

Application deadline: 1700 Friday 15th October 2021

1. Introduction

Chemistry Week is an annual celebration of the chemical sciences. This year, to coincide with the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow on 1-12 November 2021, Chemistry Week will last for the full 12 days of the Conference.

The ScotCHEM CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGE: Scientists, Schools & Sustainability (the Challenge) will align with the activities of COP26 and of chemistry week 2021 – with a theme of sustainability.

ScotCHEM is the entity which represents chemistry research in Scotland – across universities and connecting with industry, government and, most importantly, education.

ScotCHEM is pleased to invite entries for a challenge to prepare public engagement material aimed at primary school pupils in Scotland. This material will be centred around the issue of sustainability and climate change and should promote the role of chemistry in driving the solutions to climate change as well as promote chemistry as a science and as a career for primary school aged children.

The outcome of the challenge is to provide a sound scientific basis to better understand climate change and advances towards sustainability, for primary school pupils.

Creating a link to COP26 will provide opportunities for engagement with this major event being hosted in Scotland.

The project will also provide on-going curriculum-linked resources that can be used well beyond the duration of the challenge itself, thereby creating a longer-lasting legacy and extending the reach of the activity.

It is also envisaged that through the national remit of ScotCHEM and by working closely with Education Scotland, we will increase the number of chemists actively participating in meaningful school engagement across Scotland.

The challenge is open to researchers within ScotCHEM member departments, at any career level (PhD to Professor).

2. Scope

The following topics/questions have been identified as being of particular interest and relevance to primary school pupils regarding climate change.

- What is climate change – busting the myths?
- What am I, as a researcher, doing to tackle climate change?
- What can you, as a young person, do to help tackle climate change?

ScotCHEM CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGE:
Scientists, Schools & Sustainability
CHEMISTRY WEEK 2021: 1-12 November



Submissions should be either a short (3-5 minute) video or short PowerPoint presentation that answers one or more of these questions, keeping the overall theme of sustainability in mind.

Submissions should also align with the Scottish curriculum.

The winning entries will be showcased throughout Scotland, via Education Scotland and ScotCHEM channels, to primary schools and to the public during Chemistry Week 2021.

The winners will also receive a £1000 prize (one per theme) which can be used by the winners for the following:

- Further public engagement activities related to chemistry and climate change
- Developing new research under the theme of sustainability
- Improving the sustainability of their research

In addition, any engagement resources judged to be excellent by our panel will be brought together to create a resource for Scottish schools to access when talking about sustainability and climate change. These resources will be made available through Education Scotland's on-line platform as well as ScotCHEM's YouTube channel.

3. Eligibility Criteria

The challenge is open to all postgraduate researchers and staff within ScotCHEM member departments, at any career stage.

4. Entry Criteria

Submissions must align with one or more of the topics outlined above.

Submissions should be the creative work of the applicant and must be young-person appropriate.

Entrants must ensure that any relevant copyright permissions or licencing is in place for their submissions, and that they can provide evidence of such, if requested (e.g. music, images, etc)

Submissions should also include a Challenge Submission form outlining key messages.

Submissions must also include a statement explaining what the applicant would do with the £1000 prize money should they win the competition (this will not form part of the assessment).

By submitting an entry to the Challenge, you:

- Confirm that the content has been created by you (or you have the appropriate permissions to use content created by others)
- Accept responsibility for the content and any copyright, licencing or other permissions required for public dissemination and use (non-profit) of the material
- Provide permission for ScotCHEM (and partners) to use the material for promotion, education, learning and engagement activities, as determined by ScotCHEM and/or its partners

Entries must be submitted to ScotCHEM by 1700 Friday 15th October. Entry forms should be emailed to scotchem@st-andrews.ac.uk and a link will be sent to you for video/PowerPoint upload.

5. Assessment Criteria

The entries will be judged on their alignment to one or more of the three topics (outlined above), accessibility and engagement for primary school pupils, and links to the Scottish curriculum.

ScotCHEM, Education Scotland and a number of selected primary schools will assess the submissions against the scope and application criteria.

Three challenge winners will be selected, one for each topic.

6. Key Dates

Activity	Date
Deadline for Challenge submissions	1700 Friday 15 th October
Review of challenge entries by schools	21 st – 28 th October
Challenge winners announced	29 th October
Showcasing of winners during Chemistry Week 2021	1 st – 12 th November

7. Further Information

Entries forms should be submitted by email to scotchem@st-andrews.ac.uk and a link will be sent to you for video/PowerPoint upload.

Entries must be received by 1700 Friday 15th October.

Enquiries should be directed at Dr Alan Wiles (Director of Operations ScotCHEM) scotchem@st-andrews.ac.uk