior to the official event. Violation of this rule will lead to disqualification

10. **Acceptance of terms**

Submission of an entry implies the participant's unconditional acceptance of all the terms and regulations mentioned herein.

11. **Submission requirements**

A synopsis or summary of the film must be submitted in a pdf format along with the final video file.

The file must be renamed using the following format:

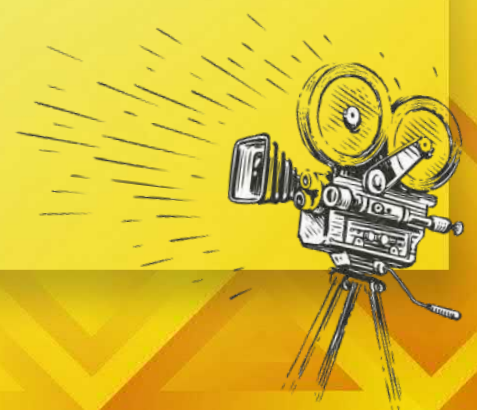
school code_genre code_category_title of the film, for instance:

106_HSE_Jr_Title (title of the film to be typed)

106_SF_CwSN_Title (title of the film to be typed)

106_Ad_Sr_Title (title of the film to be typed)

106_RL_Jr_Title (title of the reel to be typed)





SCHOOL CODE		
Sl. No.	Name of the Indian School	School Code for ISTF
1.	Indian School Al Ghubra	101
2.	Indian School Al Maabela	102
3.	Indian School Al Seeb	103
4.	Indian School Bousher	104
5.	Indian School Buraimi	105
6.	Indian School Darsait	106
7.	Indian School Duqm	107
8.	Indian School Ibra	108
9.	Indian School Ibri	109
10.	Indian School Jalan	110
11.	Indian School Khasab	111
12.	Indian School Masirah	112
13.	Indian School Muladha	113
14.	Indian School Muscat	114
15.	Indian School Nizwa	115
16.	Indian School Rustaq	116
17.	Indian School Saham	117
18.	Indian School Salalah	118
19.	Indian School Sohar	119
20.	Indian School Sur	120
21.	Indian School Thumrait	121
22.	Indian School Wadi Kabir	122





1.SHORT FILM

Theme (Choose one)

For Students:

- a. Digital Prison – Escaping Screen Addiction
- b. Kindness: The Spark That Spreads

For Facilitators of Schools (FS):

- a. The Power of Choice - One Decision Can Change Everything
- b. Adolescence: The Age of Choices and Chances

Rules and regulations:

- Team size: Each team must consist of 5 to 10 members.
- Duration: Maximum length is 10 minutes, excluding opening and end credits.
- Prohibited content: Films must not include controversial, religious, or political themes.
- Positive messaging: The film should deliver a constructive message that motivates viewers and encourages optimism.

Permitted film elements:

- Voice-over narration
- Direct and indirect interviews
- Archival footage
- Re-enactments
- Montages and expository sequences

Focus Areas:

- Significance and clarity of the subject
- Depth of research
- Purpose and originality
- Accuracy of factual information
- Unbiased presentation
- Quality of narration, visuals, and sound

Originality:

Films submitted previously will be disqualified. Only fresh content created for ISFF 2025 will be accepted.

The submitted film will become the property of the host school.





Judgment Criteria:

- Relevance to theme and message:
How well the film aligns with the selected theme
- Direction: Creativity, visual storytelling
- Editing and effects: Technical quality, transitions, and visual impact
- Script: Originality and emotional engagement
- Acting: Performance quality and believability

2. AD MAKING

Theme (Choose one)

- a. Kindness is Contagious – Spread It!
- b. Fitness is Fun – Move Every Day
- c. Education Beyond Books

Rules and regulations

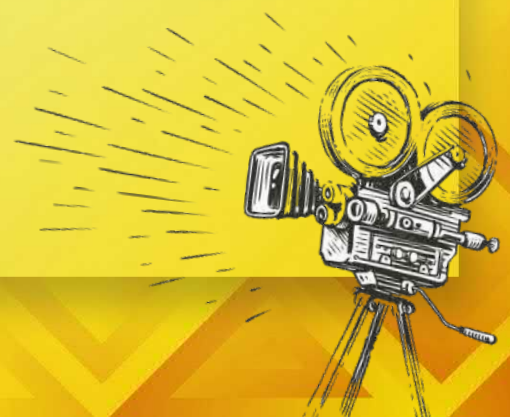
- Team size: Each team must consist of 5 to 10 student members.
- Duration: The advertisement must not exceed 1 minute, excluding opening and end credits.
- Prohibited content: Avoid controversial, religious, or political themes. Refrain from using unparliamentary language or unethical scenes.
- All content (theme, dialogues, animations, costumes, makeup) must be appropriate for school students and respect the culture and traditions of the Sultanate of Oman.

Originality:

- The work must be completely original.
- No imitations of existing commercial advertisements are allowed.
- Advertisements used in previous contests will be disqualified.

Social media restriction:

- Entries created for ISFF 2025 must not be shared or circulated on social media before the event on 17 January 2026.
- Violation of this rule will lead to disqualification.





Creative focus:

- Participants must demonstrate strong creative skills.
- The Ad should be attention-grabbing, conceptually sound, and aim to raise awareness about the issue or theme being highlighted.

Judgement criteria

- Clarity of concept and message:
How clearly the idea is presented and understood
- Adherence to the theme:
Relevance and alignment with the given topic or social issue
- Coordination and performance:
Teamwork, acting, and the seamless execution of the ad
- Appeal and call to action:
How effectively the ad captures attention and encourages thought or action
- Creativity, presentation and originality:
Use of visuals, script, innovation and overall originality

3. HSE Video (Health, Safety and Environment Awareness)

Theme (Choose one)

- a. Safety First, Even at School
- b. One Earth One Chance

Rules and regulations

- **Team size:** Each team must consist of 5 to 10 student members.
- **Duration:** The video must not exceed 3 minutes, excluding opening and end credits.
- **Eligibility:** Open to students of Indian Schools, International Schools, Private and Government Schools across the Sultanate of Oman.
- **Content Focus:** The video must highlight HSE (Health, Safety and Environment) practices based on the facilities and resources available in the participants' own school.
- **Coverage Areas:** The video should demonstrate safety norms during:
Day-to-day school activities, such as morning assemblies, recess/break time, Physical Education (PE) periods





- Within school premises, including classrooms, auditoriums, play grounds, foyers, corridors, staircases, laboratories
- Outside school premises, such as during arrival in the morning, during dispersal after school hours

Judgement criteria:

- Relevance: How well the video aligns with the HSE theme
- Clarity and communication: Effectiveness in delivering the message
- Impact created: Emotional or intellectual influence on viewers
- Creativity and innovation: Originality in concept and presentation
- Accuracy and credibility: Authenticity and correctness of HSE-related content.

4. REELS (Code: RL)

Theme (Choose one)

- a. Oman's Enchanting Beauty – Where Nature's Majesty Meets Cultural Splendour!
- b. Colors of Friendship – Bridging Culture, Fostering Friendship

Rules and regulations

- Team size: Each team must consist of 3 to 6 student members.
- Duration: The video must not exceed 30 seconds, excluding opening and end credits.
- Prohibited content: No controversial, religious, or political content. Refrain from using unparliamentary language or unethical scenes. All content (theme, dialogues, animations, costumes, makeup) must be appropriate for school students. The reel must not be shared on social media before the Mega Event — doing so will lead to disqualification. Maintain respect for all cultures and traditions, especially those of Oman.

Judgement Criteria

- Theme, Message and Content Quality
- Range and Versatility (creativity and variety)
- Technical Proficiency (camera work, editing, sound, etc.)
- Impactful Opening and Consistency (does it grab attention and stay strong?)
- Script (clarity, flow, emotional or narrative strength)





SIGNIFICANT DATES

Last date for registration:	Sunday, 23 November 2025
Workshops:	Saturday, 06 December 2025
Access to Google Drive	
Folder for uploads:	Sunday, 14 December to Tuesday, 16 December 2025

SATURDAY, 17 JANUARY 2026

Screening of selected entries and judgement
Film Fest Awards Ceremony

For queries:

All queries related to the competition may be directed
to the Event Coordinator: Mr. Lal A. Pillai,
Phone: 99792833

Organised by:

Indian School Darsait – ISFF Team

ISFF 2025

