



Developing Learning for Sustainability across your College

Do you think your students need the skills and knowledge to change the social and environmental impacts of their lives – both at college and in the workplace?

The need for environmental and social action in how organisations operate is no longer questioned, but, as educators of Scotland's workforce of the future, colleges have wider responsibilities.

- The Scottish Funding Council's Outcome Agreement Guidance requires us all to demonstrate "Leadership in Environmental and Social Responsibility" – within how college govern institutions and run facilities, but also in what we teach our students.
- The new CDN Professional Standards for College Lecturers require that "Themes of sustainability and the impacts of course relevant decisions on people and the environment, should permeate teaching practice, inform it, and be made explicit to learners."

The opportunity

Learning for Sustainability Scotland and EAUC-Scotland have developed the **College Learning for Sustainability Champions** programme to help college teaching staff address sustainability in their learning and teaching. As part of the programme, one 'Learning for Sustainability (LFS) Champion' from each teaching department at the college is offered a mixture of face-to-face and online professional learning to develop their own practice, test what they have learned with a group of students, then help them to share their learning with their colleagues.

The programme was successfully piloted from January – May 2019 at Dundee and Angus College.

"Environmental and sustainability issues affect us all, and we all have a responsibility to work together collectively to tackle them. The College LFS Champions programme gave us the opportunity, structure and framework to embed the importance of environmental and social sustainability into the Learning & Teaching of all areas of the College in a fun, practical and engaging way." **Simon Hewitt, D&A College**

CDN is working with Learning for Sustainability Scotland and EAUC-Scotland to offer more colleges across Scotland access to this free, 10-week programme (starting February and split over the Easter break). The aim is to enable colleges to develop a whole-institution approach to sustainability in the curriculum and have a positive impact for students. Colleges will go through the process simultaneously to enable learning and engagement between institutions.

How will my college benefit?

- You will become a recognised Learning for Sustainability Champion institution, awarded by Learning for Sustainability Scotland and EAUC-Scotland
- Teaching practice in your college will benefit from new knowledge, skills and approaches
- Your students will be more engaged with their classes as Learning for Sustainability ideas and approaches are applied
- You will develop a network of informed and passionate Learning for Sustainability Champions who will support your college's sustainability ambitions both within and outside the classroom

What would my college need to do to participate?

- Identify a colleague in each teaching department to participate in the programme
- Host, and enable all participants to attend, a half day face-to-face introductory session in February 2020
- Enable all participants to collaborate with other Learning for Sustainability Champions online over a 10-week period and engage with online materials (approximately 1 hour per week)
- Encourage all participants to try out some activities and ideas with their students during the 10-week period
- Host, and enable all participants to attend, a half day face-to-face reflection and next steps session in your college in late spring 2020
- Allocate Champions non-teaching time after the course to work with colleagues in their department to encourage them to develop learning for sustainability skills and knowledge in their course programmes
- Support Champions to attend a post-course session with the Learning for Sustainability Champions from the two participant colleges (time and venue to be confirmed), to share their experiences and learn from peers

How can I get involved?

- Make an expression of interest to betsyking@lfsscotland.org before 11 December 2019, confirming you can meet all the requirements and stating why your college is interested in participating.
- Any questions should be directed to Betsy King at betsyking@lfsscotland.org

