SDG Accord Case Study

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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

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Summary:

Shipley College is committed to offering equal opportunity and tackling discrimination. We seek to ensure everyone is treated fairly regardless of gender, and we commit to promoting the EAUC's Sustainability Leadership Scorecard to improve this aim across college. We were the first college in the world to sign up to the SDG Accord and we continue to demonstrate our commitment to the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and embed these in the culture of our college.

This academic year we have hosted two 'Tech for Good' events, in collaboration with futuretransformation.org. These events were solely aimed at female students from local schools, to promote STEM opportunities and help them strive towards their aspirations. The ambition was to produce an effect on our community in closing the gap in employment and gender, while also fostering an all-inclusive environment.

Our first event saw 52 pupils from local schools attending, along with 7 inspiring female leaders, including Gemma Attrill who is the Space Systems Programme Lead Scientist at DSTL, and other STEM experts from Intel, Sky and the University of Bradford.

School students had the chance to chat 1:1 with the female leaders in small groups, with a panel Q&A discussion afterwards, where the students learned more about the brilliant journeys they have taken to get to where they are today.

As part of our International Women's Day celebrations we hosted a second Tech for Good event. 30 Female students from local schools were involved in a 'Mission Zero' workshop, facilitated by female professionals from Raspberry Pi, in which teams created Python computer programmes and submitted them to run on two Raspberry Pi computers on board the International Space Station.

3 key benefits of integrating this theme:

1. Raising awareness of digital careers and giving young women the aptitude and tools necessary for achieving their goals.

2. Increasing confidence and self-belief in young women. Young women know that they have opportunities and a strong community of people supporting them.

3. Enabled the College to collaborate with local employers and organisations, building connections and gaining extra support from the community.

Barriers or challenges encountered in integrating this theme and how you overcame these:

1. Initially we found it difficult to get schools to agree to bring groups of pupils to the event, due to their own timetabling and learning commitments. We overcame this by agreeing a date that suited them best and was well in advance. We found that after the success of the first event, schools were keen to bring pupils to the second event.

2. There was a cost to the event, which was predominantly for the hire of a venue. However, we were able to use some budget assigned to community events for the college.

3. Initially we did not have enough female speakers to attend the event, however we collaborated with some local employers who were able to connect us with more people.

Conclusion and recommendations to others:

We were pleased to host these events which contributes to our commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals programme, linking to SDG 5. The events were a great success and we received positive feedback from all attendees, including the school pupils, school staff and guest speakers.

We would recommend collaborating with the local community as much as possible, once we began to do this we were able to create links and build relationships with more organisations and companies for this event and future ones.