

CONCERN DEBATES: ONLINE DEBATING GUIDE FOR TEACHERS



Welcome to the Concern Debates Programme! We are delighted to have you on board for the 2020-21 academic year. We appreciate how difficult the last couple of months have been for teachers and students in adapting to online learning and missing the school environment.

The Concern Debates team are happy to bring the programme to you again this year. However due to social distancing restrictions, we will be bringing the competition online.

Schools will not be travelling for debates and adjudicators will not be marking debates in schools.

Please note that as we are going online, speeches must now be filmed and sent to Concern. Consent forms (sent by the Concern Debates team) will be required for all students participating.



PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BELOW WHAT THIS WILL ENTAIL FOR YOU AND YOUR CONCERN DEBATES TEAM

ONLINE DEBATING



Schools will receive four dates from Concern indicating the motion they will be debating, the school they are up against and whether they are proposition or opposition



Videos of speeches must be sent on the day given for your debate- i.e your school was given the day of October 26th- the videos must be received by Concern on October 26th



Schools will be required to video their students presenting their speeches. We ask that individual speeches are filmed rather than all the speeches together



Concern will then upload the speeches of your school and the opposing school to a secure private youtube link. As the link is private, neither school will see each other's speeches



At the start of each speech the speaker must clearly introduce themselves stating their name, school and the position within the debate (ie Captain Opening Speech or Speaker 2)



Concern will source a volunteer adjudicator to mark speeches from both schools as per our usual marking sheet via the private youtube link

MARKING SHEET	
Proposition	Opposition
Opening Speech	Opening Speech
Closing Speech	Closing Speech
Debate Points	Debate Points



Students have 4.30 minutes to speak. If they go over this penalties will be incurred



Concern will then receive feedback from the adjudicator and the result of the debate. Concern will then email both teachers with feedback and the result. Concern will let both teams know of the marks awarded to each



Schools will then be asked to send the videos of all speeches to debates@concern.net or debatesni@concern.net for NI schools.

REQUIREMENTS OF SCHOOL AND TEACHERS

- Each school must complete four debates on the given dates by Concern
- Teachers must ensure all students participating must have consent forms signed by parents/guardians and returned to Concern by Monday September 22nd 2020
- Debates must be filmed by schools and sent to debates@concern.net in a timely manner
- Teachers must ensure that speeches for the Captain's Opening, Speaker 2, Speaker 3, Speaker 4 and Captain's closing speech are sent to Concern. If a speech is not sent, marks will be lost as adjudicators will be unable to mark
- Teachers must ensure that speeches are labelled correctly i.e Captain Opening Speech; Speaker 2 etc
- If a school cannot complete a debate on a given day, schools must contact each other and work out a new date in line with the Concern Debates calendar. Schools will only be permitted to change one date. Change of date form here must be used <https://www.concern.net/schools-and-youth/debates/get-your-school-involved/change-date>
- If schools fail to submit a video for their scheduled debate, that school will automatically forfeit and a bye of 3 points will be awarded to the other school



Frequently Asked Questions

**How will I send videos to the debates team?
It is saying the file is too large to send via email to debates@concern.net**

You can use www.wetransfer.com to transfer large files for free to debates@concern.net

Can students send their videos to the debates team?

We will not accept videos from students for GDPR/safeguarding reasons

Do I send separate videos for each student or can I send a video of all the debates filmed concurrently?

We ask that individual speeches be sent.

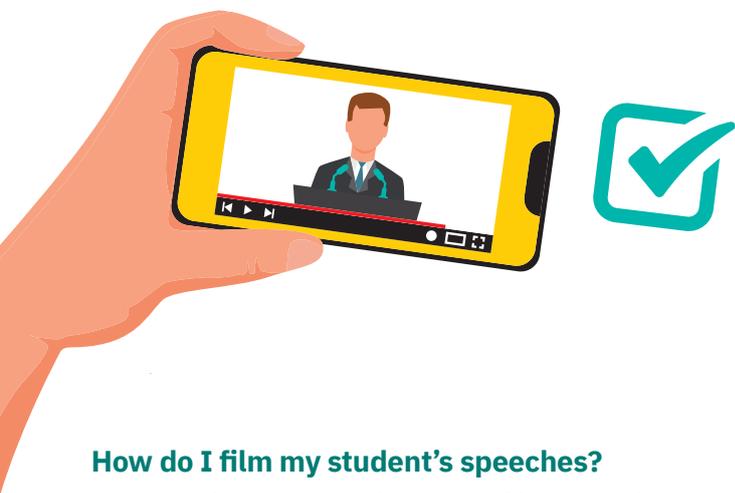
Please ensure to label videos correctly.

We will be receiving 500 + videos between October and January so please make sure that your video has the following:

1. School name
2. Motion and if Prop or Opp
3. Label which speaker:
Captain Opening
Speech etc



St Mary's Knocklyon,
Speaker 2 Hunger Prop.mov



How do I film my student's speeches?

We would recommend that you film speeches on a phone in a landscape format.

Please do a rehearsal to make sure that students can be heard clearly.

Do I have to send the first recording of the debate or can we film many times and send the best version?

Debates team can film numerous times and choose the best recording. Once Concern Debates HQ receive the recording of your team's speeches on the allocated day we will be happy!

Do we need to add graphics to our video? Will it gain us more marks?

Graphics are not necessary but you are welcome to add your school crest or names. Speeches will be judged based on the criteria of the marking sheet as per usual, not on the quality of video production.

Why can't we use zoom or google meet and do a live debate with the other schools?

Logistically it would be very hard for Concern to manage this. In addition, we would worry that some students and schools would not have access to high speed broadband. When we get to the knockout stages of the competition, we will look at the feasibility of organising live online debates.

How will we know if we won our debate?

The Concern Debates team will receive results from the adjudicator and will relay these to debates mentors via email. We will update the league table here <https://www.concern.net/schools-and-youth/debates/competition-stages> every two weeks.

Can I speak to adjudicators regarding constructive feedback of our speeches?

All adjudicator feedback will be captured in our adjudicator feedback form. This will then be sent via email to debates mentors by the Concern Debates team. Adjudicators will not be contacting schools.

Can I view the speeches of our opposing team?

Unfortunately no. Both schools must send videos for their debate. These videos will be uploaded and only viewed by the adjudicator marking the debate and the Concern Debates team.

If the debate is not live, how will my team refute or rebut the other team?

We appreciate that this is difficult for teams. There are 10 marks available on the marking sheet for refutation and rebuttal. We encourage teams to do the following:

1. Predict what the other team may say by researching both sides of the argument
2. Refute general arguments to the position their team is holding

If teams fail to include any refutation or rebuttal, adjudicators will be unable to award them points in this category.

I have concerns about GDPR and the videos sent to Concern. Will they be secured safely?

We fully recognise concerns regarding GDPR and safeguarding when dealing with videos of minors.

All videos received will be stored securely on Concern's internal network. Videos will only be accessed by a maximum of four members of the Concern Debates team. Videos will be password protected and deleted as per our data policy at the end of the academic year.

All schools will be asked to fill in GDPR compliant consent forms for all members of their team. For more information, please view our privacy policy [here](#).

Once videos of speeches have been marked by adjudicators, we will remove the videos from the private youtube link.

All adjudicators marking videos have been screened by Concern and are Garda / Access NI vetted. Adjudicators will be receiving full training on moving to an online format.

The Concern Debates team are on hand to answer all your questions here debates@concern.net

Please visit our website too for more information www.concern.net/schools-and-youth/debates

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worldwide

ENDING
EXTREME POVERTY
WHATEVER
IT TAKES