

# EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: DELIVERING A GREEN CURRICULUM

## Approaches, ideas and inspiration

### Using the SDGs



There are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

They cover a huge range of issues and topics, making them an ideal place to start when you're looking for inspiration for what to focus on.

**Project ideas:** Using four or five as starting points, either offer the topics as stimuli for students or include them as goals/targets that their project needs to meet (in addition to those required by your awarding body).

### Metaskills for sustainability

When you're thinking about activities you can use for students to develop and apply sustainable skills within their work, think about where you currently promote **resilience, innovation, empathy, collaboration and debate**; it's very likely that you could embed additional SDG skills along with activities that you currently facilitate.

**Limits can inspire creativity:** In projects where you previously gave students free reign, set limits on resources, on travel, on consumption, on products and on being Net Zero. Setting an activity to help emphasise the importance of these skills can often trigger more ideas for students after they've done them.

### Sustainability in action



Included in the resources for Introducing Action for Sustainability ([CDN LearnOnline](#)) are five examples of how lecturers have put sustainability into action within their teaching practice. Each one contextualises a range of different themes/topics/issues connected with a Green curriculum, and demonstrates how they implemented new approaches, altered existing ones and embedded sustainable skills within their delivery.

Sign up to the module to hear their stories and access a range of other materials to support you in doing the same.

### Recycle, Repurpose, Reuse



**Ask What if...** take disused items and apply different challenges to see how they could be repurposed, using as few 'new' materials as possible. This sort of project also engages a range of metaskills linked with sustainability.

**Reduce consumption by sharing expertise and teaching materials:** Collaborate across your college and also across the college sector to share expertise, ideas and materials; reducing shouldn't mean shrinking the student experience - it's an opportunity to develop, grow and expand on activity, and doing so in a sustainable way.

**Hub of reusable specialist equipment:** Tools, chef's whites, bags, phone/ tablet cases, tap shoes, portfolios, make-up cases... Making these available to students will rehome items no longer needed by graduates and might make all the difference to those unable to afford new items.

### Mapping & linking topics



**If you're struggling to find the link between your curriculum activity and the Sustainability topics, try the following;**

- List your curriculum activity down one side and the SDGs that you're focusing on along the top.
- Where do the two meet?
- Where could adaptations be made to activities? What changes could you make that would enhance the embedding of sustainable skills?

This process helps to connect what initially appears misconnected and find new opportunities.