

About us

As a network of educationalists and other professionals working in sustainability, InterClimate Network (ICN) believes that **young people can and will lead the way to a more sustainable future through their creative ideas and energy.**



Our Climate Voices programme provides opportunities for students to:

- * **deepen knowledge** of climate change and its implications by stepping into the shoes of a specific country to represent their perspectives
- * **explore the facts**, be it the latest data tables on carbon emissions, investigating resource use, or unpicking key climate change stories
- * **engage in critical thinking** about decisions that are being taken and how to positively influence change, now and into the future
- * **develop leadership skills**, building ideas and thinking about the challenges of implementing them.
- * **meet and question decision makers**, working with local politicians and business people, national experts and MPs.

What we contribute

In response to our consultation with teachers and feedback from students, we have developed a platform of activities for secondary school students (detailed in Appendix I) that reinforces the **GCSE and A' level Geography curriculum** climate change elements and overlaps with **Science.**

- * **Model Climate Conference / Local Summit**
- * **Schools newsletter and *Explore the Facts***
- * **Support for action in your school**
- * **National Summit to showcase leadership**

Of the 150 students from 14 secondary schools who participated in our combined Model Climate Conference and Local Action Summits in 2016:

98% said they found it useful, with high ratings for the development of research and analysis skills, team-working, debating and presenting information.

74% went on to say they would like to do more about climate change / carbon reduction as a result.

100% teachers last year said they wanted their students to take part again. We also know from teacher feedback that our work contributes to students' development as **individuals in society**, and gives insight into what it means to be a **global citizen.**



What it entails

1. Before, during and after

Taking part in our flagship offering of the Model Climate Conference / Local Action Summit means signing up teams of students and supporting them to take on their country roles. Teachers provide time for teams to meet and go through the briefings, and also encourage further research.

After the event, students report back to their wider school community about what they've learned, whether that means leading an assembly, writing an article or blog, or inviting their local MP for questioning. They may also want to take action ideas from our events and develop them in school, with support available from us and other useful organisations.



Sign up to our newsletter

If you have been passed this email and would like to receive our newsletter in the future please sign up to our mailing list by clicking the button below.

Sign-up

2. Giving us feedback

ICN continually refines and develops our programmes using your feedback and evaluations at the events themselves and in follow-up, hearing from you about what can most help to maintain impetus and critical thinking.

We can also include in our twice-termly newsletter articles by students about what they've been doing, photos, some statistics about carbon reduction in school. The newsletter is sent to schools across the country.

3. Promoting your students as climate leaders

ICN intends the National Summit in 2018 to be a vehicle for young people's narratives, showcasing what they have done, and inspiring others with the difference they have made.

We will invite national politicians and other leaders to witness their sustainability initiatives. Held in a high profile venue [*previous events have been in the House of Lords and Portcullis House*], it will be a unique opportunity for your school to endorse students who show leadership in climate action during the year. More details will be provided in the Autumn term.



Get in touch

Climate Voices is a three year project for young people in the South West and South East of England funded in part by Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust. Do get in touch with any ideas, questions or if want to suggest something to try in your school.

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Follow us on twitter @ClimateVoicesUK



Inspiring action on climate change

APPENDIX I Climate Voices Programme 2017-18

Your students are invited to be part of all, or as many of these activities as possible throughout the year. Most of what we offer to schools is free, funded partly by Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and funds raised from other charities. We will let you know if any contribution is needed.

Model Climate Conference / Local Action Summit

Formal Climate Change negotiations

Modelling the UN Climate Conferences teams of students from schools across the area meet in the Council Chambers to debate international climate policy and progress since the 2015 the Paris Agreement. ICN provides detailed briefings in advance to help teams' research and negotiations, giving links to background information and data.

The countries represented at the conference include for instance USA, China, India, Russian Federation, Small Island States, European Union, Nigeria, Brazil and UK. With sufficient notice, we are also able to include a country you might want to request eg a school link country.

Local Action Summit

In the second part of the afternoon, local sustainability leaders and active organisations share expertise in an 'Ideas Zone'. Students engage in mini-workshops [*air quality; energy; food and food waste; resource-use; travel and transport; waste and recycling*] and then generate their own ideas and plans of action to bring back to school.

Schools Newsletter / Explore the Facts

E-newsletter

A twice-termly resource designed to share with students, bringing together current climate facts, data and news relevant to schools – and an opportunity to share what's working in your school.

Explore the Facts

An in-depth article with each newsletter provides questions for students to investigate further, such as 'Why did the UK chose a target of 80% reduction in Greenhouse Gas emissions by 2050?'

Support for action in your school

Workshop / Assembly

Our team of staff and volunteers are available to come and deliver workshops and assemblies to help students widen their knowledge and stimulate ideas for action.

Signposting and brokerage

Using our networks and relationships to link you with local providers who can support low carbon, sustainable initiatives in schools – from growing your own veg to generating your own electricity.

Showcasing leadership in action

National Summit, London

In 2018, we will invite schools to nominate students who have shown leadership around climate action to attend a National Summit in a high profile venue. Students will pose questions and present their initiatives to national leaders in politics, business and education.

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We will publicise students' involvement in all elements of the programme through our website and e-newsletter and social media.