

National Schools Geology Challenge 2022:

Rules for participating schools

1. The Competition

The Schools Geology Challenge is a competition organised by The Geological Society of London, for students who are currently studying Geology, Geography or science subject A Levels.

The competition runs in 2 stages:

- The Qualifiers
- The Final

In order to be considered for the Final, students must enter the Qualifiers. **The closing date for entries is 4th Feb 2022.** Further details can be found in Section 4a.

Entries to the Qualifier are assessed by a panel of judges. The top 10 scoring entrants are invited to take part in the Final.

The Final will be a hybrid event and will take place **24th March 2022**. Teams who are able to attend the Final will be reimbursed up to £700 for their travel. Those unable to attend in person will be able to join virtually. Further details will be provided to teams invited to the final.

2. The Prize

The winning team of the National Schools Geology Challenge will receive:

- A trophy
- A certificate for each team member
- £200 to use towards geoscience education in their school
- A year's fellowship to the Geological Society

The team which places as runner up will receive:

- A certificate for each team member
- £100 to use towards geoscience education in their school

All finalists will receive a certificate.

Cash prizes must be used to further geoscience teaching within the winning teams' school. Details on how to claim cash prizes will be given to the winners after the competition Final.

3. Entry requirements

- Students should be studying A Levels (England, Wales and Northern Ireland), or Highers/Advanced Highers (Scotland).
- Students should enter the competition in teams of 2-6 people.
- Schools can enter more than one team, providing that there no more than 6 pupils in each team.
- Students must submit an entry to the Qualifiers in order to be considered for progression to the Final.
- Entries to the Qualifiers should be submitted by **4th Feb 2022**. Teams who progress to the Final will be notified by 18th Feb.

4. Stages of the competition

a. The Qualifiers

In order to enter the Challenge, students should present a geoscience topic of their choosing which fits the **brief** in section 5.

Entries should be created in a digital format, suitable for uploading online. Full details are in the **brief**.

Entries must be submitted via the GSL website: <https://www.geolsoc.org.uk/geochallenge/enter>

Entries must be submitted by midnight on 4th Feb 2022

Submissions to the qualifiers must meet the following criteria:

- The work should be suitable for a non-expert audience aged 16-24.
- If using video (including filmed presentations) the total running time must not exceed 6 minutes (either for one video, or the combined time of multiple videos).
- Submissions must be fully credited; when submitting entries, all team members must be named.
- References **MUST** be used when appropriate, either in video descriptions, captions, poster footnotes or similar*

*If content is created as though for social media, but submitted privately, please note how the piece would be referenced when submitting.

b. The Final

The final will be held on 24th March 2021

Teams who have made it to the finals will be contacted no later than Feb 18th 2022.

Teams who reach the Final will take part in a problem solving activity. Details of the activity will be explained at the Final.

The Final will be judged by a panel of geoscience professionals.

The judges will choose one winning team and one team as runner-up.

5. Qualifiers: Brief for submissions.

The brief can be found here. The text-only version is below.

To enter the Schools Geology Challenge, you must make a submission to the Qualifiers by no later than **4th Feb 2022**.

For the Qualifiers, we would like you to:

1. Choose a geoscience topic.
2. Present that topic for an online audience.
3. Submit your entry via the website at: www.geolsoc.org.uk/geochallenge/enter

1. Your topic can be anything you like. It could be tied in with your school curriculum or inspired by your own experience; it could be a case study, a concept, or phenomenon; as long as it's geoscience, we want to hear about it!
2. Be creative in presenting the topic: you could create a presentation and film yourselves delivering it in class, or over zoom, or even turn it into a newsroom-style clip. You could document a coursework experiment via vlog, Instagram or TikTok* – or turn it into a mini documentary!

Presenting a topic doesn't have to involve speaking; you could use visuals to communicate your topic, such as an infographic like our carbon posters, or a cartoon strip.

* Submissions can be designed for social media, but uploaded privately or sent separately for privacy reasons.

3. Your submissions MUST fit the following criteria:

- Your work should be suitable for a non-expert audience aged 16-24.
- If you are using video (including filmed presentations) the total running time must not exceed 6 minutes (either for one video, or the combined time of multiple videos).
- Submissions must be fully credited; when submitting your entry please name everyone in your team who was involved.
- You MUST use references where appropriate, either in video descriptions, captions, poster footnotes or similar*

*If you are creating content for social media but submitting privately, please note your references and where you would place them when submitting.

You will be marked on:

- The scientific content and accuracy of your work (50%)
- How well you communicate your topic for the specified audience (25%)
- Your creativity (25%)

Good luck!