At The University of Manchester

WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Social responsibility is one of our University’s three core goals, as important as our commitment to world-leading research and outstanding teaching and learning. The priority we place on social responsibility makes us unique among British universities.

From our beginnings as England’s first civic university we’ve sought to break down boundaries and improve lives. We opened up education to the working classes and removed religious tests for entry in the 19th century. Christabel Pankhurst studied here before campaigning for the suffragettes. We employed Sir William Arthur Lewis, the UK’s first black professor and a pioneer in economics. And our first female academic, Marie Stopes, advocated birth control for women.

We’re proud of our historical impact on society. 
Here’s how we’re continuing to make a difference today.
ON CAMPUS

ETHICAL GRAND CHALLENGES
We want our students to become socially responsible leaders and citizens of tomorrow. Through our Stellify initiative, every undergraduate is supported to gain an award through involvement in community volunteering, leadership and our Ethical Grand Challenges programme. In 2017/18:
- 5,000 first-year undergraduate students took part in our Sustainability Challenge.
- 1,500 students attended our Volunteering and Social Justice Fair.
- 600 second-year students completed our online Social Justice Challenge.
- Five Workplace Ethics Challenge events are being piloted with final-year students.

10,000 ACTIONS
We want our staff to make a difference to sustainability on campus. That’s why we’ve worked together to deliver the biggest environmental sustainability initiative in the higher education sector.
- 10,000+ staff have the opportunity to engage in learning and positive action on sustainability.
- 32,000+ actions on sustainability have been pledged by staff.
We were the world’s first university to be certified by the Carbon Literate Organisation, thanks to this programme.
Both the 10,000 Actions and the Ethical Grand Challenges programmes have received awards for their innovation and impact.

IN THE COMMUNITY

ADDRESSING INEQUALITIES
We want to ensure our knowledge, expertise and activities help to create a fairer Greater Manchester.
Our Manchester Access Programme has supported more than 1,800 local students from underrepresented backgrounds to study for a degree and progress into valuable professions such as medicine, teaching and law.
We’re leading an independent Inclusive Growth Analysis Unit in partnership with the Joseph Rowntree Foundation to help make poverty reduction central to processes of growth and devolution in our city region.
We’re working with a coalition of regional organisations and the Centre for Ageing Better to help tackle social, economic and health inequalities in later life.
We’re developing the role of the University as an anchor institution in Ardwick – our closest neighbouring area.

SCHOOL GOVERNOR INITIATIVE
Our staff and alumni are making a difference to the leadership and direction of hundreds of state schools through our School Governor Initiative.
- 610 staff and alumni support 274,500 learners, creating more than £3.5 million of economic value.
The initiative has received numerous prestigious awards for creating the largest growth of school governors in the UK.

ACROSS THE GLOBE

EQUITY AND MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS
We want to ensure students from all parts of the world can access our study programmes and use this knowledge to improve their societies. Our Equity and Merit Scholarships assist talented master’s students from some of the least developed countries in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 223 full scholarships have been awarded over the past decade. The scholarships are fully funded by the University and our generous donors.
Graduates of the scheme contribute vital knowledge and skills to their communities, for example in homebuilding in slum areas, sustainable energy, politics and treating and preventing disease.

GLOBAL INEQUALITIES
We want our knowledge and expertise to contribute to sustainable development and social justice for all of humanity. Our Global Development Institute is the largest dedicated development research and teaching institute in Europe.
We’re ranked first for research impact in global development in the UK.
Our research led Cadbury to invest £45 million in cocoa-growing communities.
Our research into direct cash transfers to the chronic poor has shaped practice in several countries – for example, $2 per month has been pledged to all children born after the 2006 Peace Accord in Southern Sudan as a direct result of our work.
We have the UK’s largest university-based postgraduate centre specialising in international development, educating and training thousands of the world’s development professionals.

We’re tackling some of the world’s biggest challenges through our research in areas such as cancer, energy, global inequalities, advanced materials and industrial biotechnology.
Our students are addressing key ethical issues through their studies, supporting them to become responsible leaders and citizens of tomorrow.
We inspire – and are inspired by – our neighbouring and global communities by actively engaging and involving the public in our work.
We’re responsible in our processes, from choosing what we buy to how we recruit our people. Equality, diversity, inclusion and environmental sustainability are prioritised in our decision-making.
Here are just a few examples of how we’re making a difference.
Social responsibility: AT A GLANCE

1.2m members of the public visited our inspirational cultural institutions: Manchester Museum, the Whitworth, Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre and The John Rylands Library.

430 societies are formed by students, engaging in local and global issues.

748 students undertook accredited volunteering.

£230,000 raised for charities by students each year.

15 awards and accreditations for equality and diversity, including being Greater Manchester's most LGBT-friendly workplace.

£19.7m was invested in financial support for students – the highest in the Russell Group.

1,000+ local school and college students access our library facilities each year.

1,800 students enrolled via our Manchester Access Programme.

£25m invested in widening participation in higher education.

All figures above refer to the academic year ending 31 July 2017.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AWARDS AND RECOGNITION: SOME EXAMPLES

- Green Gown Award for 10,000 Actions and the Ethical Grand Challenges Sustainability Challenge
- Association of University Directors of Studies Award for 10,000 Actions and the Ethical Grand Challenges Sustainability Challenge
- Queen's Award for Voluntary Service for the School Governor Initiative
- Times Higher Education Awards for the School Governor Initiative and The Works
- Carbon Literacy Organisation Award
- National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement Engage Award
- Guardian Sustainable Business Award for The Works
- UnLtd Higher Education Institution of the Year for Social Enterprise
- Business in the Community Big Tick for the School Governor Initiative

MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH US

If you share our commitment to social responsibility and would like further information about making a difference with us, here’s how you can find out more.
Visit our website: www.manchester.ac.uk/socialresponsibility
Subscribe to our newsletter: www.socialresponsibility.manchester.ac.uk/about/get-in-touch