

ISTA MIDDLE SCHOOL FESTIVAL, SHANGHAI

28th November 2025

Trip Destination: Western International School of Shanghai

Dates: 12 – 15th March 2026

Dear Parents,

We are delighted to announce that DBIS will be attending the **ISTA Middle School Festival** at Western International School of Shanghai in March 2026.

ISTA (The International School's Theatre Association) provides top-quality drama experiences at all age levels at international schools around the world.

An ISTA festival is an immersive theatre experience where young people collaborate, create and perform in an international setting. Rooted in story-based inquiry, it fosters artistic exploration, cultural exchange and personal growth. Guided by professional artists, participants develop creativity, performance skills and global perspectives. ISTA festivals celebrate storytelling, empowering students to express themselves, take creative risks and embrace collaborative theatre. For more information about ISTA and the festival, please see the link here: <https://www.istaglobal.org/events/shanghai-ms-festival>

The festival will run for three full days, with travel on either side. We will aim to depart on the morning of **Thursday 12th March and return early evening on Sunday 15th March**. Students will be taught by members of ISTA's highly accomplished staff, who are themselves experienced teachers, directors, theatre practitioners and IB examiners from around the world. Please note that this festival **does not** include a final performance for parents; instead, it is a celebration and sharing opportunity for participants.

REGISTRATION AND DEADLINE: Wednesday 10th December

To secure your child's place, please complete the jotform linked below **no later than Wednesday 10th December 2025**.

JotForm link: <https://form.jotform.com/253291241057452>

There are a limited number of spaces on this trip. We will do our best to ensure that those who want to attend can and will try to book additional spaces with ISTA, if required. After registration has closed, you will be emailed to confirm if your child has successfully secured a place. Once it has been confirmed, we request that your first payment be paid by the schedule below.

COST / PAYMENT

Please await confirmation of your child's place before making any payments.

The estimated, all-inclusive cost for the festival is HK\$9,600 per student, covering registration fees, return

flights, accommodation, meals, and all local transportation within Shanghai. To secure your child's place, payment is required in two equal instalments. Please settle the first payment of HK\$4,800 by 23rd January 2026, with the remaining balance of HK\$4,800 due by 28th February 2026.

Payment can be conveniently made by cheque or bank transfer. For bank transfers, please use the following details:

A/C Name: Discovery Bay International School Limited
Bank: The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd
Address: 1 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong
Bank Code: 004
Account Number: 111-459624-001
SWIFT Code: HSBCHKHHHKH

After making the transfer, please send the bank slip or transaction number, along with your child's name, to accounts@dbis.edu.hk for reconciliation, and please cc lglanowski@dbis.edu.hk.

PASSPORTS/VISAS

All participating students must hold a passport valid for at least six (6) months beyond the return date (i.e. until at least 16th September 2026).

Visa Requirements for China: Depending on your nationality, your child may require a visa to enter China. We advise all parents to check the latest Chinese visa requirements immediately. DBIS is unable to assist with individual visa applications. Please plan well in advance to avoid disappointment. A copy of your child's visa (if applicable) will be requested closer to the trip.

Please attach a **copy** of the passport that will be used for travel to the sign-up jotform.

TRANSPORT

Flight details will be confirmed at a later date.

ISTA will provide bus transportation transfers between the airport, hotel and festival venue.

ACCOMMODATION / CONTACTS

All students and staff will stay at [DoubleTree by Hilton Shanghai Hongqiao](#). Full details on the accommodation and staff emergency contact numbers will be issued closer to the date of travel.

MEAL ARRANGEMENTS

All meals are provided as part of this festival. Students may want to bring some extra money for snacks and for lunch or dinner at the airports on the days of travel – please ensure that students have cash in the correct currency.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITY

To ensure smooth trip organisation, parents are responsible for the following:

- Complete the sign-up jotform by **10th December 2025**.
- Arrange for the full payment or deposit with the finance office – upon confirmation of a place.
- Ensure that the student's current passport is valid for 6 months.
- Check and secure any necessary visa for entry into China.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Laura Glanowski directly at lglanowski@dbis.edu.hk.

Ms Laura Glanowski

Drama Teacher