

'Making a Mark'

Gold Mark Holder Social Impact Declaration

University of Salford

The University of Salford provides a welcoming infrastructure for students from all backgrounds to succeed.

As the first university in the UK to hold the Social Enterprise Gold Mark, we are proud of what we have achieved, exemplifying our role as a social enterprise and as a university that supports the sector. Our commitment to social enterprise is a core element of our mission – ***transforming lives, stimulating discovery, realising potential.***



The Social Enterprise Gold Mark criteria includes a requirement for all applicants and renewing Mark Holders to provide 'social impact statements', which illustrate how they are striving to meet their social/environmental objectives. [Please click here to view our full licence renewal statement for the Social Enterprise Gold Mark.](#)

Below are examples of how **University of Salford** is Making a Mark, striving to make a difference in our local communities and wider society:

Social inputs – promotion of social enterprise

We have continued to develop our activities and plans to further enhance our institutional role as: an educational social enterprise; a partner in the City of Salford in the growing social enterprise economy; a champion of social benefit and improvement; and to support our staff and students to achieve their own social impact goals.

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The University has created a Social Business Centre within its Business School, staffed by experienced researchers and teaching colleagues.

We are able to provide a range of support for the promotion of social enterprise – people, resources, time, and also access to our facilities either free of charge, or at a much reduced rate. We also provide small grants to support staff and students to either test or develop their social enterprises concepts.

The University supports social mobility and widening access in many ways, including a commitment to providing financial support to well-qualified individuals who might otherwise not be able to attend university.

Social outputs – key measures

Key outputs/measures include:

- In 2014/2015, **74** students and staff were supported to understand and test social enterprise ideas and to develop those ideas
- In 2014/15 we supported **125** students from a care background
- The University currently supports more than **1,700** students with a registered special need. This figure is constantly changing and the range of needs is diverse
- Scholarships, bursaries and other financial assistance awarded in 2014/2015 to UK and EU students exceeded **£4 million**

Social outcomes – our impact

Our Social, Cultural, Environmental and Economic Impact Study, due for publication in May/June 2016, will provide valuable insights and evidence of the outcomes we are achieving.

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