GET CREATIVE FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

THE CLIMATE COALITION

Get Creative For Climate Justice asks young people to use their amazing creativity to send a loud and clear call for climate justice to the UK's elected representatives.

In this **teachers guide** you'll find all you need to help young people think critically about climate justice, creatively and collectively represent their hopes and dreams for the future in art and creative writing, and organise an exhibition of their work in school.

In December 2023 we held the 'Creative For The Climate' exhibition of young people's artwork in the **Houses of Parliament.** We'll be organising a similar exhibition in Westminster in early 2025 along with similar exhibitions in the devolved Parliaments. Your school is invited to take part. We hope elected representatives will see young people's creativity at first hand and be inspired to take action.

We welcome you whether you're one of the schools which took part last year or you're new to the project. And we plan to run Get Creative for Climate Justice every year, so please think how it fits into your annual calendar.

Photo: Upton-by-Chester High School

The Creative for the Climate exhibition in the Houses of Parliament
Photo: Rebekah Lucking/Send My Friend to School

Get Creative For Climate Justice is a partnership organised by CAFOD, Christian Aid, Oxfam, the Royal Society of Literature and Send My Friend to School with support from the Climate Coalition.

It's open to all primary and secondary schools, FE colleges and alternative provision providers in the UK.

Please read the resources carefully as we have made some changes from last year.

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Your point of contact for this project is the organisation which you signed up with. Your contact data will not be used by other participating organisations without your permission.

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1. Register for Get Creative for Climate Justice

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The first step towards taking part in **Get Creative For Climate Justice** is to **register** your school's interest. This means you'll receive updates about the project throughout the year and work from your school will be eligible to be exhibited at the **Creative for the Climate** exhibitions to be held at the UK Parliament, Scottish Parliament and Senedd Cymru.

To register your interest, simply reply to or email whichever organisation you wish to be contacted by in the nation where you wish your school's work to be exhibited. All schools will receive similar communications.

England
CAFOD - Phoebe Worthington - pworthington@cafod.org.uk
Christian Aid - Josh Grear - jgrear@christian-aid.org
Oxfam - John McLaverty - jmclaverty@oxfam.org.uk (until July 19)
Royal Society of Literature - Ailinn Santos - ailinn.santos@rsliterature.org
Send My Friend to School - Rebekah Lucking - rebekah.lucking@sendmyfriend.org

Scotland
Christian Aid - Emma Gardner - egardner@christian-aid.org
Send My Friend to School - Rebekah Lucking - rebekah.lucking@sendmyfriend.org

Wales
Christian Aid - Rebecca Elliott - relliott@christian-aid.org
Send My Friend to School - Rebekah Lucking - rebekah.lucking@sendmyfriend.org

Please register with only **one** organisation. Simply tell us your name, school, school postal address, your school email address and your school phone number.

2. Learn about climate justice

Learning about climate change usually involves learning about nature, the environment and sustainability.

Learning about climate justice involves viewing climate change through the additional lens of human rights and justice.

While climate change affects all of us, it affects some communities and places much more than others — and it's the people who have done the least to cause climate change who are affected the most.

It's an injustice that our ability to cope with the impacts of climate change is based on where we live, what resources we have available to us, and what part of society we belong to.

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To help young people think critically about the question of climate justice, we have included brief learning resources in this resource. Please use these before you begin planning artwork or creative writing so young people develop a clear understanding of the meaning of climate justice before they get creative.

1. Climate Justice PowerPoint Presentation
2. Climate Justice or Climate Change? Card sorting activity.
3. Mapping Climate Justice
4. Notes for teachers on climate anxiety

In addition, each of the partner organisations has additional climate justice school resources. There is a directory of these resources at the end of this guide. Please use these resources as you wish.

Flooding in Balochistan province, Pakistan, in September 2022. Between 10%-12% of the entire country was flooded. This is one of the costliest weather disasters in human history. Its causes are linked to man-made climate change. Photo: Arif Shah/Oxfam

3. Get creative for climate justice

Now it's time to get creative for climate justice!

It can be challenging for young people to express their learning and ideas as artwork or creative writing. Therefore this resource also includes **creative facilitation guides** for art and creative writing. These help young people creatively communicate their feelings of solidarity for climate justice and their demands for action.

Photo: Lawnswood School

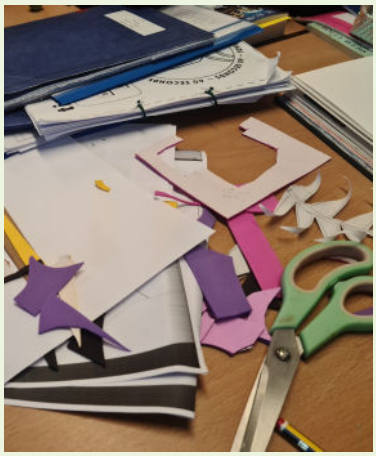

Photo: John McLaverty/Oxfam GB

We have these simple guidelines for creative work.

1. It should be A1, A2 or A3 sized and be produced on paper
2. It may be created using the written word, paint, ink, pastels, pencils or screenprint, or be a print of digital artwork or a photo.
3. It should be accompanied by a brief caption or title outlining the thinking behind it and the first name and school of the artist(s).
4. Please also write your school's name on the back of each exhibit. We may enlarge creative writing to exhibit it.
5. It must be respectful and inclusive.

4. Hold your climate justice exhibition at school

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Your school exhibition can be held at any time of the year. It is an important opportunity to amplify young people's voices with your elected representative, the media and the local community. So it's a big event in its own right.

Your exhibition could be a simple display board in a classroom or corridor, or it could be a more ambitious display in the school foyer or other similar space.

However you decide to organise your school exhibition, we'd like you to invite your **elected representative** to view the young people's work. You may do this by inviting them to visit school or by emailing them photos or copies of your exhibition with a covering letter.

Your project contact can help with advice about contacting your MP, MSP, MS or MLA. There is a step-by-step Oxfam schools guide about organising an elected representative meeting here and writing a press release here.

Outdoor community climate justice exhibition
Photo: Lakenham Primary School

5. Share your school's exhibits with us

The deadines for exhibition in the **Scottish Parliament** and **Senedd Cymru** will be separately sent to participating schools.

On December 6 2023 we held the first Creative for the Climate exhibition in the UK Houses of Parliament. It was a unique event where young people showed MPs around the exhibition and called for climate justice. We were proud to be mentioned in a Parliamentary debate the following day. The **Westminster** exhibition this academic year will be held in early 2025 (date tbc).

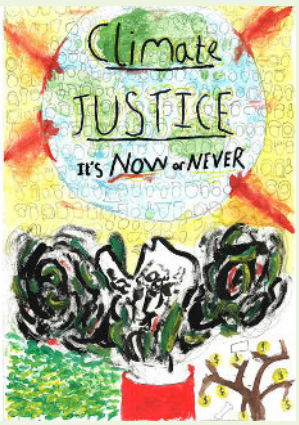

Photo: St Olave's Grammar School

To submit exhibits for the **Westminster** exhibition please take photos of the work you'd like to submit and send them to your project contact. You may send us as many or as few items as you wish. Aim to select exhibits which convey the strongest climate justice messages from your school.

Unfortunately we cannot promise to feature every item you send in the exhibition. However we'll do our very best.

The deadline for sending us exhibits is **Friday 29 November 2024.** This will give us time to request original work from you and set up the exhibition - so do hang on to it!

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6. Creative for the Climate in Parliament

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Photo:: Christian Aid

We plan to hold the **Get Creative for Climate Justice** exhibitions in the **UK Houses of Parliament in early 2025** (date tbc), the **Scottish Parliament** (late 2024) and the **Senedd Cymru** (12 November 2024 tbc)

The purpose of the exhibitions is to showcase the creativity of young people, amplify their voices and call upon their elected representatives to take action for climate justice. The UK has made many promises and commitments since the annual COP climate change conferences began in 1995. The exhibition is an opportunity for young people to collectively and creatively call for these promises for climate justice to be honoured by the new Government. We hope you will join us in our efforts to invite every elected representative in the UK to the relevant exhibition by inviting your school's own elected representative to attend.

We'd like a small group of young people from schools taking part in the exhibitions to be **tour guides**. They will be the public representatives of the exhibition, responsible for meeting and greeting visitors and providing a guided tour of the exhibits. If there are young people at your school who have contributed artwork and are interested in this role, please reach out to your project contact (see page 2 for their email adresses). The tour guides must be available for online training and to attend between approximately 10am - 5pm on the day of the exhibition. Travel expenses for young people and accompanying staff will be paid.

We cannot guarantee to feature every exhibit submitted to the project and encourage schools to comprehensively showcase all their children's work at their school exhibitions. If you are in Scotland or Wales, and would also like your school's work to be exhibited in the Westminster exhibition, please reach out to your project contact.

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7. Directory of resources

There are six core learning resources included in this project pack. They are

1. Climate Justice PowerPoint Presentation
2. Climate Justice or Climate Change? Card sorting activity
3. Mapping Climate Justice
4. Notes for teachers on climate anxiety
5. Artistic Facilitation Guide
6. Creative Writing Facilitation Guide

The first three and the relevant facilitation guide(s) are recommended as essential learning activities for all young people taking part in the project.

In addition, we suggest the following resources for greater in-depth learning. Simply click on the links or follow the bit.lys to download the resources.

CAFOD
Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

Climate and environment resources for children - primary bit.ly/3r3w78p
Climate change photopack - secondary bit.ly/3prQprp

christian aid

L4C Climate Justice lesson plan bit.ly/3plgngi
Courageous advocacy and prophetic action bit.ly/3pv88hH
Impact Toolkit bit.ly/3PyK5Jo

OXFAM

The Human Impact of Climate Change - Primary and Secondary bit.ly/46qLNCz
Support Young People to Take Action for Climate Justice bit.ly/3CKlCt2
Active Citizenship Skills bit.ly/3NpdGSP

SEND MY FRIEND TO SCHOOL

Send My Friend to School - Education in Emergencies bit.ly/3NMhkaL
Get Creative for Climate Justice bit.ly/3JM6j71

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Great Big Green Week Schools Resources bit.ly/3PxWoWA

Privacy notice - The project organisers will have access to all the participating schools' contact information for project management and monitoring purposes. However you will only be contacted by the organisation you register with about this and future projects unless you provide your consent otherwise.