Lucy Cavendish Essay Prize on contemporary issues 2020

We are pleased to release the 2020 questions for the Lucy Cavendish Essay prize. Please choose ONE question to answer from the below options:

1. Does ‘truth’ matter in politics?
2. Is social media dangerous for democracy?
3. Can the climate emergency be solved through capitalist political and economic structures?
4. Is social class still relevant to understanding divisions in contemporary Britain?

Writing your essay: Between 1000-1,500 words, including footnotes and appendices. Include a bibliography (which won’t be included in the word count) and ensure all sources are referenced. Please ensure that the pages in your essay are numbered and that your name and the question appears on all pages.
Important information & guidance about the Lucy Cavendish Essay Prize on contemporary issues 2020

**Competition rules:** you are only permitted to answer one question within the Lucy Cavendish Essay Prize 2020. When submitting your entry you MUST provide contact details of one of your teachers/tutors. There will be a section on the [online submission form](#) for you to do this. Please ensure you get permission from your teacher/tutor before providing any of their personal details. The College will contact this teacher/tutor in order to verify your submission. Without this verification, the submission will be considered incomplete. We understand that as a mature student you may not have a teacher or tutor that can verify your submission. If this is the case, please contact us before completing the online form and we will discuss your application further. You must ensure that any pages are numbered and your full name is on each page. Essays must be written in English.

**Eligibility criteria:** this competition is open to all students (inc. International) in year 12 or equivalent (i.e. in their penultimate year of school and usually aged 16 or 17) and prospective mature applicants (21+ years old) who intend to apply to University for 2021 entry.

**How to submit:** you can only upload one submission on the [online system](#) and you will need to combine any individual documents into one. We recommend converting documents into PDF. All entries must be approved by a teacher or tutor, so make sure your nominated teacher/tutor knows you are entering and you have the relevant email address to hand when you submit your work. Once your entry is uploaded to our system, it is not possible to make changes – please ensure you are happy with your work before pressing ‘submit’. It is unfortunately not possible to provide feedback on essays.
The deadline for you to submit your entry is midnight on 6th April 2020. Essays which are not submitted by this time will not be considered under any circumstances. Your teacher will then receive an email from Lucy Cavendish College asking them to confirm that you are eligible and that the work is your own. Your teacher/tutor will have until midnight on the 30th April 2020 to confirm eligibility. Essays which have not been approved by a teacher/tutor will not be considered.

Prize: The prize pool is £200 – a first prize of £100 and two runners up receiving £50.