

2024 Sharing Information on Progress **(SIP) Report**

Newcastle Business School,
University of Northumbria

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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.





Purpose

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

Letter of Commitment

Newcastle Business School, University of Northumbria demonstrates its commitment to PRME's Principles through the following letter from senior leadership.



**Northumbria
University**
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14/08/2024

Adoption of the Principles for Responsible Management Education

To our stakeholders,

I am pleased to confirm that Newcastle Business School reaffirms its support of the following Seven Principles for Responsible Management Education: Purpose, Values, Teach, Research, Partner, Practice and Share. In this annual Sharing Information on Progress (SIP) report, we disclose our continuous efforts to integrate the Seven Principles into our institutional strategy, culture, academic activities, and daily operations, and contribute to United Nations goals, particularly in the Sustainable Development Goals.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AH'.

Dr Alex Hope BSc (Hons) PhD MA MCMi PFHEA

Deputy Faculty Pro Vice-Chancellor, Dean of Newcastle Business School

Institutional Mission, Vision, and Strategy

The following outlines Newcastle Business School, University of Northumbria's institutional mission, vision, and strategic approach to responsible management education.

Mission, Vision, Strategy or Purpose

Our Vision, Mission and Strategy

Relevant Stakeholders

All Stakeholders

Purpose

To be a force for good

Mission

View document  Download document 



Values

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

RME Leadership Accountability

At Newcastle Business School, University of Northumbria, accountability for responsible management education is structured as follows:

Formalized Senior Leadership Role

Accountability for PRME

Leadership for UN PRME sits with our Deputy Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education).

Leadership for PRME sits at executive level within the school with our DPVC Education. They also hold a position on the PRME Board, are Co-Chair of the PRME Climate and Environment Working Group and ex Vice Chair of the PRME UK and Ireland Chapter. He represents us in our role of PRME Champions and we allocated a healthy budget to enable our PRME related activities.

Organizational Structure for RME

The following organizational entities at Newcastle Business School, University of Northumbria are responsible for RME:

- ❖ Newcastle Business School is comprised of four academic departments, all of which are accountable and responsible for RME in their specific disciplines.
- ❖ Research-Focused Entity



Teach

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

RME Elements in Degree Programs

Newcastle Business School, University of Northumbria integrates responsible management education into its degree programs through 3 different approaches:

Guest Speakers and Showcase Events

Examples of guest speakers and showcase events

Paul Polman KBE, the former Chief Executive of global consumer goods company Unilever, has given a public lecture at Northumbria University, Newcastle, challenging corporate heads to step-up and take an ethical lead. During his visit to Northumbria, Mr Polman also conducted a Masterclass for the University's MBA students.

Date

February, 2020 - February, 2020

Location

Northumbria University

Speakers

Paul Polman

[Supporting Links](#)

Paul Polman KBE, the former Chief Executive of global consumer goods company Unilever, has given a public lecture at Northumbria University, Newcastle, challenging corporate heads to step-up and take an ethical lead. During his visit to Northumbria, Mr Polman also conducted a Masterclass for the University's MBA students.

RME is in the signatory's educational vision, so that it drives the signatory's business model and all educational efforts, courses, programs, degrees, and non-degrees

Newcastle Business School Mission and Vision

The strategy of NBS aligns to the mission, vision and ambitions of Northumbria Universities Strategy 2030 and was developed in an inclusive process which involved staff, students, and our Advisory Board.

Our mission is to act as a force for good in the region and beyond

We operationalise our vision by:

- Nurturing a vibrant community of staff, students and alumni who make a demonstrable difference in the world regionally, nationally, and internationally,
- Developing a distinctive, research-informed voice on issues of sustainability, ethics and inclusivity in public, private and charitable organizations to enhance society,
- By Imbuing our learning and teaching practice with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals to educate future business and societal leaders,
- Delivering high-quality, applied, and actionable research which informs both the full range of our programmes and the world of practice,
- Pioneering research-rich, experiential learning across our international networks,
- Building partnerships with like-minded universities and organisations and acting as a gateway to the wider University's portfolio,
- Facilitating successful entrepreneurial activities and start-ups in the areas where we operate.

The signatory's pedagogical approach, which includes RME in all degree program design and pedagogical innovations

Description of the Signatory Member's pedagogical approach, which involves RME in all degree program design and pedagogical innovations

We integrate RME through the lens of Ethics, Responsibility and Sustainability (ERS) using the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as the framework.

Having delivered a specific module on Applied Business Ethics for over a decade we decided that further integration of ERS within core modules would better highlight the centrality of ERS than a standalone module. This decision took effect in 2015/16 for students on our suite of direct entry Level 6 programmes who undertake a core module in Strategic Management and Corporate Responsibility (SM0382). The Level 6 'Applied Business Ethics' (SM0381) module has been superseded for continuing students this academic year (2018/19) by a capstone 'Sustainable Strategy' module premised on the achievement of the triple bottom line of Economic, Social and Environmental Sustainability. The remainder of the undergraduate curriculum has been revised to include elements of ERS throughout the majority of modules as a means to enable broader and deeper integration of key ERS topics as well as other trends in current society. For example, our core Level 5 module 'Building Business Practice' (NX9523) embeds the use of the 'Sustainability Literacy Test' developed by Kedge Business School (one of our Dual Degree partners), to assist students in understanding the impacts of business on society. The module presents a focus on Social Entrepreneurship as a way to introduce students to organisational forms which challenge traditional for-profit business models. We continue to encourage students to choose topics which cover ERS within their final year Project

and Dissertation topics. In 2017/18, we initiated the 'North East Initiative for Business Ethics Dissertation Prize'. This comprises £250 and a commemorative shield plus an invitation to the University's Graduation Dinner. Last year's award and winner received favourable media coverage here:

<https://www.businessupnorth.co.uk/good-business-boosted-northumbria-graduation-day/>.



Research

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

RME Elements in Research

Newcastle Business School, University of Northumbria incorporates responsible management education into its research endeavors through 4 different methods:

Regular Research Seminars

Examples of responsibility-related regular research seminars

Paul Polman KBE, former CEO of Unilever, and Co-Founder of IMAGINE, 'Capitalism's Reinvention'

Date

July, 2022 - July, 2024

Location

Newcastle Business School

Speakers

Paul Polman

[Supporting Links](#)

Paul Polman KBE, former CEO of Unilever, and Co-Founder of IMAGINE, 'Capitalism's Reinvention'

Research Conferences

Examples of responsibility-related conferences

Society of Business Ethics Conference

Date

September, 2024 - September, 2024

Location

Newcastle Business School

Speakers

Various

[Supporting Links](#)

Society for Business Ethics and Northumbria University – The landscape of business ethics in the United Kingdom

Required Research Reporting

Research mapped against the SDGs

We map all of our research and knowledge exchange activities against the UN SDGS

We map all of our research and knowledge exchange activities against the UN SDGS in a searchable archive to demonstrate the breadth and depth of our impact: [Northumbria University Research Portal](#)

Dedicated Research Funding

Description of research awards for responsibility-related research

Responsible Business Research Group

We organise our research and impact activities into key research groups. Whilst not centres as such, they have a leadership team and budgetary responsibility. Our largest grouping is our Responsible Business Research Group and it is through this entity that we fund responsibility related research [Responsible Business \(northumbria.ac.uk\)](https://northumbria.ac.uk/responsible-business)



Partner

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

Partnership Approaches for RME

Newcastle Business School, University of Northumbria partners with external stakeholders to advance responsible management education through 2 different approaches:

Knowledge Translation and Dissemination

Responsible Business Research Group

The Responsible Business Research Group brings together more than sixty scholars and research students who develop insightful, novel, and useful research deploying a variety of methods across business contexts. In addition to our own research, we hold regular Responsible Business Seminars with leading practitioners and researchers (details below). Responsible Business is at the heart of our research agenda. In the most recent survey of UK Business Ethics research, we ranked seventh for quality publications; we are a United Nations' PRiME (Principles of Responsible Management in Education) Champion, a member of the Responsible Research in Business & Management (RRBM) network, a Corporate Sponsor of the Institute of Business Ethics and we work with Business in the Community and the North East Initiative for Business Ethics.

Our researchers work in four broad areas considering the individual at work, organisational sustainability and CSR, corporate governance, and the wider environment for business ethics. These areas are introduced below:

Moral Agency at Work

Colleagues focussing on moral agency consider character, virtues and the sources and effects of meaningful work. We are particularly concerned with how religious and other traditions frame employees' understanding of workplace morality and with the ethical dimensions of equality, diversity and inclusion.

Strategic Sustainability and Responsibility

Strategic Sustainability and Responsibility subgroup champions dynamic, evidence-based approaches to embed sustainability and ethical responsibility at the heart of business strategy and organisation, catalysing transformative practices that redefine industry standards and educate future leaders in responsible management.

Governance and Accountability

This research theme focuses on understanding and innovating within governance structures and accountability in business practices. It adopts an interdisciplinary approach, addressing critical issues in corporate governance, social and environmental accounting, carbon disclosure, and sustainability reporting. Researchers in this theme have contributed to impactful journals and led successful case studies, exploring diverse aspects of governance and accountability. Supported by prestigious bodies like The British Academy, our research spans from feminist perspectives in accounting to inclusive digital finance, making significant contributions to journals and case studies. Emphasizing diverse research methods, the theme is a forefront of responsible business studies, actively engaging PhD students.

Financial Markets, Innovation & Sustainable Economies

In this theme, our research delves into the intricate synergy between financial markets, technological innovation, and sustainable growth. Emphasizing interdisciplinary study, our team examines how financial markets drive innovation and sustain economic practices, contributing to transformative policies and industry practices. Backed by prestigious funding and global partnerships, our projects range from agroforestry social research to sustainable diet initiatives. This theme is not only a hub for academic inquiry but also a nurturing ground for PhD students and industry collaborations, dedicated to addressing the financial and economic challenges of our times.

Responsible Business Seminars

Our public seminar series has run since 2015. Senior business leaders and renowned researchers present practice and projects and answer questions from a diverse audience.

External Community Dialogue

Description of partnering activities that involve dialoguing

The Business Clinic is an education scheme whereby a group of business students participate in a 'consultancy firm' to provide advice for our clients. The service is offered for all types of businesses from SME's, multi-national and through to not for profit organisations.

The [Business Clinic](#) at Northumbria University has assisted more than 600 organisations with its free consultancy service, which has benefited multinationals, small-to-medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), social enterprises, not-for-profit organisations and charities. The economic and social value of this assistance has now topped the £3.3m mark, while 2,400 Northumbria Business School students have worked on consultancy projects both at undergraduate and postgraduate level since the Business Clinic was launched in 2013. These figures highlight the

value of the Business Clinic's consultancy service to organisations in the North East of England as well as further afield in the UK and overseas. Students work at the Business Clinic within their final year of study, offering clients a full consultancy experience. The aim of each project is to undertake research and make recommendations that will benefit the organisation in the short and long term.



Practice

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

RME Policy Implementation

Newcastle Business School, University of Northumbria has implemented 7 policies to support its commitment to responsible management education:

Greenhouse gas emissions

Policies on greenhouse gas emissions

Our University Strategy commits to enhancing our reputation for sustainability and to supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through our research, teaching, campus and operations. We are a signatory of the SDG Accord and the United Nations Academic Impact in recognition of the positive impact we can make. Many the SDGs directly relate to environmental challenges such as Climate Action, Responsible Consumption, Sustainable Cities and Life on Land, however all SDGs are impacted by environmental impacts due to their interconnected nature

Scope

Carbon Management

Enforcement Date

September, 2020

Number Of Pages

24

Publisher

Northumbria University

Media

PDF

Carbon Management Strategy 2020-2030

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Water

Policies on water

Northumbria University Water Management Policy 1 Sustainable Water Policy Minimising the volume of mains fed water that we use across the University is essential to minimising our environmental impacts and improving sustainability as specified in the Environmental Sustainability Policy. Careful management of water also results in financial savings and

supports the achievement of our carbon reduction targets detailed in our Carbon Management Strategy 2020-2030. In addition, sharing best practice and innovative solutions also contributes to learning and awareness amongst our staff, students and stakeholders.

Scope

Water

Enforcement Date

June, 2024

Number Of Pages

2

Publisher

Northumbria Univeristy

Media

PDF

Sustainable Water Policy

View document  Download document 

Buildings/real estate

Policies on building/real estate

Sustainable Construction & Refurbishment Policy and Guidelines

Scope

Building Construction & Refurbishment

Enforcement Date

June, 2024

Number Of Pages

6

Publisher

Northumbria Univerisity

Media

PDF

Sustainable Construction Refurb Policy and
Guidelines 2425

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Local staff/student/faculty transportation

Policies on local staff/student/faculty transportation

Northumbria University recognises its operational activities can have an impact upon the environment. Through a range of aligned policies and in accordance with Northumbria's certified Environmental Management System, the University seeks to minimise these impacts whilst allowing it to continue growing and developing in a sustainable manner. Guidelines

Scope

Travel

Enforcement Date

November, 2023

Number Of Pages

26

Publisher

Northumbria University

Media

PDF

[Supporting Links](#)

Travel

Policies on local staff/student/faculty transportation

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Scope

Travel

Enforcement Date

November, 2023

Number Of Pages

26

Publisher

Northumbria University

Media

PDF

[Supporting Links](#)

Employee equity, diversity, inclusion

Policies on employee (including faculty) equity, diversity, inclusion

EDI Policy

Scope

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Enforcement Date

July, 2022

Number Of Pages

8

Publisher

Northumbria University

Media

Website

[Supporting Links](#)

Student equity, diversity, inclusion

Policies on employee (including faculty) equity, diversity, inclusion

EDI Policy

Scope

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Enforcement Date

July, 2022

Number Of Pages

8

Publisher

Northumbria University

Media

Website

[Supporting Links](#)

Institutional Aspiration Targets

Newcastle Business School, University of Northumbria has set aspiration targets in 5 different areas:

- ❖ GHG Emission Targets
- ❖ Water Conservation Targets
- ❖ Building and Real Estate Targets
- ❖ Internal Transportation Targets
- ❖ Travel Reduction Targets



Share

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



Performance Disclosure and Transparency

Regarding transparency in RME performance disclosure, Newcastle Business School, University of Northumbria operates with the following approach:

No Performance Disclosure

RME Disclosure

Reporting on RME

The intention is that the PRME Commons would serve this purpose as the traditional SIP once did.

SIGNATORY

Newcastle Business School, University of Northumbria



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United Kingdom



Website

<https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/about-us/academic-departments/newcastle-business-school/>