



UK Supreme Court Debate Day Terms and Conditions 2026-27

General Terms and Conditions

1. The Supreme Court offers 10 free Debate Day sessions to accredited teaching institutions (schools or colleges) for Years 12 to 13 in England, Wales, Years 12 to 14 in Northern Ireland and S5 to S6 students in Scotland.

Applications

1. Only one application per school/college/organisation is permitted.
2. Applications should come via a teacher or similarly qualified organiser.
3. Applicants should state if a physical or virtual session is preferred (or have no preference) and give three possible dates.
4. Preference will be given to applicants who have not previously participated in the Debate Day programme.
5. Applicants will be chosen using the following criteria:
 - State schools will be given priority;
 - Category of 'free school meals' in Ofsted reports will be taken into consideration when assessing applications;
 - Widening participation groups will be given priority;
 - Groups from Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England which apply from areas of 'multiple deprivation' will receive a higher score:
Middlesbrough; Blackpool, Lancashire; Pendle, Lancashire; Bradford, West Yorkshire; Blackburn with Darwen; East Riding of Yorkshire; Oldham, Greater Manchester; Knowsley, Merseyside; East Lindsey, Lincolnshire; Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire; Nottingham; Leicester;

*Sandwell, West Midlands; Birmingham; Great Yarmouth, Norfolk;
Tendring, Essex; and Hastings, East Sussex.*

6. Successful applicants that have chosen a physical Debate Day will be hosted at the UK Supreme Court building: *The Supreme Court, Parliament Square, London SW1P 3BD*. Please note that all successful applicants will be responsible for their own travel arrangements as the Court cannot provide remuneration.
7. In case of a physical Debate Day, successful applicants must arrive on the agreed date, at the agreed time and bring the agreed number of students (*see pt.8*).
8. For both physical and virtual sessions, the minimum number of students is **11** and maximum of **25**. Please note this must include a maximum of **3** 'judges'. Any volume of students which is near the top-end limit must be divided into 'For' or 'Against' groups.
9. If conducting in-person Debate Days, the Court may require additional time for activities than originally planned. Schools/colleges/organisations should be prepared to delay their departure by up to 15 minutes past the designated time. This will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and communicated to the organisers at the relevant time.
10. Successful applicants that select the virtual option must be able to supply three separate teaching areas and at least three separate computers and/or projectors to enable interaction between students and coaches. Alternatively, each student has access to a personal laptop.
11. For virtual Debate Days, a pre-session practice IT Test must be conducted to mitigate IT issues on the day. This will be done on a date agreed between the organiser and the UKSC.
12. Cancellations for physical or virtual sessions must be at least **three weeks** in advance of the scheduled date. Cancellations at short notice jeopardise the chance of groups being successful in future years.

Please only submit an application if in a position to commit to a session.
13. Successful applicants should choose the Debate Day subject and download the appropriate pack from the UKSC website. The organiser should allow sufficient time for students to read the pack and to start preparing arguments.

14. During the sessions, coaches provided by the UKSC will lead and guide the students giving presentations, but the emphasis is on students having researched the chosen topic and developed arguments in advance.

Organiser:

I,have read these T&Cs and provide my consent on

behalf of my school / college / organisation [*circle as appropriate*].

Institution:

Date: