Youth Voice on Climate Action

The UK

#TheClimateConnection
www.britishcouncil.org/climate-connection
The Global Youth Letter on Climate Action is a call for action from young people globally, directly addressing the leaders attending COP26 – the 26th UN Climate Change Conference, in Glasgow, November 2021.

It is the result of a large-scale research exercise between the British Council and not for profit social enterprise Catalyst in Communities, who used a mixed methodology approach to garner the views, experiences and aspirations of 8,000 young people across 23 countries.

Aiming to be as representative as possible in terms of gender, background, location and socio-economic status, the research team worked through global COVID-19 restrictions to amplify the unheard voice of the climate debate: today’s young people. Research for the report was carried out between January and March 2021.

The Global Youth Letter on Climate Action, and accompanying 8,000 Rising campaign, is part of the British Council’s The Climate Connection programme, a global platform for dialogue, cooperation and action, connecting millions of people through shared solutions to the climate crisis.

Read the Global Youth Letter on Climate Action, the research report and join in the 8,000 Rising campaign here: www.britishcouncil.org/climate-connection/get-involved/global-youth-letter

The UK’s young people and climate action

The following letter and accompanying data represent the views and perspectives of young people in the UK.

It is a collective statement of all those who participated in the Global Youth Letter on Climate Action research in the UK and can be used as a starting point for leaders and policy makers to understand how to address young people’s concerns in relation to climate change, and how they can use this untapped potential in to bring about climate action.

We hope the following letter inspires both young people and decision makers across the UK and beyond to work together to find sustainable solutions to climate action.

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The Global Youth Letter on Climate Action

The Global Youth Letter on Climate Action was a global research exercise to garner the aims and aspirations of 8,000 young people, across 23 countries, about the future of their planet.

The aim was to give a platform to the unheard voice in the climate conversation: young people.

Their contributions were used to create a global call for action, directly addressing the leaders attending COP26 – the 26th UN Climate Change Conference, in Glasgow, November 2021. Read the Global Youth Letter on Climate Action.

The UK’s young people and the climate challenge

The following messages represent the young people of the UK’s contribution to the Global Youth Letter on Climate Action.

They were gathered from the British Council’s Next Generation research in the UK.

Our view on climate change: we consider climate change to be one of the top two challenges facing our world.

Our political participation: more than half of us believe political participation is an effective way to bring about change, and we regularly engage in political processes, such as signing petitions on key issues.

Our potential: we are ready to engage with the global community to build our knowledge and capacity to support and advocate for green initiatives and policies.