

2020 Youth Debate (Notes for schools)

Schools should pick **ONE** of the below topic's to debate in the heats:

- 'Should mobile phones be allowed in school?'
- 'Does the internet do more harm than good?'
- Can we have an impact on Climate Change?'

Each school requires a team of 6 pupils (*we usually get a few extras supporting*)

1 speaker to speak "for" the motion

1 speaker to speak "against" the motion

4 pupils (plus the speakers) to ask questions to both "for" and "against" speakers from other schools

A maximum of eight questions can be asked

2 minutes speaking time maximum (*Timed*)

Methodology for marking.

Merit is given for the presentation of the whole team rather than individual stars within that team.

At the chairman's discretion, a certificate will be awarded to the best girl and boy speaker from each District.

Speakers will be marked in three areas –

Presentation and delivery

Speakers should show clear diction and articulation, confidence, regard to pace and general speaking style. Can you engage your audience?

Structure of the speech

Does the speech have a framework - introduction with clear statements of themes, development of ideas stated in the introduction and a conclusion summing up your initial statement. Have you taken us on a journey?

Content and Facts

Are you in command of your subject area? Show us evidence of research and ability to give facts to your audience in a palatable manner.

Questions – points will be awarded for factual answers pertinent to the questions and with an immediate response.

The team will also be marked on the quality of the questions asked. Questions should be pertinent to the material presented in the speech.

In addition

The capacity of the venue limits the number attending so usually the team of 6 children plus the teacher and helpers (who may be parents).