

PRiME

*an initiative of the
United Nations Global Compact*

Sharing Information on Progress 2026

University of Southampton
Business School

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 University of Southampton Business School, including key details and basic institutional data.

Graduates & Enrollment

2025 Statistics	Number
Graduates	1,350
Faculty & Staff at the University	6,000
Faculty & Staff at the Institution	185
Student Enrollment at the University	25,000
Student Enrollment at the Institution	3,100
Undergraduate Attendance	2,500
Masters-Level Postgraduate Attendance	600
Doctoral Student Attendance	195
Certificate, Professional Development, or Continuing Education Attendance	0

Degrees Offered

Bachelor Programs

 Bachelor of Science (B.Sc. or B.S.)

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.



Definition of Purpose

USBS aims to develop leaders who drive positive societal change and possess competencies in sustainability in the broadest sense. This is why sustainability is a key focus area for USBS embedded in all the School's societal impact activities. Societal impact encompasses all areas of our teaching, research, and service. We apply our expertise to help mitigate some of society's most pressing economic, social, human, and environmental issues.

Institutional Engagement

26% - 50%

of faculty at University of Southampton Business School 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

Our Core Values can be defined as follows: Quality: Striving for excellence and the highest standards in education, research, and enterprise. Collegiality: Building a supportive and cooperative community among staff, students, and partners. Integrity: Practicing honesty, accountability, transparency, and doing what serves all stakeholders best. Inclusivity: Welcoming and respecting diverse backgrounds, engaging all stakeholders, and promoting trust and fair treatment

Who Champions Responsible Management Education at Our Institution

- ❖ Individual leader
- ❖ Interdisciplinary efforts across business school
- ❖ Interdisciplinary efforts across parent organization

Student Awareness

51% - 75% of students at University of Southampton Business School are aware that we are a PRME Signatory Member.

Student Engagement

26% - 50% of students at University of Southampton Business School 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

Teaching at the University of Southampton Business School is defined and driven by the wider university's Triple Helix framework, which tightly integrates education, research, and knowledge exchange & enterprise (KEE).

Educator Recognition

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

- ❖ Annual teaching excellence awards
- ❖ Course evaluation scores
- ❖ Institutional recognition events
- ❖ Publication or research support

Barriers to Innovative Curriculum

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

- ❖ Accreditation constraints
- ❖ Administrative resistance
- ❖ Budgetary limitations
- ❖ Time constraints
- ❖ Traditional employer expectations

Barriers to Innovative Pedagogy

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

- ❖ Administrative hurdles
- ❖ Budget constraints
- ❖ Classroom infrastructure limitations
- ❖ Standardized testing pressures



Research

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

How We Define Research

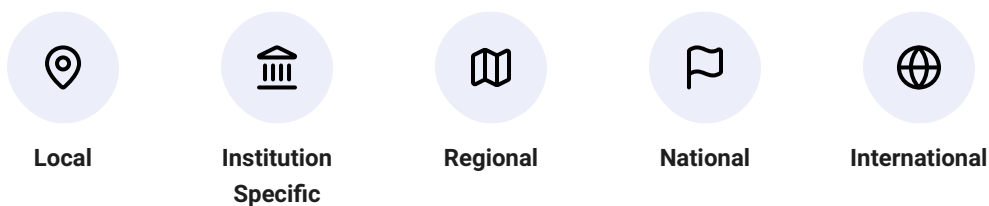
Research at the University of Southampton Business School is defined as responsible, evidence-based, and interdisciplinary investigation that aims to transform business and society for the better

Research vs Research for RME/Sustainable Development



Research Funding

In 2025, University of Southampton Business School was awarded funding for research that is:



Socializing Research

In 2025, University of Southampton Business School contributed research findings to:

- ❖ Government and policy makers
- ❖ Industry and business networks
- ❖ Open-access platforms
- ❖ Community organizations
- ❖ Public events and lectures
- ❖ Research collaborations
- ❖ Social media and digital outreach
- ❖ National media
- ❖ International media

Research Barriers

In 2025, University of Southampton Business School identified the following barriers to conducting research related to sustainability and/or responsibility:

- ❖ Administrative barriers
- ❖ Funding challenges
- ❖ Time constraints



Partner

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

How We Define Partner

Partners of the University of Southampton Business School include a wide network of international corporations, financial institutions, local small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), public organizations and global academic bodies that collaborate on research, student placements, and enterprise activities and help to link research with practice and impact.

Institutional Partnerships

- ❖ AABS (Association of African Business Schools)
- ❖ AMBA (Association of MBAs)
- ❖ AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business)
- ❖ EFMD (European Foundation for Management Development)
- ❖ Quacquarelli Symonds (QS)
- ❖ Responsible Research in Business & Management (RRBM)
- ❖ Times Higher Education (THE)
- ❖ University Councils
- ❖ Graduate Management Admission Council (GMAC)
- ❖ Athena Swan
- ❖ ICAEW

Student Organization Partnerships

- ❖ Enactus



Practice

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

How We Define Practice

At USBS, impact and practice define how the institution bridges academic research with real-world application to transform business and society for the better. Rather than treating business theory as an abstract concept, the school focuses on a philosophy of "theory fit for practice," ensuring that academic insights directly solve industry, economic, and societal challenges.

Institutional Policies and Practices

- ❖ Accreditation body recommendation documents
- ❖ Buildings/real estate
- ❖ Campus operations guides
- ❖ Carbon reduction or offset commitments
- ❖ Climate action plan
- ❖ Curriculum guidelines
- ❖ Environmental stewardship policies
- ❖ Ethical leadership or good governance policies
- ❖ Sustainability strategy or strategic plan (school or university level)
- ❖ Travel guides



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

At USBS, the "Share" principle is defined as a commitment to transparency and collaborative learning where the institution shares its successes and failures with each other to enable collective learning and best live common values and purpose. This principle originates from the school's framework as a PRME signatory. Under this framework, the "Share" principle joins other core pillars—such as Purpose, Values, Method, Research, and Partnership—to foster responsible management and sustainable practices.

Engagement Opportunities

University of Southampton Business School 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
- ❖ Open faculty and student meetings and town halls
- ❖ Publicly accessible sustainability data and dashboards
- ❖ Student and staff volunteer programs
- ❖ Sustainability-focused research and collaboration Opportunities

Communication Audiences

University of Southampton Business School communicates its policies and progress on sustainable development and responsibility with:

- ❖ Accreditation bodies
- ❖ Alumni and donors
- ❖ Boards and advisory committees
- ❖ Business and industry partners
- ❖ Faculty and staff

Communication Barriers

University of Southampton Business School faces the following barriers in transparent communications:



**Data privacy
regulations**



**Ownership
issues**



**Bureaucratic
delays**

SIGNATORY

University of Southampton Business School



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