

# SUSTAINABLE SUCCESS ESSAY COMPETITION 2025

## Entry criteria and information

**The closing date is 12 noon on Monday 12 May 2025**

### Who is eligible to enter?

The competition is open to all between the age of 14 and 18 (*as at 31 August 2025*).

- This is an individual, not a team competition, although individual members of a team may enter separately.
- Each entrant may submit only one essay.
- You may only enter the competition once, previous years entrants may not take part this year.

### How do I enter?

All you need to do is to submit a piece of writing (in no less than 500 and no more than 2,000 words) addressing the following challenge:

*“Leadership is about making others better as a result of your presence and making sure that impact lasts in your absence” Sheryl Sandberg*

*Using your own thoughts, ideas and experiences, particularly on the Young Enterprise Company Programme, what do you believe are the qualities that you want to be known for as a leader that is able to lead an organisation not only to short-term success, but one that will be successful for many generations to come?*

You can be as creative as you wish in terms of “telling your story” – we just ask that it is in the written word, **and in your OWN words**.

Please note:

- All entries must be typed and submitted double-spaced with numbered pages.
- Each entry must have a cover page with the following information:
  - A title
  - Your name, email address and contact telephone number
  - The name and location of your school
  - Word count
- All entries must be submitted in electronic format via the Telos Partners website ([www.telospartners.com](http://www.telospartners.com)) by using the link: [‘Submit your entry’](#).
- Attachments must be less than 10MB in size.

### Judging criteria

The judges will be looking for entries which are engaging, innovative, well thought through and well presented. They want to hear your own thoughts and ideas rather than

anyone else's. Entries will be judged against the following criteria:

CRITERIA	SCORE
<b>THOUGHTFUL</b> A reflective and insightful approach	Out of 10
<b>CLARITY OF EXPRESSION</b> Easy to read and understand	Out of 10
<b>CREATIVE</b> Demonstrating originality and imagination	Out of 10
<b>STIMULATING</b> Encouraging interest and enthusiasm in the reader	Out of 10
<b>Total score</b>	Out of 40

The decisions of the judges are entirely their own and are final. No correspondence will be entered into.

### What is the deadline for entries?

The closing date is 12 noon on Monday 12 May 2025. **No entries will be accepted after this time.**

Due to the volume of entries, only the finalists will be contacted. **If you do not hear from us by 27 May 2025 you are not a finalist. The winners will be announced at the Young Enterprise Company Programme Final 2024 on 4 June 2025.**

### What can I win?

First prize: £1,000, and up to four hours of mentoring/coaching with a Telos Partners consultant  
 Second prize: £500  
 Third prize: £250

### Other information

- There is no entry fee.
- All entries must be original works, in English, and must not have been submitted as part of another course or competition. If you do use any references (e.g. to books or articles that you have read) then you must acknowledge them.
- If you use any examples (e.g. existing businesses or business people) they must be based on information that is publicly available OR you must have permission and make sure that you acknowledge that permission in your entry.
- All entries are final. No revisions are accepted.

- Copyright of all entries resides with Telos Partners. Entries and photographs may be used on Young Enterprise or Telos website/social media.
- Entrants should be prepared to participate in any press coverage which may result from winning the award.
- Coaching/mentoring sessions will be up to one-hour long. Depending on the location of the winner, and any Government restrictions, these may be conducted face-to-face or virtually. Sessions will be arranged by mutual agreement. Sessions cancelled by the winner with less than one week's notice may not be rearranged.
- Entry submissions will be shared with the judges and Young Enterprise for the purpose of judging, evaluating and monitoring entries.

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