



# Our commitment to sustainability



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## Courses

At College, we aim to promote sustainable citizenship and ecological awareness through sustainable development education within the College curriculum. The College is a Centre of Vocational Excellence (CoVE) in Skills for Energy – one of the only CoVEs in the UK with specialist training for energy saving in construction and carbon emission reduction.

The College is a member of the East of England Energy Group (EEEGR) and works closely with key organisations across the region, including universities, colleges, industry and Government organisations.

Bedford College continues to take a proactive role in skills for energy developments with many training options on offer.

Courses developed in collaboration with industry include:

- [Foundation Degree in Building Services and Sustainability](#)
- [Foundation Degree in Sustainable Construction](#)
- [Photovoltaic Systems Installation](#)
- [Solar Domestic Hot Water Installation Certificate](#)
- [Heat Pumps](#)
- [Rainwater Harvesting Systems](#)
- [Underfloor Heating](#)

There is a 'whole institution' approach to embedding sustainability into the Bedford College's curriculum and operations. An exhibition of students' work, held on the college's Sustainability Day, showcased many excellent examples from all academic centres, including work relating to energy efficiency, alternative energy and local environmental issues.

Curriculum initiatives at Bedford College are shaped through active industry engagement to meet specific skills requirements. The College's recent Low Carbon Future event brought together industry, Further Education and Higher Education representation. Visitors included Bedford MP Patrick Hall and Summit Skills representatives Ivor Rowley and Bob Blake.

A Centre of Vocational Excellence in Skills for Energy, Bedford College is also the only FE college in the UK to have won the Green Gown award for sustainability training. The College has also recently won the 2009 Green Gown Colleges "Highly Commended" award in recognition of its 'whole institution' approach to sustainable development and contribution to FE sector developments. This award was presented to the College's Director of Sustainability Esin Esat and Deputy Principal David Pridmore at the Green Gown Gala Banquet on 23 June 2009 by Kate Humble, host of the Green Gown 2009 Awards and Caroline Neville - Regional Director for the East of England and Sustainable Development Champion for Management Group of the Learning and Skills Council.

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