

## YOUNG REPORTERS SCOTLAND COMPETITION



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## About the Competition

We are excited to announce that our annual competition is now [open for Registration](#)

See: [www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/getinvolved](http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/getinvolved)

We want to hear from you! whether it's through film, photography or writing, we want to hear and share with others, your voice about environmental and sustainability issues that affect you and your local community.

### Why Take Part

Ask yourself the following questions:

- What have you heard on the news recently about environmental issues? Is there anything that stands out? Is there anything that affects you, your family, your local environment?
- Have you thought about what you can do to try and help raise awareness of an environmental issue that you are passionate about?
- In order to live sustainably, we need to be aware of the impact our own behaviours have on the environment, do you know what your impact is on the environment?
- Why is it important for people to be more aware of environmental issues?

This is your chance to share with others your passion for the environment whilst at the same time learning some new skills, sharing your voice with other young people across Scotland and beyond and having the opportunity to win some fantastic prizes!

### The Details

- Entries **MUST** be in either film, photography or written format
- Entries **MUST** be about an environmental or sustainability issue.
- Deadline for entries is: **FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2019** and shortlisted entries will be invited to attend our annual awards ceremony.
- You can enter as an individual or group/class
- Entries **MUST** be from young people aged 8-26
- You **MUST** [Register](#) for the competition where you will be sent important information about how to submit your entry.
- Your entry **MUST** reference a Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)

See: [www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/sdg](http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/sdg)

## **Theme**

At Young Reporters' Scotland we don't set themes for our competition. Environmental and sustainability issues cover a broad range of areas and we would encourage entries that share with others your passion for making a difference or raising awareness of something that people don't really know much about.

If you are looking for ideas, however, as an example with the rising awareness and understanding of the issues of plastic. How is this issue affecting you and the environment around you? have you changed your own behaviour when it comes to single use plastic?

This is your opportunity to make a difference and share their passion for the environment!

## **Entry Categories**

Young Reporters' Scotland supports the [Year of Young People](#) and have therefore extended our age range for entries to 8-26.

Entries will therefore be judged in the following categories:

- 8-10 Years age group
- 11-14 Years age group\*
- 15-18 years age group\*
- 19-21 years age group\*
- 22-26 years age group\*

There are three categories for you to choose from and you are eligible to submit **one entry per category**

- Written
- Photographic
- Video

\*The overall winners in these categories have the potential to be entered into the International [Young Reporters' for the Environment competition](#) which is open to the 11-26 years age group

## **Reporter Tips**

For lots of helpful reporting tips and guidance, we would recommend downloading our Young Reporters Guide which will help you get started with your entry and help you on your way to becoming a Reporter for the environment.

You can access this and lots of other useful resources at:

[www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/resources](http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/resources)

## Rules for Submission

If you are considering taking part in our very exciting competition, please click to our Submission Rules & Criteria information page [[www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/rules](http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/rules)] which provides you with everything you need to know about what's expected from your entry

## United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)

With environmental issues at the heart of Young Reporters' Scotland, it is extremely important to develop your knowledge of the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/) (SDG's) and we want you to tell us directly through your competition entry which Goal(s) your environmental or sustainability issue directly connects with.



If you haven't heard of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's), that's ok. We have provided an overview for you on our [website](#). We want you to look at the SDG's and decide which of them your entry is most connected to. It may be one SDG or it may be a few SDG's.

Don't worry about going into detail about your SDG(s), all we are asking you to do is to select your SDG(s) and then tell us a little bit about its link with your entry which can be done on the submission form.

Your first task is to [find out more](#) about these SDG's so you can make an informed choice about what you would like to create your competition entry about.

### See Weblinks:

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html>

SDGs Eco-Schools Resources <https://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/ecoschools/goals>

## Staying Safe

As a young reporter, you may wish to visit a location you are investigating, do some internet research or speak to people to find out what they think. All of these activities carry some level of risk and it's up to you to think about these and stay safe. Here are a few general rules we advise you to follow:

### Are You Under 16:

- If you are under 16, make sure you have permission from your parent/guardian for your activity and that they are aware of where you are going, who you are meeting, how you are getting there and when you will be back.

### Keep Yourself Right:

- Never go into someone's house if you don't know them. If you are meeting a person you don't know to interview them, make sure this is done in a public place.
- Always let someone know where you're going and what time you'll be back.
- If you are investigating an issue on location, look out for hazard signs and follow their warnings.
- If you are carrying out an individual investigation, take a friend with you.
- Always take your mobile phone in case of emergencies.
- Stay safe online by never sharing personal information. This includes your full name, address, phone number, email or a photo that you can be identified by.
- The [Think U Know website](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/) is full of advice for how you can stay safe online and where to get help if you need it.

See weblink: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

## Rules For Submission

If you are considering taking part in our very exciting competition, please read the following information which provides you with everything you need to know about what's expected from your entry.

### Acceptance Criteria

Not meeting the competitions acceptance criteria means that the entry cannot be accepted as a valid entry and cannot be shortlisted for submission to the international Young Reporters for the Environment competition.

Submissions must include:

1. The name of the author(s)
2. Their age on the day of submission and Date of Birth.
3. The name of their registered school or group
4. If you are submitting a group entry, the age and Date of Birth of the oldest group member on the day of submission must be supplied.

They must also:

- be the correct length, size and format, etc; specific guidelines for written Articles, Photographs and Video as detailed on our [website](http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/competition) [\[www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/competition\]](http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/competition)
- be submitted in written or spoken English, or have English subtitles in the case of a video
- be focused on the competition themes and think about how this affects the local and wider community
- concentrate on possible solutions or present existing possible solutions through an expert or different local stakeholders
- have been disseminated to a local audience through more than three different media outlets:

This can be through a School Assembly presentation; promotion through social media; websites; local newspapers; eco-event at school

- have accreditation and have permission for usage of the pictures and music which are not original and used in the Article and the Video
- Information about chosen Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) / Global Goal

### Written Entries - Rules

- Written submissions must not exceed 1,000 words in length and may include illustrations and photographs. The source of all non-original illustrations and photographs must be given
- An article must be accompanied by a title of not more than 140 characters
- Articles must be sent digitally in Microsoft Word or .pdf format with accompanying pictures following the photographic guidelines below

- Original photographs should also be sent separately (see in what format under photographs below)
- three pictures including infographics are allowed with captions of max. 20 words for each.

## Photograph - Rules

### Two subcategories: Reportage or Campaign

- A single photograph must be submitted
- A photograph must be accompanied by a title of not more than 140 characters
- It is mandatory for Reportage photography to attach a short description of no more than 150 words to explain the link with environmental sustainability and/or a solution to the problem and/or issue. The text attached must make sense of what the story is in relation to the photo
- It is NOT mandatory for Campaign photography to attach a short description, but it should tell a story by itself. If an entry includes a short description, it has to follow the same condition as the Reportage photography mentioned above
- Photographs must be submitted digitally as .jpg or .png format with a preferable resolution of not less than 150-300 dpi.

**Reportage photography**, or what's also known as documentary photography, is a photographic style that captures a moment or event in a narrative fashion, i.e., images that tell a story.

**Campaign photography**, or experimental photography described as using alternative techniques. A photographer who does experimental photography uses techniques that are not common with usual photography or digital photography. It is a type of staged photo. The image aims to associate the advertised product and/or firm with certain lifestyles or values.

## Video - Rules

### Two subcategories: Reportage or Campaign

- Videos must be no more than 3 minutes long including credits roll\* and in documentary, reporter/interview style (recommended) or public service announcement (PSA) is allowed
- A video must be accompanied by a title (not more than 140 characters)
- The format must be compatible with supported [YouTube](#) file formats
- Background music is only recommended for campaign type of video

**Reportage video** based on news, event, history, etc., based on direct observation thorough research and documentation.

**Campaign video** aims at the advertised product, and/or firm with certain lifestyle or values

\*It is not mandatory to include credits roll.

## Copyright Information

Legal matter is very important and means a lot in the society of today, especially in the field of media. It is your responsibility to be aware of the rules and regulations related to media creation when you work on your piece. Any submissions that we find legal doubt about will be ineligible to win the competition.

## Use of music for video entries

It is illegal to copy or otherwise infringe upon the rights of copyright-protected music, without the express written permission of the copyright/rights holder. Obtaining music licences to permit the use of copyright-protected material, even for a not-for-profit video, can be problematic. As such, it is strongly recommended that you do not use copyright-protected music in your video.

As an alternative, you can resort to the YouTube Audio Library, which offers royalty-free tracks made available for any not-for-profit creative purpose, and do not require written permission from the copyrights holder.

You may be aware that many platforms currently scan uploaded videos for coincidences with copyright-protected work. Work found to be using copyright-protected material is usually detected by copyright bots and suspended from the platform.

Music may also be published under an open content licensing scheme, such as the Creative Commons licence. There are still terms, conditions and restrictions applicable for music taken from the above sources, so please ensure these are fully observed and there is no copyright infringement in your video entry.

## Film & Photo Permissions

When creating media (photographs, filming or audio recording) it is important to ensure you gain permission (consent) from any people (subjects) who feature within the media. This ensures that both the people in the media and the person producing the media are clear about what it will be used for, how long it will be kept for and how they are protected by data protection law.

This is best practice as you develop your media skills and for your work with Young Reporters Scotland you need to ask people who feature within your media to complete this form and submit it to Keep Scotland Beautiful with your media.

## Download the Young Reporters Scotland media Consent Form:

[www.keeptoscotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/resources](http://www.keeptoscotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/resources)



## Resources

We have created some fantastic Resources to get you started with Young Reporters Scotland and will help you with your competition entry.

All resources and useful weblinks can be found at:

[www.keeptoscotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/resources](http://www.keeptoscotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/resources)

### Resources for Young Reporters'

Download the [Guide for Young Reporters](#) which provides lots of reporting tips to help guide you along the way. [[www.keeptoscotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/resources](http://www.keeptoscotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/resources)]

You can also download tips specific to your interest:

- [Photography](#)
- [Film](#)
- [Writing](#)
- [Interview Techniques](#)

### Websites

We have provided a list of websites that you may find inspiring or helpful which is available at [www.keeptoscotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/resources](http://www.keeptoscotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/resources). If you would like to suggest a website or blog you think would be good to include here, get in touch by emailing [yrs@keeptoscotlandbeautiful.org](mailto:yrs@keeptoscotlandbeautiful.org)

### [Young Reporters for the Environment](#)

You might also find it useful to have a look at the previous winning national entries by Young Reporters from 34 different countries around the world:

- Visit the Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE) International youtube channel to watch video entries made by young people internationally: [www.youtube.com/user/YREInternational/featured](http://www.youtube.com/user/YREInternational/featured)
- Visit the YRE website to view all the winning entries from around the world [www.youngreporters.org/](http://www.youngreporters.org/)
- Follow YRE International on twitter [@YREInt](https://twitter.com/YREInt)

## Submission Checklist

When you are ready to submit your entry to the competition, it's important first of all that you have met our checklist:

### Checklist

- My entry is the correct length, size and format.
- My entry is focused on an environmental or sustainability issue that affects the local and wider community.
- My entry has been shared with others through at least three different methods and I can evidence these when I submit my entry. e.g your entry is on a blog or available to view on a video channel such as YouTube or has been shared on social media or is in the local newspaper or in the school newsletter (please be mindful of age restrictions when using online platforms & consult an age appropriate adult for assistance with this)
- My entry can be accessed online via a weblink that I provide (preferred option); or will be sent via email to [yrs@keepscotlandbeautiful.org](mailto:yrs@keepscotlandbeautiful.org).
- Any external sources of information have been appropriately acknowledged.
- My entry meets the criteria detailed here [[www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/rules](http://www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/rules)] and has been submitted by midnight on the closing date of 15 February 2019.
- My entry is connected to at least one of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

**SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY:** [www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/submit](http://www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/submit)

### Film & Photo Permissions

When creating media (photographs, filming or audio recording) it is important to ensure you gain permission (consent) from any people (subjects) who feature within the media. This ensures that both the people in the media and the person producing the media are clear about what it will be used for, how long it will be kept for and how they are protected by data protection law. This is best practice as you develop your media skills and for your work with Young Reporters Scotland you need to ask people who feature within your media to complete this form and submit it to Keep Scotland Beautiful with your competition entry.

**Download the Young Reporters Scotland media Consent Form** which can be found at [www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/resources](http://www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/resources)

**Email the completed form to:** [yrs@keepscotlandbeautiful.org](mailto:yrs@keepscotlandbeautiful.org)