Public Engagement Strategy 2018 - 2023

At Goldsmiths we are committed to creating change locally and globally, generating knowledge and stimulating self-discovery through creative, radical and intellectually rigorous thinking and practice.

We are committed to making our research, scholarship and practice come to life in the world, engaging a broad range of publics in a positive, mutually beneficial exchange of ideas in a socially conscious way.

Drawing on the Research Councils UK (RCUK) and National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement (NCCPE) definitions, public engagement at Goldsmiths encompasses the different ways specific publics are engaged in a dialogue with the design, process and outcomes of our research, scholarship and practice, leading to benefits for all involved.

Goldsmiths is a place where theory and creative and professional practice are often interrelated, with a range of well-established applied, collaborative and socially engaged research methods employed across our academic Departments.

Drawing on these traditions and sector best practice, we nurture and embed a sustainable culture where researchers at all career stages are supported to undertake excellent public engagement fit for an environment of increasing public accountability.

Strategic Aims:

I. To become internationally recognised for our innovative, effective approach to public engagement

II. To welcome, listen, trust and collaborate with the full range of publics and organisations

III. To develop a sector leading, sustainable culture of public engagement

I. To become internationally recognised for our innovative, effective approach to public engagement

We will do this through:

- Developing and supporting bespoke public engagement that catalyses significant, positive, demonstrable change both locally and globally

- Cultivating a reputation for innovative public engagement outside of higher education and becoming a partner of choice for prestigious organisations in other sectors

- Becoming recognised as a sector leader for innovative public engagement, shaping discourse and best practice across the UK and internationally

- Working towards the NCCPE Gold Watermark by 2023, and continuously benchmarking ourselves against sector best practice
II. To welcome, listen, trust and collaborate with the full range of publics and organisations

We will do this through:

- Initiating active partnerships and collaborations with external organisations such as schools, galleries, museums, community groups, local businesses, funding bodies and government agencies, and our students
- Building trust, consulting with and engaging our neighbouring communities in dialogues with our relevant research, practice and scholarship, and more broadly to identify and address their needs
- Making our campus welcoming and accessible to all, developing activities, interventions and exhibitions that maximise the flow of knowledge and ideas between Goldsmiths and visiting publics
- Securing a permanent, public space (e.g. a shop) located in our local community to act as a hub for engagement activities of all kinds

III. To develop a sector leading, sustainable culture of public engagement

We will do this through:

- Developing a university-wide shared understanding of the diversity and value of public engagement, sharing insights and best practice across the institution and beyond
- Formally embedding public engagement in our governance, policy, development, and reward and recognition structures
- Providing opportunities for all academic staff and postgraduate research students to engage the public with their research, scholarship and practice
- Developing support structures and resources to equip researchers with the skills and knowledge to undertake excellent public engagement leading to demonstrable benefits for all involved
- Making public engagement self-sustaining by attracting significant external public engagement funding in the form of PE specific calls, while contributing to successful research grant proposals and potential impact case studies for REF 2021