Green Week Survey: Interim Review of Results

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is the process of equipping learners with the knowledge and understanding, and the skills and attributes needed to work and live in a way that safeguards environmental, social and economic wellbeing, both in the present and for future generations (QAA, 2014).

Sustainability and ESD are an important part of Keele’s reputation and distinctive character, with one of the university’s six Strategic Aims since 2010 being: ‘to develop an environmentally aware and sustainable outward-facing campus community’. Sustainability is also embedded as one of three key themes in the Distinctive Keele Curriculum alongside employability and international-mindedness, and is one of the universities three overarching research themes alongside ageing and health.

The 2015 Green Week Survey aimed to gather baseline data from the student population at Keele about their perspectives on sustainability and sustainability education at Keele. It also explored students’ and staffs’ views on how they think sustainability relates to their specific subject area. Some of the initial findings from the student survey questions are presented below. A full review of results including the results from the staff survey and questions about disciplinary perspectives on sustainability will be available in the near future. Please note the below questions are based on responses from an average of 268 students per question (undergraduate and postgraduate).

Question 1) How important are sustainability issues to you personally in your day-to-day life?

![Pie chart showing the percentage of students who think sustainability issues are very important, important, moderately important, unimportant, very unimportant, don't know, or rather not say.]

Question 2) To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements

![Bar charts showing the percentage of students who strongly agree, agree, moderately agree, disagree, strongly disagree, don't know, or rather not say for three statements about sustainability.]

Please note the below questions are based on responses from an average of 268 students per question (undergraduate and postgraduate).
**Question 3) To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements?**

![Bar chart showing agreement levels for various statements across different groups.]

**Question 4) To what extent do you believe that you have gained or developed the following knowledge and skills through your studies at Keele so far?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>A great extent</th>
<th>A fair extent</th>
<th>A moderate extent</th>
<th>A small extent</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
<th>Rather not say</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The relationships between environmental, social and economic systems</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consideration of environmental and resource use issues</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How your subject area relates to other subject areas</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competence working with people from different subject areas</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using scientific research to make evidence-informed decisions</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consideration of different cultural perspectives</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engaging with real life/real world problems and projects</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How our decisions now affect those of future generations</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Being adaptable to new or unpredictable situations</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social justice and ethical considerations</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consideration of economic prosperity and inequality</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democracy, political processes and governance</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consideration of different stakeholder perspectives in decision-making</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Question 5) Please rate how strongly you agree/disagree with the following statement: I have learnt about sustainability-related issues as part of my course at Keele

- **Strongly agree**
- **Agree**
- **Moderately agree**
- **Disagree**
- **Strongly disagree**
- **Don’t know**
- **Rather not say**
- **N/A**

- 17% Strongly agree
- 27% Agree
- 4% Moderately agree
- 11% Disagree
- 2% Strongly disagree
- 0% Don’t know
- 2% Rather not say
- 0% N/A

Question 6) Please rate how strongly you agree/disagree with the following statement: I have learnt about sustainability-related issues as part of activities run by the Students’ Union at Keele

- **Strongly agree**
- **Agree**
- **Moderately agree**
- **Disagree**
- **Strongly disagree**
- **Don’t know**
- **Rather not say**
- **N/A**

- 5% Strongly agree
- 14% Agree
- 30% Moderately agree
- 29% Disagree
- 0% Strongly disagree
- 0% Don’t know
- 0% Rather not say
- 0% N/A

Question 7) Please rate how strongly you agree/disagree with the following statements:

- **I know more about sustainability-related issues due to my time at Keele**
- **I care more about sustainability-related issues due to my time at Keele**
- **I believe that my day-to-day behaviour is more sustainable due to my time at Keele**
- **I believe that I will act more sustainably in my future career due to my time at Keele**

If you have any questions about the Green Week Survey results please contact:
Sophie Bessant – s.e.f.bessant@keele.ac.uk