

## What does Education for Sustainability have to do with Education?

"Southampton Education School is advancing policy and practice in education, teaching and learning around the world. Through research we aim to respond to some of today's key issues; how people will work, the health of future generations, the issue of social equality and how to ensure a flow of people with the science, technology, engineering and maths skills to help address environmental and other challenges." <http://www.southampton.ac.uk/education/about/index.page?>

Education is critical to addressing the current challenges that face society. Topic areas of relevance to sustainability already in the Education curriculum include:

- Education and training: role in developing human capital - individual's health, knowledge, skills & motivation; continuing professional development
- Role of social relationships: mentoring and coaching; social competence
- Global citizenship: the role of education in developing people's values and responsibility for those around them; environmental, social and economic responsibility; skills for the future; intergenerational considerations; sustainability and ethics as core values
- Social justice: inclusive design and accessibility, value everyone's participation and contributions; equality and diversity; education as a form of empowerment; human rights
- Health and well-being: a holistic approach to promoting mental and physical health and well-being; emotional competence; role of education institutions as local hubs for well-being, change in communities
- Different perspectives: role of education on a global, national, regional, organisational, institutional and classroom level; educational leadership in a globalised world; impact of globalisation on education and society
- Capabilities for the future: giving individuals the skills and knowledge to live and work sustainably; developing the knowledge, values and skills to participate in decisions about the way we do things, individually and collectively, locally and globally

**Key skills for education practitioners which sustainability teaching cultivates:** problem-based learning; informed decision-making; synthesis of different opinions, theory and data; interdisciplinarity; communication; critical thinking.

**Find out more:** Contact Julia Kendal ([j.kendal@soton.ac.uk](mailto:j.kendal@soton.ac.uk)) for more information including case studies on teaching sustainability in this area.