



Generation Green: Our Say, Our Planet FAQs



What happens if you are chosen to be part of Generation Green: Our Planet, Our Say

How does it work?

- Generation Green: Our Planet, Our Say will be made up of 20 carefully chosen members who will meet during 2009 in three different, inspiring locations that most people never get the chance to see
- Members will get the chance to ask real environmental experts, like green expert Julia Hailes, about the green conundrums they've always wanted to know the answers to
- Julia and other green experts will help the team understand how together we can change the world
- Then the team decides what they want to change, and how they would make these changes happen
- At the end of the year the members of Our Planet, Our Say get the chance to have their voices heard, as they will take their ideas straight to the Houses of Parliament and tell politicians what they should do to protect the environment
- If you're really persuasive, we hope that the government will have no choice but to put the ideas for change into practice

The judging process

Who are the judges?

Green expert Julia Hailes has written several successful books on how we can be kinder to the planet including 'The Young Green Consumer Guide' and 'Holidays that Don't Cost the Earth'. She was awarded an MBE by the Queen for her environmental work and is the perfect person to help green minds come up with ideas on how we can face the future and make the world a more eco-friendly place.

Ann Finlayson works with the government to try and make sure that the way we presently act won't threaten how future generations can live. Ann has travelled the world teaching children and adults about the environment and visited places like Papua New Guinea, Australia and Canada. She has worked for the World Wildlife Federation and recently set up a new organisation called SEEd which encourages environmental education in the UK.

Lawrence McGinty has been ITV News' Science Editor since 1987 appearing on TV around the clock.



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He has covered events from across the world, ranging from international disasters to endangered species. In 2000, he won an Emmy for Best International News Coverage.

Gearóid Lane is Director of British Gas New Energy, which is responsible for energy efficiency and climate change activity within British Gas, the nation's leading energy supplier. Gearóid is also a leading member of the Energy Saving Trust, an important organisation that promotes the sustainable and efficient use of energy, water conservation and waste reduction. In his free time he likes to go scuba diving, enjoys running and is a keen cyclist.

How will I know if I have got through or not?

We will contact the 20 successful entrants to let them know they have been selected to join Generation Green: Our Planet, Our Say. Unfortunately we can't contact all entrants, so if you haven't heard from us by Monday 1/6/09, then we're afraid you haven't been selected on this occasion. The judges' decision is final.

Do I have to pay for my travel or accommodation?

British Gas will pay for travel and accommodation for members of Generation Green: Our Planet, Our Say and for the parent/guardian accompanying them when they attend the three workshops and the Houses of Parliament.

The Workshop Sessions

When are the sessions?

There will be three sessions throughout the year:

1st Session: Spring – Re:New

2nd Session: Summer – Re:Cycle

3rd Session: Autumn – Re:Educate

Sessions are likely to take place on weekends and will be all-day events. Details of each session will be sent to all members with plenty of notice.

Where are the sessions held?

Each session will be held in specially chosen exciting and unique locations. The members will have VIP access to some of the most top-secret, futuristic green labs and locations. Details of location and travel arrangements will be sent closer to the date of each session.

Who will attend the sessions?

The 20 think tank members must be accompanied by a parent / teacher / guardian.

Workshops will be hosted by Julia Hailes and a series of the most clued-up green experts in the country.



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What will happen at the sessions?

Members and their guardians will be given VIP access to the cutting-edge locations and will take part in inventive activities that their classmates can only dream of! These workshops will be led by Julia Hailes and you'll get the chance to give her and the other green experts a grilling about climate change.

Do members have to prepare anything for the sessions?

Members don't need to prepare anything, just to bring their greenest ideas for change and sharpest plans for a greener future!

Do members attend the workshops and visit to the Houses of Parliament on their own?

Each member of Generation Green: Our Future Our Say must be accompanied by an adult. This can be a parent, guardian or teacher – one to accompany each member.

Visiting the Houses of Parliament

What will happen?

Think Tank members and their guardians will meet with a Member of Parliament in London to present their Manifesto and will also attend a special party. Full details will be sent closer to the time.

When is it?

This will take place in December after all the young people and teachers who belong to Generation Green have had the chance to vote on their favourite green idea for change. The visit will take place on a Saturday during the daytime. Details will be sent to all Generation Green: Our Planet, Our Say members closer to the time.

How will we get there?

Travel details will be sent closer to the time – British Gas will pay for all members' and their accompanying adults' travel costs incurred as part of Generation Green: Our Planet, Our Say.

Where will we stay?

Accommodation details will be sent closer to the time – British Gas will pay for all members' and their accompanying adults' accommodation costs incurred as part of Generation Green: Our Planet, Our Say.