



BRIGHTWELL FILM FESTIVAL

16TH OCTOBER 2010



GUIDELINES

Things you need:

A camera & some ideas!

Length:

No longer than 5 minutes - less is fine. Some animations may run for only 30 seconds.

What kind of film do you want to make?

Action, comedy, drama, mystery, documentary, animation?
Anything is possible – but please avoid holiday videos that only you will be interested in!

Idea or story:

Think about a beginning, a middle and an end. Keep it simple. See if you can write down the idea in one sentence.

Jobs:

Decide who is going to do what. Director, camera operator, writer, costume, props, etc. Don't have everybody doing everything!

Make some lists:

Who are the characters/participants?

What do they do?

What happens to them?

Give the film a title

Other things to think about:

Where to shoot the film – locations (maybe not too many!)

Props

Costumes

Lighting – do you need any?

Are there any special sound effects or music you would like to use?

Make a list of shots, or if you are feeling adventurous create a storyboard (use stick people to make it easy).

Shooting:

Vary the sizes of your shots to add interest. Think about where close-ups would work well. Maybe try out some different angles with your camera; low, high and point-of-view shots.

Always run the camera for a couple of seconds before your action starts and leave it running for a couple of seconds after it has finished. This will help in the editing – you can't extend a shot that has ended too early.

Think about sound – is the on-camera microphone picking up everything well?

Editing:

For PCs: The editing software 'Windows Movie Maker' can be downloaded from the internet if it is not already installed on your computer. You may already have other editing software.

For Macs you should find 'iMovie' in your applications folder.

GOOD LUCK!