**Sustainability at UCL**

Sustainability is at the heart of UCL’s operations: from our education and our research to our campus and community, we’re committed to defining what’s next and creating new possibilities.

Whatever your role at UCL, you’re part of a community producing ground-breaking research, delivering world-class teaching, and helping to shape a better world. As London’s global university with a diverse community, we can inspire sustainability action on an international scale.

UCL’s ambitious sustainability commitments can only be achieved if students and staff work together: everyone has a role to play in making change possible.

Our Sustainability Strategy 2019-2024 sets out a plan for UCL to be active in tackling the global climate emergency, while deepening our commitment as a leader in environmental and social sustainability. This includes 6 headline commitments for 2024:

* Every student will have the opportunity to study and be involved in sustainability
* We will increase our sustainability research, with increased focus on the Sustainable Development Goals
* Our buildings will be net zero carbon, and by 2030 our institution will be net zero carbon
* We will be a single-use plastic free campus
* We will reduce waste per person by 20%
* We will create 10,000m2 of more biodiverse green space on campus

While helping to improve sustainability at UCL is part of everyone’s role, there are some specific actions that every staff member can take to get more involved and make a positive impact.

**Stay Connected**

Throughout the year, UCL runs sustainability competitions, programmes and events. Make sure to keep up to date by following Sustainable UCL across social media and checking out the website:

* [Sustainable UCL’s website](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/sustainable/)
* [Twitter](https://twitter.com/SustainableUCL)
* [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/SustainableUCL)
* [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/sustainableucl/)
* [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/sustainable-ucl)

Sign up to the UCL newsletter advertising climate news and opportunities [here](https://r1.dotdigital-pages.com/p/6T06-7DL/subscribe-to-ucl-climate-hubs-newsletters).

Sign up to the Green Champions mailing list to learn about Green Impact opportunities [here](https://r1.dotdigital-pages.com/p/6T06-7I0/sign-up-to-ucls-green-impact-mailing-list).

**Make Your Office Sustainable**

Sign up to Green Impact to help improve the environmental impact of your office. Green Impact is a UCL-wide environmental competition and accreditation scheme, allowing departments and divisions across the university to improve their environmental impact, support UCL’s Sustainability Strategy and engage peers and colleagues with these essential issues. The scheme launches in September each year. Take part [here](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/sustainable/staff/green-impact).

**Make Your Lab Sustainable**

Sign up to LEAF to help improve the environmental impact of your lab. LEAF, or the Laboratory Efficiency Assessment Framework, is a programme designed to improve the sustainability and efficiency of laboratories. It contains actions which lab users can take to save plastics, water, energy and other resources. By taking part in the programme, laboratories will reduce their carbon emissions and create an environment that supports research quality. Learn more [here](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/sustainable/staff/leaf).

**Sustainable Education**

A 2019 report by the Higher Education Academy and National Union of Students (NUS) found that 80% of students believed sustainable development should be actively incorporated by UK universities. Through teaching and extra-curricular activities, we want to inspire our students to become the sustainability leaders of tomorrow. Learn more about embedding sustainability into the curriculum [here](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/sustainable/education).

There are many opportunities for students to get involved in sustainability at UCL outside of the formal curriculum. Please promote the following opportunities and resources to your students:

* [Student Sustainability Ambassadors](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/sustainable/students/sustainability-ambassadors): students can develop their employability while making the university more sustainable - applications close on the 15th of October 2021
* [Student Sustainability Council](https://studentsunionucl.org/sustainability-council): students can have their voice hear, and shape UCL’s sustainability vision - applications close on the 22nd of October 2021
* Researching and solving sustainability challenges through UCL’s [Living Lab](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/sustainable/education/living-lab)
* [Other opportunities](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/sustainable/student-opportunities)

**Use Sustainable UCL’s Resources**

Sustainable UCL has compiled a range of resources to help staff make a positive impact across the university. This includes guidance on creating a greener campus, how to reduce, share and recycle, and how to create a positive climate for people and planet:

* [Waste and recycling at UCL](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/sustainable/staff/loop-resources/check-you-chuck)
* [Cycle and walk to UCL](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/sustainable/staff/cycle-and-walk-ucl)
* [Further resources](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/sustainable/staff-sustainability-opportunities)