

EXPECT

EXCHANGES OF PRACTICES IN EDUCATION FOR CLIMATE TARGETS

JANUARY 5, 2022

NEWSLETTER NO. 3



From 8th to 9th of November 2021, partners of the project “EXPECT” met for the fourth Peer Learning Activity (PLA). This time, the team met in Brighton, United Kingdom and unlike previously, this meeting was held face-to-face. Unfortunately, due to the restrictions, not all partners were able to be present, yet they still participated online.

DAY 1

On the 1st day of PLA, project partners gathered and went to visit Plumpton College, where the whole day of the meeting was held as well. At the very beginning of the meeting, Steve Frampton, England’s Further Education Climate Commissioner, reminded that students themselves feel that progress is slow and that they are demanding ‘green’ knowledge and skills in the curriculum, given that all future jobs will be ‘green’.

Then partners were given an overview of the English post-16 education system, the student profile, the provider landscape, the qualification landscape, and the policy context for Further Education in England.

Afterward, Jeremy Kerswell, Principal of Plumpton College gave an overview of the college, its plans to achieve climate targets and also provided a guided tour around the college. It is worth mentioning that the college has the second largest college footprint in England and has a sustainability strategy that will place it at the centre of the massive change required.

Later partners were told about the Greener Sussex collaborative project of 14 colleges in the region, which has workstreams on Carbon literacy, electric vehicle technology, land management, alternative energies, and de-carbonisation. The funding from Greener Sussex will support the aim of embedding carbon literacy into existing courses as well as offering the CLP course to more students.

Newsletter Insight

[PLA Day 1](#)

[PLA Day 2](#)

[Next steps](#)

[Next newsletter](#)

[Project partners](#)



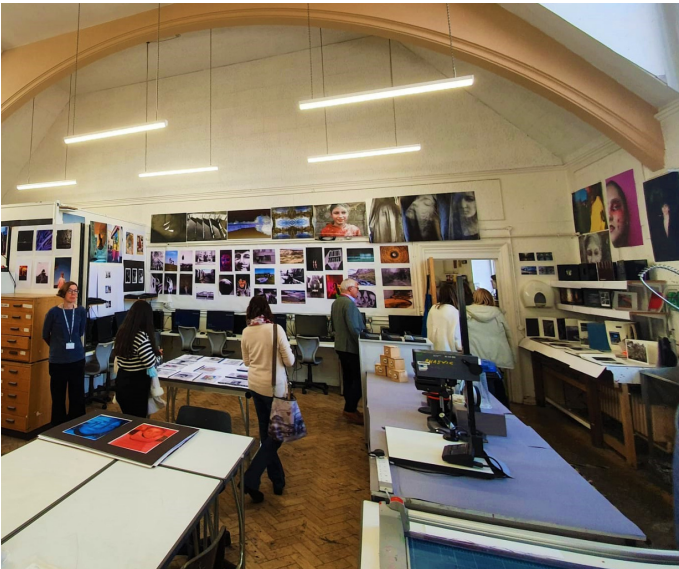
After, partners heard from local authority officials and an elected politician about their collaborative work on sustainability. Brighton & Hove City Council has a Carbon Neutral Programme and local authorities are working together on climate goals in a city-region partnership which has made 10 pledges on the environment ranging from marine conservation to low-carbon heating to decarbonising vehicle fleets.

Next, partners were told about nature-based climate solutions from a representative of Sussex Wildlife Trust (SWT). SWT's core mission is to protect the rich natural life in towns, countryside, and coast. Additionally, the Kelp Restoration project taking place off the Sussex Coast was introduced to partners as well.

At the end of 1st day, Chichester College Group (with around 15'000 learners per annum) presented examples of their support to foster sustainability. Examples included tree planting and the creation of green spaces on college campuses, educational programmes, and the aspiration to create a 'living wall' in every classroom.

DAY 2

On the 2nd day of PLA, project partners visited Brighton Hove and Sussex Sixth Form College (BHASVIC). Principal, Will Baldwin, gave an overview of the college, talked about piloting the L3 Carbon Literacy project, which teaches the science of climate change, and also provided a tour around the campus.



Afterward, Sharon Phillips from the Greater Brighton Economic board shared that there is a long tradition of partnership and entrepreneurship in this region. The aim is to work together on innovation and sustainability goals in all sectors. Innovation needs new green skills to be embedded in the work of schools, colleges, and universities as well as in industries.

Next, Philippa Alway from AoC explained that it is needed to make climate and environmental education a compulsory part of college learning and a funded requirement of lifelong learning, including student maintenance costs, which is not an easy task.

After that, Teresa Frith as well from AoC told that the green economy is a very great challenge and like other big problems, it has to be broken down into small pieces. But in order to make changes, it is important to have a lot of people. Additionally, there is a need to improve the qualification level of students for the future.



In the end, more about 'Teach the Future', a youth-led campaign launched in 2019 by Students Organising for Sustainability (SOS-UK) and UK Student Climate Network (UKSCN) which grew out of the National Union of Students. The aim is to get sustainability and climate education embedded throughout the education system, for young people and adults.

NEXT STEPS

Next PLA will take place in **March 2022**. This time, partners are going to visit Riga, Latvia. Everyone is motivated, excited, and looking forward to meet.

NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED IN MID-JUNE OF 2022

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