EXTENDED MACE FORMAT

The ESU Schools' Mace debating competition uses a debating format known as "Extended Mace Format". This involves teams being made up of up to five students, three of whom will debate at a time.

There are six speakers in this format: one team of three people on each side.

Each speaker gives a speech of up to 7 minutes. The first and last minute are protected, but between these times points of information may be offered.

The first four speakers give their speeches, alternating between proposition and opposition.

Next, the debate is opened to the floor. Audience members address questions to the speakers. However, speakers do not respond directly to the questions: rather, the summary speakers respond during their speeches

After the floor debate, the summary speakers give 5 minute speeches (with the opposition going first), summarising their cases, rebutting the other side and responding to questions from the audience

