
Topical Talk Festival Parental Permission Form

About the Topical Talk Festival

Your child's school is participating in a project called the Topical Talk Festival. It is delivered by The Economist Educational Foundation, a charity that was set up from inside *The Economist* newspaper.

The project will take place over several weeks. It will give children valuable knowledge about the news, the skills to explore different points of view and make up their own minds, and the confidence to have their say.

They will have weekly discussions about the news at school with their teacher, where they will be presented with factually-accurate information and balanced arguments. They will also have opportunities to take part in safe online discussions about the news with young people living in different parts of the world, and experts on the topics. They might take part in live events, such as webinars.

Topical Talk Student Hub

As part of participating in the Festival, children's work and comments expressing their views on the news may be published on a public online website called the Topical Talk Student Hub (the "Hub"): <https://talk.economistfoundation.org/>. Children's work might be in writing, audio or video formats.

When a child's work or comments are published on the Hub, the name and personal details of the child are NOT published. Every child is given a made-up name which is randomly generated by the system (with an adjective and a noun, such as "strong_sheep"). This made-up name will be notified to your child by their teacher. No one at The Economist, The Economist Educational Foundation or any public visitor to the Topical Talk website will know the child's real name or their personal details other than the name of their school, which is published together with their made-up name.

All work posted by students on the Student Hub is subject to a moderation process. Work submitted in audio or written format will be moderated by The Economist Educational Foundation to ensure that is safe and appropriate for children. Work submitted in video format will additionally need to be approved by the student's teacher, who is responsible for their photo and video permissions, before being moderated by The Economist Educational Foundation.

The Economist Educational Foundation might share children's work or comments (and their made-up name) that are published on the website elsewhere online, or in print, on television, on radio or other channels to support or promote its charitable work. The Economist Educational Foundation will never publish the name or personal details of the child.

Photos and videos featuring children

Photos or videos (including webinars) might be taken of children taking part in Topical Talk Festival activities. These might be taken by the children themselves, their school or teacher, The Economist Educational Foundation, or occasionally by other people with The Economist Educational Foundation's permission.

These photos or videos might be published on the Topical Talk Student Hub. The Economist Educational Foundation might also share them elsewhere online, in print, on television, on radio or other channels to support or promote its charitable work.

The Economist Educational Foundation's privacy policy

The Economist Educational Foundation takes your child's privacy very seriously. Please look at the charity's privacy policy to see what information the charity collects, what it does with it, and how you can control it. You can see the privacy policy here:

<https://talk.economistfoundation.org/about/legal/>

GIVING YOUR CONSENT

By signing this form, you will give your consent for your child to participate in the Topical Talk Festival.

This includes giving your consent for The Economist Educational Foundation to use information about your child in the ways described in the charity's privacy policy.

It also includes giving your consent for your child's work or comments to be published or shared in the ways described above.

If you would like your child to take part in the Topical Talk Festival but you do NOT wish to give your consent for them to appear in photos or videos as part of the project, please notify your child's school by submitting this form and obtain their assurance that your child will not appear in any photos, videos or webinars.

As a condition of participating in the Topical Talk Festival, your child's teacher takes full responsibility for obtaining informed consent from parents / guardians for children to participate and for ensuring that children only take part in ways that their parents / guardians have consented to. The Economist Educational Foundation cannot accept any liability for children taking part in the project without the required parental consent.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SECTION

I give permission for my child to participate in the Topical Talk Festival. I understand that this includes giving my consent for The Economist Educational Foundation to use information about my child in the ways described in the charity's privacy policy, and for my child's work or comments to be published or shared in the ways described above.

Full name of child:

Full name of parent or guardian:

Date:

Signature of parent of guardian:

Are you older than 18? (Circle as appropriate): Yes No

PLEASE **ALSO** SIGN ONLY **ONE** OF THE BOXES BELOW, TO SHOW WHETHER YOU DO, OR DO NOT, CONSENT FOR YOUR CHILD TO APPEAR IN PICTURES OR VIDEOS:

I DO give my consent for photos or videos featuring my child to be published or shared in the ways described above.

Signature:

I DO NOT give my consent for photos or videos featuring my child to be published or shared in the ways described above.

Signature: