

# The SDG Accord

*The University and College Sector's Collective Response to the Global Goals*



## **Integration of SDGs in**

- Institutional governance/strategic level
- SDGs in research
- SDGs in campus operations
- SDGs in curriculum development
- SDGs in student engagement activities
- SDGs into community activities
- SDGs at a whole-institution level

## **Focus on**

- Goal 1 - No poverty
- Goal 2 - Zero hunger
- Goal 3 - Good health and wellbeing
- Goal 4 - Quality education
- Goal 5 - Gender equality
- Goal 6 - Clean water and sanitation
- Goal 7 - Affordable and clean energy
- Goal 8 - Decent work and economic growth
- Goal 9 - Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- Goal 10 - Reduced inequalities
- Goal 11 - Sustainable cities and communities
- Goal 12 - Responsible consumption and production
- Goal 13 - Climate action
- Goal 14 - Life below water
- Goal 15 - Life on land
- Goal 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions
- Goal 17 - Partnerships for the goals

## *SDG Accord Case Study*

### ***Summary:***

Our Global Citizenship Award was introduced as a result of our College's Future Skills Strategy. The Global Citizenship Awards recognises students development in the skills and personality traits that allow them to effectively interact with becoming 'global citizens'.

The four objectives of the initiative teach students:

To be 'responsible' to themselves, others, the community and the environment. To implement this, all full-time students undertake 'Sustainability & Me' as part of their college induction. This provides students with the knowledge of how our environment is affected by the way we live & our behaviours around this, while details on where to gain support and guidance are offered.

To be 'resilient' by understanding the importance of the need for change to the environment, preparing for challenges and developing coping strategies. This involves the College's Student Experience Team joining students at the induction process and teaching them about resilience and how to overcome difficult situations. Our resilience training support the Scottish Governments 'Thriving Learners'

To be 'respectful' to themselves and others, be inclusive and innovative, and responsible for other cultures. The College launched its Respect campaign during the academic session to promote an inclusive culture and demonstrate behaviours that respect and embrace diversity.

To be 'recognised' as skilled, confident, qualified and as a 'global citizen'. The focus on this area is to ensure that the courses offered are relevant to global, national and regional needs.

Students who successfully complete their course receive a certificate that enables them to either gain employment, progress to higher level study or begin a university course. Once completed, students are presented with a certificate of achievement along with a Borders College Global Citizenship Pin.

"Students are the future of our region and beyond. Providing students with training to become 'Global Citizens' is key to their success. This training is about students making ethical decisions about our environment but also having an inclusive and resilient approach to everything they do and every decision they make."

**Anne-Marie Sturrock, Vice Principal for Student Experience**

## *SDG Accord Case Study*

### ***Outline the 3 key benefits of integrating this theme:***

1. An inclusive society is key to a successful society and having equalities at the centre of everything breaks down barriers
2. All managers and leaders at Borders College have commenced a one year 'Inclusive Leadership Training' A key benefit of this training is we don't just say we are inclusive, we demonstrate this by our actions and responding to the diverse needs of our staff and students
3. The main benefit of launching our campaign was the decrease in early leavers

### ***Outline the barriers or challenges encountered in integrating this theme and how you overcame these:***

The cost of Living crisis has impacted on student's well-being and some students left their course due the requirement to gain employment. These jobs are low skilled and do not reflect higher than a National Living Wage

### ***Conclusions and recommendations to others:***

Staff & Students are our main asset at Borders College. Responding to Net Zero & the current Global crisis is our responsibility and by providing staff and students with the skills to do this is key. We also recognise progress and through a celebratory and believe demonstrating and rewarding progress enables individuals to be proud of their achievements.

The link below provides a case study on one of our students who received her Global Citizenship certificate and Badge

[Hairdresser Lydia set for Aussie adventure at award-winning salon | Borders College](#)