

Edible Campus

From SOS-UK

Food, and how we produce, package, distribute and waste it, accounts for a third of global greenhouse gas emissions and 80% of the pressures on biodiversity. Sustainable food growing initiatives positively impact both the climate and nature, whilst also being good for the health and wellbeing of students. With 1 in 4 students regularly going without food because they can't afford it there is no better time to become an Edible Campus.



How does it work?

Edible Campus supports you to transform your campus into a connected landscape of food for people and wildlife. Growing food is a skill for life, and student engagement is a key theme throughout Edible Campus, enhancing wellbeing through provision of affordable produce, physical activity, and the chance to connect with each other, the soil and nature.

Our focus is on 'low impact' climate resilient food growing including methods to reduce weed pressure, save water and provide term time produce. We advocate for no-dig (or minimal soil disturbance), no use of artificial chemicals or peat compost, planting with a focus on cultural accessibility and heritage, planting for pollinators, use of cover crops, perennial planting, and growing from seed (including saving seed) where possible.



Site visit

Up to 3 hour in-person visit to:

- Assess current and potential growing spaces
- Plan for the year
- Deliver student-facing activities



Online support

3 support calls (~30mins) per term covering topics such as:

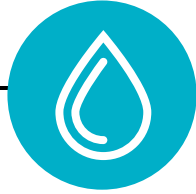
- Growing planning
- Campus food maps
- Problem solving
- Tracking goals and exploring opportunities



Training

Online webinars (~1 hour) topics dependant on needs, for example:

- Propagation methods
- Planting planning
- Seed saving



Water Conservation Trust

Annually the Water Conservation Trust donate £2500 of funding to improve the water efficiency of campus growing areas via SOS-UK. You'll be guaranteed short listing for this competition if you meet the minimum criteria.



Ad-hoc support and resource creation

We're always available at the end of an email, so if there's anything missing from our standard support options, just drop us a line!

What are the benefits?

- Action on UN SDGs 2. Zero Hunger, 3. Good Health and Wellbeing, and 15. Life on land
- Acting for the climate and nature emergencies
- Supported action on food and growing elements of your sustainability strategy
- Taking action to enhance student experience and student wellbeing
- Skill development for growing low carbon and affordable food
- Opportunities to link in with research, teaching and living labs on your campus
- Collaboration opportunities
- Wider dissemination opportunities
- Access to the Green Impact Webinar Series

Costs

The cost to join is £2950 +VAT for 2024-25.

We also offer additional in person site visits and bespoke consultancy (e.g. creation of a sustainable food policy).

Please email us to discuss these options.

Sign up

Sign up to our programmes for 2024-2025, or email us with any queries.



STUDENTS
ORGANISING FOR
SUSTAINABILITY
UNITED KINGDOM