



2nd December 2020

Dear Ms Coutinho

My name is Emily Payne and I am in Year 8 at Warlingham School. For the past ten weeks I have been learning about climate change, the damage it is doing to our world and how we can prevent it. It needs to be addressed as the serious, life threatening crisis that it is.

We use carbon in our everyday lives and it will be hard to cut down, but it is doable. It could be as simple as taking public transport instead of driving, taking a shower instead of a bath or just not ordering the latest fashion from your favourite website. We don't need to cut down completely, but we do need to use less. When carbon is released into the air the atmosphere traps some in to keep our planet warm enough to survive on. This is called the Greenhouse Effect. Unfortunately, we are releasing more and more carbon into the atmosphere. So, more and more is being trapped in, making the planet warmer and warmer. This is called the Enhanced Greenhouse Effect.

Although cutting down in our everyday lives would help, it won't fix the problem. There are many more things in the world that need changing in order to make a significant difference. For example, deforestation, we are cutting down forest after forest to make room for growing palm oil or mass production of animals. Trees take in carbon dioxide, so in turn less is released into the atmosphere but when we chop them down they release what they have taken in and can't take in anymore. Another example is cattle ranching. Cows burp methane and methane also warms the planet. We produce them for meat and the more of them that there are, the more methane gets released into the atmosphere. If we stop this then the world will be better because of it. We can also use things like wind turbines and solar panels to create cleaner energy for everyone.

We only have around ten years to make these changes, but the effects are already having an impact on poorer smaller countries. These will affect everyone in time, but if we act now we can stop and maybe even reverse the effects. Please help we need to take a stand!

Yours sincerely

Emily Payne