

What's Your World-Changing Idea?

We are seeking your participation in an exciting student project with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Each year Bill Gates, co-chair of the foundation, publishes an Annual Letter describing his priorities and work in the fields of global health and development. The foundation operates under the principle that every life has equal value and this year the Letter will focus heavily on innovation in agriculture as a powerful means of lifting millions of small farmers out of poverty.

This year the Foundation is inviting students to write their own 'Annual Letters' to send to Bill. They are working with the Education and Employers Taskforce to hear what students around Britain think are the most challenging problems of this generation and next, and their own ideas for solutions.

Letter details

These Letters can be anything between 200-500 words and should describe what the author believes will create a better world and how they might help achieve it. We're encouraging students to think about the future and their ambitions, and think about their own next steps—working in a specialized sector, starting an organization to tackle the issue, or about how their aspirations can impact on the bigger picture. The emphasis is on big problems and big solutions, but the task is not aimed to be too prescriptive.

From these letters Bill and Melinda will be selecting some of the most compelling, innovative and inventive ideas to put on the website, and to feature in the 2012 Annual Letter global launch event on the 25th January, 2012. All letters e-mailed will receive a response and some may be included on the Gates Foundation website or in other materials.

Submission details

To be considered for the global launch even letters should be submitted via email by the **19th of January**, to annualletter@gatesfoundation.org. To see the call for letters from Bill himself, please visit the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation blog [here](#).

Thank you for your help in this very short timeframe; we look forward to seeing what students have to say!