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DAC BEACHCROFT DUBLIN ARE DELIGHTED TO SPONSOR LAWEED'S SECONDARY SCHOOL ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION 2021



Topic: **How is the rule of law affected by a global pandemic?**



Entry deadline: **Friday, 9th April 2021, 5:00pm**

First place: **Laptop* and €100 One4all Voucher**



Second place: **€75 One4all Voucher**

Third place: **€50 One4all Voucher**

Full guidelines and entry deadlines available overleaf.



LAWED SECONDARY SCHOOL ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION 2021, SPONSORED BY DAC BEACHCROFT DUBLIN

General Rules

- Entries must be 800 – 1,000 words long, typed and written in English.
- The deadline for receipt of all entries is **Friday, 9th April 2021, 5:00pm.**
- Entries cannot have been previously published.
- No more than one entry per student will be permitted.
- Only entries written by secondary school students currently in **Transition Year or 5th Year** will be considered. These students must have completed/or will be completing a LawEd workshop/course either through onsite, virtual or eLearning and must be from schools within Ireland only.

Instructions for submission: please post one printed copy of your entry to **LawEd, 5 Dunmore Park, Dunmore, Kilkenny R95C9P2 AND** e-mail an electronic copy to **info@lawed.ie**. Please mention the words "essay competition" in the subject line of your e-mail. Entries will not be counted if the hard copy or electronic copy is absent.

Please note that no indication of your identity should appear on the pages of your electronic or paper copy of your essay. Along with the electronic copy of your essay, please attach a separate document with your name, teacher's name, school, and contact details. To your paper copy, please staple a completed I.D. sheet with your name, teacher's name, school, and contact details to your entry.

The criteria on which judgement is based is found in the essay writing criteria document on our website www.lawed.ie. The adjudicators' verdicts are final and no correspondence shall be entered into regarding individual competition entries. Only winners will be notified.

LawEd reserves the right to publish winning entries on their website at www.lawed.ie

Winners will be announced on **Friday, 21st May 2021** and prizes will be presented virtually at an awards ceremony on **Wednesday, 26th May 2021** The overall winner of this competition will receive a *reconditioned Toshiba Portege Z30 Laptop, second place: €75 Voucher and third place: €50 Voucher.

DAC Beachcroft are sponsors and therefore take no responsibility for the running of this competition.

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Criteria for judging essays

1. The writer approaches the essay from a unique perspective

- The writer addresses the prompt.
- The writer outlines some relevant issues and takes a stance on the issues outlined.
- The writer's position might be unique, perhaps risky, but...
- ...the writer makes a compelling case for that position, using valid and reliable evidence to support the position taken.

2. Well organised argument

- There is a logical progression of ideas (argumentative/conceptual framework) that supports the position taken.
- There is a clear and consistent focus on the issues raised by the prompt/question.
- There is an absence of irrelevant or extraneous material and repetition.

3. Appeals are compelling

- Appeals are made to an educated general audience.
- Appeals are made to readers' sense of reason, but appeals to other senses are also entertained, such as the readers' sense of what is just, outrageous or immoral. (However, the writer shouldn't assume that the readership is of one mind about what is moral or just or reasonable.)

4. The position taken and the claims made are well-supported

- The writer demonstrates a capacity to consistently relate relevant material (newspaper articles, studies, books, interviews, etc. that are in the public domain) to the argumentative framework.

5. The writer is respectful of alternative positions

- The defence accounts for alternate views, but provides a compelling rebuttal in support of the writer's own position.

6. Grammatically and mechanically sound

- The written style (grammar, spelling, punctuation and sentence construction) does not inhibit the reader's understanding of the argument or its claims, the support offered to justify the claims or any other warrants or grounds that justify the claims and the conclusions.

7. First place is distinguished from the runners up by:

- The degree to which a persuasive original argument has been developed.
- The depth and sophistication of the argument's framework.
- The level of familiarity with/understanding of relevant social issues and implications.

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Identification sheet

Student's Name: _____

Student's Phone Number: _____

Student's E-mail Address: _____

Student's Address: _____

Year of Study: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

School's Name and Address: _____

For further information, please refer to LawEd's website www.lawed.ie

Please note that no indication of your identity should appear on your essay pages.

For official use only:

Category: _____

Number: _____