



CONCERN WORLDWIDE
ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

2021-2022

- ★ Events featuring overseas contributors
- ★ Concern Debates Competition
- ★ TY Academy Work Experience
- ★ Learn about global social justice issues
- ★ World Day Workshops for schools
- ★ Speak Act Do: An Action Project Process
- ★ Leadership Programmes
- ★ SDG Resources

CONCERN
worldwide

ENDING
EXTREME POVERTY
WHATEVER
IT TAKES





“Education for sustainable development aims to equip learners with the relevant knowledge (the ‘what’), the key dispositions and skills (the ‘how’) and the values (the ‘why’) that will motivate and empower them throughout their lives to become informed active citizens who take action for a more sustainable future.”

(Ireland’s National Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development 2014-2020)

WELCOME TO CONCERN’S ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP PROGRAMME 2021-2022

WHAT WE OFFER:

- **Concern Debates**
- **Online Talks and Workshops**
- **Peer to Peer Learning**
- **Education packs**
- **Teacher training**
- **Action Projects**

KEY COMPETENCIES:

Concern’s Active Citizenship programme supports the following key competencies:

Collaboration: the abilities to learn from others; to understand and respect the needs, perspectives and actions of others (empathy); to understand, relate to and be sensitive to others (empathetic leadership); to deal with conflicts in a group; and to facilitate collaborative and participatory problem solving.

Critical thinking: the ability to question norms, practices and opinions; to reflect on one’s own values, perceptions and actions; and to take a position in the sustainability discourse.

Self-awareness: the ability to reflect on one’s own role in the local community and (global) society; to continually evaluate and further motivate one’s actions; and to deal with one’s feelings and desires.

Integrated problem-solving: the overarching ability to apply different problem-solving frameworks to complex sustainability problems and develop viable, inclusive and equitable solutions that promote sustainable development, integrating the other competencies.

Concern’s Active Citizenship team are on hand to support teachers, students and school communities. We are available to facilitate talks and workshops and support your efforts to build a better world for everyone.



Contact: schools@concern.net to enquire about any of the activities included in this booklet.

SPEAK, ACT, DO



Learn, Listen and Take Action

Speak Act Do is a programme designed to support students to take action to build a better world for all. It is designed to be flexible, led by the school and supported by the Concern schools team.

Students will:

- Develop knowledge and understanding of global challenges
- Learn and practice skills in researching, critical thinking, tackling fake news as well as experience of running a project from conception to evaluation

- Be part of a movement to work towards a better and more equal world both locally and globally
- Get the chance to be informed by people working on the ground in the Global South on global issues via 5 x engaging webinars
- Get the chance to meet experts and get tips from them to improve projects and have greater impact

WHO: You can sign up as many students as you like from individuals to an entire class, or even the whole school. It can be used as a stand-alone project (1st year to 6th year), or embedded into CSPE or Politics and Society courses.



Students working on action projects at Agents of Change, Photo Ruth Medjber, 2019

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Over the year, students design a project to take action on one of five areas: **gender equality, climate change, hunger, conflict** or **poverty**. There are three stages of the project: the research stage, the action stage and the delivery stage.

When registering for the project students and teachers will have the option to sign up to attend 5 webinars focusing on each area. In March, an online, “Meet the Expert,” event will take place at which specialists in the focus areas will give students tips on how to improve their project. Finally in May the top ten projects will be invited to Agents of Change, a national event to showcase their project.

HOW WILL I BE SUPPORTED?

- You and your students will be invited to a string of events including a launch on October 1st, the National Youth event: Let’s Tackle Hunger FAST on November 9th & Agents of Change on May 6th.
- You will have access to a programme pack containing a facilitator’s guide, research guide, a poster and an action menu containing easy to run ideas to take action in your school.
- You will be invited to attend webinars to deepen students’ understanding of the issues of focus: Gender Equality, Conflict, Climate Change and Poverty.
- You will receive a lesson on Research and Fake News.
- To celebrate World Food Day and International Women’s Day you will have the chance to sign up to an online workshop delivered individually to your school.
- You will have the option of attending a “How to Run an Action Project” webinar.



Students at Agents of Change event 2019 in Croke Park.
Photo: Ruth Medjber/2019

- The Schools Officer will check in on your progress and whether you need additional supports throughout the process of the programme.
- You and your students will be invited to attend a “Meet the Experts” online event in February when experts in each field of focus will give tips on how to improve the project.
- You and your students may be in with a chance of being one of ten schools asked to showcase their project at Concern Active’s end of year event, Agents of Change.

SHOWCASE AND PRIZES:

In May the top ten projects will be invited to showcase their project to change-makers at our annual Agents of Change event.



**Email schools@concern.net
to sign up for Speak Act
Do today or to discuss
this programme with our
schools officer**

ONLINE SCHOOL TALKS AND WORKSHOPS

SDGs
Hunger
Climate Change
Conflict
Gender Equality
Development

Concern offer online talks and workshops for schools using a platform of your choice (Zoom, Google Meets, Teams, etc.)

If you would like to arrange a workshop for your class with our schools officer please contact ✉ schools@concern.net or 📞 085 8047975

Concern's Schools & Youth Programme Officer is available to facilitate workshops which have been included in applications for Worldwide Global Schools funding – please see www.worldwiseschools.ie for details.



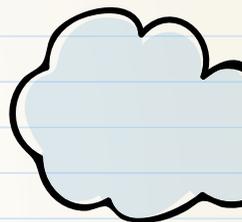
Concern Debates Online Programme

The **Concern Debates** is Concern Worldwide's flagship schools activity. From 2021 Concern Debates will have a virtual component and if health and safety guidelines allow, face to face debates in the latter part of the school year.

Introduce your students to some of the most important issues facing the world today. Help them acquire the skills needed to formulate an argument, deliver a speech, stand up for their point of view and challenge an opponent's opinion. Help build confident, engaged citizens who can change the country, and the world, for the better.



Left to right Stephanie Doyle, Katie Doyle, Stanislav Ustinov, Dylan O Neill, Coach Leon Power of Presentation De La Salle in Bagenalstown, Carlow who were crowned the Concern Debates Cup Final Champions 2021. Photo: Concern Worldwide



SIGN UP NOW! FOR THE CONCERN DEBATES



Left to right Holly Thompson, Eden Wilson, Alice Francey, Beth Eccles of the Friends' School Lisburn debating team who won the Concern Debates Shield final. Photo: Concern Worldwide

DEBATES MOTIONS 2021-22



School strikes are an effective way of getting governments to act on Climate Change



The challenges to ending world hunger are insurmountable



It is simply wrong for billionaires like Bezos, Branson and Musk to 'joyride' to space with so many problems back on earth



Despite its best intentions, Covax is part of the problem, not the solution, when it comes to vaccine equity



DEBATES REGISTRATION

STEP 1: Complete registration form online via our website; www.concern.net/schools-and-youth/debates/information/register-for-school-debates by the deadline date - **Friday September 10th**.

STEP 2: You will be notified after the closing date whether your application has been successful or not. Please note that due to the popularity of the programme, registration does not guarantee your school a place in the Concern Debates programme.

STEP 3: If your registration has been successful, you will receive an email from the team confirming your registration.

STEP 4: The League Phase will commence on November 1st 2021. Concern will draw the fixtures and provide you with full information as well as the contact details for the other schools in early October.



Before completing the application form, please be aware of the following:



- The Concern Debates programme is open to senior cycle students in all secondary schools on the island of Ireland.
- Please note that due to the popularity of the programme, registration does not guarantee your school a place in the Concern Debates programme. You will be notified after the closing date whether your school's application has been successful or not.
- Schools must appoint a teacher who will assist the team in preparing for debates and who will be the point of contact for Concern. Please provide your current phone and email.
- Each team is made up of four speakers and at least two substitutes. It is not necessary to have a team picked before registering, but by registering you are committing to take part in at least three debates between November and February, so make sure you have enough student interest.
- The programme is subject to change throughout the year based on government and health and safety advice related to Covid-19.
- The League Phase Debates will be filmed and recorded in school over Zoom or another platform used in your school. You will upload the video to our new secure judging platform where it will be shared with the adjudicators through a secure and private link. You will receive feedback and your debate results once its been viewed and marked.
- All debate dates are assigned by Concern. To change a date, schools must complete and submit the online change of date form no less than ten days before the original date.

DEBATES SUPPORT

Once you register your school, Concern will:

- send you all the information you need to take part
- organise your fixtures and let you know the dates of your debates
- inform you of the motion for each round and the side of the debate you are on
- provide research tips and links to resources to help your team get started
- arrange volunteer adjudicators to judge your debates
- provide support via phone and email with any queries you may have

“It showed me that I have the ability to stand up in front of people and express my thoughts.”

**John Rattigan, Student,
Elphin Community College**

DEBATES DAYS AND WORKSHOPS

This year we will be offering debate webinars for students and teachers who are signed up to the competition. These will offer advice, top tips and go over the format of the competition. They can be hosted on whatever web platform is preferred for your school (Google Meets, Zoom, Teams, etc).

Please contact the Concern Debates team at debates@concern.net for further details and to register your interest in participating.

For more information on Concern Debates or to register online check out www.concern.net/debates or contact our debates team debates@concern.net



For help with motions or a quick response check out our twitter [@concerndebates](https://twitter.com/concerndebates)



Students at Agents of Change, Photo Ruth Medjber, 2019

WORLD DAY WORKSHOPS



Concern invites students to celebrate key United Nation's World Days! This year's offering will remain online.

During each week the world day falls on, we will be offering one hour online workshops (to suit the context of your school) with students specifically focusing on the issues directly related to the world day. Students will have a chance to explore why there is a need to raise awareness of these issues, find out how it relates to them as well as be encouraged to take action within their own school community.

Workshops are free of charge, but slots are limited!

- World Food Day
11th to the 15th October 2021
- International Women's Day
March 7th - 11th 2022



Email schools@concern.net to book in your online World Day Workshop slot. These will be on a first come, first served basis so getting in touch as early as possible is encouraged.



AGENTS OF CHANGE

What is the Agents of Change event?

Agents of Change is Concern's annual celebration of young people who have completed an action project in their school or community with a development education theme. This year a selection of projects will be invited to showcase their knowledge, actions and impacts to change-makers. Agents of Change this year will take place on 6th May.

To take part contact schools@concern.net.

TY ACADEMY 2021 - 2022

If your Transition Year students are looking for something a little more challenging/an alternative to office work experience they might like to apply for a place on one of our TY Academy weeks in February 2022.

The first part of the work experience is a week-long programme where students will learn how they can become active global citizens and find out about what it is like to work in an NGO.

The second part of the programme is an independent action project that the student will run in their own school community and then share at our end of year celebration event, Agents of Change.

The third part of our TY Academy Programme: a fun and motivating session for all participants to showcase their projects and receive career talks from interesting professionals.



Students at Agents of Change taking part in a Project Us Café, Photo Ruth Medjer, 2019

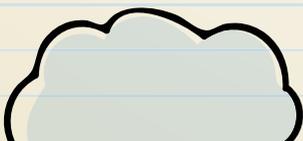
Last year the TY Academy was online and was a great success receiving rave reviews from participants. TY Academy 2022 will also be online and we will work to ensure that this year's TY Academy it is even better than the last.

Find the application form on our website: www.concern.net/schools-and-youth/secondary-education-programmes.

Places are limited and are granted on first-come first-served basis and upon completion of the application form. The closing date for applicants is 8th October 2021 and students will be notified of acceptance on an ongoing basis.



For more information contact:
schools@concern.net



CPD Teacher Training: Project US



Project US is Concern's movement for change in Ireland. It is a space for communities to gather together to discuss how we can achieve the Sustainable Development Goals at a local and global level using the World Café methodology.

This year, we are offering Project US to teachers! Take part in a Project US workshop and:

- Develop your knowledge and understanding of development issues that you would like to address in the classroom
- Meet other teachers interested in Global Citizenship Education to share ideas for practice
- Learn a new methodology that you can take back to the classroom

Sessions will be online via Zoom, using active learning methodologies and will be organised over the course of the year.



Location:
Online via Zoom



Duration:
1 hour and 30 minutes



Participants: 15-20 teachers
from around the country

Contact the schools team to register your interest and we will be in touch:
schools@concern.net

Summer Leadership Programme

The SLP brings together young people who have an interest in social justice issues and who aspire to become leaders.

They will have an opportunity to foster their interests, discuss and develop their ideas, deepen their understanding, learn skills that support action and create a forum where they could meet each other.

They also have the opportunity to solve real-world solutions through their work with our 'Community Partners.' Our partners in 2021 included the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, Irish Aid, and Dublin City Council.

It is due to take place from 27th June to the 1st July 2022. For more information email schools@concern.net





Keep up to date

Get the most up to date news from Concern Active Citizenship and Concern Debates on Twitter and Instagram

 www.twitter.com/concernactive

 www.twitter.com/concerndebates

 [@concernactive](https://www.instagram.com/concernactive)

Find out more about the work that Concern is doing around the world on Facebook, Instagram and Youtube

 www.concern.net/facebook

 www.instagram.com/concernworldwide

 www.concern.net/youtube

ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP UNIT

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Web: www.concern.net/schools

Phone: 01 417 7700