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## Mayor congratulates young people for success in 'fuel of the future' hydrogen competition

The Mayor of London today (19 June) personally congratulated young Londoners for successfully taking part in the London Schools Hydrogen Challenge – a competition by the London Hydrogen Partnership - encouraging 11-14 year old students to find out more about hydrogen technology, a cleaner, less polluting fuel that could help to improve air quality, and cut the carbon emissions which cause climate change.

535 students and 110 schools from across London took part in the challenge by completing a series of fun, educational and interactive online lessons during their science classes. 33 lucky pupils, from across London's boroughs, were chosen to meet the Mayor and represent their schools at the challenge's Grand Final at City Hall. Finalists were presented with their own hydrogen remote control model car kit which they assembled and raced around a specially designed racing track. First, second and third cash prizes for schools were also presented.

Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, said: 'Many congratulations to the hundreds of young students who took part in the London Schools Hydrogen Challenge showing their keen enthusiasm for this new technology. Developing non-polluting fuels is key to improving air quality, tackling climate change and making our environment cleaner.'

'Hydrogen is an exciting fuel of the future which is developing all the time, so it makes sense to encourage our young people to find out more so they can become the hydrogen pioneers of the next generation and help find solutions to the challenges we face today.'

Paul Elliot, Head of Science at Whitgift School in Croydon, said: 'Our year seven pupils have greatly enjoyed this challenge of finding out about a renewable, energy efficient technology. Their enjoyment of science has really come through as a result of taking part in the interactive online lessons. Hydrogen is new technology so these pupils will be utilising it in their adult lives, and can see it starting to be applied now.'

Eliza Cottingham and Abbie Chase from Waldegrave School in Richmond, both took part in the Challenge and their school won first prize at the Grand Final. Eliza, said: 'I really enjoyed finding lots of things out using the interactive lessons to help me.'

Abbie, also commented: 'I liked the way the lessons built up my knowledge and I learnt a lot of new things about hydrogen as a fuel.'

The London Hydrogen Schools Challenge, partnered by BMW (UK). Prizes for winning schools are sponsored by Air Products (1st prize £1,000) and Transport for London (2nd prize £600/3rd prize £400) and every finalist will receive a model hydrogen powered vehicle courtesy of Horizonfuelcell.com and a replica BMW Hydrogen 7 vehicle.

To find out more about the London Schools Hydrogen Challenge, visit: [www.lshc.co.uk](http://www.lshc.co.uk), and on the London Hydrogen Partnership, visit: [www.london.gov.uk/lhp](http://www.london.gov.uk/lhp)



## Notes to editors:

- The London Hydrogen Partnership is working together towards a hydrogen economy for London and the UK. Its members include: Air Products, BMW, BP, Carbon Trust, DTI, Energy Saving Trust, Greater London Authority, Health and Safety Executive, Imperial College, Intelligent Energy, Johnson Matthey, Linde Group PLC, London Development Agency, Rolls-Royce, Thames Water and Transport for London.
- Schools who attended the Grand Final: Battersea Technology College, Bullers Wood School, Ellen Wilkinson School for Girls, King Fahad Academy, Rokeby School, Royal Liberty School, Southfields Community College, St Paul's Girls' School, The Bridge Academy, Trinity School Belvedere CEVA Comprehensive, Waldegrave School for Girls, Whitgift School Wimbledon High School (GDST)
- Winning schools: 1st prize - Waldegrave School in Richmond; 2nd prize – St Paul's Girls' School, Hammersmith and Fulham; 3rd prize – Southfields Community College, Wandsworth