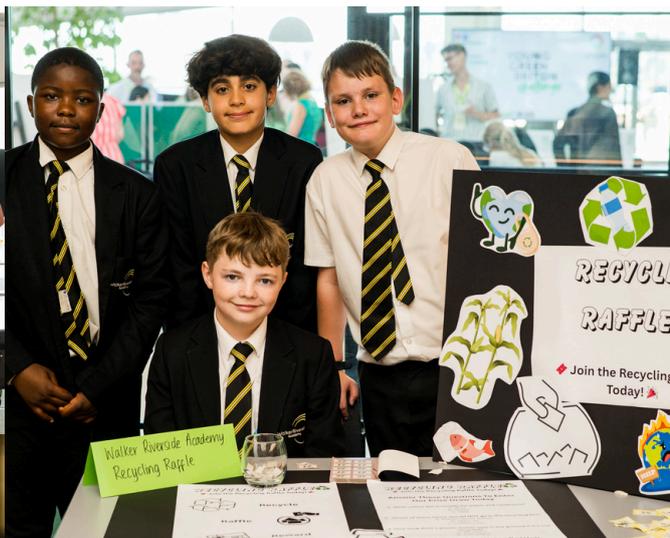




Member of
Skills Builder
PARTNERSHIP



2024/25



YOUNG GREEN BRITON challenge

IMPACT REPORT

FROM SKILLS TO ACTION: EMPOWERING YOUNG GREEN CHANGEMAKERS



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Young Green Briton Challenge empowers young people to **turn climate education into action**. Through innovation, design, and changemaking, students create local projects and build the green skills needed for a sustainable future.

About Us: YGBC is delivered by Social Innovation for All CIC and GenEarth CIC, in partnership with regional delivery partners EcoVida Routes and TerraLigo. The Green Britain Foundation (GBF) has been a founding and cornerstone partner of the YGBC since its inception in 2022.

Thanks to GBF's vision and support, alongside a growing number of other partners and funders **2024-25 was the year YGBC truly began to scale, reaching more schools, more students, and more communities than ever before.**

Our impact went far beyond increased participation.

- Students shared that they felt more hopeful and confident
- Teachers observed their pupils developing essential skills for the future
- Volunteers described YGBC as “a professional highlight of the year.”
- We strengthened partnerships, launching regional hubs in the North West and North East, and hosted our first prestigious regional celebrations.
- Our biggest national event yet welcomed over 200 guests from across the YGBC community.
- We also expanded our special schools network from one to five and piloted an accredited Project Qualification.

Together, we are building a movement of young climate leaders, empowering young people with the skills, confidence, and optimism needed to create meaningful climate solutions.



2024-25 IMPACT SUMMARY



45 diverse schools joined YGBC in 2024–25 (up from 18), including **59% with above-average Free School Meals** and **11% special schools**.



7,545 students (ages 11–18) took part, generating thousands of climate ideas and launching **100+ real-world projects**.



87% deepened their understanding of climate change.



With 83% of students enjoying participating in YGBC, they also reported improvements in **key employability skills** including **80% of students highlighting improvements in teamwork, problem solving and listening skills**.



79% felt more hopeful about their ability to tackle climate change.



Students who implemented projects saw further growth in **leadership, collaboration, and communication**.



100% of teachers would recommend YGBC, calling it “rewarding, impactful, and future-focused.”



60+ industry volunteers connected students to real-world green careers while sharpening their own skills.



South Manchester students became the first to earn an **accredited Project Qualification** through YGBC.



YGBC retained **Skills Builder Level 3 Accreditation**, with standout progress in teamwork, problem-solving, and listening.

SPOTLIGHT: YOUTH LED CLIMATE VENTURES

At the National Awards in City Hall, London, 110 students from across the country came together to showcase their climate innovations to partners, ambassadors and peers. The event was elevated by inspiring contributions from Broadcaster **Chris Packham**, London **Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy Mete Coban**, **Green Party CEO Harriet Lamb**, and youth climate activists Bella Lack and Bo Cox, who celebrated the creativity and leadership of the young finalists.

2025 WINNING TEAMS



Bouncepadz: King's Leadership Academy Hawthornes, Liverpool

This team wowed us with a kinetic energy pad prototype designed to convert footsteps in high-traffic areas into electricity. Hear from the team [here](#).



SustainInhale: Fairfield High School for Girls, Droylsden, Manchester

This innovative team designed a biodegradable and refillable asthma inhaler, using eco-friendly materials like bioplastics and recycled parts. A breath of fresh air for healthcare and the planet.



Team Deforestation: Chiltern Academy, Luton

To combat deforestation, this team planted trees around their school and launched a gardening club and school garden - growing everything from herbs to eco-awareness.



No Green, No Earth: Upper Batley High School

Turning waste into life, this team is transforming glass jars into terrariums, selling them to fund greenhouses in schools to boost biodiversity and nature education.

The Challenge develops skills for life and work, with clear evidence of growth in creativity, teamwork, and communication.



80% learnt about solving problems

"I liked how there were different stages to develop your design and how you were able to have your teammates help to solve problems instead of doing it by yourself."



80% said they had got better at working in a team

"I enjoyed working as a team. It was fun and improved my leadership skills."



80% improved at listening to other people's perspectives

"I enjoyed the talking and discussion because you get to share lots of ideas and work together in a team."



74% got better at coming up with ideas

"I learnt that coming up with ideas can take time but they do come naturally and it's fun to come up with creative ideas!"



70% became more confident sharing their ideas

"I enjoyed talking to other people at the national finals as it has improved my confidence a lot."



62% became more confident speaking in front of a group

"I definitely learnt more about how to persuade people and adapt our language to suit our audience, but also how to convince people that our idea is good."



BUILDING KNOWLEDGE AROUND SUSTAINABILITY

Students engaged deeply with sustainability issues through the lens of their own communities - tackling challenges from fast fashion and food waste to energy use and biodiversity loss.

In the first phase of the Challenge students learn about the main causes of climate change through structured teaching materials.



Powering the Future



Transforming Transportation



Circular Economy



Fashion Forward



Green Cuisine



Nurture Nature



Football case study

Survey results show dramatic increases in climate knowledge and awareness:

- **87% said they had increased their understanding of climate change.**
- **83% enjoyed taking part in the design workshop.**
- **79% said they learnt things that will help them in the future.**

“We learned that even small, local solutions can make a huge difference.”

“I learned that there are a lot of different factors causing pollution which I hadn’t thought about before. There are also many creative, out of the box ways to fix these problems.”

“Be original and be confident with your idea because it might change the world.”

BUILDING HOPE, AGENCY & WELLBEING

At a time when eco-anxiety is rising, YGBC nurtures hope and agency. Students said they felt positive about their ability to make change.

- **79% felt hopeful** they can make a positive contribution to addressing climate change.
- **70% felt their ideas were listened to.**
- **75% felt they can make a positive change** in their community.

“Even young people like us can still make a huge difference.” Student

“I learnt - don't be a sheep, be a shepherd. Also the fact that since we are children we can use so much creativity to help our world.” Student

“It brings joy to learning and gives young people agency to become changemakers.” – Teacher



TAILORING YGBC TO DIFFERENT CONTEXTS: CASE STUDY

YGBC is an ambitious, yet very flexible programme delivering against multiple curriculum, careers and character objectives for schools. Having worked with St Vincent's School for Sensory and Visual Impairment since inception, we have built an inclusive ethos and expanded our provision to new special schools in 2024/25.

Woodlands Meed Special College Case Study

Woodlands Meed, a Foundation Special School, joined YGBC to boost citizenship and employability skills. In their first year, 36 Key Stage 5 students worked in teams to turn climate ideas into action. The school adapted the YGBC materials for Citizenship lessons before hosting an Eco Fair where students showcased their projects to peers, volunteers, local businesses, and governors

The teams created an impressive, diverse range of projects:

 **Green Treats** made vegan treats to sell in their inspire cafe

 **The Wardrobe Warriors** developed the idea to have a clothes swap at parents' evening

 **Green Trees** made bug hotels for the school grounds

 **Chippy Falling Leaves** used broken uniforms to make gorgeous teddy bears that could also be sold to current and former students

 **Nurture the Worms** created a wormery for use in the school's new poly tunnel

 **Eco Force** made plant boxes out of old pallets and will be growing plants in them for the new college site



YGBC blends curricular and extra-curricular learning and a successful pilot showed that students can gain a recognised qualification whilst participating in the programme.

Co-op Academy Belle Vue - piloting an accredited qualification

Belle Vue, part of the Co-op Academy Trust, were keen to explore the opportunity to link to a an **accredited qualification**, which would formally recognise the effort students put in to developing their YGBC projects and the skills they gain through the process.

YGBC starts with the whole of Year 8 and is then offered as a YGBC Club for students to put their projects into action. There was strong competition at the Eco Dragon's Den for places within the club, indicating high demand for both YGBC and the linked qualification. Students completed their project coursework alongside putting their projects into action, finishing with a portfolio of work for assessment.

The schools success was evident when all 20 students completed their project qualification, with 7 achieving the Level 1 Foundation qualification, and a remarkable 13 achieving the more ambitious Level 2 Higher qualification. **The Level 2 project qualification is equivalent to half a GCSE**, which is particularly impressive for Year 8 students.

Helen Allsopp-Medley, Head of Geography at the inner city Manchester school: "We were keen for the students to gain a qualification that actually showcases the amount of work they put into it (YGBC) and the **skills that they learnt along the way**... it is a misconception that they are just putting a project together for fun, whereas it is an academic project and they are developing quite granular skills, not just pitching and presenting".



OUR INDUSTRY EXPERTS

Volunteering creates impact at every level - inspiring students, supporting schools in delivering careers education, developing volunteers, and creating value for companies.

In 2024–25, more than 60 volunteers from renewable energy, food, fashion, finance, and technology brought this to life - mentoring, coaching, and supporting students as they stepped up as the climate leaders of tomorrow.



For young people: Volunteers act as role models, showing real-world sustainability in action. They bring energy, inspiration, and practical knowledge that builds confidence, hope, and ambition.



For schools: External expertise enriches the curriculum, connects learning to real careers, and strengthens careers education with fresh perspectives and networks.



For volunteers: They gain skills in mentoring and leadership, enjoy seeing their impact firsthand, and grow in confidence through meaningful engagement.



For companies: Involvement demonstrates social value, enhances brand reputation, and boosts employee pride while connecting business purpose to community impact.

“Seeing someone completely external to the project's perspective - we managed to expand our project by developing a new prototype with our mentor's help.”
YGBC Student



LOOKING AHEAD

The year ahead marks a bold new chapter for the Young Green Briton Challenge - igniting a national movement to build a generation of skilled, empowered changemakers who will shape a brighter and greener future.

By 2035 our goal is that YGBC will be available to all secondary schools, as fully accredited project based learning delivered by both teachers and local partners.

In 2025–26, we will:

- **Grow our coalition:** Forging powerful partnerships and advance our social franchise model, that will allow us to reach over 80 schools nationwide, deepening collaboration with Academy Trusts, local authorities, careers networks, and welcoming new partners to be part of this exciting journey.
- **Deepen community impact:** By strengthening our regional delivery networks in the North West, North East, and South East
- **Champion youth engagement:** Bringing more young people into this growing movement, both as participants and ambassadors, helping to shape the future of YGBC.
- **Increase qualifications:** Collaborating with Pearson EdExcel to expand access for students to link their YGBC projects to nationally recognised qualifications.
- **Diversify our offer:** Piloting YGBC as a curricular offer in Design & Technology
- **Increase access to all:** Pilot our offer within alternative provision demonstrating our commitment to opportunity for all

**This is more than a programme - it is a shared mission.
Together we are building a community committed to
innovation, leadership, and hope for the planet.**



**If you would like to partner
with us, volunteer with us or
find out more about how to
deliver YGBC in your school
please get in touch at
info@ygbc.uk**

RECOGNISING OUR PARTNERS

YGBC thrives because of partnerships: teachers, schools, volunteers, businesses, funders, trusts, local authorities and organisations. During 2024/25 we were thrilled to onboard so many new partners who share our vision for creating an educated, empowered generation of climate leaders.



THE GREEN BRITAIN
FOUNDATION

Our cornerstone funder, Dale Vince's Green Britain Foundation, has invested in the Young Green Briton Challenge since its inception.

With **generous support from trusts & foundations** we were able to establish hubs of schools in Luton, the North East, expand our work with special schools and pilot the Project Qualification.



SHANLY
FOUNDATION

Working in partnership with local government we were able to establish hubs of schools in Liverpool, Sussex and strengthen our work in the North East.



LIVERPOOL
CITY REGION
COMBINED AUTHORITY

METROMAYOR
LIVERPOOL CITY REGION



Our corporate partners enabled us to expand our schools provision whilst supporting us with skilled volunteers and generous gifts in kind.

ecotricity Business

southeastern

AVANTI
WEST COAST



ADELPHI
GROUP OF COMPANIES

National
Museums
Liverpool



With thanks to the Woods Family for their support since the inception of YGBC and all of our supporters who donated to the Aviva Community Fund appeal for the Young Green Briton Challenge.



THANK YOU!



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"I loved how we had a chance to make a change in the school community."



"I really enjoyed [the YGBC Design Sprint], it was amazing!"



Follow us on social media



"Participating in YGBC 2025 has been an incredible experience for our school!"

We are actively looking for new business partners, delivery partners, volunteers and schools. Please contact us on info@ygbc.uk to find out more