

BE

SUSTAINABLE

NEWSLETTER



The Sustainability Newsletter for
Newry, Mourne and Down District Schools

YOUTH OF TODAY. DECISION MAKERS OF TOMORROW

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR PUPILS TO HAVE THEIR SAY ON A CURRENT ENVIRONMENTAL TOPIC

We are pleased to inform you that we will be holding the popular **ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH SPEAK** competition again in 2025.

As in previous years we will ask each participating school to submit their pupil's speech online. From all the entries received we will select several of the best from each of the junior and senior sections to perform their speeches in person in front of our judging panel at a Council venue in March 2025.

JUNIOR TOPIC (eligible pupil must be from Primary 6 or 7)

Welcome to the school of Waste Wizardry.
Lesson One: Making our Waste Disappear!

SENIOR TOPIC (eligible pupil must be from Years 8,9 or 10)

Back to the Future. Learning from the Past
to Reduce our Carbon Footprint.

1. Register

Firstly, we ask you to register your intention to enter a pupil by e-mailing us on besustainable@nmandd.org by **Friday 24 January 2025**. We will confirm your registration by return of email and send you a Topic Guidance sheet.

2. Select Your Pupil.

You may wish to hold your own in-house competition to select one pupil to represent your school or you can pick your pupil without a competition. If you do hold an in-house competition let us know and we will provide you with a pdf of a printable certificate to present to all participants who take part.

3. Record/Post Pupil's Speech.

Once your representative has been selected you should record a video of the pupil's speech and post it on your school website. If you do not have a school website, it can be posted to your school's Facebook, Twitter or YouTube page. You must tell us when and where the video has been posted so that we can view it remotely.

Please do not send us a copy of the video.

We have provided important guidance on the recording and posting of your video in the Rules section on page 2.

Once all submitted speeches have been viewed several junior and senior speeches will be selected to be performed in person at a final to be held at a Council venue in March 2025. The overall junior and senior winners will be chosen at this event by a panel of three judges.

Please refer to the competition timeline for dates for submitting your pupil's speech, the date of the in-person final and other relevant information.



Comhairle Ceantair
an Iúir, Mhúrn agus an Dúin
Newry, Mourne and Down
District Council

Rules

Rules about the speech

- Each pupil should speak for a minimum of 3 minutes and a maximum of 5 minutes.
- Solo entries only permitted.
- One entry only from each school.
- All pupils must wear their school uniform. (However, a costume can be worn but must be relevant to topic).
- Handheld props are allowed but audio / visual presentations such as powerpoint / video screens are not permitted.
- Pupils do not need to memorise their speech. Handheld notes can be used.

Rules about recording the speech and posting your video.

When recording your video make sure that the following is complied with:

- Your video should begin with the pupil announcing their name (first name is fine if you have a policy on this), school name and the topic title.
- The whole of the pupil should be in the frame.
- The video should be of good quality with adequate lighting and the sound quality should be sufficient so that the pupil's speech can be clearly heard.
- The video must be recorded in landscape mode, in one take and should not be edited.
- The video should have no additional graphics or photos added.
- The video must be recorded in a single camera set up - use of multiple camera angles is not allowed.
- If the pupil needs to move from their initial standing spot this should be kept to a minimum.
- You can, if you wish, have the pupil standing in front of an appropriate background such as your school crest or the school's eco noticeboard.

While it is important to ensure that your video recording is as best as you can do, **this is not a competition of how well your video looks**. The judges will understand that schools may have access to different quality of equipment and expertise and so will take this into account when judging. The important thing is that your pupil can be clearly seen and heard by our judges.

Once recorded the video should be posted online, ensuring it can be viewed remotely. You must tell us when and where the video has been posted. **Do not send a copy of the video to the Council**. If we are unable to view the video, we will contact the school to see if this can be rectified. We reserve the right however that if the issue cannot be resolved satisfactorily that the entry is not considered for selection.

Judging

Our judges will view the speeches remotely. We will contact the teacher of the selected pupils, by the date set out in the competition timeline, to inform them if their pupil has been chosen to perform at the final. If you have not been contacted, you should assume your pupil was not selected on this occasion.

A panel of three judges will judge the final. The same competition rules will apply to the final. Pupils can fine tune their speech but it should not radically change from the online submission.

Prizes

Overall winners in the junior and senior section will win a £50 voucher each plus a competition trophy to keep. Runners up in each section will also win a £25 voucher each. All finalists to receive a certificate and a Council goodie bag each.

Permissions

We will require permission from the in-person final participants for them to appear in photographs to promote the competition on our corporate website, social media platforms and local media. We may also require permission to link from our corporate website and social media platforms to the online version of the overall junior and senior winners' speeches. You should be aware of these requirements before deciding to participate. (See Privacy Notice on page 4).

Competition Timeline

<p>Friday 24 January 2025</p>	<p>You must register your school's intention to participate in the competition by emailing us at besustainable@nmandd.org by this date. At this stage you do not need to provide the pupil's name. You do need to provide a contact teacher name and email address, which we will use for any further contact about the competition. Please ensure that this is an address that is regularly checked.</p> <p>We will confirm your registration by email and send you a Topic Guidance sheet and a downloadable Certificate in pdf format(if requested).</p>
<p>Friday 21 February 2025</p>	<p>You must post your video online by this date. You must tell us by email when you have posted the video online and</p>

	where it is located e.g. school web site, facebook, twitter, youtube page. You must also tell us the pupil's name and class. If we have difficulty viewing the video we will contact you to try and resolve the issue.
Week of 3 March 2025	If your pupil has been selected to go forward to the in person final we will email the named teacher. If the named teacher has not received an email by the week of 3 March 2025, they should assume their pupil was not selected on this occasion.

Natasha O'Connor from **St Mary's Primary School, Killyleagh.**

Runners up in the senior section were **Akshara Sawant** from **Sacred Heart Grammar School, Newry** and **Catherine Ogle** from **St Joseph's High School, Crossmaglen.**

Highly commended were **Ethan Miller** from **St Louis Grammar School, Killeel**, **Dáire McGrotty** from **Annsborough Integrated Primary School**; **Cara Trainor** from **Sacred Heart Primary School, Dundrum**; **Myla Chigariro** from **St Malachy's Primary School, Castlewellan**; **Ellen Strain** from **St Malachy's Primary School, Camlough** and **Lily Rose McAlinden** from **St Bronagh's Primary School, Rostrevor.**

The Final

Late March 2025 TBC	The in-person final will take place on a date after St Patrick's day and before the end of March at a Council venue. Date and venue will be confirmed with all registered schools so that they can plan ahead should their pupil be selected. The same rules apply for the final. Pupils can refine their speech for the final, but it should not radically change from the online version. Photos will be taken at the final and we will require photography permission slips from parents / guardians in advance.
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Last Year's Competition

The topics for last year's competition were **"I'm an Energy Detective and I've been busy investigating how to save energy. Here's what I've found"** for the Primary School section, while Secondary schools were asked to speak on **"How do we feed the world without destroying the planet?"**

Eight Primary school and four Secondary school pupils were then selected to reprise their speeches in person at the Final and compete to be crowned the 2024 Environmental Youth Speak Junior and Senior Champions.

After listening to all speeches, the judging panel chose **Josie Hughes** of **Grange Primary School, Killeel** as the Junior champion and **Lily-Ann O'Loughlin** of **Our Lady's Grammar School, Newry** as the Senior champion.

Runners up in the junior section were **Aaron Taylor** from **Drumlins Integrated Primary School, Ballynahinch** and



You can watch Josie's submitted online speech here:

<https://www.grangeprimaryschoolkilleel.co.uk/news/environmental-youth-speak-/?p=38>

You can watch Lily-Ann's submitted online speech here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AzUK01UHpFo>



Should you have any questions regarding this year's competition contact us on:

besustainable@nmandd.org

PRIVACY NOTICE

What we do with your personal information

Purpose:

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (NMDDC) is asking for the information to enable it to run the annual Schools' Environmental Youth Speak Competition.

Legal basis for processing

The legal basis we rely on to process your personal data is article 6(1)(f) of the General Data Protection Regulation. This article allows us to process personal data when its necessary for the purposes of our legitimate interests, which in this case is the promotion and/or protection of environmental matters.

What we need:

We need the school to register by email their interest in taking part in the competition and provide the Council with the contact teacher's name, school name and contact details. We need the name of the pupil representing each school in the competition.

We need to know when and where the pupil's video has been posted.

We will select entries to perform at a grand final at a Council venue. A junior and senior entrant will be judged overall winners. We may wish to link on our corporate web site and social media platform to the two winning online videos to promote the competition.

Why we need it:

We need the contact teacher name, school name and contact details so we can record the school's intention to take part in the competition.

We need to be informed where and when the pupil's video has been posted so that our judges can view it remotely for.

What we do with it:

We will use the teacher contact e mail provided to correspond with the teacher about the competition. This will include e mailing the contact teacher with a reminder e mail one week before the closing date for posting their pupil's video to the

school's web site as well as informing the entrants who will take part in the grand final.

To publicise the competition we will also publish the finalists' names on the Council's website, social media platforms as well as in any other Council publications, promotions, or social media outlets.

We may also link to the online version of the two overall winning videos on the Council's website, social media platforms.

How long we keep it:

We will keep registration data until the Competition ends on 31 March 2025 and the entrants have been selected and performed at the final.

We will retain the finalists information including personal data until 31 December 2025 at which time it will be disposed of in accordance with NMDDC's disposal policy.

What are your rights:

You have the right to request access to the personal data that we hold about you.

You have the right to ask for your personal data to be rectified, or to restrict the way in which we process it.

You have the right to object to our processing of your personal data. There are legitimate reasons why we may refuse your objection, which depend on why we are processing it.

You have the right to ask us to erase your personal information in certain circumstances.

You have the right to complain to the Information Commissioners Officer if you are unhappy with the way in which we have processed your personal data.

If you wish to make a Subject Access Request or if you have queries about access to your information, please contact the Data Protection Officer for Newry, Mourne and Down District Council via info@nmddc.org or 0300 013 2233.

Do we use any data processor?

We do not use any data processor for the purposes of the Schools' Environmental Youth Speak Competition, nor do we share data with any third party. Any specific requests from a third party for us to share your personal data with them will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the data protection laws.

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