

'Making a Mark'

Mark Holder Social Impact Declaration

Newman University

Newman University is a student-centred university based in a quiet residential area only a few miles from Birmingham City Centre.

Newman is a different kind of university; we're driven by the belief that higher education should enable students to develop new ways of understanding the world and help make a positive impact within it. Our students become independent thinkers with ambition, empathy, and a lifelong love for learning.



The Social Enterprise Mark criteria includes a requirement for all applicants and renewing Mark Holders to answer a set of social impact questions, which illustrate how they are striving to meet their social/environmental objectives.

Below are examples of how **Newman University** is Making a Mark, striving to create a positive impact on people and planet.

Making high quality education accessible to all

Our mission is to serve our diverse communities by making high quality education accessible to all, and to deliver research and scholarship that has a positive impact on society.

We are committed to access and widening participation and have one of the highest intakes from state schools of all universities. We consistently

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exceed sector averages and location adjusted benchmarks for recruiting students from under-represented groups, including mature students, disabled students, students from low participation areas and students from families with no previous H.E. experience.

Commitment to social enterprise

Social enterprise is at the heart of what Newman University values, does, and seeks to develop with our students and staff.

We promote social enterprise to students and staff through initiatives, competitions, and events that encourage them to come forward with ideas to make a difference. We reward the best student ideas and provide support to explore these further. Some develop into embryonic social enterprises which we recognise through larger package of support, including a business grant, training and mentoring.

We launched Newman Health & Wellbeing as a social enterprise in 2016, with a vision to improve the quality of life for individuals and to make a positive contribution to the communities and organisations to which they belong. Initially offering Counselling & Psychotherapy and Youth outreach, the venture seeks to deliver high quality, professionally led and cost-effective services to individuals, communities and organisations within the Birmingham area.

Engaging with socially excluded young people

Our ReachOut project aims to work with young people in schools and public spaces in 3 wards with lower than expected HE take up. It involves a team of 2 youth workers and Newman University students engaging with some of the most socially excluded young people in those areas.



By taking advice and guidance out into schools and spaces where young people gather and enabling access to sport and leisure activities on the University campus, we have created space for a constructive dialogue with young people who are not being reached by existing initiatives.

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