

Sustainability Badge 2025-26

Information for Student Groups



What is the Sustainability Badge?

The Sustainability Badge is designed to help SU Groups to embed sustainability throughout all they do. This could be through sustainable events, activities, campaigns and awareness, volunteering or through developing skills. Groups will provide evidence of their projects to the SU who will assess their entry and give them a sustainability rating of up to 5 Stars.

Any SU Group can take part. Activities must take place between 1 August 2025 and 1 May 2026. Submissions must be received by 8 May 2026.

What's in it for you? You'll receive a badge that you'll be able to use across all of your platforms, we'll give your group a shoutout on our designated sustainability webpages and sustainability roundup. You can use your work to submit towards wider awards such as the SU Awards and also the university's Sustainability Awards. Most of all, it's a great chance to show future employers your commitment to sustainability – a core competency that future workplaces are looking for!

How Does it Work?

The badge will be judged by a panel of SU staff and Officers. You can submit evidence towards 8 different categories: **Food, Skills, Campaigns, Raising Awareness, Reducing Waste, Clothing & Equipment, Volunteering and Self-defined** (essentially anything else!).

Each category will have marks from 1-3. The marking criteria explains in detail how you will be marked against each category. The more you do, the higher rating you will receive.

How Do We Join?

You can [sign your group up for the Sustainability Badge](#) at any time before the deadline to receive your submission form. Then, start collecting evidence, such as posters, photos and social media posts from your activities. **Remember, these can be from any activity you've run this year!**

Sustainability Badge Marking Criteria 2025-26

Category	Details	Examples	3 Points	2 Points	1 Points
Food	The group have run vegetarian/vegan focused events and/or considered low-carbon catering	<p>Adjusting socials or regular activities, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meat-free socials (e.g., Vegan BBQ, Vegetarian Restaurants) • Choosing vegetarian/vegan restaurants or caterers 	All food-based activities are meat-free	Have run 2 meat-free events/social	Have run 1 meat-free event/social
Skills	The group have run training or an activity to teach a new skill and/or knowledge	Education is key to improving skills and building sustainable societies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical, e.g. cooking, repairing items, healthy lifestyle/wellbeing • Educational, e.g. workshops, biodiversity, circular economy • Carbon Literacy or FRESK workshops 	Have run at least 3 training sessions with good engagement from (non-)members	Have run at least 2 training sessions with good engagement	Have run 1 training sessions with good engagement
Campaigns	The group have run a change campaign related to sustainability	On campus or part of a national campaign. Examples could be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing a new policy • Calling for reduction, e.g. meat consumption or energy usage • Improvements to the environment like biodiversity on campus, calling for active transport or divestment 	Run a full campaign and have actively engaged with relevant staff and companies to implement the change	Run a campaign with at least 3 different types of engagement activities, e.g. petitions, info sessions and stalls	Run a campaign with at least 1 form of engagement activities, e.g. petitions, info sessions and stalls
Raising Awareness	The group have been involved in an awareness campaign related to sustainability	This could be for a global issue or smaller campaigns to change lifestyle habits. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veganuary, divestment from fossil fuels, supporting refugees • Running talks or stalls/engaging with the Sustainable SU Forum • Social media content that encourages practical lifestyle changes 	Engage members/non-members in campaign through events and activities	Spread awareness and engage members in campaign	Spread awareness, e.g. social media promotion
Reducing Waste	The group have reduced waste or emissions at their events and activities	Groups should change how they would usually run an activity. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in reusable items/ask members to BYO (e.g. cutlery for BBQ) • Replace car travel to activities with trains, bikes, walking • Donating leftover food 	Reduced waste or emissions on 3 different occasions	Reduced waste or emissions on 2 different occasions	Reduced waste or emissions on 1 occasion
Clothing and Equipment	The group has chosen equipment or clothing that is produced using sustainable practises or second-hand	Items can be clothing (e.g. groups merchandise) or equipment. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing/merchandise with sustainable accreditation • Second-hand equipment or hiring items instead of buying • Using/creating equipment made from recycled materials 	Implemented sustainability through a variety of items and clothing	Have improved sustainability of a selection of items	Have improved sustainability of 1 group of items
Volunteering	The group have participated in volunteering and fundraising opportunities	Volunteering or fundraising opportunities such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration with VTeam or RAG • Fundraising for charities e.g. Movember • Participation in local volunteering opportunities, advertised by SU 	Have engaged with local/national charities with good engagement from members	Have engaged with a variety of volunteering opportunities	Have engaged with volunteering groups in the SU
Self-defined	Groups can use this category to speak about anything else they have achieved this year related to sustainability that isn't covered within the other categories.		Points awarded at the panel's discretion		

Scoring and FAQ's

How will groups be rated?

The panel will mark submission based on the criteria and give a rating as seen below.

To get a star rating you need to get the minimum points for that rating AND achievements in certain categories.

For example:

- If you score 3 points in Food and 3 points in Campaigns, you will have 6 points but will need an additional 3 points from other categories to gain 4 Stars.
- If you gain 2 points in Food, Clothing, Campaigns, Awareness and Skills you will have 10 points but will be given 3 Stars as you haven't achieved "at least 3 points in 2 categories"

	Star Rating	Points, max 24
Has achieved at least 3 points in 3 categories	5 ★★★★★	15
Has achieved at least 3 points in 2 categories	4 ★★★★	9
Has achieved at least 2 points in 3 categories	3 ★★★	7
Has achieved at least 2 points in 2 categories	2 ★★	5
Has achieved at least 1 point in 3 categories	1 ★	3

FAQ's

Can I submit evidence from last semester?

Yes! You can evidence of any activity from 1 August 2025 and 1 May 2026.

When can I submit my evidence?

You can send us your submission at any time. The deadline is 8 May 2026.

What counts as evidence?

It's up to you – it could be write-ups, posters, photos, social posts, videos! If we require further information on an activity once you've submitted, we will get in touch.

Do activities have to take place on campus?

No! Whilst events on campus count, events in the city and beyond can also be submitted.

Can the same activity be submitted to different categories?

No. Each activity can only be submitted to one category. However, you may choose which one.

I have further questions!

Please contact Sam, Activities Officer via suactivities@bath.ac.uk.