

SOS-UK
STUDENTS' UNION OPPORTUNITIES
2022/23



STUDENTS
ORGANISING FOR
SUSTAINABILITY
UNITED KINGDOM

WE'RE EXCITED TO LAUNCH OUR SUPPORT FOR 2022/23!

We've been working hard at SOS-UK to bring you new and exciting opportunities for 2022/23!

This document offers an overview of the breath of work SOS-UK has to offer for students' unions, and should be used in conjunction with the [website](#) for more detailed information. For the coming year we are planning to continue using a [blended approach of online and face-to-face delivery](#). We would like to thank you for the instrumental role that you are playing by choosing SOS-UK.

By partnering with us to bring our sector-leading programmes, consultancy, and training to your students' union, you are also supporting our wider work to **repurpose the whole of the education system around the climate emergency and ecological crisis**. We work alongside students and young people on **urgent systems-change campaigns and initiatives** like [Teach the Future](#), [Invest for Change](#), [Farming for Carbon and Nature](#), [Green Influencers](#), and [Race for Nature](#), to create a sector that **serves as a force for good**. SOS-UK is a small charity, and we are reliant on programme income to continue this important work. Whilst we receive some grant funding and donations, our programme sales & consultancy make up a large proportion of our total income and **are vital to sustaining and furthering our national and international campaigning and advocacy work**.

Thank you for being part of this journey with us!

Joanna Romanowicz, Director of Engagement
Quinn Runkle, Director of Education
Meg Baker, Director of Inclusion & Climate Justice

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SOS-UK IS AN EDUCATIONAL CHARITY FOCUSING ON SUSTAINABILITY

SOS-UK **engages**, **supports** and **empowers** students and wider society to learn, act and lead for environmental justice.

We are proud that UNESCO recognise SOS-UK as one of the global leaders of education for sustainable development.

SOS-UK is a charity that is part of the NUS family which has been at the **forefront of social change since 1922** with 550 students' union members representing 7 million students.

SOS-UK staff represent a range of academic and professional backgrounds from education to biology and with specialisms in communications and research.

This document outlines the 2022-23 SOS-UK support for students' unions.

Continue reading to see how we can support you.

Get in touch with hello@sos-uk.org if you have any questions.



Connect with us:



WE ARE PROUD OF SOS-UK'S IMPACT IN 2021 - BE PART OF OUR JOURNEY!

Over 1000 students participated in SOS-UK sustainability training and development



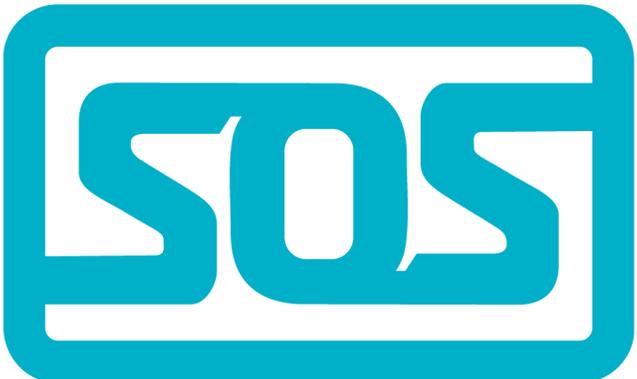
Over 200,000 people were reached through our sustainability work



Nearly 1,000 organisations took part or funded our work



We worked with universities and students to save over 1750 tonnes of CO₂



Our research in 2021 has covered sustainable food, COP26, alcohol, drugs, sustainability in teaching and learning, climate change, drink spiking, SDGs, and ethical finance.



OUR WORK IS DRIVEN BY STUDENT DEMAND

Embedding sustainability across campuses, curriculums and communities is fundamental to representing our students, and strengthening our students' unions. Our work is underpinned by findings from a national online survey which has been running since 2010.



91% say they agree their place of study should actively incorporate and promote sustainable development



84% would like to see sustainable development actively incorporated and promoted through *all* courses



66% say sustainable development is something they would like to learn more about

Source: [Sustainability Skills Survey 2020-21](#) | Base: c.8,000 respondents in higher education across the UK

GREEN IMPACT STUDENTS' UNIONS

Green Impact Students' Unions (GISU) is our flagship sustainability awards and support programme for SUs.

GREEN IMPACT STUDENTS' UNIONS

Green Impact Students' Unions (GISU) is our flagship sustainability support package and awards programme for SUs.

It's designed to help SUs run impactful projects and campaigns, using our power as the student movement to create lasting change.

- A **framework** for SU staff, officers and students to collaboratively address key issues to lead on embedding sustainability and social justice across campus, the curriculum, and wider society. Ability to receive accreditation for your progress.
- **Support** for SUs to build impactful projects and campaigns around climate justice and equality, curriculum reform, health and wellbeing and much more.
- Being part our **network**. We provide opportunities to partner with other SUs, hold networking events, specialised webinars and share good practice through resources and case studies.



Best for

Behaviour change

Carbon reduction

Staff engagement

Student engagement

Wellbeing

For further information, visit our [Green Impact Microsite](#).

Programme fees and included content for 2022/23 are:

Programme participation and support: 1 year (2022-23)	£275 +VAT
Programme participation and support: 2 years (2022-23 & 2022-24)	£530 +VAT
1 X Slate award	£25 +VAT
GISU lead staff & officer training and networking day, 2 nd Dec 2022	£100+VAT (sign-up before 3 rd Sept £90)
Additional Support (online planning session plus mid-year review)	£150 +VAT

STUDENTS' UNIONS TELL US THAT GREEN IMPACT PROVIDES STRUCTURE FOR THEIR SUSTAINABILITY WORK

- The framework helps to **embed sustainability** into strategic plans and other annual plans.
- Helps to **demonstrate, monitor and evaluate** success and sustainability progress.
- Showcases what the SU is doing and gain **accreditation & recognition**.
- To hold the SU **accountable** for actions of day-to-day activities.
- Provides an opportunity to **self-reflect and review**.
- Encourages **collaboration** with other SUs.
- Useful way to **communicate to students** what the SU is doing.
- **National benchmark** - other SUs are taking part.
- Helps those involved **realise what they can do** to improve sustainability in their SU.

LEARNING, SUPPORT & EVENTS

We offer a range of services and solutions to help drive sustainability.

LEARNING ACADEMY: TRAINING, WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

We provide learning opportunities delivered in a variety of methods including face-to-face and online, and to a range of audiences such as students, student representatives, officers and SU staff.

[Check out our roundup of what we've recently delivered.](#)

Some training sessions are delivered centrally across the SU network, whereas others are available for individual SUs to book on demand.

Our central events coming up for SUs are:

- [Officer Sustainability Bootcamp: 10-11 Aug 2022 or 31 Aug - 1 Sept 2022](#)
- [Student Sustainability Summit \(Coming soon\)](#)
- [Carbon Literacy for SU staff: 26 January 2023](#)

You can also book training for your SU on many topics including:

- [Course reps & sustainability: an introduction to ESD](#)
- [Sustainable students](#)
- [Decolonising and decarbonising education](#)

Price: Centralised training starts at £110 per person + VAT, bespoke SU training starts from £395 + VAT. [Find out more on our Learning Academy pages here](#) or get in touch on hello@sos-uk.org



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OFFICER SUSTAINABILITY BOOTCAMP

Officer Sustainability Bootcamp. £150 +VAT per person

This is SOS-UK's third Officer Sustainability Bootcamp which is designed especially for elected officers to kick-off the new academic year prepared with the knowledge, skills, and network to hit the ground running. We have two sets of dates to choose from.

Full details can be found on our [Eventbrite pages](#):

- 10 & 11 August 2022
- 31 August & 1 September 2022

During this two-day online training, participants will:

- **Connect** with other elected officers from across the UK, building their network and support system for the year ahead;
- **Deepen their understanding** of key sustainability and social justice issues
- **Discuss how they can use their officer position** to drive forward sustainability at their own institutions;
- **Explore** how they can support student action on sustainability and social justice issues
- **Understanding the basics of behaviour change theory** and **education for sustainable development**, so that these concepts can underpin future projects and campaigns;
- And **prepare for the year** ahead.

The sustainability bootcamp is designed for new and returning part-time sustainability or environment and ethics officers as well as full-time officers with a remit or interest in sustainability.



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LEARNING ACADEMY: CARBON LITERACY

26th Jan 2023: Carbon Literacy for Students' Union staff and officers.

£110 +VAT per person

[Full details can be found on our Eventbrite page.](#)

Carbon Literacy is defined as: “An awareness of the carbon dioxide costs and impacts of everyday activities, and the ability and motivation to reduce emissions, on an individual, community and organisational basis.”

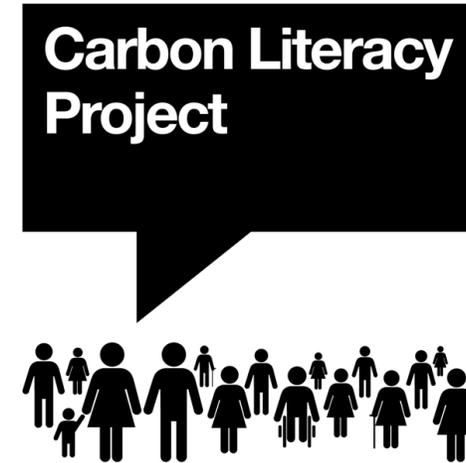
The training will provide attendees with introductory science on the climate crisis to understand the social and environmental impacts of carbon dioxide emissions. Additionally, our SOS-UK course has an increased focus on climate justice, and the inter-related nature of carbon emissions and wider environmental concerns such as biodiversity loss. The course lasts around 12 hours (7 of these are live workshops) and includes online training elements and self study.

This training is certified by [The Carbon Literacy Project](#). Upon successful completion of the training, learners will be awarded a Carbon Literacy certificate and a digital badge.

Benefits for the organisation include:

- Our Carbon Literacy course gives individuals the direction and motivation to make realistic, manageable changes to reduce their carbon footprint in the context of their workplace or place of study
- Ability to engage with a committed group of individuals (course participants) who understand the importance of climate action.
- Supporting the aims of other sustainability projects

Price: £110 + VAT per person. Bespoke training per SU starts from £2,000+VAT for 20 spaces and includes certification for attendees. [Find out more on our Learning Academy page](#) or get in touch on hello@sos-uk.org



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COURSE REPS & SUSTAINABILITY: AN INTRODUCTION TO EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ESD)

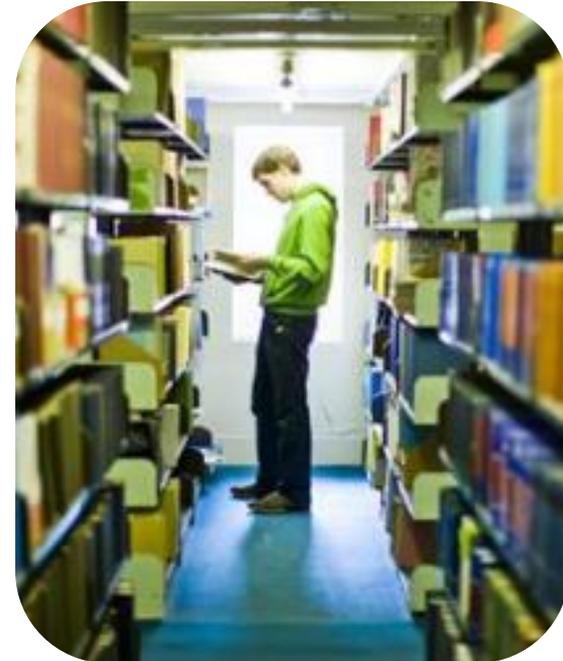
Introduce course reps to sustainability and how it links to the curriculum.

This training is an introduction to sustainability and education for sustainable development for course representatives. The training explores how course reps can use their roles to contribute towards progressing sustainability and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in the curriculum.

Course reps completing this training will be able to:

- Gain an understanding of how they **can champion environmental, social, and economic sustainability** through their role.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of **sustainability in the context of their course**.
- Have **confidence in communicating** about and for sustainability to other staff and students

This training is designed for course/programme/faculty reps, but is also relevant for officers and SU staff.



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Price: Bespoke training per SU starts from £395+VAT. [Find out more on our Learning Academy page](#) or get in touch on hello@sos-uk.org

THE STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT

The Sustainability Summit is our flagship sustainability event for students, officers and staff from across the movement.

Autumn term 2022 (date TBC soon).

The Sustainability Summit offers workshops, talks and panel discussions with some of the UK's top environmental and social justice activists and campaigners, from organisations such as Friends of the Earth and People and Planet, as well as the students and students' unions leading the youth climate movement.

The Summit provides you with the opportunity to **connect with others** involved with environmental and climate justice campaigning, and to **gain practical skills** in community organising, campaign planning, liberation and sustainability, and so much more.

The Summit is open to all students over the age of 16, as well as officers and staff from both the SU and institution.

If you have any queries please contact hello@sos-uk.org



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Education

ALCOHOL, DRUGS & STUDENT WELLBEING

Our work builds upon 15 years of experience NUS and SOS-UK have in mobilising positive change around environmental and social issues on campus and the wider community. Improving student health and wellbeing is a core part of our vision for a more just and sustainable society.

WELLBEING SPRINTS



Students' unions can sign up to take part in our week long wellbeing sprints, which **focus on specific wellbeing themes** to help to support students throughout the academic year.

The sprints will have a scheduled **daily online activity** including competitions, activity challenges and quizzes. There will be 3 wellbeing sprints to choose from (or you can sign up to all) over the year:

- October 2022: Alcohol harm reduction
- January 2023: Community building
- May 2023: Selfcare and personal wellbeing

Best for

Student
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Behaviour
change

Carbon
reduction

Wellbeing

Students' Union Wellbeing Sprint 2022/23 fees

£300 (+VAT) per sprint

Note: standard price for universities and organisations is £500 per sprint, a £300 discounted price is offered to SUs.

ALCOHOL IMPACT

Alcohol Impact is our whole-university programme and accreditation mark designed to foster responsible drinking cultures for students. The programme adopts social change theory; aiming to reduce harm and improve welfare, well-being and academic achievement - whilst creating more inclusive spaces and enhancing the student experience.

How it Works

- Our online toolkit provides resources and highlights areas of good practice.
- The students' union and university work together to improve their working practices and undertake a number of ambitious behaviour change interventions.
- After 2-3 years, SOS-UK trains and supports local students to conduct an audit.
- If criteria have been completed to a satisfactory level, the institution is awarded with our accreditation mark.



Best for

Behaviour
change

Wellbeing

Participating institutions receive a support package including regular 1-2-1s, local and national workshops and training events and numerous resources and project materials. [Full programme information.](#)

Working towards accreditation fee, supported for one year	Post accreditation membership for one year	Working towards accreditation fee, supported for three years	Post accreditation membership for three year
£4,250 +VAT	£3,550 +VAT	£10,850 +VAT	£6,390 +VAT

Please note - the invoice, may be paid by the university, students' union, or external funding. If signing up to a multi-year programme, you can either pay via one invoice or be invoiced in annual installments.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL IMPACT

Building upon the success of Alcohol Impact, our new programme supports institutions to embed social norms of responsible drinking on our campuses, alongside taking action to move away from a zero-tolerance approach to student drug use. Partnerships are supported to develop an effective, evidence-based approach to reducing the harm students face from drugs, which prioritises their health and wellbeing.

How it Works

- Our online toolkit provides resources and highlights areas of good practice.
- The students' union and university work together to improve their working practices and undertake a number of ambitious behaviour change interventions.
- After 2-3 years, SOS-UK trains and supports local students to conduct an audit.
- If criteria have been completed to a satisfactory level, the institution is awarded with our accreditation mark.



Best for

Behaviour
change

Wellbeing

Participating institutions receive a support package including regular 1-2-1s, local and national workshops and training events and numerous resources and project materials. [Full programme information.](#)

Working towards accreditation fee, supported for one year	Post accreditation membership for one year	Working towards accreditation fee, supported for three years (15% discount)	Post accreditation membership for two years (10% discount)
£5,200 +VAT	£4,400 +VAT	£13,260 +VAT	£7,920 +VAT

Please note - the invoice, may be paid by the university, students' union, or external funding. If signing up to a multi-year programme, you can either pay via one invoice or be invoiced in annual installments.

DRINK RETHINK

Drink Rethink is a preventative approach helping students to reflect on their drinking, considering the risks associated and the benefits of cutting down. The intervention is delivered by trained students ambassadors who use a nationally recognised evidence-based behaviour change tool.

[Full programme information.](#)

Programme fees and included content for 2022-23 are:

Tier 1 Support Student ambassador recruitment material, 1 day ambassador training (or train the trainer), digital copies of leaflets and branding, access to raw data and telephone/email support.	Tier 2 support Same as Tier 1 plus pre and post-surveying of student ambassadors, access to raw data, production of simple graphs for use in reports and telephone/email support	Tier 3 support Same as Tier 2 production of a full final report
£1,380 +VAT	£1,550 +VAT	£2,080 +VAT



nus

Best for

Behaviour
change

Wellbeing

OTHER SOS-UK PROGRAMMES AND CAMPAIGNS

We support many SUs to deliver SOS-UK sustainability programmes and campaigns.
Check out our offer for 2022/23 over the next few pages.

HEDGEHOG FRIENDLY CAMPUS AWARD - *NEW*

Background

Hedgehogs are listed as vulnerable to extinction on Britain's Red List. They are a charismatic species, much beloved. Hedgehog Friendly Campus offers staff and students the opportunity to help hedgehogs and other wildlife on campus. This is a popular programme with a custom toolkit and associated activities that:

- Protect wildlife from hazards
- Enhance habitat
- Raise awareness

How it works...

This programme is open to students and staff from unions, colleges, universities and primary schools who will work in teams to identify and tackle key challenges facing wildlife on campus. It is an award programme, accredited by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society, with the chance to work through Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum levels. We provide opportunities to track wildlife, create engaging awareness campaigns and train grounds and gardens staff to restore habitats.

[Full programme information.](#)

Annual cost: Free

Membership includes: bespoke toolkit, accreditation certificate, support calls, training, mammal survey resources and awareness materials, ad hoc support.

Other benefits: Bespoke support for students and staff leading activities on campus; opportunities to have news items and best practice showcased; and a chance to help a species in decline.



Best for

Staff
engagement

Wellbeing

Student
engagement

Biodiversity

HOMES FIT FOR STUDY - *NEW*

Background

Research shows that 49% of students feel uncomfortably cold in their properties and 45% struggle to pay their energy bills. Yet whilst the combination of low incomes and poor-quality housing put students at high risk of falling into fuel poverty they are rarely considered or eligible for support schemes.

How it works...

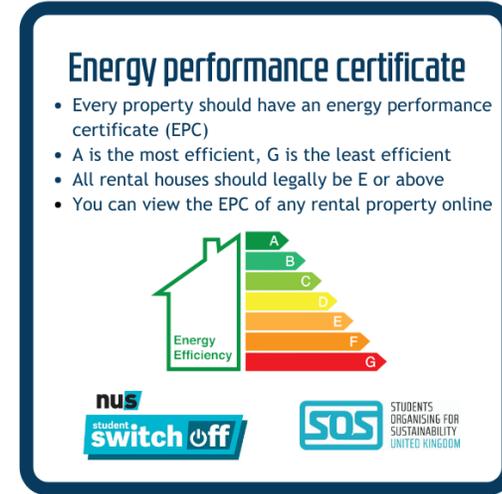
Homes Fit For Study aims to engage students living in private rented accommodation.

The campaign involves:

- Regular student focused advice, guides and engagement activities focusing on home energy.
- Student volunteering, with opportunities to be trained as home energy auditors.
- Home energy audits, delivered by trained peers, providing tailored and in depth home energy advice.

Annual cost: Free

Membership includes: access to home energy advice guides and templates, opportunities for your students to receive home energy auditor training, opportunities for your students to receive home energy audits, access for your students to receive regular advice and participate in engagement activities such as competitions and quizzes.



Energy performance certificate

- Every property should have an energy performance certificate (EPC)
- A is the most efficient, G is the least efficient
- All rental houses should legally be E or above
- You can view the EPC of any rental property online

Energy Efficiency

nus student switch off

SOS STUDENTS ORGANISING FOR SUSTAINABILITY UNITED KINGDOM

Student engagement

Behaviour change

Carbon reduction

Wellbeing



FOOD AND FARMING NETWORK - *NEW*

Background

SOS-UK's Food and Farming programme has been supporting food growing projects, sustainable food enterprises and campaigns around sustainable food for over 10 years. We have also produced impactful research reports and developed practical resources and campaign guides. In 2021-22 a new, dynamic and progressive Food & Farming network was piloted with 3 organisations, and now we want to offer the opportunity for others to join us with our 2022/23 programme.

SOS-UK Food and Farming network is...

This network is aimed at students, officers and staff from students' unions, colleges and universities to collaboratively tackle key issues related to sustainable food projects, including but not limited to; food enterprises, food growing, campaigns, catering, campus farms and broader food system issues that impact campus life. We will provide opportunities to partner with other institutions, hold networking events and share good practice through resources and case studies.

[Full programme information.](#)

Annual membership fee: £1,545 + VAT

Price includes: 121 support calls, group networking sessions, tickets to our SOS-UK Summit, generation of resources and ad hoc support.

Benefits include: Bespoke support for students and staff leading sustainable food projects on campus; opportunities to have news items and best practice showcased; and a chance to help shape the programme to ensure it best suits the needs of the sector.



Best for

Sustainable
Food

Wellbeing

FOOD GROWING NETWORK



All you need to join the network is a growing site at your institution or plans to have one within the next 3 months. Through the Food growing network you'll get:

- Access to exclusive resources and any available discounts.
- Chances to take part in closed competitions e.g. our annual Water Conservation Trust competition for up to £1500 to improve your growing site

Annual membership fee: free, [find out more and sign up](#)

Please note no bespoke support will be provided through this free network, for support of your growing site please explore our Food and Farming Network opportunity.

Sustainable
Food

Wellbeing

INVEST FOR CHANGE

Invest for Change is a campaign to **radically reform how universities invest their endowments**, unleashing their positive potential to create a more resilient and sustainable economy.

UK universities have over **£15 billion** of endowments invested in holdings that frequently act against the interests of students and the world they will graduate into.

We call on universities to:



Invest in environmental and social justice solutions that have measurable, real-world impact.



Engage with investments to influence wider corporate behaviour change.



Transform governance to adopt responsible investment policies that support a sustainable future.

Join our national campaign to transform university finances to work in the interest of students, not against them! **Book a free workshop** with us to find out more or check out our [website](#) and [resources](#)!

Contact melanie.kee@sos-uk.org



INVEST FOR CHANGE

BREAK THE TALENT PIPELINE - *NEW*

Coming soon...

RESPONSIBLE FUTURES

Responsible Futures is our accreditation programme and supported change framework for embedding sustainability through all aspects of student learning. It promotes a **whole-institution approach** to embed sustainability learning through **formal, informal, and subliminal curricula**. To date, 30 partnerships (university or college and students' union collaborations) have taken part, representing over 500,000 students. The partnership approach to Responsible Futures aims to ensure that students' unions and students are active participants in creating whole-institution change to address the climate and ecological crisis through learning. [*Full programme information can be found online here.](#)

The 2022/23 programme fees are outlined in the table below, which includes access to the online toolkit and framework, an annual bespoke support day (which could include training, audit preparation, speaking at events etc.), membership to the national cohort network, national support days (2-3) and webinars (2-3) led by SOS-UK and nominated host partnerships, access to the online resource bank, two-day student-led audit, feedback report and remote support as required.



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Education

Staff
engagement

Annual membership fee	First year	Subsequent year	ESD changemakers bolt-on*	
			Tier 1	Tier 2
Higher Education Institutions	£3,950 +VAT	£3,325 +VAT	£2,070 +VAT	£4,310 +VAT
Further Education Institutions	£2,800 +VAT	£2,325 +VAT		

SUs PARTNER WITH THEIR INSTITUTIONS TO RUN SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMMES

- [Fairtrade University and College Award](#): From procuring more Fairtrade products to embedding trade justice principles in policies and campaigns, the Award seeks to impact students, staff and producers.
- [Student engagement in halls of residence](#): builds students' sustainability knowledge and carbon literacy, focusing on enhancing student experience and empowerment
- [Student engagement on personal carbon reduction](#): provides students the opportunity to understand their own personal impact on the planet with an online carbon footprinting and reduction tool, powered by GIKI Zero.
- [Education for sustainable development changemakers](#): supports partnership working between students and staff to establish a cocreation approach for embedding ESD in teaching and learning to address climate justice across all disciplines.
- [For Good](#): an online platform supporting students to make their coursework, projects, placements and dissertations have a real-world impact.
- [SDG Curriculum Mapping](#): A support package for mapping the SDGs across the curriculum through a student-led audit.

FREE RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

- [Look up your institution's carbon target](#)
- [Read about links between sustainability & intersectionality, or start an intersectionality learning group](#)
- [Join Hedgehog Friendly Campus](#)
- [Join our free food growing network and check out our sustainable food guide](#)
- [Share energy saving advice with your students](#)
- [Write to your MP/MSP to demand action on climate education](#)
- [Get some tips on ethical supply chains](#)

Keep up to date with our latest opportunities

- [Sign up to our main newsletter](#)
- [Sign up to the sustainable accommodation newsletter](#)
- [Follow us on Twitter or Instagram or check out our website](#)

Access our 2022/23 sign up form here: <https://www.sos-uk.org/programme-sign-up>

We look forward to working with you.

Connect with us:



[sos-uk.org](https://www.sos-uk.org)

hello@sos-uk.org

Registered charity: 1184011



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