



Nottingham Trent
University

Sustainability Team

Nottingham Trent University's Student & Staff Engagement Strategy

1. Introduction

Sustainable Development is a strategic priority at Nottingham Trent University (NTU) and is embedded throughout our corporate governance, operations, research and curriculum. We view it as a whole-institution priority for which everyone is responsible for embedding.

As such Sustainable Development is enabled through support from several key teams including the Sustainability Team, Green Academy team, NTSU and Centre for Student and Community Engagement (CenSCE), who work collaboratively with each other as well as with academic colleagues and other professional services across the University to provide regular, meaningful engagement opportunities for staff and students, which connect our people with sustainable development issues.

2. The Strategic Purpose of our Engagement

- Sustainability engagement work at NTU is driven by the University's (current) strategic vision of '*University, reimagined*. We are committed to '*curating an intergenerational conversation with our students, colleagues, and stakeholders*' and being '*recognised as the most environmentally responsible University in the UK*.' Therefore, we are required to think long-term and outwards and to ensure that all our work is as efficient and impactful as possible.
- The role we can play in the social and environmental life of the City and Region is reflected by the central commitment in the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development including the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These goals are used in this document to guide the principles of sustainable development at NTU. As a signatory to the SDG Accord, NTU is committed to contributing to global efforts to achieve these goals. This is the purpose at the root of why we undertake the work we do.
- These 17 SDGs are the framework around which NTU approaches sustainable development and therefore how we work to create the *University, reimagined*. Every piece of work we undertake should target one or more of these goals. However, these SDGs are complex and far reaching and it is important that we can measure the success of our engagement work more tangibly to ensure it is having the maximum impact.
- The focus for SMART objectives, which will help us to deliver the 17 SDGs through our engagement, are found in the Sustainability Team's strapline: '*enabling a culture of sustainable development across NTU, enhancing the student and staff experience and creating a global legacy*.' The elements of the tagline are broken down to explore the three things we want to achieve:

1. Enabling a culture of sustainable development across NTU

Culture can be defined as the '*habits of the people and the way they generally behave*'. Therefore, we must ensure we understand habits and behaviours which will help NTU contribute to the SDGs. At NTU it is recognised that the principles of Sustainable Development should be included in the taught curriculum which is the main purpose of the Green Academy to support. Our staff and students are also influenced by activities outside of the curriculum. Therefore, the Sustainability Team will collaborate with other departments across the university

to deliver several extra-curricular engagement projects throughout the academic year.

2. Enhancing the staff and student experience

We believe that studying and working at a sustainable university improves the experience of our students and staff. Through our work to contribute to the SDGs, we can offer multiple benefits by offering fulfilling extra-curricular experiences, skills for lifelong learning and enhanced wellbeing.

3. Creating a global legacy

We want to have an impact, not only on the lives of the people and environment on our campuses but around the world. We aim to communicate this impact, collaborate with the wider community, and for NTU's pioneering approach to sustainability to influence others. We disseminate our best practice through several national and global networks such as EAUC and the SDG Accord.

Furthermore, NTU's Environmental Policy commits us to: *Developing and embedding environmental awareness and principles in staff and students; encouraging a university-wide participation in environmental activities, training and programmes. Promoting Education for Sustainable Development for all, via a formal curriculum-based approach, coupled with informal initiatives.*

3. Engagement EMS Objectives 2024-2025

Impact	Objective	Target
Awareness raising and communication	Increase Colleague and student awareness of environmental impact	To undertake 60 total sustainability engagement sessions - To include environmental training, stakeholder, and community events.
		Colleagues and students to bank a 10% increase of Green Rewards actions from 23/24