Birkbeck
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

# Shaping the future

Our Strategy 2026-2031



# Our mission

Birkbeck offers opportunity to everyone for the benefit of all. We transform lives through flexible and inclusive education, inspired by world-leading research.

Rooted in London and teaching the world, we are shaped by our distinctive history and founding principle to educate students from diverse backgrounds.

We are a change-making university that drives positive social and economic transformation. We empower people to realise their ambitions, advance their careers, and expand their thinking at every stage of life.

# Our ambition

We will be recognised as the leading university for flexible learning in London and beyond, offering people-centred education that adapts to the needs of students, as well as employers.

We will deliver excellent outcomes for our diverse community of learners, ensuring that we stay at the forefront of educational, technological, economic and social change. We will work with businesses, industry and communities, building relationships that support both innovation and our civic role.

We will pursue world-leading research that addresses current and future societal challenges from multiple disciplinary perspectives with a particular focus on five key themes:

- Digital, Data, Artificial Intelligence
- Enterprise, Finance, Leadership
- Health, Mind, Well-being
- Heritage, Histories, Cultures and Social Justice.
- Nature, Environment, Sustainability.

# We value

### Empowerment

Over 200 years of adaptation with purpose and innovation with integrity, supporting students and staff to thrive through change.

### Student centred education

Education that fits around students' lives and embraces new technologies including HyFlex learning to allow students to choose when and where to study.

### Diversity and community

A learning community that celebrates and empowers its intergenerational and multicultural student and staff body.

### Excellence

World-class research and teaching that create measurable and positive social change.

### Curiosity and innovation

Creating a space for questioning, challenge and innovation in the classroom and beyond.



# Our strategic aims

### Offer transformative education that is flexible, inclusive, and relevant to students, employers and society

Designed for and with our students, a Birkbeck education ensures that students can study, belong and succeed whether they are starting, changing or enhancing their career.

### Sustain a culture where cocreation and inclusivity are celebrated

A community where students and staff work together to shape learning, research, and university life. By making our diversity our strength, we promote belonging, wellbeing, and shared success.

### Deliver excellent research that is collaborative and impactful

World-leading research and innovation that encourages curiosity, drives change, informs policy, supports employers and improves lives. A university where co-production and collaboration strengthen impact.

### Strengthen our influence, extending our civic partnerships and global reach

Rooted in London, connected to the world, we advance social progress, foster cultural innovation, and build on our strong civic partnerships, as well as our partnerships with industry, to extend Birkbeck's reach globally as a university that changes lives in and beyond London.

### Secure financial and environmental sustainability so we can continue to build on our experience of providing excellent educational opportunities

We will secure a sustainable financial position while safeguarding our environment and building on our heritage.

# Offering transformative education that is flexible, inclusive, and relevant to students, employers and society

Birkbeck has provided a high quality education to students regardless of their background or circumstance for more than 200 years. We foster an environment built on inclusion, access and opportunity that is enriched by our diverse community.

Designed for and with our students, a Birkbeck education enables them to achieve their ambitions whether they are starting, changing or enhancing their career, or learning for personal development.

We offer a flexible approach to learning with options to study full-time or part-time; attend classes during the day or evening or a combination of both; and to choose between on campus, online or blended learning. This flexibility allows students to balance their studies with work, family and other commitments. Through thoughtful curriculum design, comprehensive support services and innovative use of technology and digital learning tools, we help students thrive at every stage of their higher education journey.





***Nicki Wedgwood, BSc Community Development and Public Policy, 2025***

*"I started working in TV production after dropping out of university at 19 and eventually worked my way up to casting contributor for reality shows and conducting red carpet interviews. After a few years, I began wondering if there was a vocation better suited to my curiosity about people and the rapidly changing world around me, and so I explored that curiosity by studying at Birkbeck.*

*"It meant the world to me that I could discover new things about myself and my potential without giving up my job or leaving my home, friends, and communities. Being surrounded by students from all walks of life was inspiring on an academic level and reassuring on a personal one.*

*"Completing my studies whilst holding down a full-time job and becoming a social researcher has helped me understand that my perspective and capabilities have value far beyond anything I imagined when I stepped away from TV. Studying at Birkbeck has dramatically changed how I see the world and my place within it in ways that continue to surprise me."*



### *Immersive learning, HyFlex and Creative AI*

*Birkbeck is bringing digital technology into its classrooms and curriculum to deliver on its mission to provide inclusive and flexible higher education that is accessible to all.*

*In recent years, Birkbeck has not only introduced digital technologies into its classrooms and learning spaces, it has also trained its teaching staff in using digital technology in their teaching and invested in developing a rich range of digital resources on Moodle to support live teaching sessions.*

*By late 2025 HyFlex audiovisual technology had been installed into most Birkbeck classrooms, enabling students to join classes remotely and take part in them fully alongside those in teaching spaces on campus. In early 2026, the new Immersive Learning Centre was opened to introduce augmented and virtual reality into the curriculum enabling students to access objects, environments and experiences that were previously out-of-reach in their own time. Completed in Spring 2026, the Centre for Creative AI offers state-of-the art, digitally enabled learning spaces and technology that supports digital content creation, particularly for students studying digital technologies.*



## What have we done?

- Reviewed academic and student support so it is consistent, transparent and accessible.
- Developed a flexible teaching model that combines face-to-face, classroom instruction with online learning, supported by a high quality virtual learning environment (Birkbeck Moodle).
- Developed an inclusive curriculum so that every student's learning experience is equitable.
- Significantly enhanced the way students can learn with us by installing HyFlex technology into classrooms, enabling students to study remotely and participate fully in classes alongside those in the classroom on campus.
- Provided access to new virtual learning environments and experiences through immersive technology.
- Introduced a highly regarded university-wide Foundation Year, for students who do not have the grades for direct entry onto our degree programmes.
- Opened new student-focused spaces that support individual and group learning and wellbeing.
- Encouraged more alumni to contribute their experience and skills to supporting current students.

## What will we do over the next five years?

- **Enhance opportunity and accelerate student success** by delivering inclusive, co-created education that enables learners from all backgrounds to thrive.
- **Cultivate vibrant academic communities and research-led teaching excellence** that enrich the student experience while embedding skills development and deeper engagement with employers and external partners across the curriculum, to enhance employability and ambition.
- **Lead in the use of learning technology** by further embedding HyFlex and immersive learning in our teaching; through our creative AI-enabled spaces; and by ensuring AI is used responsibly to personalise learning, enhance teaching practice and develop students' digital capabilities.
- **Expand flexible, modular and part-time provision** to meet the evolving needs of diverse learners and respond to the Lifelong Learning Entitlement.

# Delivering excellent research that is collaborative and impactful

Birkbeck has a long-standing reputation for fostering innovation, enabling students from a wide range of socio-economic and educational backgrounds to benefit from world-class research and research-informed teaching.

Research excellence is at our core, and our research environment is shaped by a strong commitment to shared values.  We strive to sustain an open and inclusive research and innovation culture grounded in academic freedom and the principles of equality, diversity and inclusion, providing researchers with the support and freedom to explore new ideas and advance knowledge.

Birkbeck brings together scholars, industry partners, cultural organisations, policymakers and diverse communities through research that spans the arts and humanities and the social, natural and physical sciences. Whether theoretical or applied, our research addresses some of the most urgent contemporary challenges facing individuals, organisations and communities in the UK and worldwide.





***Combating drug resistant tuberculosis***

*Tuberculosis (TB) remains the leading cause of mortality from a single infectious pathogen, with antimicrobial resistance (AMR) posing a significant global challenge that affects health, economies, societies, and the environment.*

*In 2025, Birkbeck secured significant funding from UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia (MOHE) to lead research that aims to speed up the discovery of new drugs to combat TB and other similar infections.*

*Led by Professor Sanjib Bhakta, the project brings together top researchers from both the UK and Malaysia to explore how some non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) can be used to treat TB. The goal is to develop these drugs into effective treatments that can be delivered directly to the lungs, helping to fight antibiotic resistance. Working in partnership with the biopharmaceutical industry, the research aligns with the UK's official development assistance (ODA) strategy, adheres to trusted research principles and fosters international collaboration to tackle TB and TB-like respiratory diseases.*



### *Groundbreaking fertility control research*

*Funded by a £3.85 million award from Wellcome Trust Discovery, a Birkbeck-led research project is looking at the legal, medical, social, cultural, and ethical barriers to making a new generation of fertility control methods known as 'contragestives', widely available.*

*At present, women have no options for fertility control during the window of time after ovulation and before early abortion is possible. They must wait until a missed period before treatment can be offered and the treatment requires the authorisation of two doctors under the 1967 Abortion Act. Contragestives could be used during this crucial but currently neglected period.*

*Led by Professor Lisa Bariatser, the project, Contragestive Time: Pregnant Uncertainties in Fertility Control, which is running from 2025–2030, brings together researchers and clinicians from the University of Bristol, University of Sussex, Manchester Metropolitan University, King's College London, King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, the British Pregnancy Advisory Service, and Sexual Health:24.*



## What have we done?

- Brought together a wide range of disciplines to address complex contemporary challenges and tackle real-world issues through groundbreaking interdisciplinary research.
- Published world-leading and internationally excellent research and sustained research excellence in the arts, humanities and social sciences, natural sciences and business and law.
- Delivered outstanding research-led teaching and access-driven innovation.
- Driven public engagement and policy influence through collaborations with government, cultural institutions, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and industry, and by translating research into practical and policy-relevant insights.
- Developed a values-led research culture with an emphasis on academic freedom, equality, diversity and inclusion and ethical and responsible research.

## What will we do over the next five years?

- **Deliver world-leading research that addresses societal and global challenges** and research and innovation excellence that supports national economic and industrial priorities.
- **Strengthen and diversify our research ecosystem** by increasing and broadening external research income and infrastructure; deepening interdisciplinary collaboration; reinforcing equality, diversity and inclusion in our research culture; and fostering a supportive and connected research environment.
- **Amplify the reach and impact of our research** by expanding knowledge exchange and public engagement and improving our international research profile, delivering meaningful benefits for individuals, communities and society.
- **Ensure environmental sustainability** is embedded in our research and innovation culture, and our research is undertaken ethically and with integrity.

# Sustaining a culture where co-creation and inclusivity are celebrated

We are proud that our culture is rooted in a commitment to inclusion and defined by partnership and shared responsibility. We believe that an inclusive and supportive culture is essential to academic excellence, individual wellbeing, and institutional success, and we actively embed these principles across our policies, practices and campus spaces.

Birkbeck culture is values-driven and action-focused. We are committed to embedding equality, diversity and inclusion across all areas and activities of the University, and we maintain a continued focus on delivering tangible change. By making our diversity a strength, we foster belonging, enable participation, and create an environment in which our whole community can thrive.

Our alumni, partners and external stakeholders extend our community beyond our campus, enhancing our culture through their diverse backgrounds and rich experience.



***Targeted scholarships and financial support***

*Birkbeck's commitment to providing opportunity to all is demonstrated through the extensive range of scholarships and financial support available to students from underrepresented backgrounds at all levels of study. These include: a partnership with The Cowrie Foundation to offer scholarships to Black British undergraduates; Access to Postgraduate Study Scholarships, which provide support to students who face barriers to education because of their background; Diversity 100 Studentships which address the under-representation of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic students at the doctoral level; and Compass Sanctuary Scholarships, which provide opportunities into higher education for people from forced migrant backgrounds.*



***Exploring climate challenges through creativity, research and community***

*Birkbeck's annual Climate Festival takes an interdisciplinary approach to exploring the world's climate challenges.*

*Now in its second year and made possible through funding from donors, the Festival, which supports research into and debate about the challenges of environmental and climate breakdown and the need to transition to a more sustainable way of life, brings together students, researchers, professionals and members of the public in a programme of talks, workshops and panel events. Designed to deepen understanding of climate issues and inspire action, the festival embodies principles of co-creation with events devised by staff and students from a range of disciplines and external partners from a broad range of sectors.*



## What have we done?

- Promoted wellbeing, belonging and mutual respect as core elements of the Birkbeck experience for students and staff.
- Advanced our commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion via sustained progress towards the Advance HE Race Equality Charter, Athena Swan and other national charter marks, and our status as a University of Sanctuary.
- Delivered targeted scholarships and financial support that widen access and reduce barriers for students from underrepresented backgrounds.
- Invested in creating inclusive, accessible and sustainable physical and digital environments through our Connected Campus Estates strategy.

## What will we do over the next five years?

- **Deliver relevant, responsive and co-created education**, embedding collaboration with students, staff and external stakeholders as the standard approach.
- **Foster an inclusive culture of belonging and wellbeing** ensuring equality, diversity and inclusion are reflected consistently in everyday behaviours, leadership practices and shared expectations across all aspects of university life.
- **Strengthen organisational capability and community impact**, investing in staff development and leadership capacity to support innovation and collaboration, while actively nurturing our extended community of alumni, partners and stakeholders.

# Strengthening our influence, extending our civic partnerships and global reach

Established in 1823 to educate working Londoners, Birkbeck has a long-standing civic mission that continues to shape who we are. As London evolves, so does our responsibility to widen access, empower communities, and deliver research and cultural engagement that benefits society locally and globally.

Birkbeck is recognised globally for providing flexible education that reaches underrepresented learners, unlocking the potential of our students to change society. Our partnerships with public, cultural and community organisations, as well as with industry, seek to address the pressing challenges facing the world.





***Pranjal Garg, BSc Planetary Science with Astronomy, 2025 graduate***

*"I grew up in a small city in India where kids were not taught to look up and dream among the stars. From a young age, I have always wondered about the stars and the universe but studying this was never an option because of the mere opportunities I had growing up.*

*"As someone coming from India, it was such a big deal for me to get an offer from Birkbeck to study for a University of London degree. Everyone at Birkbeck has been so lovely, and the professors and community of students were so supportive and if I had any problems, they were ready to help.*

*"Birkbeck was a really important step for me. The first and the main skill that I learned, is that I can do it. By undertaking the degree, I have been equipped with the knowledge I once dreamed of as a child. I currently work in the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, doing astronomy related work and delivering talks on the Great Equatorial Telescope and ancient astronomy."*



### *Better support for neurodivergent employees*

*Research conducted at Birkbeck with Neurodiversity in Business (NiB) published in 2024 found that two thirds of neurodivergent people have more than one neurodevelopmental condition, and that levels of wellbeing are worryingly low across neurodivergent workers, with 78% of neurodivergent research participants reporting feeling overwhelmed at work.*

*The study, which was led by Professor Almuth McDowall and which involved over 1600 people across a range of organisations and sectors, is important because 15-20% of the UK adult population are neurodivergent.*

*The research report makes clear recommendations for practice and policy to put more focus on wellbeing support which is neurodiversity sensitive. It identifies the biggest factor for improving wellbeing as giving people the opportunity to train, develop and work at a level which reflects their skill, as well as reducing sensory distractions at work. Line manager support and a perception of high psychological safety also make a big difference in encouraging neurodivergent workers to stay in an organisation.*

*A subsequent reanalysis of data from the study found that psychological safety is vital for fostering wellbeing, which in turn is crucial for neurodivergent workers so they can realise their talents and stop them from leaving.*



## What have we done?

- Supported underrepresented learners to access and succeed in higher education, bringing benefits to their communities and employers.
- Delivered highly skilled graduates to the London workforce including public servants, entrepreneurs and business and creative leaders.
- Produced research that delivers measurable civic impact.
- Developed an entrepreneurial mind-set in our students and supported business growth and productivity through our flagship enterprise programmes.
- Developed and sustained a network of over 100,000 alumni worldwide.
- Built relationships with employers and industry partners that support both innovation and our civic role.

## What will we do over the next five years?

- **Lead as a civic university in London and beyond** by making it easier to work with Birkbeck and by deepening collaboration with industry, local government, education providers, and community organisations to address key social, economic and cultural challenges and deliver measurable benefits.
- **Expand policy engagement and embed civic purpose, inclusivity and co-production across our education and research** supporting civic needs and creating graduates with the skills and ambition to make a meaningful difference in their communities, workplaces and society.
- **Empower our staff to advance our civic mission**, enabling innovative teaching and research that enhances impact and reinforces Birkbeck's distinctive role in and beyond London.

# Securing financial and environmental sustainability so we can continue to build on our experience

We believe sustainability means taking long term, values-led decisions that balance financial resilience, environmental responsibility and historical stewardship. By strengthening our institutional foundations today, we will ensure that Birkbeck is equipped to respond confidently to global challenges, while continuing to fulfil its distinctive mission.

Birkbeck's longevity is grounded in adaptability and a sustained commitment to widening access to higher education. In a period of financial constraint, environmental urgency and societal change, sustainability must underpin every aspect of our strategy. It is essential to our ability to deliver public benefit, protect our independence, and remain relevant to future generations of learners.



### *Tackling phone theft in London*

*Birkbeck's Institute for Crime and Justice Policy Research has partnered with Currys, the Metropolitan Police, Westminster Council and Crimestoppers to tackle phone theft in London.*

*Researchers from the Institute are leading the evaluation of a campaign which involves a striking purple line painted along the pavement outside Currys' flagship store in Oxford Street, Central London with 'Mind the Grab' warning messages on it.*

*Taking inspiration from the 'Mind the Gap' warnings used on the London Underground, the line is designed to prompt pedestrians to step back from the kerb and keep their phones out of sight. The idea is these simple actions could reduce the risk of snatch-and-grab thefts, which are carried out by criminals on mopeds or e-bikes. In Westminster alone there are around 34,000 mobile phone thefts every year which equates to one every 15 minutes.*



## What have we done?

- Adapted our learning and teaching model to meet the needs of today's students.
- Embraced new technologies to enhance teaching, learning, research and the way Birkbeck is run.
- Developed new educational partnerships to extend our unique mission nationally and internationally.
- Invested in our estate to improve the working and learning environment, meet our environmental commitments and protect our heritage assets.
- Brought the Birkbeck community together to put environmental sustainability at the heart of everything we do through projects across estates and education.
- Remained resilient in the face of global challenges to higher education.

## What will we do over the next five years?

- **Secure Birkbeck's long-term financial sustainability and autonomy** through sustainable growth, diversified income and strategic investment — driven by educational excellence aligned to societal and business needs, research with social resonance and global impact, and an expanding portfolio of partnerships.
- **Advance environmental sustainability and climate responsibility** by embedding sustainable practices in our estates, operations, education and research, and deepening understanding of climate change and environmental justice.
- **Invest in our people, infrastructure and distinctive heritage** to strengthen Birkbeck as a modern, flexible and inclusive institution, celebrating our history while building the capacity to thrive in the future.

# Our success measures

## Offering transformative education

| Where are we now? | Our 2031 targets |
|---|---|
| We have 200 years' experience of delivering life-changing education across an extensive range of subjects. | We will introduce five new subject areas into our teaching portfolio aligned with the Government's Industrial Strategy and London's Inclusive Talent Strategy including Chinese, Cyber Security and Public Health. |
| Birkbeck's investment in learning technologies has enabled it to offer HyFlex on 187 postgraduate modules in 2025/26, to equip 77 seminar rooms for HyFlex delivery and to open a Centre for Immersive Learning. | We will continue to invest in HyFlex. Where it is pedagogically appropriate, we will offer HyFlex delivery on 100% of postgraduate modules, as well as on our undergraduate programmes. |
| The percentage of Birkbeck undergraduates who achieved 1st or 2:1 degrees in 2024/25 is 73.9%, slightly below the higher education sector average. | We will ensure that the percentage of students who achieve a 1st or 2:1 is equal to or above the higher education sector average in London (78%). |
| In the most recent Higher Education Standards Agency (HESA) data 84% of Birkbeck graduates are in employment or further study 15 months after graduating. (Graduate Outcomes Return 2022/23). | We will improve on this position to ensure we achieve or better the higher education sector average (88%). |
| Birkbeck graduates have the eighth highest salaries in the UK one year after graduating (DfE LEO 2025). | We will maintain or improve on this position. |



***New partnerships with higher education providers***

*Over the last two years Birkbeck has extended and broadened its range of educational partnerships providing opportunities for a wider range of students to access and benefit from an excellent Birkbeck education. These include through using its degree awarding powers for the first time to validate degrees of higher education providers in London and across the UK and through new international partnerships with providers in China and elsewhere. These will see students studying with these providers being taught by Birkbeck academics overseas, as well as in some cases, spending time studying in the UK on our Central London campus.*



### *Working towards net zero*

*Committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050 and working towards doing so by 2040, key to hitting this target is the management and modernisation of Birkbeck's estate.*

*Birkbeck is integrating decarbonisation into every refurbishment, plant replacement and capital decision it now makes. Through its heat decarbonisation work, targeted energy efficient upgrades and estates strategy, it is reshaping its infrastructure to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, while maintaining high quality teaching and research environments. But net zero is not a standalone estates project, achieving it is becoming everyone's responsibility and net zero principles are being embedded in all aspects of our work from our procurement choices to long-term investment planning.*



## Delivering excellent research

| Where are we now? | Our 2031 targets |
|---|---|
| In 2024/25 Birkbeck had a research portfolio of £50 million. | We will continue to grow our external research income. |
| Birkbeck performs well in world university rankings. In the 2026 QS World University Rankings Birkbeck was ranked 388 in the world. | We will work to maintain our institutional position and ensure that we improve our rankings in at least two subject areas. |
| Birkbeck is known for research across its disciplines that informs and shapes public debate and policy, bringing together academics, businesses, cultural institutions, policymakers, and diverse communities. In the 2021 Research Excellence Framework 83% of Birkbeck's research was rated as world leading or internationally excellent. | We will seek to ensure at least 83% of Birkbeck's research is rated as world leading or internationally excellent in the 2029 REF and we will achieve research excellence in all our disciplinary areas. |

## Sustaining a culture of co-creation and inclusivity

| Where are we now? | Our 2031 targets |
|---|---|
| Birkbeck has a long history of promoting race and gender equality. It was awarded an Athena Swan Bronze Award in 2026 for advancing gender equality and has applied for its first Advance HE Race Equality Charter mark. | We will secure and maintain both organisation-wide Advance HE Race Equality Charter and Athena Swan awards, implementing the action plans we develop to achieve them. We will also secure individual Athena Swan awards in our three Faculties. |
| Across higher education a lower percentage of Black students complete their degrees than White students. Birkbeck has been working to reduce this gap, but it remains too high at 12%. | We will significantly reduce the completion gap to the higher education sector average or lower. |
| The percentage of academic staff (research and teaching; research; and teaching and scholarship staff) at Birkbeck who identify as Black is 4%. | We will increase the percentage of Black academic staff to 7% to achieve parity with the higher education sector average in London and we will improve the representation of minoritised staff among heads of directorates and senior professional staff by 5%. |
| Birkbeck has developed a range of study bursaries for students from minoritised ethnic and underrepresented groups. | We will build on our work to increase the number of bursaries available to students from minoritised ethnic and underrepresented groups. |
| Birkbeck is working to improve the way students are engaged in co-creating and enhancing learning opportunities. | We will ensure students participate in the co-creation and enhancement of learning opportunities on 100% of modules where it is pedagogically appropriate. |

## Strengthening our influence

| Where are we now? | Our 2031 targets |
|---|---|
| Birkbeck has developed new partnerships with education providers in the UK and further afield to extend its offer to students in both the UK and internationally. | We will develop and nurture at least two new partnerships with UK Further Education providers, as well as continue to extend our teaching model beyond Birkbeck through new partnerships with higher education providers. |
| Birkbeck is improving the ways in which it partners and engages with employers in all sectors including in the development of its programmes, ensuring students graduate with the skills employers' need for future success. | We will further develop our partnerships with employers, ensuring that 100% of undergraduate programmes in relevant disciplines are developed with employer engagement. |
| Birkbeck Programmes in Business, Law, Computing and a range of creative disciplines offer placements for undergraduates. | We will ensure that all undergraduates have the opportunity to take up a placement or alternative employability experience, if they wish to. |
| We have developed relationships with employers and industry partners that support both innovation and our civic role | We will have built a strong portfolio of sustained partnerships across our five priority themes, where most activity is delivered through repeat, long-term collaborations that generate clear innovation and real-world impact |

## Securing sustainability

| Where are we now? | Our 2031 targets |
|---|---|
| In the 2024/25 financial year Birkbeck recorded a deficit of £7 million. | We will ensure that our income will have grown to a sustainable level through a combination of new partnerships, a larger student body and improved student retention. |
| We are currently baselining our work towards achieving net zero. | We will have made a significant advancement towards achieving net zero in all of our activities and be on target for delivery by 2050. |





***Carena Institute for Sustainable Archaeologies***

*Opened in 2025, the Carena Institute for Sustainable Archaeologies is working to embed equitable, inclusive, community-centred and eco-conscious practices in archaeology in response to climate change, armed conflict and calls for decolonisation.*

*Its work, which reflects Birkbeck's commitment to promoting science diplomacy, involves collaborating with indigenous communities to understand and manage heritage sites, objects and practices. It also supports community-led research and capacity-building in both the heritage sector and local communities - offering training and educational opportunities, improving labour conditions in the field and making archaeological knowledge more accessible. Sustainable Archaeologies recognise that heritage work must move away from extractive models and toward practices that prioritise justice, environmental awareness, human and non-human rights, as well as cultural and natural sustainability.*




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