



engage in their
future

2021 National Creative Awards



Proudly sponsored by



VISION for
EDUCATION
Part of tes

2021 National Creative Awards

The *engage in their future* National Creative Awards is a unique opportunity for the students and staff at the national network of member schools to get creative around a particular theme and express themselves by penning a short story, writing a poem, taking a photo, or all three.

This versatile scheme can be used by schools in a number of different ways to encourage student engagement, foster creative thinking and support self-expression. Students and staff can participate so the whole school community can get involved and challenge themselves.

Everyone that takes part will receive a certificate, and those that win will also receive a trophy and have their winning entry printed and framed for display before being sent to them to keep.

Since its launch as a national scheme in 2015, the National Creative Awards has received hundreds of entries and celebrated nearly 250 winners. It provides a unique and accessible opportunity for *engage in their future* member schools to express and celebrate their creativity on a national platform.

Front cover:
'I can see myself in
one of these!' 2020
1st place winner in
the KS4 photography
category.

Right: 'Mini Me.'
2015 3rd place
winner in the KS4
photography category.



How can your school use the National Creative Awards?

- The National Creative Awards has the flexibility to support a classroom topic, to be offered as a stand-alone extra-curricular activity, or to be included as part of a home study package.
- It can be used to encourage students to consider, explore or respond to a subject from a different, more creative perspective.
- It could be an activity for staff and their students to work on independently but discuss and approach together.
- Participation could be used to encourage and engage those that are more competitive (everyone receives a certificate!).
- Taking part could be offered as a tool, with the theme as the focus, for self-expression or personal reflection.

Why get involved?

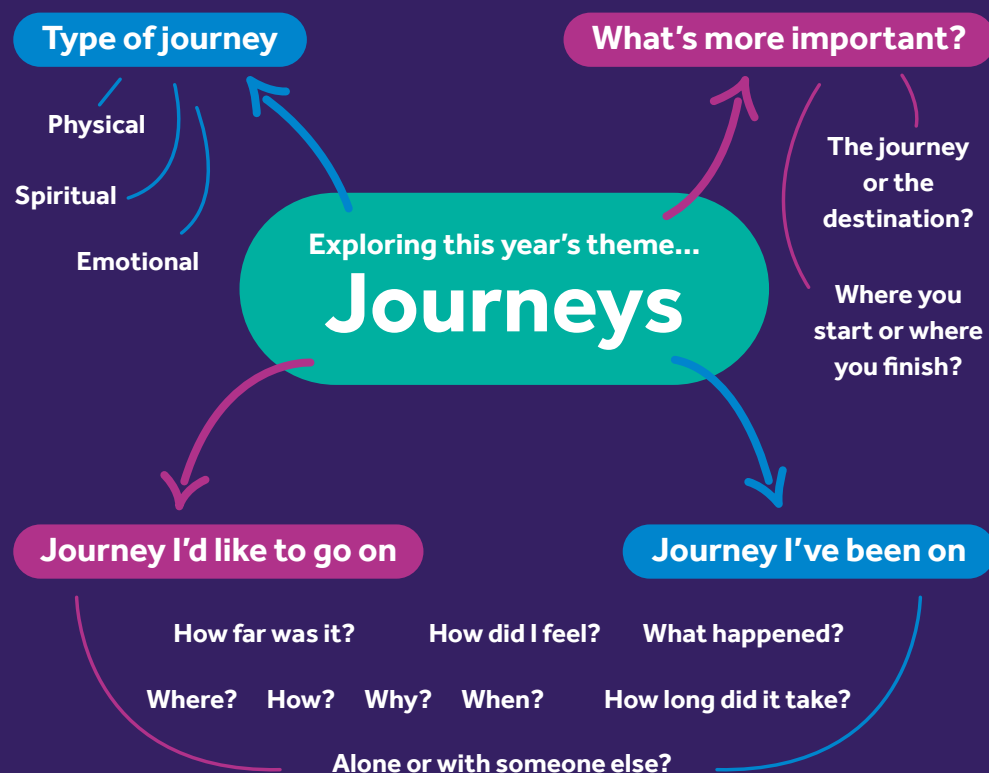
- It's a great way for staff and students to explore and express their creativity.
- There are three different creative channels available: poetry, short story writing and photography.
- Submitting entries is quick and straightforward.
- Everyone who submits an entry will receive a certificate.
- All winners will receive a certificate, a trophy and have their winning entry printed, framed and displayed at the National Awards Ceremony and National Conference before being sent to them to keep.
- It's a unique opportunity to share and celebrate creativity on a national platform alongside the efforts of peers from across the country.

Theme for 2021: 'Journeys'

Each year the National Creative Awards announces a theme to inspire participants and provide a creative focus. Previous themes have included 'I am Me', 'The Future', 'Dreaming', 'This Globe. My World.', 'Bouncing Back' and 'Connections'.

The theme for our 2021 National Creative Awards is 'JOURNEYS'.

This can be interpreted in whatever way you wish, but here are some ideas to get you and your students started!



Short Story Tips

- A story needs to have a beginning, a middle and an end. Is there a clear storyline? Does the story start and finish in a different place?
- Create original, exciting characters and ask yourself "What if my character did that?". This will help develop a great idea into a great story.
- Read your story out loud. Not only will this help with grammar and punctuation, but it will also help you work out how the words you've written will really sound to a reader.
- Don't be afraid to edit or re-write.

Poetry Tips

- What do you want your poem to do or achieve? For example, do you want to communicate how you're feeling, or maybe you want to describe an event?
- Use words to create images, senses and smells.
- See what other people see but use your creativity to look at it in a different way.
- Consider the theme and what it means to you, and then use your poem to express that view/opinion/response.

Photography Tips

- Think about the shot first. What do you want it to capture or communicate?
- Think about how to frame the shot - whether it's filling the frame with your chosen image so no space is wasted, or drawing attention to something in particular by framing it within the picture.
- How can you use light (and shade) to make your photo better?
- Consider perspective, i.e. could you crouch or lie down to take the photo, or maybe elevate your position?

You can find these resources and more as downloadable documents on our website engageintheirfuture.org

FAQs

If you still have any queries please contact us at:
georgina_engageintheirfuture@aol.co.uk.

How long can poems or short stories be?

- Poems must fit on one side of A4 paper.
- Short stories should be no longer than 500 words long.
- If hand-written, the story or poem must be legible, or if typed the font size must be between 10pt and 12pt.
- Any entries that do not meet these specifications may not be accepted.

What size can photographs be?

- For offline entries in the photography category, the maximum print size is A3.
- For online entries, the maximum file size is 500MB.
- Any entries that do not meet these specifications may not be accepted.

How many entries can be submitted?

An individual can submit one entry per creative category, i.e. one photo, one short story and one poem. Each entry must be accompanied with its own entry form.

How are the entries judged?

- Entries are split into Key Stage categories – KS1&2, KS3, KS4, Post-16 and Staff.
- Each creative category has its own judging panel who look for originality, adherence to the theme of 'Journeys' and the use of photographic, poetic or short story writing techniques when scoring each entry.
- The scores are then collated to identify those in first, second and third place. For the last two years, we have also been able to recognise those placed fourth with a Special Recognition award.

What are the prizes?

- All participants will receive a certificate.
- Short-listed winners will receive a trophy and certificate and have their winning entry printed, framed and displayed at the National Awards Ceremony and National Conference before being sent to them to keep.
- Entries in the Staff category will be judged, placed and sent a certificate but will not be eligible for a prize.

Can non-member schools participate?

Participation in the National Creative Awards is only open to *engage in their future* member schools. If your school isn't a member of *engage in their future*, please visit our website at engageintheirfuture.org to find out more about the benefits of membership and for details on how to join.

It should also be noted that students at mainstream schools that are full members of *engage in their future* must have a valid and current EHCP in order to participate.

How do I submit entries?

To submit entries by post, simply complete an entry form and send it to us (along with the short story, poem or photograph) to: *engage in their future* 2021 National Creative Awards, PO Box 451, Horley, RH6 6AW.

Additional copies of the entry form can be downloaded from our website (engageintheirfuture.org). You will receive an email from us to confirm that we've received your entry.

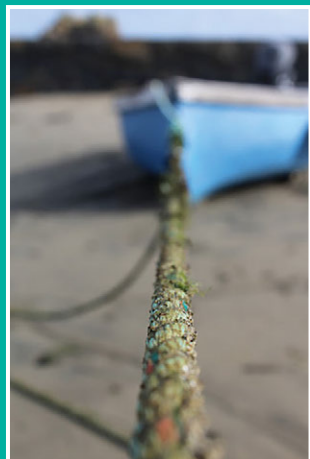
Alternatively, you can go to <https://eitf.wufoo.com/forms/2021-national-creative-awards/> to submit entries online.

By submitting an entry, you are agreeing to our Terms & Conditions. You can find these on the reverse of the entry form and on our website.

The closing date for entries is Friday 30th April 2021.

Some of our Previous Winners

Since its launch in 2015, the National Creative Awards has received hundreds of entries and celebrated nearly 250 winners. Here are just a few of them...



'Hold Tight.' 2020 winner of the Special Recognition prize KS3.



'Billy.' 2019 2nd place winner KS3.



'Bouncing Back.' 2019 1st place winner KS3.



'Day Dream Believer.' 2017 1st place winner KS3.



'To Love, Not Fight.' 2016 2nd place winner KS4.



'I Am Me.' 2015 2nd place winner KS1&2.



'Faces of Fun.' 2015 1st place winner KS1&2.



'Edge of the World.' 2017 Joint 2nd place winner KS1&2.



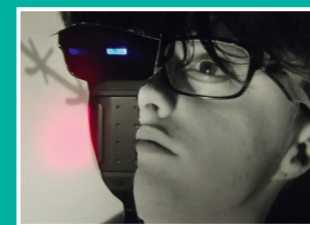
'Bouncing Back.' 2019 1st place winner KS1&2.



'Nearly Time to Move On Montage.' 2015 Joint 1st place winner KS4.



'This Globe My World.' 2018 2nd place winner KS3.



'Cyber Man.' 2016 1st place winner KS4.

Life

*The Vibrant, beautiful coastline,
The glittering, shimmering sea.
The green fields.
The majestic mountains.
The earth is coming back to life.
Pollution has stopped,
The ozone layer is healing,
The birds are singing in celebration.
Animals are living their best life.
I sit and appreciate our shared home,
Our Planet,
Earth.*

2020 2nd place winner KS3 poetry.

Connections (during Coronavirus)

*Caring calls from teachers during Covid 19 home Ed.
Online chat, shopping and working instead.
Now more than ever families spending time together.
Neighbours having conversations, that never happened before.
Even Nan can FaceTime while she's sat behind her front door.
Clapping to show our support to the NHS.
Together we can beat this.
In time we will meet again.
One day soon we will return.
Never forget this terrible plight.
Stay safe! Keep talking! Goodnight!*

2020 3rd place winner KS4 poetry.

A Word from our Sponsors



The 2021 National Creative Awards is proudly sponsored by Vision for Education.

Created in 2008, Vision for Education is a well-established, market-leading teacher supply agency with industry experience and expertise. They can be relied on to deliver a trusted and quality recruitment supply service with fair

charge rates for schools and fair pay for teachers. With extensive national coverage, Vision for Education offer a first class temporary and permanent recruitment service for schools with dedicated SEND recruitment specialists, advertising on a range of jobs boards including Tes.com, and a proactive approach to finding the best candidates.

engage in their future has a long established relationship with Vision for Education with our members able to take advantage of discounted rates and free advertising. The National Creative Awards has benefitted from their support for several years, with their involvement helping the scheme develop into a highly prestigious national competition that celebrates the creativity of students and staff at *engage in their future* member schools. Winning a National Creative Award is an incredible achievement that deserves to be recognised and applauded which is why the school of each winner is offered the opportunity for Vision for Education to visit them in order to present the winning student with their trophy and certificate.



Each year we are amazed at the standard and the quality of all the entries that are submitted and we are delighted to be a part of this inspirational competition.

Vision for Education



'Looking Out.' 2018 Joint 1st place winner KS4.

From Participating Schools



The 2020 National Creative Awards' different creative categories gave our students the opportunity to choose which one suited them best, while the theme allowed them to explore, challenge and focus their creativity.

From a staff perspective, they were able to use it in the classroom, to support outdoor learning, they could link it with a current curriculum topic or it could be set as an independent learning task to be done outside of school.

We would definitely recommend it to other schools - it's such a versatile scheme that your whole school community can get involved with (plus everyone gets a certificate!).

Les Voies School

We can't recommend the National Creative Awards highly enough! There's not many opportunities for students and staff to take part in something side by side and that it's a national competition means everyone really does try their best and think about their entry be it a poem, photo or short story. Everyone gets a certificate and the winners get a trophy as well which is really special. We really celebrate our winners by displaying their framed entry around school for everyone to enjoy. Plus it really is so easy to participate and submit entries that there's no reason not to take part!

During the Covid-19 lockdown the National Creative Awards brought our pupils, their families and our staff all together in a time when we were all apart

The Peak Academy



**Improving life chances for
children experiencing Social,
Emotional and Mental Health
challenges (SEMH).**



engage in their
future

**To find out more please visit
engageintheirfuture.org**