



[] South Devon College



SDG Accord Case Study

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:

South Devon College have a strong reputation as a leading College in Sustainability. We have spent a significant amount of time & resource during this last year in sharing best practice & building partnerships nationally, locally & with our internal/external community.

Below we have split into 3 key areas:

AoC (Association of Colleges) sharing best practices with Colleges

Since winning the Beacon Award for EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT in 2022 when it was first launched in the sector, we have presented to multiple conferences and events at various levels to share best practice. Examples include:

- Presented at the Annual Climate Change, Sustainability and Green Skills Conference
- Sustainability Breakout Session hosted at AoC Curriculum Conference
- Sustainability and Curriculum: Chairing a breakout/panel discussion at the AoC Curriculum Conference
- Delivering a breakout session to the HR & Employment Law Conference
- Hosting a webinar as part of the AoC Beacon Awards 2021-22 Best Practice Showcase
- AoC Governance Professional Conference – A breakout session titled “Sustainability, the FE Journey & Strategy”

Torbay Climate Action Group

Significant engagement & input into a local authority/Businesses Partnership with our community via the Torbay Climate Change Action group. Contribution in writing, partnering & sharing their “Torbay Climate Emergency Plan”. This included support/input with “Climate Conversation Events” in our area.

Torbay UNESCO Geopark Management Group

Torbay is a UNESCO Geopark & with this there are multiple opportunities to provide our learners with links to & understanding of our local area. As a College we sit on the Geopark Management Group. We now have such a strong relationship & so many more young people are learning & understanding about how special their local area is.

We have supported the Geopark Coordinator & Global Geopark Network Executive Board Member over the last couple of months as she worked through the preparation of the revalidation documents, and on the Geopark 10 Year Management Plan.

These activities focus specifically around goals 11 & 17. Areas identified for development at our last accord 12 months ago.

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Outline the 3 key benefits of integrating this theme:

1. Sharing best practice at all levels with a non-competitive approach.
2. Taking a leadership role in our local community through Place Leadership and Community Wealth Building which drives the Sustainability Agenda & uses the SDG's as a key focus.
3. Ensuring that Sustainability remains embedded in everything that we do & is part of our strategic development plans and operating & improvement plans.

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

1. Time – We do have full SLT support in this where possible but still a challenge due to multiple competing priorities within the organisation including the contributing to meeting local, regional & national needs and implementation of government reforms.
2. Money/Resource – so many things we want to do but have to choose these carefully & balance with our day to day operation.
3. Educating & raising awareness with Local People & our own internal priorities (Cost of living Anxiety Mental Health etc).

Please outline your conclusions and recommendations to others (Max 200 words):

Sustainable Development Goals are the key to engaging our learners & community. It's the SDG's that really make sustainability relatable to things they do in their life, both inside & outside of college. We have found that, used in the correct way, they can help learners to understand what sustainability actually means.