



Climate Conferences 2019: global negotiations & local action



100% of the Hounslow students are somewhat or **very concerned** about **Climate Change**

What are Climate Conferences?

78 students from 10 secondary schools took part in a Climate Conference in the Council Chambers, Hounslow House as part of InterClimate Network's *Climate Voices* 2019 programme. Modelled on the **UN Conference of the Parties**, preparation for and participation in the first session enabled students to improve their grasp and understanding of the complex world of politics, climate science and global policy that is integral to climate change negotiations.

Local Action sessions focused attention on key areas where we can all make a difference, including in school: *Energy; Food; Transport; What we buy and use*. During this marketplace, students gained essential exposure to and inspiration from local initiatives and sustainability leaders; whilst the 'green' community welcomed the opportunity to share their expertise & give feedback on the many ideas of young change-makers.

What were students looking for?

Knowledge & understanding of Climate Change

More awareness of its global impact

Ideas and insight into how we can tackle Climate Change locally and globally

Building confidence and experience



Endorsement of Hounslow teachers:

"It clearly provided our students with a greater depth of understanding of the global climate's status, targets and challenges .. [&] developed a wide range of their skills from analysis through to teamwork and problem solving"

Pre Conference Survey: Hounslow students' feedback



70% of Hounslow students keep up with
Climate news through school

How are students already supporting Climate Action in school?

- **57%** of students told us they **recycle at school**
- **37%** said they are **part of an eco-group**
- **34%** said they **have not yet had the opportunity to support climate action in school**
- **57%** of students **feel that they can make a difference in their school and community**

... and outside school

82% are 'helping my family to recycle'

70% are 'trying to reduce energy use at home'

55% said they are 'talking about what we eat at home'

48% are 'having a say in what we buy and use'



"As a teenager my views are not always considered. I want to help in every way possible."

Hounslow student

Post-conference survey: Hounslow students' feedback



100% students felt more confident that they can **influence others in their school**

What support do Hounslow students want?

- **73%** said **'Help us communicate our views including to politicians'**
- **70%** want **advice and guidance on their Climate Action**
- **60%** want us to help them run a **school based workshop or event**
- **53%** want to **link with local schools and local organisations** that can help

...and what will they do as a result of the conference?

80% said they will **'Influence family and friends'**

50% will **'Join an eco-group'**

33% said they will **'Volunteer with a local charity'**



"Involve more people in Climate Action"

was the top priority for young people from Hounslow when asked, 'What can make the biggest difference in tackling climate change in our area?'

Hounslow teachers' post-conference feedback



67% of teachers said that their students' Climate Action ideas are feasible

Where does 'Climate Action fit in school

- 70% teachers said it is a **teacher-led initiative**
- 50% said it fits in **thematic cross-curricular projects**
- 40% said that they have a school **Eco-group**

...and would follow-up support be of interest?

- 100% said yes to **being connected with local orgs**
- 89% wanted a **follow-up visit / workshop**
- 75% for **local / national show-casing school work**
- 75% interested in a **local teacher group**
- 67% for a **joint school workshop to share ideas**

What have been the learning benefits?

Greater comprehension of global climate issues
Research, analysis, debating, teamwork
Public speaking, articulacy, critical thinking
Real world & cultural capital. Confidence
Awareness of need to involve others in school



Endorsement of teachers:

"The high level engagement and the very professional setting, organisation and approach by students far exceeded my expectations."

"It has been wonderful to see students flourish in this way."