



# PRME CHAPTER UK AND IRELAND TENTH ANNIVERSARY REPORT 2023

*Celebrating a decade of promoting Responsible Management Education in the UK and Ireland*

**PRME** Principles for Responsible Management Education  
CHAPTER UK AND IRELAND

Celebrating our **10** ANNIVERSARY  
2013 - 2023

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# ABOUT US

The Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) is a United Nations-supported initiative founded in 2007 that aims to raise the profile of sustainability in classrooms through [Six Principles](#) focused on serving society and safeguarding our planet.

PRME Chapter UK and Ireland serves as a regional PRME Chapter, dedicated to advancing the Six Principles within the UK and Ireland. We offer localized engagement for higher education organizations, serving as a platform for dialogue, learning, and action on responsible management and leadership education and research.

The Chapter's governance rests in our Steering Committee, including Chair Jonathan Louw, Vice-Chair Natascha Radclyffe Thomas, Treasurer Nishat Azmat, along with additional members Ann Hindley, Claire May, Georgina Gough, Laura Steele, Karen Cripps, Karen Neville, Mohamed Saeudy, Rachel Welton, and Steve Kenzie (Ex-Officio Member - Executive Director, UN Global Compact Network UK).

For more information visit [unprme.org.uk](http://unprme.org.uk)

The Chapter has 105 [Signatory Members](#) across the UK and Ireland.




# 10 YEARS OF PRME IN THE UK AND IRELAND

In 2023, the UK and Ireland Principles of Responsible Management Education (PRME) Chapter marked a significant Milestone; ten years of the Chapter. This offered us an opportunity to both reflect on the past ten years of promoting responsible management education and imagine ways to refresh and chart an innovative course for PRME's work in the decade ahead.

In this report, we are pleased to share with you highlights from our anniversary year and from the past decade of chapter life.


Over the past 10 years, PRME Chapter UK and Ireland has...

Established **7** local networks across our two nations 

 Gained **105** signatory institutions from across the UK and Ireland

Hosted **400+** online and in person events 

 Held **9** annual conferences

Hosted **20** writing and seed funding competitions 

## 2023 IN REVIEW

Our 10 year anniversary provides a unique opportunity for the Chapter to revisit our roots and celebrate how far we've come! We launched our [10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary blog](#) this year to capture and highlight stories from the Chapter over the past decade.

We returned to Aston Business School, the site of the initial meeting of the chapter, for our Tenth Anniversary Conference and Doctoral Colloquium in June and took the opportunity to interview some of our [founding figures](#) who guided the initial gathering at Aston. They shared their experiences and reflections on the challenges they faced 10 years ago.

Throughout 2023, our 7 local networks ran showcase events and student competitions on the theme of food and SDG 2 Zero Hunger. Our annual Student writing competition, developing pedagogy and research seed funding competitions continued to support teaching initiatives and research on PRME topics.

We expanded our organisational capacity this year with the appointment of our new secretariat at Birmingham City University (BCU). We thank the University of Winchester and Glasgow Caledonian University for serving as our Secretariat hosts prior to the move to BCU in 2023

PRME is a United Nations Global Compact supported initiative and this year we continued to build our relationship with the [UN Global Compact Network UK](#) and hired a shared intern to enhance our engagement with the UNGC community.



# HISTORY OF THE CHAPTER

## FOUNDATION OF THE CHAPTER

The Foundation Meeting for the PRME Chapter UK & Ireland was held on 10 May 2013 at Aston Business School.

Representatives from 32 PRME signatory business and management schools across the UK and Ireland came together to craft a Constitution, establish a Steering Committee, and brainstorm roles, activities, and events for the budding chapter.

Led by Alan Murray and Carole Parkes, from Winchester and Aston Business

Schools, the founding members of the UK and Ireland chapter played a crucial role in establishing the chapter and shaping its agenda, including Treasurer Alec Wersun, Secretary Natalia Yakovleva, and Steering Group members Paul Cashian, David Clemson, Joanne Cook, Sheila Killian, Jonathan Gosling, and Christian Herzig.

We spoke to [Alan Murray](#) and [Carole Parkes](#) on our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary blog on the initial challenges from 10 years ago and inspiration for the future.



Attendees at the initial meeting of the Chapter at Aston Business School in May 2013

## CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT

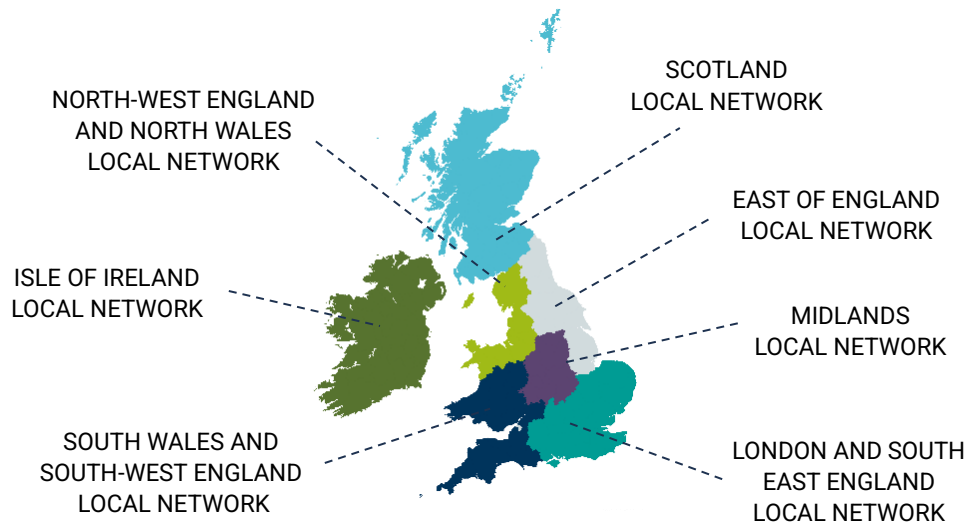
Since 2013, the Chapter has been led by four chairs, Alan Murray (Chair 2013 – 2014), Carole Parkes (Chair, 2015 – 2017), Alec Wersun (Chair, 2018 – 2020 and Jonathan Louw (Chair, 2021 – 2023).

We are thankful to all our leading figures for their commitment to the growth and success of PRME in the UK and Ireland.



Carole Parkes (Chair, 2015 – 2017) speaking at the PRME Global Forum

# OUR LOCAL NETWORKS



The Chapter has 7 local networks for members to collaborate, share best practice, engage with, and implement the PRME Principles at a more localised level. The local networks offer a forum to network and participate with local events, themed webinars and other activities.

To get in touch with the local network coordinator for your region, please click [here](#) to find a list of all the contact points.

## LOCAL NETWORK EVENTS 2023

Across the 22/23 academic year, the 7 local networks commemorated 10 years of responsible management education by running showcase events and student competitions on the theme of Food and SDG 2 Zero Hunger. You can read about all the events on our [10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Blog](#).

### [NORTH WEST NETWORK'S SUSTAINABLE FOODS EVENT](#)

Cricket, mint, juices and a vertical wall of lettuces were on the menu at the sustainable foods event hosted by the North-West Local Network. Sponsored by Liverpool Business School, the event brought together small sustainable food businesses, academic staff and the 2030hub at Cotton Exchange to share their produce and expertise with others.

### [LONDON AND SOUTH EAST NETWORK'S 'LOVE STUDENT LEFTOVERS' PROJECT ON FOOD WASTE](#)

On the 22nd February 2023, the [London and South East network](#) celebrated our 10th-anniversary by hosting a three-part project on food waste, themed around food and regional identity.

The project, which focused on Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 12, was hosted by Oxford Brookes University and included a student cooking competition, a panel discussion of community sustainable food system project partners, and a research presentation on hospitality businesses' approaches to food waste and food rescue.

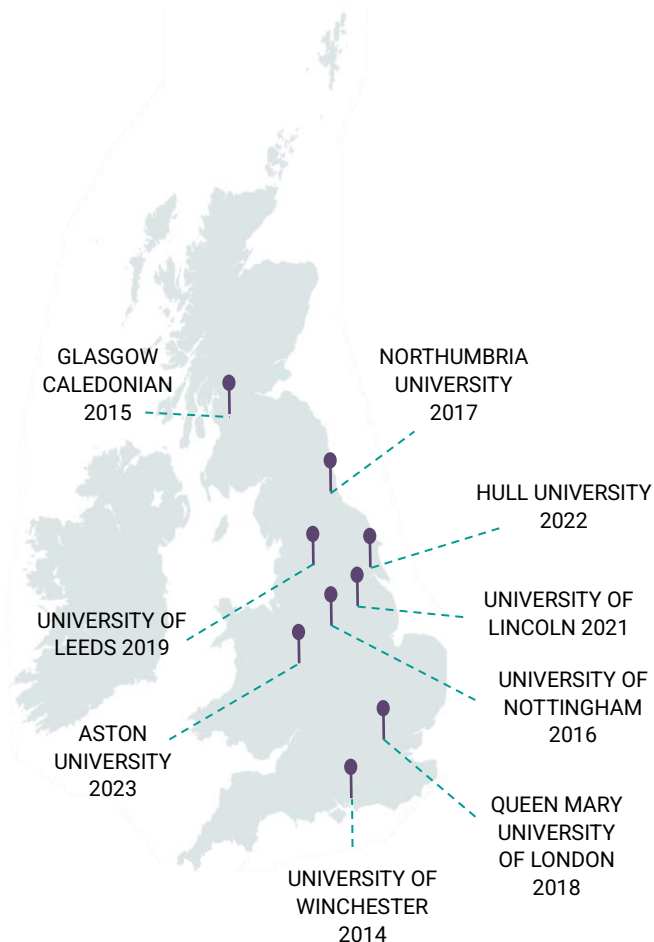


# ANNUAL CONFERENCES

## PAST ANNUAL CONFERENCES

PRME Chapter UK and Ireland has hosted an Annual Conference and AGM at one of our member institutions since 2014. Our annual conferences provide an opportunity for chapter members to discuss the latest innovations and challenges in responsible management education and network with the UKI PRME community.

Since 2021, the chapter has offered a doctoral colloquium preceding the main conference. The doctoral colloquium is an opportunity for PhD students to meet, receive peer and expert panel feedback on their work, make early connections within the wider sustainability and responsibility academic community and enrich their knowledge on PRME's six principle and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



## 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE 2023

PRME Chapter UK and Ireland returned to the location of our foundation meeting at Aston Business School for our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference in 2023.

Over 3 days, 140 academics, practitioners, students and organisations celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary milestone together. The conference theme was "[Reflecting, refreshing, and re-envisioning](#)," and set the stage for critical introspection, lively debates, and discussions on charting a transformative path forward.

The Chapter thanks Nathalie Ormrod, Conference Organiser, and her team for an enjoyable and fitting celebration of our anniversary year.





# PAPER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

PRME Chapter UK and Ireland, in conjunction with partner institutions (City University London, University of Bath, University College Dublin, University of Glasgow, and University of Nottingham) hosts a series of paper development workshops to help early and mid-career scholars develop their business and society work for publication. Participants benefit from hearing insight and guidance from senior scholars, and what it takes to publish papers with a Business and Society focus.

The workshops are free for participants who do not have to belong to an institution that is a member of PRME Chapter UK and Ireland to participate.

The first workshop in Spring 2021 was hosted at University of Bath – School of Management. The second workshop in Spring 2022 was hosted by the Adam Smith Business School at the University of Glasgow.

This third workshop was hosted this year at the Centre for Responsible Enterprise (ETHOS) at Bayes Business School on October 13th, 2023. The panel included editors and associate editors from the following journals: Business & Society, Journal of Business Ethics, Journal of Consumer Research, Marketing Theory and Strategic Management Journal.



Adam Smith  
Business School

# STUDENT WRITING COMPETITION

In 2023, we held our 7<sup>th</sup> annual Responsible Business and Management Student Writing Competition. Over the years our writing (and alternative media) competition has welcomed hundreds of entries exploring the ways students have investigated themes of responsible business and management, sustainability, and business ethics.

This year PRME Chapter UK and Ireland and the writing competition organisers, Oxford Brookes University, awarded £2,700 in prizes to the winners and finalists across the three categories, Postgraduate, Undergraduate and Alternative Media. You can read or watch the winners' and finalists' work [here](#).

## STUDENT COMPETITION WINNERS 2023

### UNDERGRADUATE ESSAY CATEGORY

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jos Kowal, University of Durham
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Julia Fricke, University of Winchester
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Tania Bradford, University of Durham

### POSTGRADUATE ESSAY CATEGORY

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Mary Morrison, University of Sussex
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Jorge Garcia-Rocha, University of Sussex
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: David Moore, Maynooth University

### ALTERNATIVE MEDIA CATEGORY

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Natalia Pawlak, University of Birmingham
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Anya Popat, University of Birmingham
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Caitlyn Young, Queen's University Belfast.



# RESEARCH SEED FUNDING AND DEVELOPING PEDAGOGY COMPETITIONS

The Chapter hosts annual Faculty Seed Funding Competitions to support the PRME community in the UK and Ireland.

Our Annual Research Seed Funding Competition has run since 2018 to stimulate collaborative scholarly activity in topics of sustainable development and responsible management and to support educators in integrating the 6 Principles and the SDGs into their curricula.

We introduced our Developing Pedagogy Competition in 2020, in recognition of the significant financial barriers that frequently exist to prevent individuals and groups from putting novel ideas into practice. In 2023 this competition had an 'Open' category and a specific 'i5' strand to support educators looking to integrate ideas from the PRME Global 'i5' Impactful Five project into their classrooms.

## 'TEACH, PLAY, LEARN, REPEAT'

Winners in the 'i5' Developing Pedagogy Category, Dr Sean Tanner, Dr Conor Drummond, Dr Helen McGrath, Dr Michael Murphy, Dr Dave Alton and Dr Tadgh Nagle (Cork University Business School) used the funding to create engaged learning spaces where students could actively engage with marketing challenges in a lively and collaborative manner in September 2023.

The project encompassed four interventions employing elements of simulative and competitive play. Simulative approaches to play involved working closely with PR and media professionals to allow students to role-play responses to hypothetical business crises. Play also involves rules and using the board game Monopoly as a platform, students worked on redesigning the popular board game to identify areas of inequity in international markets.

The project leads found 'Teach, Play, Learn, Repeat' had a fantastic impact on class dynamics, with students highlighting how they came to appreciate and learn from others' experiences and perspectives.



*Students engaging in the 'Teach, Play, Learn, Repeat' Project (Impactful Give (i5) Developing Pedagogy Seed Fund competition winner 2022)*

# SHARING INFORMATION ON PROGRESS

A central commitment of all PRME member institutions is to cyclically share information on their progress in implementing the Six Principles through a Sharing Information on Progress (SIP) report.

PRME Chapter UK and Ireland has seen some outstanding SIP reports over the years, and it's worth recognizing once again the winners of the Recognition of Excellence in Reporting awards. The SIP Recognitions have become a tradition of the PRME Global Forum since 2020, and they spotlight significant achievements in reporting progress against the Six Principles.

In 2022, the Excellence in Reporting - First Time Reporters Honourable Mention was awarded to the [University of Dundee](#) and the Excellence in Reporting - Emerging (2 - 4 Reports) category Honourable Mention was awarded to [Queen's University Belfast](#).

## PRME GLOBAL ARE REVAMPING SIP REPORTING WITH SIP 2.0

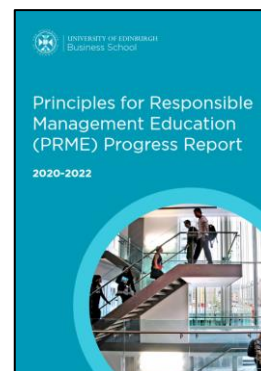
From 2024, signatories will be required to complete and submit the new PRME SIP questionnaire via the PRME Commons Platform, which is currently in development. Reporting will take place during a universal submission period, which will run from March to June each year.

Throughout 2023 PRME Chapter UK and Ireland have hosted webinars to guide signatories through the transition in consideration of the UK and Ireland context and how it may influence reporting.

Contact [Laura Steele](#), PRME UK and Ireland Steering Committee Lead for Organisational Learning and SIP Reporting for more information.

In 2020, the Excellence in Reporting - First Time Reporters Award was also won by Queen's University Belfast.

This year, [Loughborough Business School, Loughborough University](#) and [University of Edinburgh Business School, University of Edinburgh](#) received Honourable Mentions in the Excellence in Reporting - Emerging (2 - 4 Reports) category for reports submitted between 1 May 2022 - 1 May 2023.



## ONBOARDING SUPPORT

To support PRME Leads, PRME Chapter UK and Ireland hosts two onboarding webinars per year. The sessions cover opportunities for faculty and student engagement, ways to engage with PRME at a local, national, and international level, key aspects of the PRME Sharing Information on Progress (SIP) reporting framework and shareable resources which can be used to articulate the value of PRME to colleagues within your institution.

For questions or more information about the next session, contact [Laura Steele](#).

# PRME GLOBAL PROJECTS

## PRME CHAMPIONS

The PRME Champions represent a group of dedicated business and management schools from across the PRME membership, committed to working collaboratively to develop and promote activities that address shared barriers faced by the PRME community. Learn more [here](#).

2023 PRME Champions from UK and Ireland

- Glasgow School for Business & Society, Glasgow Caledonian University
- Newcastle Business School, Northumbria University
- Nottingham Business School, Nottingham Trent University
- Nottingham University Business School
- Queen's Management School
- School of Business, University of Dundee
- University of Plymouth
- University of Stirling
- University of Sussex



*PRME Champions at the RMER Conference Lisbon in September 2023*

## PRME WORKING GROUPS

PRME Working Groups deepen collaboration in and across institutions on specific issues relevant to corporate sustainability and responsibility and the UN SDGs. PRME Working Groups develop and publish resources relevant to increasing awareness around responsible management education and other thematic topics for business.

### WORKING GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT

This Working Group, which has deep roots in the UK and Ireland Chapter, hosted Climate Literacy & Action Training in September and October 2023 to equip individuals with the knowledge on positive futures scenarios, Climate Justice, carbon calculation and Climate Change mitigation to influence research and teaching.

Contact the working groups Co-Chairs, [Alex Hope](#) (Northumbria University) and [Petra Molthan-Hill](#) (Nottingham Trent University) for more information.



*Alex Hope and Petra Molthan Hill from the PRME Working Group on Climate Change and Environment*



# IMPACTFUL FIVE 'i5' PROJECT

The Impactful Five 'i5' Project aims to develop, innovate, and share pedagogical approaches that help business school students develop the skills needed for positive social impact.

Through a partnership with Project Zero at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, PRME analysed research from The LEGO Foundation childhood and youth development research-spheres to create a pedagogy for the higher education business school context. With the support of a global Expert Pedagogy Group (ExPeG), these findings were translated into a Playbook for educators from the PRME community to utilize as a tool in their classroom and to better engage with the i5 characteristics of making learning meaningful, joyful, actively engaging, social, and iterative.

The PRME European i5 ExPeGs created an i5 certification scheme delivered online and in-person across Europe in 2023, including at the 10<sup>th</sup> Responsible Management Education Research conference held at ISCTE Business School, Lisbon. Contact the UK and Ireland European i5 ExPeG member, and Chapter Vice-Chair, [Natascha Radclyffe-Thomas](#) to find out more on how to engage with the i5 programme.

# OUR SECOND DECADE

The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference was a welcome opportunity to connect with many of our founding figures and others who have made significant contributions to chapter life over the past decade.

The conference and the whole anniversary year have also shown the chapter to be well-prepared for the decade ahead. While there is no shortage of challenges to sustainability and responsible business practice in the wider world, the fact that there are now 105 signatories in the UK (the highest number ever) shows the growing commitment of the business school sector to rising to these challenges.

Thank you to all our Members, whose combined voices will, we know, continue to make PRME Chapter UK and Ireland a respected and consistent voice for RME in our sector in the decade ahead.



The PRME i5 European Expert Pedagogy Group at the RMER Conference Lisbon in September 2023



## ABOUT PRME CHAPTER UK AND IRELAND

The Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) is a United Nations-supported initiative founded in 2007 that aims to raise the profile of sustainability in their classrooms through Six Principles focused on serving society and safeguarding our planet.

PRME Chapter UK and Ireland serves as the regional PRME chapter, dedicated to advancing the Six Principles within the UK and Ireland. We offer localized engagement for higher education organizations, serving as a platform for dialogue, learning, and action on responsible management and leadership education and research.

## CONTACT US

Find us on our social channels:

[LinkedIn](#)

[X](#)

[YouTube](#)

[Join our Mailing List](#)

For more information, please contact:

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**Vice-Chair:** Professor Natascha Radclyffe-Thomas, Glasgow Caledonian University ([Natascha.RadclyffeThomas@gcu.ac.uk](mailto:Natascha.RadclyffeThomas@gcu.ac.uk))

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