

Ishaan Poddar

Kripa Kutir, 42/C Ballygunge Circular Road, Kolkata - 700019, West Bengal, India
+919836328169 | poishaan@tisb.ac.in | www.ishaanpoddar.com

EDUCATION

The International School Bangalore , Bengaluru, India	2021 – present
<i>International Baccalaureate (GRADES 11-12): Predicted 43/44</i>	2024 – present
<i>IGCSE (GRADES 9-10): Achieved 7 A* and 3 A</i>	2022 – 2024
SAT : 1570 (R&W:770; Maths:800)	Mar 2025
Introduction to Macroeconomic Theory and Policy , Cornell Precollege Course, 3 credits – <i>Achieved Grade: A+</i>	Summer 2025

MATH COMPETITIONS & AWARDS

• Distinction, Fermat (CEMC) , University of Waterloo, <i>for scoring in the top 25% globally</i>	2025
• Champion, International Maths Challenge <i>for scoring above 95th percentile</i>	2024
• Distinction, Cayley Contest (CEMC) , University of Waterloo, <i>Rank 1 in School and City, scored 144 / 150</i>	2024
• Silver, Southeast Asian Mathematical Olympiad , <i>for scoring in the top 20%</i>	2024
• Distinction, Pascal Contest (CEMC) , University of Waterloo, <i>Rank 1 in School and City, scored 134 / 150</i>	2023
• Elitist, International Maths Challenge <i>for scoring above 85th percentile</i>	2023
• Rank 1, School Topper, Grandmaster Category, Mental Math World Cup	2023
• Bronze, American Mathematics Olympiad (AMO) <i>for scoring in the top 40% globally</i>	2023
• Honorable Mention, CREST Mathematics Olympiad <i>for scoring in the top 25%-50% globally</i>	2023
• Silver, American Mathematics Olympiad (AMO) <i>for scoring in the top 20% globally</i>	2022

LEADERSHIP

Explorer House , The International School Bangalore – <i>Captain / Sports Prefect</i>	Aug 2025 – present
• Led 275 members, encouraging broader participation across sports, cultural, and academic events; commanded Marchpast, choreographed drill routines, and represented the house as Flagbearer on Sports Day	
• Strengthened house performance and visibility by tracking official point systems for accuracy and managing social media campaigns to build engagement and team spirit	
Vivum' 25 , The International School Bangalore – <i>Head of Finance</i>	Apr – Aug 2025
Zephyr , The International School Bangalore – <i>Head of Finance</i>	Nov 2024 – Feb 2025
Pi-Thon , The International School Bangalore – <i>Head of Finance</i>	Dec 2024 – Feb 2025
• Selected to prepare a budget of over \$127,000 for three school events; responsible for getting approval from school administration and maintaining detailed accounts indicating all disbursements and fund inflow	
• Solicited and acquired funds of \$120,000+ for Vivum'25, the largest student-led charitable event in India; donated \$11000 to Sri Shankara Cancer Foundation; raised \$4500 for Pi-Thon & \$2200 for Zephyr	
Fund Forward – Creator & Manager	Jan 2025 – present
• Initiated and developed a CSR-matching portal using Bubble and Python to connect NGOs, corporates, and individual donors, framing it as a tool to align deployment goals	
• Designed and implemented key technical features, including API connections to Gemini LLM, website architecture, email automation, and workflows demonstrating entrepreneurial application of technology to an economics-driven problem	
• Onboarded 9 NGOs and 40 individual/corporate donors as of Oct 2025	
TIS Buddy – <i>Program Head & Math Mentor</i>	Aug 2024 – present
• Founded and led a peer mentorship program that provided structured academic support for 100+ students across 13 subjects; oversaw recruitment, interviewed 30+ candidates, and appointed 15 mentors to meet demand	
• Directed program evaluation through feedback systems, using insights to enhance mentor effectiveness, strengthen concept clarity, and build a sustainable peer-support culture	
Ek Taara Learning Centre , Kolkata – <i>Volunteer / Program Leader</i>	Summer 2024, 2025
<i>An education-focused NGO for underprivileged girls up to age 13</i>	
• Conceptualized and conducted chess training programs for students aged 9–11 during the school holidays; taught core rules, opening principles, and checkmate patterns	
• Encouraged students to verbalize thought process during gameplay, fostering critical thinking, structured problem-solving, transferable logical calculation, and visualization skills; lateral transfer observed through measurable academic improvements	
Boarding Gazette , The International School Bangalore – <i>Chief Editor</i>	Aug 2024 – Jun 2025
• Spearheaded editorial and design operations as one of four Editors-in-Chief for this bi-monthly boarding magazine; coordinated content creation, teacher interviews, and interactive features to engage younger audiences	
• Created standardized publication templates in Canva, curating visuals and writing concise event descriptions to enhance clarity, accessibility, and reader engagement	

ECONOMICS EXPLORATIONS

Bharat Chamber of Commerce , Kolkata – <i>Research Intern</i>	Jul 2025
<i>A platform to promote fair trade practices, expand economic and commercial activities, and foster business growth in Eastern India</i>	
• Critically examined the impact of Asian Development Bank, World Bank, and Bangladesh governmental policies on development	
• Wrote an analysis paper on FDI inflow in Bangladesh over the last 20 years; conducted correlation modelling to find the relation between GDP and FDI growth	

West Bengal (WB) Industrial Development Corporation, Kolkata, India – Research Intern	Jun – Jul 2025
● Prepared a report on WB government's request for an Asian Development Bank loan to finance industrial corridors	
● Summarized proposed loan utilization and cost-benefit analysis; assessed feasibility and alignment with state's development goals	
John Locke Economics Essay Competition – Awarded commendation	Jun 2025
● Reviewed behaviors motivated by profit-seeking vs those expected under charitable or government ownership models	
● Applied Incentive Theory and opined on how results gained by profit-seekers outweigh those operating on a non-profit structure	
Innovapolis, Governance, Public Policy, and Leadership program – Participant	Jul 2024
● Gained exposure to public policy drafting process, stakeholder identification, and impact assessment tools; applied learning to analyze disparity in unemployment rates between Gujarat and Kerala	
● Drafted a policy brief on the Trans Mountain Pipeline feud between Alberta and British Columbia; advocated for project implementation and suggested measures to minimize negative externalities	
Immerse Essay Competition – Merit Award Recipient	Sept 2024
● Explored crypto, stablecoins, & CBDCs, assessing volatility, regulatory risks, and fiscal implications for traditional finance and public revenue	

RESEARCH

A Comparative Study of FDI Inflow Patterns, Correlations, and Volatility in MEDCs and LEDCs	
– <i>Independent Research under the mentorship of Bharat Chamber of Commerce official</i>	May 2025 – Aug 2025
● Investigated correlation between FDI and GDP across MEDCs and LEDCs by analyzing World Bank data for a 10-year-period	
● Employed Two-Sample T-tests, Pearson's Product-Moment Correlation, Fisher's Z-transformation, and F-tests to test hypotheses	
● Highlighted key factors influencing FDI patterns, including market, infrastructure, and regulatory frameworks	
Monopolistic Practices in Payment System – Guided Research	Mar – May 2025
● Examined the impact of Indonesian government's fine on Google's infringement of antitrust laws; explored consequences in terms of reduced competition and consumer welfare	
● Argued that increased enforcement of antitrust laws could, over time, foster a more competitive digital marketplace, enabling developers to reach broader audiences and promoting greater innovation	
Impact of Institutional CSR Spending on Financial Inclusion in Rural India – Guided Research	ongoing
● Researched the developmental impact of increased CSR spending by Indian financial institutions in rural Bihar	
● Analyzed metrics like years of schooling, life expectancy, infant mortality rates, and real GDP per capita using regression analysis; evaluated how CSR can be a tool for a redistributive mechanism to promote socioeconomic equity	
Relation Between MSE-Optimized Parameter Values and Equity Market Volatility – Guided Research	ongoing
● Assessed market behavior by finding alpha and K value in exponential smoothing and small moving averages, respectively, for which the Mean Squared Error was the least over 2 years for selected portfolios	
● Optimized values by applying the Brute Force method in a Python program due to the recursive nature of equations; tested the hypothesis that the higher the optimized alpha and k values, the lower the stock's volatility (measured using standard deviation)	

QUANTITATIVE EXPLORATIONS

Wharton Investment Competition – Team Leader	Sep – Dec 2024
● Led six team members in analyzing sector-specific market trends; allocated assigned budget of \$100,000 across 17 companies; achieved ROI of 3% in 10 weeks	
Unmath School, Dubai – Participant/Intern	Jul 2023, Aug 2023 – Mar 2024
enables students to explore the application of maths in daily life	
● Participated in the Math in Sports program and learned to view math beyond numbers and operations	
● Co-developed the structure, format, and flow of an international math debate for middle school students worldwide	
● Conducted competitor research and provided strategic input on positioning and content	
● Brainstormed 40–50 potential topics and created a judging rubric integrating mathematical reasoning with real-world applications	
Book My Show, Mumbai – Intern	Jul 2023
● Learned Structured Query Language (SQL) and database applications	
● Created a presentation using data acquired from funnels to compare ticket sales across genres and Indian cities	

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

● Python for Data Science, AI, and Development, Coursera	Jun – Jul 2024
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SPORTS

Table Tennis, The International School of Bangalore – Captain	2023 – present
● Most Valuable Player Award received for highest Sports Achievement for a specific sport awarded to only one student	2024, 2025
● Most Promising Player received for upcoming Sports Achievement for a specific sport awarded to only one student	2023
● International Schools Sports Organization (ISSO) – 2nd Rank	2023
● IGNITE Fest, Greenwood High School – 1st Rank	2022
● Sharanya Narayani International School – 2nd Rank	2022
Chess: Official FIDE Rating, 1438 Standard, 1449 Rapid; Chess.com: Rating: 2019 (99.7th percentile globally)	
12th Vidyashilp Academy Interschool Chess Tournament - 2nd Rank	2024