



CHILDREN'S INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

BRIGHT FOUNDATION FILMMAKING PROJECTS FOR SCHOOLS

The Bright Foundation is thrilled to be the Community Partner for the **Children's International Film Festival (CIFF)** coming to Hastings in June 2026. The festival celebrates young film makers under the age of 16 and is a unique opportunity for the children of Hastings and Rother to be involved in an exciting initiative engaging with the film industry.

On **Thursday 18 June 2026 between 10am and 3pm** there will be a one-day festival taking place at venues across Hastings for school children to take part in filmmaking workshops with industry professionals, and watch screenings of films made by young people, ending with an **awards ceremony** at the White Rock Theatre. Local schools and groups are invited to submit a film.

CIFF is supported and championed by key stakeholders across the film industry including **BAFTA, Disney**, the **National Film and Television School** and **Into Film**.

There are three ways Schools and Groups might like to get involved in the Festival:

- 1 Bring a group to the Festival on 18 June 2026 – email info@ciffest.org
- 2 Make a film independently and submit it – email info@ciffest.org
- 3 Sign up to The Bright Foundation's Schools programme to make a film to submit (see below)

THE BRIGHT FOUNDATION FILMMAKING PROJECT FOR SCHOOLS

Between January and May 2026, The Bright Foundation will be working in our local schools to help groups of students create their films for submission to the Children's International Film Festival.

- Schools sign up for a 4-week period
- Workshops take place **at schools** on **Wednesdays or Thursdays** between March and May 2026.
- Teachers select a student group of **up to 32 students** to participate (and a minimum of 15). Students must be aged 8-15 years of age. This can be one whole class or a group of children selected by teachers. We will need to know in advance of the Year Groups.
- All sessions occur **within the school day** at your school. You will need to identify a suitable space for the workshops to take place.
- 2 professional filmmakers and educators from The Bright Foundation will visit the school to deliver the sessions.
- The school should support with a minimum of 2 schoolteachers/TAs
- Each group participates in **4 sessions** (3 x 2 hour sessions and 1 x **whole school day** for filming)
- All filming will take place at your school

Available Dates for in-school sessions (NB – we can adjust times around your school day):

Please identify which of these options you are able to do. You will need to advise us of the optimum times within the day.

Option A

Wednesdays during Term 4

4th March (2-hour session)

11th March (2-hour session)

18th March (FULL DAY)

25th March (2-hour session)

Option B

Thursdays during Term 4

5th March (2-hour session)

12th March (2-hour session)

19th March (FULL DAY)

26th March (2-hour session)

Option C

Wednesdays during Term 5

22nd April (2-hour session)

29th April (2-hour session)

6th May (FULL DAY)

13th May (2-hour session)

Option D

Thursdays during Term 5

23rd April (2-hour session)

30th April (2-hour session)

7th May (FULL DAY)

14th May (2-hour session)

SOME INSPIRATIONAL IDEAS FOR YOUR FILM

Film type	Description
Music video	We select a song and then plan and film a music video for it. The group might work with a local musician. This may involve: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) a local band lending us their songb) a pre-recorded song that the school have already donec) creating a song as part of the workshop
1066 / 2066	Explore the past and the future by creating a film which shows a window into life in 1066 and 2066. You might like to portray an everyday activity on film and how it has changed e.g. – having a meal.
Capturing a school project	Using animation, documentary or fiction style filmmaking, participants share their understanding of a topic previously explored at school.
Retelling a classic tale	Participants retell a classic tale changing elements of it or turning it into a different theme – e.g. make it gothic, turn it into influencer drama, Sci-Fi or Film Noir. You may like to bring the tale alive with a topic you've covered in class (e.g. Greek Myths).

Our Filmmakers will consult with the lead teacher to decide on the theme of the film prior to the project starting.

WHAT THE PROJECT WILL INVOLVE

We will deliver an inspirational project to turn your pupils into filmmakers. They will work collaboratively to write, plan, shoot and edit a short film between 2 and 5 minutes long. The group will all take on different roles on a film set, such as Directors, Actors, Camera, Sound, Lighting, Costume, Set and Props, Hair and Make-up, Producer.

- Session 1 will develop the film idea and agree roles
- Session 2 will be pre-production – storyboarding, creating props, choosing locations etc.
- Session 3 is the big day - filming (including technical training on equipment)
- Session 4 is editing and sound design

The filmmaker will polish your film edit and get it ready to submit to the Children's International Film Festival. We can also arrange an in-school premiere of your film.

The project will instil the 5 Cs: Creativity, Critical Thinking, Collaboration, Communication and Curiosity.

WHAT THE BRIGHT FOUNDATION WILL PROVIDE:

- Two Professional Filmmakers plus a Student trainee to lead the project
- All filmmaking equipment
- Consultation and planning with the teacher to develop the theme for your film
- DBS certification
- Experienced educators

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO PROVIDE:

- An understanding of the group (e.g. Year group – one class / mixed group)
- Any Access or Special Educational Needs.
- Access to a large space for the workshops (classroom) with whiteboard
- Access to a large space as the filming location on one day e.g school hall / playground
- Minimum 15 students / maximum 32 students
- Name tags (for first two sessions)
- Two members of teaching staff (e.g. One teacher and one TA), one of whom is lead person who can support the project with us
- You will be responsible for getting individual photo permissions for any child featured on camera

HOW TO BOOK

If you would like to take up The Bright Foundation's offer to make a film with your school, you will need to complete this application form, by Friday 19th December: <https://form.jotform.com/253103572704046>

The Bright Foundation will acknowledge receipt of the application. We will let you know of the outcome of your application by 6th January 2025.

Once the booking is confirmed, a confirmation letter and risk assessment will be sent. There are limited places, so please complete your application form as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to drop us a line at office@thebrightfoundation.org.uk or call 01424 559020.