

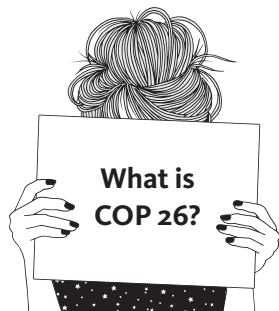


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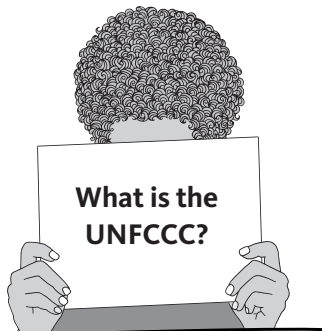


London Schools' Climate Kick-Start Lesson Resource: Teacher FAQs



COP26 is the 26th meeting of the 'Conference of the Parties'. The Conference of the Parties is the name given to a meeting of the 197 member nations of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Each nation is invited to send important decision makers to represent their country.

This is the first time COP is being held in the UK and it will take place in the city of Glasgow, Scotland.



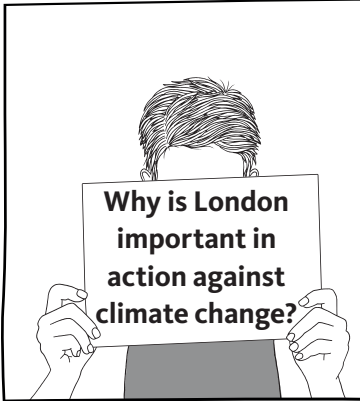
The UNFCCC is the main international legal agreement around climate change. It has been in place for the past 30 years and has two main aims. The first is to stabilise greenhouse gas concentrations at 'a level that would prevent dangerous interference with the climate.' The second aim is for that 'level to be achieved within a timeframe sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt, food production to not be threatened and economic development sustainable.'



The concept of climate justice is about recognising that climate change affects disadvantaged groups of people the most. If we are to achieve climate justice, we have to ensure that our actions against climate change protect the most vulnerable groups and address global inequalities.

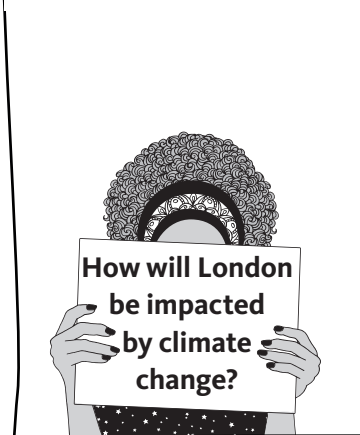


Climate justice matters because, in general, those who will be the most affected by climate change are those who have contributed the least to global emissions, such as those living in developing or low-income countries. The impacts of climate change are therefore inherently unjust.



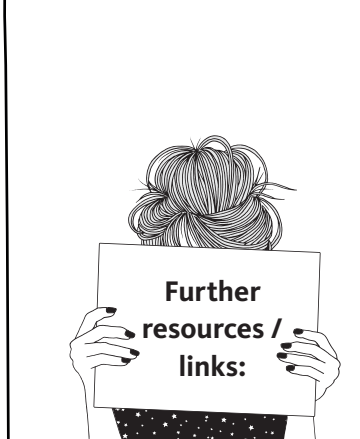
London is very important in action against climate change. Not only is the city and its population a big contributor to climate change, but the city will be greatly impacted by changes to our climate.

London is home to over 9 million people and is a key hub for transport, business and tourism. This means the city consumes a huge amount of resources, uses a vast amount of energy and produces a significant amount of waste. In dealing with these challenges, London has the opportunity to lead the way for others to follow, as an exemplar green city.



The **urban heat island** effect will have a significant impact on London. The density of buildings, and heat emitted from them, results in less airflow than in less built-up areas and so the temperature in central London can reach several degrees higher than at its edges. Increases in global temperature from climate change will be felt even more strongly in central London. Cheaper, more densely packed buildings tend to suffer more from overheating in hotter months, which is linked to the issue of climate justice. Hotter cities can cause an increase in respiratory conditions, exhaustion and heat stroke.

The density of buildings in London also means that **surface-water flooding** is a major threat to the city with a changing climate. Concrete and tarmac does not absorb water and so heavy rain cannot drain away as quickly as it would naturally. This means that drains and sewage systems are more easily overwhelmed and causes surface water flooding- damaging infrastructure and homes.



WWF (COP Official Education Partner)

<https://www.wwf.org.uk/get-involved/schools/cop26>

World's Largest Lesson

<https://worldslargestlesson.globalgoals.org/campaign/climate-changemakers/>

Global Action Plan

<https://www.cleanairday.org.uk/free-resources/schools>

<https://www.transform-our-world.org/top-resources>

BBC Teach COP pages

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/un-climate-change-conference-teaching-resources/zrcg3j6>

London Schools Climate Summit

<https://londonschoolsclimate.uk/school-activities/>

<https://londonschoolsclimate.uk/resources/> (links to other resources)