

PRiME

*an initiative of the
United Nations Global Compact*



Sharing Information on Progress 2026

The Business School, Edinburgh
Napier University

September 2026

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About the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME)

The Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) is a United Nations-supported initiative founded in 2007 that aims to raise the profile of sustainability in their classrooms through Seven Principles focused on serving society and safeguarding our planet.

PRME engages business and management schools to ensure they provide future leaders with the skills needed to balance economic and sustainability goals, while drawing attention to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and aligning academic institutions with the work of the UN Global Compact. Driven by its mission to transform management education, PRME equips today's business students with the understanding and ability to deliver change tomorrow. As a voluntary initiative with over 800 signatories worldwide, PRME has become the largest organized relationship between the United Nations and management-related higher education institutions.



“*The PRME initiative was launched to nurture responsible leaders of the future. Never has this task been more important. Bold leadership and innovative thinking are needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).*

Antonio Guterres

Secretary-General (2017 - Present)

United Nations

”

Principles of PRME



Purpose

We advance responsible management education to foster inclusive prosperity in a world of thriving ecosystems.



Values

We place organizational responsibility and accountability to society and the planet at the core of what we do.



Teach

We transform our learning environments by integrating responsible management concepts and practices into our curriculum and pedagogy.



Research

We study people, organizations, institutions, and the state of the world to inspire responsible management and education practice.



Partner

We engage people from business, government, civil society, and academia to advance responsible and accountable management education and practice.



Practice

We adopt responsible and accountable management principles in our own governance and operations.



Share

We share our successes and failures with each other to enable our collective learning and best live our common values and purpose.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

In September 2015, all 193 Member States of the United Nations adopted a plan for achieving a better future for all – laying out a path over the next 15 years to end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and protect our planet. At the heart of Agenda 2030 are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 related targets that address the most important economic, social, environmental and governance challenges of our time. The SDGs clearly define the world we want – applying to all nations and leaving no one behind. Successful implementation of the SDGs will require all players to champion this agenda; the role of higher education is critical to this.





Getting Started

This section provides foundational information about The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University, including key details and basic institutional data.

Mission

The Business School Mission

"Empowering our communities to apply business knowledge for positive societal impact".

This mission was derived in 2022 and is the Schools focus with decisions referring back to this relating to curriculum, research, learning and teaching.

Graduates & Enrollment

2025 Statistics	Number
Graduates	6000
Faculty & Staff at the University	1500
Faculty & Staff at the Institution	210
Student Enrollment at the University	19000
Student Enrollment at the Institution	6835
Undergraduate Attendance	3913
Masters-Level Postgraduate Attendance	2848
Doctoral Student Attendance	74
Certificate, Professional Development, or Continuing Education Attendance	80

Degrees Offered

Bachelor Programs

 Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)

Masters Programs

 Master of Science (M.Sc. or M.S.)  Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.)

Doctoral Programs

 Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)  Doctor of Business Administration (D.B.A.)



Purpose

We advance responsible management education to foster inclusive prosperity in a world of thriving ecosystems.

Letter of Commitment

A Message from the Dean, The Business School

I am pleased to present this report, which shares information on our continued progress around the agenda for the Principles for Responsible Management Education, focused here on the period from October 2025 - September 2026.

Over the past academic year, the Business School's commitment to responsible management was consolidated. I am pleased with the progress we have made in my first year as Dean. We have embedded and extended sustainability principles into both our curriculum and research priorities. We have continued to extend our portfolio of programmes with a sustainability focus; most recently with the launch of our new MSc Marketing with Sustainability, in September 2025; and we continue to engage with businesses of all sizes to support their transition towards the net zero economy.

Our strategy towards 2035 will see us actively focus on supporting Scotland's ambition to be home of purposeful business. An example of this aspiration became tangible this year, with the targeted short course provision we have developed to support SMEs to respond to the challenge of the transition towards a net zero economy; such as [Introduction to Carbon Management and Achieving Net Zero](#) and [Managing Complexity in Global Supply Chains](#).

The Business School has always been proud to be a leader in practice as well as theory: not least in helping our home city to become the first in Europe to be recognised by the CAN-B movement, in 2019. But in the past 12 months we have directly supported young people in Viet Nam to adapt to the green economy and sustainable innovation. Through our Centre for Business Innovation and Sustainable Solutions, the Youth Green Innovators for Sustainable Enterprise Programme, developed by Edinburgh Napier and funded jointly by British Council and HSBC, has taken our research expertise into Viet Nam.

The programme was not simply about sharing academic knowledge: it was about giving young people the skills, confidence and support to become changemakers who can take new ideas back to their communities and create wider and longer-term impact.

Young people representing different regional communities came together to learn about climate change, the green economy, sustainable enterprise and innovation. They then used this knowledge to explore environmental challenges within their own communities and develop green business ideas that respond to local needs.

This project underlines how research creates its greatest value when it moves beyond universities and makes a real difference in communities. It also exemplifies the Principles of Responsible Management Education (PRME), which place a clear onus on Higher Education to 'transform management education and develop the responsible decision-makers of tomorrow to *advance sustainable development*'.

As a PRME signatory since 2020, we will be continuing to seek to influence professional practice and policy, nationally and internationally, to help drive key societal, economic and environmental impacts.

Our mission remains 'to empower communities to apply business knowledge for positive societal impact', and we work constantly to embed practical actions into our curriculum, to promote sustainability and relate these to the key ideas of sustainability, as reflected in the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

All our undergraduate and postgraduate programmes now reflect one or more of the SDGs, and our research is targeted to solving real world problems, mapped against the criteria used in the Times Higher Education's Impact Ranking.

The 2026 Rankings scored ENU particularly highly in its work under four of the goals: Decent Work and Economic Growth; Sustainable Cities & Communities; Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions; and Reduced Inequalities (in the latter, we are ranked among the top 200 globally).

Our activity - both nationally and internationally - has seen our ranking maintained in the 2026 Times Higher Education Impact Rankings. We continue to sit in the top quartile for the Sustainability Impact Rating overall, sitting between 301 and 400 from more than 2100 universities worldwide.

As a community of applied practice, we actively seek opportunities to share our experience, to enhance our own impact and help embed the best practice that is most relevant to our own mission and vision.

All my colleagues at The Business School are incredibly proud of the work being undertaken here, and I take this opportunity to thank the array of students, staff and partners who have each enabled key areas of improvement, including the development of new academic modules.

As Dean, I will continue to champion our environmental sustainability and responsible leadership journey at The Business School, and I look forward to helping lead our support for the significant commitments that are embedded within our University Strategy, which includes a commitment to leverage our expertise, partnerships, and civic role to address the most complex challenges facing society over the next decade.

Mr Andy McGoff Dean, The Business School

Definition of Purpose

The Business School for empowerment, enterprise, and employability for all

Institutional Engagement

26% - 50%

of faculty at The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University actively contribute to our work with PRME, advancing responsible management education, or addressing sustainable development challenges through their work.



Values

We place organizational responsibility and accountability to society and the planet at the core of what we do.



How We Define Values

Leading with our values of being Professional, Ambitious, Innovative and Inclusive, and acting with Respect and Integrity, we place responsibility and accountability to society and the planet at the heart of what we do. Guided by our vision of empowerment, enterprise and employability for all, we strive to develop confident and talented individuals who can contribute positively to their organisations and communities from day one, creating positive economic, social and environmental impact through responsible leadership and management practice

Who Champions Responsible Management Education at Our Institution

- ❖ Disciplinary efforts within business school
- ❖ Interdisciplinary efforts across business school
- ❖ Research or issue group, society, or club leading sustainability efforts

Student Awareness

51% - 75% of students at The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University are aware that we are a PRME Signatory Member.

Student Engagement

0% - 25% of students at The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University actively contribute to our work with PRME, advancing RME, or addressing sustainable development challenges through their work.



Teach

We transform our learning environments by integrating responsible management concepts and practices into our curriculum and pedagogy.

How We Define Teach

The Business School systematically integrates sustainability into its curriculum to empower students with the comprehensive knowledge, critical skills, ethical attitudes, and values required to address complex global challenges and to actively contribute to the creation of a sustainable future for themselves and for their local and global communities.

Educator Recognition

At The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University, we recognize educators for quality of teaching in the following ways:

- ❖ Course evaluation scores
- ❖ Faculty promotion and tenure consideration
- ❖ Institutional recognition events
- ❖ Pedagogical innovation grants
- ❖ Professional development opportunities
- ❖ Publication or research support
- ❖ Student-nominated teaching awards

Barriers to Innovative Curriculum

In 2025, The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University identified the following barriers to innovating, updating, or taking risks in existing curriculum:

- ❖ Accreditation constraints
- ❖ Assessment challenges
- ❖ Budgetary limitations
- ❖ Resource allocation challenges
- ❖ Scalability issues

Barriers to Innovative Pedagogy

In 2025, The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University identified the following barriers to innovating, updating, or taking risks in existing pedagogy:

- ❖ Accreditation limitations
- ❖ Budget constraints
- ❖ Scalability issues
- ❖ Student engagement concerns

❖ Time constraints



Research

We study people, organizations, institutions, and the state of the world to inspire responsible management and education practice.

How We Define Research

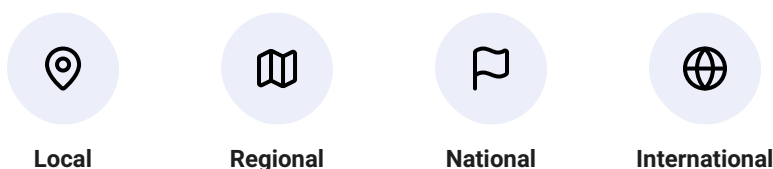
The Business School interprets the PRME Research Principle as the creation of rigorous, impactful research that advances sustainable, responsible management and contributes to societal well-being. Research is delivered through centres such as the Centre for Business Innovations and Sustainable Solutions (CBISS) and Business School groups including NABRS, SBERG, FAR Hub, Unity Lab and WEiS, generating knowledge that supports the UN Sustainable Development Goals and responsible business practice.

Research vs Research for RME/Sustainable Development



Research Funding

In 2025, The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University was awarded funding for research that is:



Socializing Research

In 2025, The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University contributed research findings to:

- ❖ Community organizations
- ❖ Government and policy makers
- ❖ Industry and business networks
- ❖ International media
- ❖ Local media
- ❖ National media

Research Barriers

In 2025, The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University identified the following barrier to conducting research related to sustainability and/or responsibility:

- ❖ Funding challenges



Partner

We engage people from business, government, civil society, and academia to advance responsible and accountable management education and practice.

How We Define Partner

Developing meaningful relationships with businesses, government, professional bodies, communities, and academic partners to advance responsible management education and practice. Through real-world learning, applied research, and stakeholder collaboration, these partnerships help create sustainable solutions and positive societal impact. Aligned with our vision, which focuses on empowerment, enterprise, employability, and societal impact.

Institutional Partnerships

- ❖ AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business)
- ❖ Quacquarelli Symonds (QS)
- ❖ University Councils

Student Organization Partnerships

- ❖ None
- ❖ PRME Students



Practice

We adopt responsible and accountable management principles in our own governance and operations.

How We Define Practice

Leading by example through responsible governance, ethical decision-making, sustainable operations, and an inclusive culture, we embed responsible and accountable management across all aspects of our work. Through sustainability-focused practices, equality, diversity and inclusion, stakeholder engagement, impactful research, and real-world education, we strive to create positive societal impact, advance responsible leadership, and cultivate a culture of accountability, challenge, and continuous improvement.

Institutional Policies and Practices

- ❖ Accreditation body recommendation documents
- ❖ Buildings/real estate
- ❖ Campus operations guides
- ❖ Carbon reduction or offset commitments
- ❖ Climate action plan
- ❖ Greenhouse gas emissions
- ❖ Local staff/student/faculty transportation
- ❖ Sustainability strategy or strategic plan (school or university level)
- ❖ Travel guides
- ❖ Zero-waste guides
- ❖ AI use guide
- ❖ Curriculum guidelines
- ❖ Environmental stewardship policies
- ❖ Ethical data sourcing guides
- ❖ Equity reporting (DEI, EDI, etc.)
- ❖ Faculty hiring, tenure, and promotion guidelines
- ❖ Open-access guides
- ❖ Professional training opportunities
- ❖ Student equity, diversity, inclusion

Practice Voices

The following statement from stakeholders at The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University demonstrates our commitment to sustainable and responsible practices.

People & Planet

The most recent annual league table for Sustainability - compiled by People & Planet, the UK's largest student campaigning network - again places Edinburgh Napier in a top 3 position among Scotland's 19 universities. This reflects their assessment of our performance across a range of environmental and ethical considerations, which include carbon reduction and management, and education.



Share

We share our successes and failures with each other to enable our collective learning and best live our common values and purpose.



How We Define Share

We share knowledge, experiences, successes, and challenges with students, staff, partners, and the wider community. Through research dissemination, knowledge exchange, stakeholder engagement, and our impact cases, we contribute to collective learning and support the advancement of responsible management education, sustainability, and positive societal impact.

Engagement Opportunities

The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University offers transparent engagement opportunities for members of our institution and community to contribute to our sustainability and responsibility efforts in the following ways:

- ❖ Boards and advisory committees
- ❖ Annual reports
- ❖ Community events and consultation forums
- ❖ Feedback mechanisms (e.g., surveys, suggestion boxes)
- ❖ Open faculty and student meetings and town halls
- ❖ Public events and panel discussions
- ❖ Partnerships with local organizations
- ❖ Student and staff volunteer programs
- ❖ Sustainability-focused research and collaboration Opportunities

Communication Audiences

The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University communicates its policies and progress on sustainable development and responsibility with:

- ❖ Accreditation bodies
- ❖ Boards and advisory committees
- ❖ Business and industry partners
- ❖ Chamber of commerce and local communities
- ❖ Faculty and staff
- ❖ Government and policy makers
- ❖ Prospective and current students
- ❖ Research and academic networks

Communication Barriers

The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University faces the following barriers in transparent communications:



**Audience
reach**



Media visibility



SIGNATORY

The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University



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United Kingdom



Website

<https://www.napier.ac.uk/about-us/our-schools/the-business-school>