YC YOUNG CONSUMERS Competition NEWSLETTER

Team NEWSLETTER

Calling all budding Journalists

1st PRIZE £500

2nd PRIZE £200

3rd PRIZE £100

The Consumer Council

Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment www.detini.gov.uk

Trading Standards Service

OFFICE OF FAIR TRADING

cea Rewarding Learning

What is the Young Consumers Competition Newsletter?

Each year The Consumer Council and Trading Standards Service organise the Young Consumers Competition to raise young people's awareness of consumer rights and responsibilities.

The Office of Fair Trading also supports this competition. The competition is open to teams of Year 10 and 11 pupils in secondary and special schools.

The aims are:

* to raise young people's awareness and understanding of consumer issues that affect their lives;
* to complement the revised Northern Ireland Curriculum; and
* to encourage peer learning as the winning newsletter is printed professionally and distributed to all Post-Primary Schools across Northern Ireland.

What is involved in the Newsletter?

STEP 1

Working in teams of 4-10, pupils are asked to design and produce a Consumer Newsletter aimed at teenagers. The Newsletter must:

* consist of six sides (including front cover) of A4 pages using Microsoft Word*
* contain articles, based on research, relating to the themes specified on the following page.

STEP 2

Each team must complete a short report to review what they have learnt and their approach to completing the newsletter. A Newsletter Report Form is enclosed. This outlines specific questions that pupils should address and guidance on how they should answer.

* NB any queries on software use please contact us.

What are the themes for the Newsletter?

The themes provided below are based on suggestions from teachers who entered teams in last year's newsletter competition. Each theme should cover approximately 1 side of A4.

Newsletter themes	No of pages
Shoppers' Rights	1
How to complain	1
Shopping Online Safely	1
Counterfeit goods	1
Consumer theme of your choice	1
Total number of pages including front cover	**6**

* Guidelines are provided on a separate sheet to help students

Who can enter?

The Newsletter is open to secondary schools and special schools in Northern Ireland.

* Pupils from Year 10 and 11 are eligible.
* Pupils studying any subject are welcome to participate.
* Schools who do not enter the Young Consumers Competition quiz.

It is anticipated this year's themes may be of particular interest and relevance to studies in Home Economics, Business Studies and English. However, we hope that the Newsletter will provide a vehicle for work in a number of other subject areas including journalism, ICT and citizenship and may provide a focus for interdisciplinary work.

How many pupils can enter?

- Teachers may wish to work with a whole class, splitting pupils into teams of 4-10.
- Each teacher can submit as many newsletter entries as they wish **but** only **one** entry per school will go forward to the final judging.

Every pupil in your school who participates will receive a Young Consumers Competition Certificate.

What can your school win?

* The winning school will receive £500 and a trophy.
* All Team Members receive an individual prize and finalist certificate
* The winning entry will be professionally produced and distributed throughout schools in Northern Ireland.

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* The second place school will receive £200 and a plaque.
* All Team Members receive an individual prize and finalist certificate

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* The third place school will receive £100 and a plaque.
* All Team Members receive an individual prize and finalist certificate

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* The judges will make a special award of £100 and a plaque to a school in recognition of its special achievements.

How do you enter?

Schools can register for the Young Consumers Newsletter by returning the enclosed application form in the freepost envelope supplied or fax to:

Philippa McKeown Fax number: 028 9065 7701
The closing date for registration: Friday 13 October 2006

Important dates

Registration closing date	Submission of entries	Final
Friday 13 October 2006	Monday 22 January 2007	Friday 2 March 2007

When do you submit the Newsletter?

* Schools should submit their Consumer Newsletter and supporting report no later than Monday 22 January 2007 to The Consumer Council.
* The four shortlisted entries will be notified in February 2007 and all schools reaching the final stages will be invited to attend the Young Consumers Competition Final on Friday 2 March 2007.
* The winners of the Young Consumers Competition Newsletter will be announced and prizes awarded at this event.

How should the Newsletter be submitted?

* Entrants should provide their Consumer Newsletter and supporting Report Form in both a hard copy and on a CD Rom format documented in Microsoft Word.
Two printed copies, in full colour, are required.

* Entries may be sent by e-mail but a hard copy of the entry must also be submitted. E-mail:pmckeown@consumercouncil.org.uk

* The Report Form is included in the information packs sent to schools and can be downloaded from the Consumer Council's website:

consumercouncil.org.uk/education
www.consumerline.org/portal

Who will judge the Newsletter entries?

The panel of judges will consist of representatives from the Consumer Council, Trading Standards Service, the Office of Fair Trading and the Council for Curriculum Examinations and Assessment and a young journalist from Children's Express

How will the entries be judged?

The criteria, which the panel will use to judge, are set out below:

1. Production of an original newsletter on the chosen themes, using creative approaches
2. Relevance of the content to teenagers
3. Effectiveness and quality of the presentation to teenagers
4. The balance of text, original artwork, graphics and photographs
5. Evidence of teamwork, research, problem solving and learning

General rules

1. All entries must follow UK legislation on copyright. Short quotations may be used if the source is clearly indicated. Text, graphics and photographs may be used only if produced by the school, available from a free source such as clip art or if the owner has explicitly permitted the use. Entries may not contain statement, fact, information or quotation that may harm or diminish any person or group of people.
2. All entries and submitted material are the property of the Consumer Council, Trading Standards Service and The Office of Fair Trading. These organisations have the right to improve, edit, expand, modify and reproduce the material on the Internet, CD-ROM or other media from the date of submission.
3. The Consumer Council, Trading Standards Service and The Office of Fair Trading reserve the right to adapt the rules and awards at any time. Notification of changes will be sent to all interested parties.
4. The decisions of the judging panel will be final.

For enquiries or general questions please contact: Philippa McKeown
E-mail: pmckeown@consumercouncil.org.uk or telephone: 028 9067 4814

YC YOUNG CONSUMERS Competition

Competition Application Form

SCHOOL DETAILS	
School name	
Address	
Postcode	
Telephone Number	
Fax Number	
E-mail Address	
Name of Principal	

Team	Contact teacher	Subject	E-mail address
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

If you have more than 6 entries please photocopy this form as needed.
Please return the completed application form by Friday 13 October 2006.

Return to:

The Consumer Council
FREEPOST BE 618
Belfast BT4 1BR

Fax: 028 9065 7701
E-mail: pmckeown@consumercouncil.org.uk

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