

SOLENT UNIVERSITY

SOUTHAMPTON

ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDE FOR NEW STARTERS



DECEMBER 2021 UPDATE





Welcome to Solent. Our staff and students play a key role in supporting the University's environmental commitments through the actions they take. This guide contains helpful pointers and links to policies and plans where you can find more information.

Environmental sustainability is a foundation of the Solent University Strategy 2025. Read our Environmental Policy to find out how we are managing our environmental impacts and continually improving environmental performance. Our Environmental and Sustainability Enabling Plan lays out the projects, objectives and actions we will undertake up to 2025.

The University has an Environmental Management System (EMS), which is the framework for managing our environmental responsibilities across all our sites. The EMS has achieved the EcoCampus Platinum Award and is certified to the international standard ISO 14001:2015.

The Health, Safety and Environment (HS&E) Team works with faculties and services across the University to ensure colleagues have the necessary experience, knowledge and training on environmental matters relevant to their role. If you think your work has a significant environmental impact that has not yet been identified or addressed, please contact your line manager and sustainability@solent.ac.uk to discuss.

CONTRACTORS

All contractors are expected to meet Solent's environmental requirements and minimise environmental impacts during their activities. We kindly ask that contractors and contract partners familiarise themselves with the University's Environmental Policy.

Please contact sustainability@solent.ac.uk if you need more advice.



ZERO CARBON

The University has set an ambitious target to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. You can help by turning off lights when leaving teaching rooms and offices and switching off monitors and other electrical equipment when not in use. Please use Planon to report heating and lighting issues and dripping taps.

Develop your knowledge of the climate crisis and what we need to do to reduce carbon emissions by taking the accredited and award-winning Carbon Literacy Training here at the University. The course is free and open to all staff and students and is delivered over three two-hour sessions. Visit the Environment and Sustainability pages on the portal for more information.



REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

All staff can use the Solent Reuse Portal available on Planon to advertise and claim office items which are surplus to requirements for use on campus and at home. Simply add the Reuse Portal to your homepage on Planon by clicking on the cog on the top right of the screen and selecting the Solent Reuse Portal gadget from the toolbar. Further details are available in the Solent Reuse Portal guide.

The stationery reuse shelves in the Mountbatten Library foyer host a range of stationery for office and home use. Please check the reuse shelves first before ordering new stationery.

Use the recycling bins on campus to recycle cans, paper, cardboard, glass, plastic bottles, and plastic pots, tubs and trays. These should be free of any food or liquid contamination before being binned. Any items containing food or liquids, including coffee cups, sandwich cartons and greasy pizza boxes, must go in the general waste bin.

Use the food caddies in kitchens and catering outlets to throw away all cooked and uncooked food, tea bags, bread, fruit skins, uneaten sandwiches and pizza crusts.



ACTIVE TRAVEL

There are cycling facilities across campus, including access-controlled covered cycle storage next to Christopher Cockerell building and in Level 0 of Solent Sports Complex (accessed via the underground car park at the rear of the building). Cycle lockers and changing rooms are available in the Sports Complex, and there are changing rooms, lockers and showers outside Sports Hall 3, located above The Dock restaurant.

The University's Cycle To Work salary sacrifice scheme, enables staff to purchase a bicycle and accessories up to the value of £2,500, tax-free. Contact Payroll for further details.

If you're looking to purchase an electric bike and would like to try one out first, a Trek Verve+1 electric hybrid bike is available to hire for a week-long loan period.

Find out more: staff.solent.ac.uk/campus-toolkit/cycling



GREEN SPACES

We are fortunate to have the city's parks on the doorstep of the East Park Terrace campus, in addition to wildflower meadows behind the Spark and a student and staff allotment – the Food Garden – next to the Solent Sports Complex.

The University's Timsbury Lake site is home to a range of protected species including water vole, otter, and great crested newt, and 107 bird species have been recorded at Warsash Maritime School over the last ten years. The University's Biodiversity Action Plan, created in partnership with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, guides our work to protect, enhance and create new habitats for wildlife.



GET INVOLVED

The Environment and Sustainability pages on the portal host the latest information on the University's environmental initiatives, including waste and recycling on campus, tips for reducing your carbon footprint and living sustainably, and activities and events.

We welcome all staff and students who would like to be actively involved in environmental initiatives. Get in touch and share your ideas with us at **sustainability@solent.ac.uk**



