

Our World



Handbook for Teachers

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Introduction & Rationale

What is Our World?

Our World is a national, inter-disciplinary competition for secondary schools, previously run by the Scottish European Educational Trust (SEET) and now organised by SCILT, Scotland's National Centre for Languages. It combines language learning with the art of filmmaking, bringing in aspects such as design, drama, sound and technology within the context of Learning for Sustainability and environmental education. The competition builds valuable employability skills such as team-working, creativity, organisation, communication, problem solving and much more.

The competition introduces learners to potential career pathways for languages that encompass various fields, not just the traditional teacher or translator, and broaden horizons as to where language learning can lead.

Learners will work in teams to research information about the UN Sustainable Development Goals and design a storyboard for a short film highlighting one or more of the goals, using at least one language other than English. The storyboard design must include the SDGs, use of another language(s) and aspects of screenwriting such as camera angles and framing techniques as well as being creative and visually attractive.

Storyboards will be reviewed, and shortlisted teams will then have the opportunity to turn their idea into a real film and submit it to SCILT. All completed films will then go on to be shown at a live film premiere where all award winners will be announced. The live premiere will take place online in December and the films will be judged by a panel of expert judges.

Who is it for?

Our World is aimed at secondary language learners in either S1-2, S3-4 or S5-6.

Why should our school participate in Our World?

This is a highly motivating project for learners, with proven impact on uptake and widening horizons. Feedback and comments from previous participants can be found on the [Our World webpage](#).

Our World complements the combined focus of [Curriculum for Excellence, Building the Curriculum 4](#) and the [Developing the Young Workforce \(DYW\)](#) programme on developing skills for learning, life and work. In particular, it fosters the development of the [key skills](#) of literacy, communication and technological education, as well as many of the thinking and personal skills.

Entrance Requirements

- Each school can submit up to **three teams** per age group.
- Each team should have three to five members.
- The film must include **at least** one language other than English
- The film must cover **one or more** of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Entries will be judged on creativity, production techniques, content and use of another language.
- The film should be **between 2 and 5** minutes long.

Judging categories

Entries will be judged in each age group: S1-2; S3-4; S5-6, using the following categories:

- Best Film Production
- Best Content
- Most Creative Use of Language

Best Film Production: this category will look at techniques used in the production of the film, including camera shots, sound, etc.

Best Content: this category is for the most creative or interesting content and integration of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Most Creative Use of Language: this category is for creative use of languages learned at school. Films can additionally include languages spoken at home or learned elsewhere, but judging will be based on creativity and innovative use of languages rather than accuracy, so as not to be giving undue advantage to mother tongue languages.

On the day of the award ceremony, all attendees will also have the chance to vote for the final award of the day, the coveted **Peer Choice Award**.

Objectives and expectations

Role of Teachers

- Register interest in taking part in this year's competition.
- Attend teachers' information session on **Wednesday 29th April at 4.00pm 2026**.
- Access learner information video once available.
- Offer this opportunity to learners within your school and organise classes / groups to participate.
- Support learners to decide which sustainable development goal they are going to focus on in their film.
- Support learners to plan their storyboard using the resources and guidance provided.
- Help learners to prepare their storyboard and complete their entry form by **19th June 2026**.
- If shortlisted, attend online film making workshop with your group.
- Support your learners to produce their film.
- Send completed video presentation to SCILT no later than **Friday 13th November 2026**.
- Maintain regular communication with SCILT team.

Role of SCILT

- Publish promotional material and advertise competition.
- Register participants.
- Hold an information session for interested teachers and answer any questions relating to the competition.
- Provide a recorded help video for learners, and other support materials to carry out the storyboard stage.
- Shortlist finalists and notify them of film workshop details.
- Arrange compulsory online workshop for shortlisted schools.
- Maintain regular contact with schools via emails and support sessions.
- Organise online film premiere and awards ceremony event.

Support and resources

Teacher information session

This will take place on Wednesday 29th April, and participating teachers are encouraged to attend live if at all possible. If you are not able to attend the session, or would like to watch it again, there will be a recording available on the website shortly afterwards.

Learner information video

A short introductory video for learners will be available on the [Our World webpage](#). This is designed to give learners an overview of the process, explain their brief and share some tips for successful storyboarding and filmmaking.

In addition, SEET produced a series of videos specifically on the topic of storyboarding. These can be viewed and shared with learners via YouTube:

- [What is a film storyboard?](#)
- [Storyboarding Part 1](#)
- [Storyboarding Part 2](#)
- [Storytelling - developing your story](#)
- [Practice storyboard exercise](#)

Additional support resources for schools

The original SEET resources for Our World are available on the [SCILT website](#) for you to access. As we update resources, these will be uploaded to the Our World webpage on the SCILT website for all participating schools to access.

Find out more about the competition on the Our World page on the [SCILT website](#) and share your progress on using #OurWorld on [Bluesky](#) and [Instagram](#).

Timeline

| Date | Task |
|-------------|---|
| 13 Mar 2026 | Launch of project |
| 29 Apr 2026 | Teacher information session with interested schools |
| 19 Jun 2026 | Schools confirm participation by submitting storyboards |
| Aug 2026 | Shortlisted schools announced |
| Sept 2026 | Online film-making workshop takes place |
| 13 Nov 2026 | Deadline for video entries |
| Dec 2026 | Film Premiere and Online Awards Ceremony |

Submitting your storyboard

- Each initial submission should take the form of a storyboard where teams present their film idea.
- [Storyboards](#) should be submitted on the template provided, which can be downloaded from the SCILT website. Multiple pages can be used for each entry.
- A [pupil entry form](#) should be submitted with each storyboard, explaining in some detail why the theme was chosen and decisions behind content and style.
- A [teacher submission form](#) should be submitted for each year group your school is submitting entries in.
- Storyboards, entry and submission forms should be submitted together by email to SCILT on scilt@strath.ac.uk.
- **The deadline for storyboard submissions is Friday 19th June 2026.**

Filmmaking workshops

- A panel of judges will shortlist the finalists for each category.
- These finalists will be invited to attend an online filmmaking workshop during the Autumn term. Details of this will be sent with notification of shortlisting.
- During the workshop, learners will get advice and ideas on how to bring their storyboard to life.
- Footage must be original and not simply stock footage taken from the internet.

Submitting your finished film

- Films should be submitted in MP4 format using [WeTransfer](#). Further instructions will be shared closer to the deadline date.

- Submissions must include media consent forms (signed by parents) for all participating group members, and anyone who appears in the film. These will be issued on notification of shortlisting.
- **Completed films must be submitted by Friday 13th November.**

Premiere & Awards Ceremony

- Each shortlisted school will be invited to attend the online premiere and awards ceremony.
- The awards ceremony will take place in December 2026 online.
- The awards ceremony will be a fun, glitzy event featuring engaging speakers, interactive activities and, most importantly, the premiere and showcasing of each shortlisted film.
- Each team will have their film shown on the screen.
- Ahead of the awards ceremony, all films will have been viewed by the judging panel and winners will be decided for each of the categories listed.
- The winners will be announced by the judges and presented with their prizes.

Contact us

Please feel free to get in touch with us on scilt@strath.ac.uk if you have any questions.