

The UK Schools Sustainability Network

<https://linktr.ee/UKSchoolsSusty>

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Your Majesty,

This letter represents the views of members of the UK Schools Sustainability Network (UKSSN), who are just as passionate about the environment as you are. For half a century, you have been such a pivotal figure when it comes to raising awareness of climate change, with a history of determinedly advocating and campaigning for the planet, and trying to protect the natural world. You paved the way to where we are now, so firstly, we wanted to say thank you for standing up and fighting for what is right.

In an ideal world for you, Britain would be leading the way in terms of sustainability and setting the right example. But within that, in our ideal world, we want you to continue leading the way, and create a legacy where you inspired and motivated humanity to act globally.

In all of the speeches you have made, the essays and books you have written, and the interviews you have given, you educated and encouraged millions of people. You convinced us that climate change was real, and inspired us to give up meat for more than 2 days a week. Please do not stop teaching people in this way - we believe that raising awareness of issues is vitally important, because as you once said, it is a combined responsibility of all of us to preserve the planet, which requires each person to have the knowledge to do so.

You gave your first speech about conservation when you were only twenty-one, and you've spoken before about empathising with our generation's fears for the future. Hopefully, this means you can understand where our motivations stem from, and have the same goals as us even if you can't give up as much of your time for the cause.

So please, keep doing what you have always done – continue rewilding all of your land, planting hedgerows, promoting more organic agriculture, and supporting your charities. These small gestures set an example of how to live, and what is the right thing to do if we are uncertain. You might not be able to engage in direct campaigns, but you can still influence people's actions! You have such a strong influence in the countries of the Commonwealth, and they are so engaged in environmental issues that you can promote more sustainability. You could encourage people to buy products that are better for the planet by only giving the Royal Warrant to companies that are completely sustainable and are part of the circular economy, because they will trust your recommendation as they hold you in such high regard.

Even as you take up your new responsibilities, and Prince William continues the work which you cared so much about, we believe you can still encourage people to nurture and have respect for Planet Earth; caring about people and the environment is not political, nor is it wrong. Thank you sincerely for everything you have done.

Yours faithfully,

Students and staff members of the UK Schools Sustainability Network