

# SUSTAINABILITY SKILLS SURVEY



## About the research

This year, for the **16th year in a row**, SOS-UK is repeating our research into **student attitudes towards and skills for sustainable development**. We're continuing with the same survey questions, and also continuing to research students in further education along with those in higher education.

This research has been key in helping us to **secure funding** for our national programme of sustainability work, and also continues to **provide evidence of demand for action on sustainable development**. But beyond that, we want this research to be as useful as possible for you and that's why we hope many of you will reach the response threshold to receive summary results for students at your institution.

Last year, we updated some questions we ask to bring them in line with the latest guidance on ESD from the QAA and Advance HE, and also a focus on decolonising and decarbonising curricula amongst institutions. **You can see a full list of the questions on our website.**

## What can you do?

The survey will be open between **27 October - 16 November 2025**, so there's plenty of time to promote the research within your institution. As outlined above, **any student based in the UK** can complete the survey.

On the **27 October**, the survey will be live at this address:

[https://online1.snapsurveys.com/Skills\\_Survey](https://online1.snapsurveys.com/Skills_Survey)

Please remember **not to refer to the environment or sustainable development** when you are promoting this research – we need to gather opinions from everyone, not just those who are already 'green'. Possible examples include '**university skills survey**' or '**university learning and employment survey**'. Where possible, avoid promoting the survey from social media or email accounts associated with sustainability.

In previous years, the institutions that had the most success in promoting the survey have **emailed all students** whose contact details they have or **used social media** to great effect with the university and students' union working together to promote the research.

As in previous years, we will provide you with **a number of resources and templates** to help you with the promotion but here are some initial ideas to help with your planning:

- Post details of the survey on the SU and University social media accounts (example images provided)
- Provide information for course reps and ask them to promote the survey
- Adding a link to the SU website
- Sending an 'all student' email
- Set up some iPads in the SU with a link to the survey
- Recruit a roving student survey team

## What will you get in return?

Each union/institution that receives **100 responses or more** will receive a breakdown of the result and this will enable you to compare with the national picture, and to generate your own individual priorities. We'll send out **regular updates** on how you're doing throughout the fieldwork period.

To make your results more robust, you can aim to **achieve a statistically representative number of responses**. To work out how many responses you need, you can use this online tool: <http://www.raosoft.com/samplesize.html>. Just type the total number of students at your institution into the third box (population size), and it will advise you on the **recommended sample size**.

If you have any questions about the research, please get in touch at [research@sos-uk.org](mailto:research@sos-uk.org).

Thanks in advance for your help!

SOS UK