



World Class Schools Quality Mark

Essay writing competition 2018

As an accredited World Class School, your students automatically qualify for our annual WCSQM Essay Writing Competition.

We are delighted to announce that St Albans Girls' School have volunteered to run the competition with us this year, and it will be judged by Professor Chris Bonell, Professor of Public Health Sociology at the London School of Health and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). Chris attended a non-selective secondary state school in West Bromwich and was an undergraduate at King's College Cambridge.

LSHTM is renowned for its research, postgraduate studies and continuing education in public and global health. They have an annual research income of more than £124 million, and are one of the highest-rated research institutions in the UK.



Professor Chris Bonell

The award

There will be one winner and honourable mentions, who will receive the WCSQM Essay Award and commemorations at our Awards Ceremony on Thursday 6th December 2018, London. In addition, part of the students' prize will be an invitation to the LSHTM London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine for a tour with Chris personally. Winning essays will be published on the WCSQM website, with winning students and schools named in press releases.

The challenge

Chris says, “One of my main areas of research is adolescent health and I focus on how schools and school-based interventions as well as youth services can impact on young people’s health. Almost all of my research is concerned with how social exclusion in the form of poverty or other forms of disadvantage is associated with health risks, and my research has examined, for example, how educational disengagement and subsequent adolescent health risks are inadvertent consequences of current UK educational policies. So my essay question is...”

‘How do the experiences of young people at school affect how healthy a lifestyle they adopt?’

The terms

The process you will need to follow to win is as follows:

- The competition is open to all students at your school **studying in years 9-10** academic year 2018-19.
- The maximum length of each submission is **2,500 words**
- Submitted essays should **not** include diagrams or graphics
- Essays must be submitted in soft copy A4 portrait, using black, Helvetica, 12-point font in PDF or MS Word format

A maximum of three submissions per school will be accepted, and must be submitted **by 12th October 2018**

- Essays should be submitted in a **single** email (with the three essays attached) to essays@worldclass-schools.org - i.e. one email per participating school
- The covering email should **confirm** that these essays have been independently authored by Year 9-10 students
- Late submissions will **not** be accepted
- WCSQM will work with Chris and St Albans Girls’ School to select the winner and honourable mentions (with Chris’ decision being final) during October, with schools and students informed of the short-list **by 9th November**
- The authors of the short-listed essays will then be invited to attend the Awards Ceremony where Chris will announce the overall competition winner and honourable mentions

We suggest that

- You run an internal competition for your **Year 9 and 10** students
- A nominated judge within your school selects the best three for submission to WCSQM.

The competition is a fantastic summer holiday project.

If you or your students require further information on the competition terms or process, please feel free to contact WCSQM at essays@worldclass-schools.org