



THE QUEEN'S COMMONWEALTH ESSAY COMPETITION 2019

06/11/2018

PRESS RELEASE: The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition 2019 launched by HRH The Duchess of Cornwall in Ghana

The Royal Commonwealth Society is delighted to announce that [The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition 2019](#) was yesterday launched by our Vice-Patron HRH The Duchess of Cornwall during a visit to Ghana International School in Accra, following an event that heard pupils read their gold award winning pieces from 2018.

HRH The Duchess of Cornwall announced the 2019 theme 'A Connected Commonwealth', which calls upon young people to consider how they can work to use cultural, technological and environmental connections for positive change across the Commonwealth. The Competition is an opportunity for all young Commonwealth citizens and residents, regardless of region, education or background, to share ideas, celebrate their story and have their voice heard - all whilst developing key skills.

The launch is the first in recent memory to happen outside of the UK and will raise awareness of the Competition for children across the Commonwealth. It is one of several engagements in support of The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition during the Royal Tour, including a school visit in The Gambia and a literacy event today in Nigeria.

This unique and highly regarded competition aims to challenge young people's thinking and the means by which they can express their views, using creative forms of writing such as essays, poems, stories or scripts. Since 2010, the Competition has received more than 87,000 entries including almost 12,000 entries in 2018, from 600 schools across almost every Commonwealth nation. Entries are judged by 150 pan-Commonwealth volunteers and winners are selected by an expert panel, including poets, publishers, scriptwriters and journalists.

The Competition has been managed by The Royal Commonwealth Society since 1883 and will be open to all citizens and residents of the Commonwealth aged 18 and under, until 1 June 2019. A Winner and Runner-up from both the Senior and Junior categories will win a trip to London for a week-long series of educational and cultural events, typically including an Awards Ceremony at Buckingham Palace.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition was founded by The Royal Commonwealth Society in 1883 and is the world's oldest international schools' writing contest. The Junior category is open to entrants aged under 14 and the Senior category is open to entrants aged 14-18. More information about the Competition including the entry rules and essay topics can be found here: www.thercs.org/competition

For more information about The Duchess of Cornwall, visit www.princeofwales.gov.uk/

The Royal Commonwealth Society (RCS), founded in 1868, is a network of individuals and organisations committed to improving the lives and prospects of Commonwealth citizens across the world. Through youth empowerment, education and advocacy, the RCS promotes the value and values of the Commonwealth. www.thercs.org/

Claned, launched in 2013 by Claned Group, an education technology (EdTech) company, Claned® is a cloudbased learning platform that maximises learning outcomes by combining artificial intelligence, collaborative learning and world-class pedagogy, thereby helping individuals and organisations remove barriers to digital learning, improve study engagement and learning results. Headquartered in Helsinki, Claned has representation in London, New York, Mumbai and Singapore. <https://claned.com/>

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