

## LETTERS TO TOMORROW: GUIDE FOR ORGANISERS

### What are 'Letters to Tomorrow'?

As part of this year's Great Big Green Week, we're asking everyone to write **Letters to Tomorrow**.

Letters to Tomorrow explain peoples' hopes for future generations if our leaders step up to protect the environment - and fears about what life could be like if we don't slow down climate change.

This guide outlines how to write Letters to Tomorrow and how you can get involved during Great Big Green Week - either by incorporating letter writing into your existing plans, or by organising a dedicated event.

### Why write a letter?

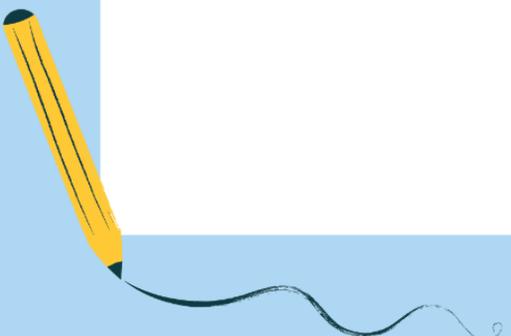
The climate crisis is affecting our lives already. It's making our homes more likely to flood, our food more expensive and polluting the air we breathe. It's bad enough now. But it's only going to get worse for the next generation unless we take action now to get it under control.

Whether we have children or not, we all feel a duty to make sure today's kids don't have it worse than we did. We all want them to live safe, happy lives and achieve their dreams. That's why we've got to get to grips with tackling climate change today - because the years will tick away before we know it.

Letters to Tomorrow explain peoples' hopes and fears for the future, and what needs to happen today to make that future a reality.

The letters will be used to show political leaders that ordinary people all over the country want action on climate change.

All Letters to Tomorrow will be hosted on a dedicated website - [letterstotomorrow.com](http://letterstotomorrow.com). From 27th September, you'll be able to write letters directly onto the site or upload any handwritten letters you've written or collected from events.



## Letter writing guidance

### Who should my letter be to?

Your letter could be to a friend, a loved one, or even your future self. Remember to specify who you're writing to in the letter, for example - 'To my daughter, Anita', 'To my uncle, Kevin', 'Dear my future self'.

### What should I say?

Think about why you're writing this letter. Imagine you're writing to someone in the year 2030. What do you want for them, and what do you want the world they live in to look like? What do you want to see happen now to make that future a reality?

Here are some example Letters to Tomorrow that may help inspire people to write their own:

#### 1. From a parent to a child

*Dear my daughter, Molly,*

*Everything I do, I do to give you the best possible chance in life. When the time comes, and you leave university and go out into the world, I want it to be a place with less worry.*

*Where our homes are safe, where you don't have to breathe dirty air any more, where species return, where our seas are clean, where you don't have to be scared of extreme weather.*

*I'm doing my bit because I know how much this matters for your future.*

*But we need a shift bigger than the change I can make as an individual. That means people in power acting now. I hope that in ten years' time, I can say: we did it, they did it.*

#### 2. From a grandparent to a grandchild

*To my grandson, Dexter,*

*There's nothing I care more about than you and your future. I want the world you inherit to be a better place than it is now. And I want the places we go to now - like the woods where we walk the dog and the seaside where we paddle when you come to stay - to be there for you when you're an adult.*

*Unless the people in power tackle climate change now, you won't have the future I want for you. Your life will be harder than you deserve.*

*The message of my letter: To people in power please, act now. I know there are lots of things taking time, money and attention but this one is too important to let slide.*

### 3. Letter to future self

*To my future self,*

*I am writing to my future self because I don't want to forget what I feel now. I feel worried about the state of our planet, and want to see action taken now to help tackle climate change.*

*I hope to have children, and I hope they'll be able to dip their toes in the Falmouth Sea, just like my childhood holidays with sandy sandwiches and ice-creams. I want to give them every opportunity I can in life. I don't want them to be scared of floods and droughts that get worse every year. I want them to breathe clean air. I want them to keep our family traditions going and live a happy life.*

*In the future, I hope to re-read this letter, safe in the knowledge that people in power stepped up and change happened at the right time.*

### Get writing at your Great Big Green Week events

To get your neighbours, family and community writing their Letters to Tomorrow, you can incorporate a letter-writing activity into your Great Big Green Week events, or host a dedicated letter-writing event. You can find some ideas to get you started here:

- **Host a meet-up** where everyone writes their own letters - this could be in a local cafe, community centre, or even your local park.
- **Set up a stall** where people can write their letters at your fair, festival or other events.
- **Get creative** - could you ask people to use drawings or paintings to visualise what they want to say in their letter? You could provide colour paper, crafts, and other resources for people to bring their letters to life at your event.
- **Host a letter recital** - invite people to read out the letters they've written and ask your MP to come along.

Wherever you write your letters this Great Big Green Week, remember to add them all to the website at [letterstotomorrow.com](http://letterstotomorrow.com).

### More resources

#### Get your school involved

There are lots of ways your school can take part in Great Big Green Week, including writing your own Letters to Tomorrow. Students can write a letter to be shared with our leaders to show them that young people everywhere are taking action

to protect what they love from the impacts of climate change, and we need them to step up and take action too.

You can find the letter-writing activity pack, which includes a lesson plan and presentations, and more resources for schools at [greatbiggreenweek.com/get-involved/schools](https://greatbiggreenweek.com/get-involved/schools).

## **Support for organising events**

If you'd like to host a letter-writing event, or need extra support with planning your Green Week activities, you can find everything you need in our Organisers Guide [here](#), and there are a whole host of other resources available at [greatbiggreenweek.com/resources](https://greatbiggreenweek.com/resources).

