

NLSSC 2026 Application FAQs

What is the North London Student Sustainability Conference?

The North London Student Sustainability Conference (NLSSC) is a chance to gather students from across north London to debate real issues facing the waste and recycling industry.

Students will work together to propose three actions that they wish for north London to achieve and produce an action plan. This will then be shared with the Senior Leaders at NLWA.

One student from each school will take on the role as Council Leaders

When are applications open?

We are welcoming applications from 7 September 2026 until 5pm 2 October 2026. Applications submitted after this time will not be considered.

Who can apply to the Conference?

The Conference is open to secondary schools in one of our boroughs:

- Barnet
- Camden
- Enfield
- Hackney
- Haringey
- Islington
- Waltham Forest

Schools must select **a team of five Year 9 students** to participate in the Conference.

How do I apply?

We recommend selecting your team and asking them to help within the application process.

Teachers need to complete the [NLSSC 2026 application form](#) which requires details of the school.

Students need to complete a 2026 NLSSC Project Proposal Presentation. The template for which can be found in the 'How can I apply?' section of the [NLSSC website page](#).

This outlines the project they wish to complete if they won the £1000 prize for Best Team at the conference.

There is guidance on the presentation to support their planning.

How can I support students with their project proposal?

We have created a student information pack to help support them plan their project. This includes prompt questions that they need to answer in their project proposals.

The presentation should be no longer than 10 slides long and should cover these main areas:

1. The project aims and timeline
2. A full resource list showing how the prize money will be spent including:
 - a. Itemised list with links to the product or supplier
 - b. What each item will be used for
3. The roles of each team member
4. A list of success criteria for the project
5. How they will measure whether the project has been successful

Students must have gained permission from the relevant staff within the school to complete their project, if successful.

How will applications be judged?

NLWA officers in the Education team will review each team's application. We will be looking for:

1. A clear, realistic project with a timeline and budget identified
2. Projects that are linked aimed at increasing reusing or repair within school or look to reduce waste
3. A student-centred approach to the project plan and implementation
4. A creative solution or project idea that will engage the school community
5. A well-thought-out approach to measuring the success of the project

How will I know if my school has been selected?

You will be contacted by an NLWA Officer by October half term to notify you if you have been selected.

Once you have received the invitation to participate, you will need to complete an RSVP form, and pre-Conference materials will be shared to support your pupils to prepare for the event.

Who can I contact if I have any further questions?

Please email Education@nlwa.gov.uk if you have any further questions.

We look forward to receiving your application!