

Environmental Champions

What is an Environmental Champion?

Environmental Champions are an informal network of staff members across the University who support the Environmental Team in achieving environmental targets and goals. An Environmental Champions key role is to advise colleagues and students on measures to enable environmental sustainability in their School, work area or department and encourage positive change. They can also report opportunities for improvements to the Environmental Team. Champions can get involved in environmental initiatives if they wish, such as supporting litter picks, volunteering at events or running activities to build environmental awareness for staff and students.

Role

- Encourage and advise colleagues on ways to save energy, water and other resources
- Assist with raising awareness of issues such as waste minimisation, recycling, sustainable travel and biodiversity, for example, through emails, word of mouth and posters
- Conduct 'walk-rounds' to spot opportunities for savings and initiatives
- Help to implement specific initiatives
- To be the local key contact for environment-related issues within a particular building, office or workshop and know who to contact for more information

How often do Champions meet?

Facilitated by the Environmental Team, Champions meet approximately 3 times per annum. The Environmental Team will also share updates via email as and when appropriate.

Why should I become an Environmental Champion?

Becoming an Environmental Champion is a fantastic way to build new networks, meet like-minded people, share knowledge and learn more about the environment. Feedback from existing Champions include that they enjoy the support from others, feel part of the bigger BCU picture, enjoy finding practical ways to make a difference and the enthusiasm of other Champions. Many feel good about contributing to making a more sustainable BCU. This is also a good way to develop skills in new areas and is a nice addition to your CV.

Are there any Requirements?

No specialist knowledge is required but individuals should be interested in the environment.

How Do I Join?

If you are a member or staff and interested in becoming an Environmental Champion, please email environment@bcu.ac.uk with your name, job title, and a brief description of why you are interested to join the network. Please speak to your line manager before signing up.

Suggestion: Some Champions have included a personal development goal around environmental sustainability, embedding being a Champion as part of their development and growth at BCU.