



Sound Unleashed: Discover, Create, Inspire!

Embark on an exciting journey in sound
and tell us what you discover

Are you ready to explore the world of sound?

The Institute of Acoustics (IOA) is inviting young people to dive into the fascinating world of acoustics – the science of sound – and show the world why sound matters in daily life. In 2026, we're seeking fresh, creative presentations that inspire and educate others on the importance of sound

Make a short, engaging video (1 to 5 minutes) showing why sound is so important in our everyday lives and how it impacts people in meaningful ways.

You can submit as part of an educational body (school, college, University) or directly.

Your video presentation can include audio recordings, graphics, drawings, text, video clips, or even some AI-generated content. Please do not send us original documents (only digital submissions will be accepted).

The best submissions will help the IOA educate the wider public and become part of our promotional materials.

Note that submissions that use excessive AI content may be disqualified, as we are seeking fresh, original perspectives.

Who Can Participate?

There are two categories for participants based on age and location:

Ages 13–25 (UK-based)

Ages 13–25 (International)

Make sure you tell us in your submission which category you are entering,

Proof of age may be required if you are selected. You can enter individually or as part of a team of up to five people.

All team members must fit into the same age band and reside within the same geographical location (i.e. town/city/county/region) to ensure fair competition.

How to Begin Your Creative Journey



1. Form a Team

Collaborate with school, college, or university friends, or work independently. You get to choose, and all contributors need to be mentioned in the submission (either at the end credits or within the video itself, or in your email submission). Teams are limited to a maximum of 5 participants.



2. Discover Acoustics on our Social Media

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and TikTok for competition updates, resources, and tips. Share ideas, ask questions, and connect with others – though these discussions will not count as official entries.

(* Note: Social media engagement is entirely at your discretion and isn't a prerequisite for participation in this competition).



3. Explore Acoustics

Use our helpful links and resources to guide your research and spark your creativity. Check the IOA website for further details and social media links.



4. Submit Your Video Presentation

Email your entry to discoveracoustics@ioa.org.uk and visit ioa.org.uk for more information

You should receive a confirmation email within 48 hours. If not, contact the IOA office directly or email us at discoveracoustics@ioa.org.uk



5. Deadline for Entries

The competition closes on 31st July 2026.

You can enter any time prior to this deadline.

Late entries will not be accepted.

Winners will be notified by October 2026, and details will be posted on the IOA website.



What's at Stake?

Each winning entry will receive £1,000.



Terms and Conditions

For full competition rules, please refer to the Terms and Conditions document.



What Happens to Your Entry?

While all content remains the intellectual property of the creators, the IOA reserves the right to feature any submissions on their website, social media, or promotional channels to further the mission of spreading awareness about the importance of sound, in perpetuity.



Need More Help?

If you need additional guidance, feel free to contact us early to request support from an acoustics expert.

Availability may be limited, so reach out as soon as possible.

Professional behaviour is expected for all communications. Any inappropriate behaviour will lead to automatic exclusion of your submission.

Start your journey today – your creativity can make a difference!