



Get creative for the Climate!

INTRODUCTION

Leeds City Council declared a Climate Emergency in March 2019, in part, in response to the 'school strikes for climate' movement and lobbying mainly from young people.

Leeds held its first ever 'Youth Summit on Climate for secondary schools and settings' in February 2020 bringing together over 100 students from 20 Leeds secondary schools and colleges with key decision makers in a successful event that provided a forum for young people's concerns and priorities going forward. To complement this a further Summit was planned for primary schools and settings, however, those plans were overtaken by the Coronavirus pandemic! Not to be dismayed, in recognising the importance of mobilising pupil voice, we feel the time is right to celebrate the contribution primary schools make to protecting, preserving and improving the environment to provide an on-going focus on keeping temperature rises within safe limits that will maintain, not only our lives, but the lives of all living things on the planet.

This primary school project is starting with the same intent as the recently announced **Earthshot global prize for the environment**; a collaboration between Sir David Attenborough and Prince William who said "*The Earthshot prize is really about harnessing optimism and that urgency to find some of the world's solutions to some of the greatest environmental problems, positivity has been missing from the climate debate - something the award could supply*".

PROJECT SCOPE

We want to challenge your school to *get creative for the climate* and celebrate what you are already doing. So, firstly, we want you to tell us what your school is doing to address what the students at our Secondary summit voted for as their top 3 priorities namely;

- Promoting sustainable travel (walking, cycling, scoot to school, school streets, etc.)
- Tackling single use plastic (SUP) and recycling, and
- Supporting school uniform recycling

Then, we want you to tell us what you think are the top priorities for your school. You will need to work out a good and safe way to find out the views of pupils in other classes and year groups.

Finally, we want you to record a short video film/PowerPoint presentation (2 mins max) to show to other schools - *get creative for the climate* to celebrate what your school has to contribute – consider creative writing, pieces of poetry, junk models, a news report, a dance, fashion from waste, gymnastics, a piece of music – all to be captured in a fun, imaginative and creative way so we know what's important to your school! Importantly, we want to hear children's voices so we're not expecting a Steven Spielberg film - the message is more important than the medium.

PROJECT OUTCOME

If you can do all of the above and send us your contribution no later than **Friday 18th December** then we will make sure that your film/presentation;

- ❖ appears on Leeds City Council's You Tube channel on a specific day alongside films from all the other Leeds primary schools that take part in the project
- ❖ is seen by all Leeds City Council members of the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee (CEAC) - we may be able to ask some schools to attend the meeting on **18th January**
- ❖ is watched by our Child friendly Leeds Ambassadors some of who are Leeds businesses keen to look after the environment

TO HELP YOU

Once your school is registered we will send you a *Get creative for the Climate!* School Support Pack containing inspirational ideas to support your project work including amongst other things;

- a link to the work of Furlanesend Community Primary School in Cornwall, who successfully lobbied Comic Relief to provide a red nose not made from plastic for this year's Red Nose Day.
- song lyrics from 'SOS from the kids' who recently appeared on Britain's Got Talent, and
- **Happy News** Project resources to help with developing teamwork, speaking and listening and news writing and reading skills.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

1. Register for your school to take part in the '*Get creative for the Climate*' project by e-mailing: Schoolwellbeing@leeds.gov.uk
2. Plan some time to do the project in school over the next half term from w/c 2nd November
3. Plan to record a short video/PowerPoint presentation (2 mins max) to share in school and beyond for which you have photographic consent for any pupils appearing in the film, and
4. Have fun inspiring your pupils to get creative for the climate!