

CALDERDALE *Climate Challenge*

A message from the Yorkshire region 'Climate Change Champion': Zoheb Khalil

My name is Zoheb Khalil, I have just turned 11 years old, and I attend Parkinson Lane Community Primary School in Halifax. I was chosen as the Climate Change Champion for the Yorkshire and Humber region after I entered a national competition on climate change organised by the government. I am one of nine champions across the country. My entry was a DVD highlighting the local impact of climate change, which I made with the help of pupils and staff at Parkinson Lane School. I entered the competition because I am concerned about the effects of climate change on future generations, and about how actions are having an impact on people all over the world. I want my voice to be heard, and I want to urge people to take action at a local level.

After winning the competition, we met the Prime Minister and then all the champions with their parents went to Switzerland to witness the effects of climate change. This was a really amazing experience for many reasons. We went to see the Gurshen glacier near Andermatt, and how it has been getting smaller and smaller over the last years due to the changes in climate. We were told by a local Professor that if this continues, 70% of glaciers could disappear in 30 years time, which would have a big impact on the economy of Switzerland. Needless to say, we travelled there and back by train to reduce the carbon emissions!

I am really pleased that **Calderdale Climate Challenge** were also winners in the government's national competition, and I am looking forward to working with them to take the message of climate change and ways of tackling this problem to local schools and communities. We can still make difference by doing the smallest changes to our lives and by using energy more efficiently.

Together, we can and we must rise to the challenge!

Zoheb Khalil

P.S See me on the new [Calderdale Climate Challenge](#) website, where I'm demonstrating where all that carbon dioxide comes from in our every day lives.