

Rotary **YOUNG**
ENVIRONMENTALIST
COMPETITION

2020/21

Information Pack



rotarygbi.org

Rotary 
Great Britain & Ireland

Information Pack for 2020 – 2021

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Introduction

The Rotary Young Environmentalist Competition is a new competition with the theme of **Climate Change / Carbon Reduction**. This competition is organised and promoted by Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland (Rotary GB&I).

There are three stages to the competition, each designed to support and encourage the development of environmental skills. The 1st Stage is organised at local level – in this case the **Rotary Club of Stratford upon Avon**. The winners of the various categories then progress to the Rotary District heats. The winners of the District heats then progress to the National Finals.

Aims and Objectives

The competition aims to encourage young people to:

- interact with the environment
- address serious environmental issues
- develop and explore solutions to the issues
- explore, investigate, research and undertake an environmental sustainability project

Who can take part?

The competition is open to all schools and college communities and those who are home educated, along with any other young peoples' community organisations, for example, Scout Groups, Girl Guides, Church Groups etc.

There are three age groups:

Junior	7 to 10 years old
Intermediate	11 to 13 years old
Senior	14 to 17 years old

Entrants must not exceed the upper age parameter for each group on 31 August 2020.

With the age qualifying date of 31st August 2020, it should be noted that some junior entrants may be 11, intermediate entrants may be 14 and some senior entrants may be 18 at the time of some or all the stage competitions i.e. a competitor who may be 17 on 31st August but turns 18 on 1st September is allowed to enter. **Competitors must include their age on the Entry Form.**

Competitors, schools, colleges and youth organisations may participate in competitions organised by a Rotary club or district outside of their geographical boundary but may compete in only one club / district event.

There are two categories in the competition per indicated age group

- An individual entry open to Junior, Intermediate and Senior categories.
- Group entry (maximum of four participants) open to Junior, Intermediate and Senior categories

The Three Stages of the Competition

Local Heats

These are organised by local Rotary clubs with the winning entries in each age group are entered into a district competition. The deadline for Rotary Club of Stratford-upon-Avon local heat is 19th March '21

District Competitions

The Rotary Club of Stratford upon Avon are to notify the District Coordinator by 9th April '21 of the intention to enter the winners of the Local Heat. The winning submissions are to be forwarded to the District Co-ordinator (Gabrielle Back) by the 16th April '21. The winners of each age group will then be entered into the National Final.

National Final

To be held in May '21. One entry per age group from each district may be submitted. Where possible entries to be submitted electronically to the Rotary Support Centre. Example of exceptions are 3D models.

Please note that entries and supporting information sent electronically **MUST NOT EXCEED 15Mb per email sent**. Emails over this limit will not be received at the Support Centre. Alternative options are to send the nomination and supporting information across several emails.

Competition Guidelines

Purpose

To engage young people to interact with the environment, address serious issues, and develop and explore solutions to the problems.

Objectives

To encourage young people to explore, investigate, research and undertake an environmental sustainability project on the theme of '**Climate Change/Carbon Reduction**'. The two are interlinked and those entering may focus on one or the other or both

The project undertaken should raise awareness to a particular problem within the given topic area and inspire action to respond to the growing awareness of the problem.

Task

Select a topic and undertake some research and exploration into the current magnitude of the problem. They may work on projects on their own or as part of a group of not more than 4 people.

Decide and develop their own ideas while undertaking the project and offering solutions.

The project could be approached from different angles and perspectives.

Projects might explore the current and likely future evidence of climate change, or methods to reduce carbon emissions . Possible projects might include one or more topics such as the following, but participants are encouraged to also explore any new or novel ideas within the theme of **Climate Change/Carbon Reduction**. Some ideas are as follows:

- Exploring impacts of pollution on climate change.
- Exploring impact of climate change on agriculture
- Exploring impact of climate change on frequency of occurrence of disasters such as flooding and droughts.
- Exploring impact of climate change on health
- Exploring impact of climate change on the oceans
- Investigating how climate change is changing habitats and the positive and negative aspects that it has on species.
- Exploring ways to encourage people to use less energy by "switching off"

- Exploring innovative ways of conserving energy
- Benchmarking the magnitude of problem of carbon emissions:
 - ⊖ in your personal (or households) energy use or that of your school
 - ⊖ from travel by car/ public transport/ walking/cycling.

This will require the recording energy consumption data or noting miles travelled by different modes of transport at regular intervals (daily, weekly etc.) over a period of several weeks/months.
- Analysing secondary statistical data relating to energy and emissions from Official Publications such as the Digest of UK Energy Statistics.

Students in the older age group are encouraged to explore and develop new concepts other than those regularly reported in the popular press.

Outcomes

Young people should engage with the Environment and identify current issues.

Projects should be eye catching, present a balanced viewpoint exhibiting understanding of the environmental problem, and showcase a solution or suggest an innovative new idea for solving the environmental issue.

Presentation

The project is to be presented in the student's or group's chosen format.

These could include:

- Written and illustrated submissions
- Photographic or artistic presentations
- Audio or video reports
- A tangible product such as an App for smart phone
- Interactive conversations or creative movement

Written reports should be well illustrated and be no more than 1000 words long.

Poster displays should be A3 or A4 in size in colour or black and white with images and text.

Judging Criteria

Evidence, Research and Effectiveness

The project must demonstrate that exploration and some research has been undertaken. The aims of the project must clearly be stated, and outcomes must be capable of assessment and demonstrate sustainability.

Innovation and Adaptability

New concepts and ideas are valuable and will be recognized and the project should be capable of replication by others based on the information provided.

Beneficiaries and what lessons have been learnt

What would the benefit of the project to the community or Society as a whole? Is it likely to be cost effective and what problems, if any, have been encountered? How could such a project be improved in future?

Presentation

How much information has been given? Is it imaginative and eye catching? What is the impact? Is it easy to follow and understand? What is the quality of the content?

Evidence of Teamwork

If undertaken in a group, what is the evidence of individual members in the team?

Prizes

At all stages of the competition, competitors will receive a certificate of participation.

In addition, the Rotary Club of Stratford-upon-Avon will award a prize for the best local entry in each category.

How to enter

Entrants are required to complete an Entry Form and the Rotary GB&I Consent Form and are to submit these along with their entries to David Taylor (contact details given on the Entry Form) by the time specified (see deadline dates above)..

Important Notice: Please note that photographs and videos of people under 18 years old must be accompanied by written permission from the parent, guardian or carer of the person(s) photographed.

Rotary Youth Competitions

This Young Environmentalist Competition is one of eleven competitions for young people organised by Rotary International in Britain and Ireland. The others are: Young Artist, Young Chef, Youth Debate, Young Filmmaker, Young Musician, Young Photographer, Young Scientist, Young Writer, Young Citizen Awards and the Technology Tournaments. To find out more about these competitions and other opportunities please contact your local Rotary club in the first instance.

Working with Children

Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland has adopted this statement of policy in working with children, vulnerable adults and those with disability:

The needs and rights of the child, the elderly, the vulnerable and those with disability take priority. It is the duty of every Rotarian to safeguard to the best of their ability, the welfare of and prevent the physical, sexual or emotional abuse and neglect of all children, the elderly, persons with disability or otherwise vulnerable persons with whom they come into contact during their Rotarian duties