



Shape the world

# **LSE 2030**

**Our strategy to  
shape the world**



## **LSE 2030** **Shape the world**



**Our strategy lays out the guiding principles and commitments that will help us shape the world's future, and achieve our ambition of being the leading social science institution with the greatest global impact.**

LSE opened its doors in 1895 with three rooms and 200 students. Today more than 11,000 students study for degrees at our central London campus, while over 40,000 more learn by visiting us or remotely. But while much has changed, one thing remains constant: our commitment to the original vision of LSE, as "a community of people and ideas, founded to know the causes of things, for the betterment of society".

As we look to the future, we do it as an internationally renowned institution, with a reputation for excellence in teaching, research and public engagement in the social sciences. What happens at LSE has the potential to be world-changing – and in these turbulent times, the social sciences are needed more than ever.

As a proud LSE alumna, I am incredibly honoured to have the responsibility of leading the School and helping to shape its future. I relish the opportunity for LSE to lead by example through the coming years, and to use our unique strengths to actively contribute to positive change in the world.

**For more information, please do visit us on campus or follow our progress at [lse.ac.uk/2030](https://lse.ac.uk/2030).**

**Dame Minouche Shafik**  
LSE Director



## **Our guiding principles**

### **Understand today, influence tomorrow**

Our vision is clear, but there are challenges to overcome: our world faces economic uncertainty, political divisions, social transformations and a tide of anti-intellectual sentiment. In this context, our guiding principles are crucial and will shape our decision-making in the years ahead.

#### **Sustain excellence through an inclusive and diverse community**

We will draw together talent from all places and backgrounds, diversifying our faculty and widening access for students to ensure LSE is a vibrant and stimulating place to work and study, where different perspectives thrive through robust but respectful debate.

#### **Extend our impact and reach**

We will use our convening power to bring global leaders, innovators and change makers together to tackle difficult issues and deliver meaningful benefit to individuals and communities in all parts of the world. We will collaborate with local, national and international partners to forge new connections and challenge old ways of thinking, involving our alumni, friends and partners in the debate.

#### **Ensure a sustainable future**

We will lead the way in building a sustainable future for the social sciences, by upholding rigorous standards of enquiry, securing funding for research and scholarships, diversifying our income and making the best possible use of our resources.

# Priority 1: educate for impact

## Meet the future

We will work in partnership with our students to find innovative ways of learning, creating and collaborating, supporting them to better understand and shape our rapidly changing world.

### We commit to:

#### Fostering fearless intellects

We will equip students with the insights and skills they need to become independent thinkers, critical investigators and the thought-leaders of tomorrow.

#### Think, learn, lead

We will support our students to innovate and create real change, within LSE and beyond.

#### Creating an inclusive home for learning

We will continue to embrace diversity and foster belonging among our student body in London and across the world.

#### Ensuring graduation is just the beginning

We will engage our alumni, friends and partners, inviting them to stay involved with LSE, on campus, online and through our global networks.

### Examples of how we will do this:

- embed enquiry-based learning and research practice at every level
- support, celebrate and reward excellent teaching
- enable students to produce diverse outputs, developing digital fluency and entrepreneurial confidence
- fund student-led research projects via the LSE Change Makers programme
- represent different views, cultures and experiences within our curriculum
- connect students across cohorts and departments, through mentor schemes, study groups, interest groups and events
- provide consistently excellent student services, with a focus on wellbeing
- curate a student-centred induction, with a place in residence for every first-year student
- support underrepresented groups to access and succeed at LSE
- involve our local and global communities in the intellectual life of the School and provide ongoing learning opportunities through short courses, summer schools and executive education programmes.



## Priority 2: research for the world

### The home of thinking without borders

LSE is international, interdisciplinary and issue-oriented. We will build on these reputational strengths and take the lead in securing and defining the future of social sciences across the globe.

#### We commit to:

##### Leading the social sciences

We will strengthen our position as the home of social sciences, now and in the future.

##### Sustaining and promoting the social sciences

We will demonstrate the value of social sciences, and work to ensure they are properly recognised, evaluated and funded.

##### Advancing our influence

We will build new relationships to increase our contribution to the betterment of society, politically, economically and socially.

##### Convening the world

We will establish LSE as the global convener of influential debates on critical issues.

#### Examples of how we will do this:

- invest in a broad disciplinary base and vibrant research environment, with targeted funding, support and career guidance for our faculty
- curate cross-cutting research themes to join up international expertise and interests to shape evidence-based interventions around key social and economic issues
- provide a platform for world-class social science research that upholds the highest standards of rigorous enquiry
- invest in the social scientists of the future through more scholarships and enhanced support for PhDs, postdoctoral and early career researchers
- engage with leading global researchers and actively champion diversity of voice
- collaborate with natural sciences to understand their impact on economies, politics, communities and societies
- strengthen our connections with policy-makers, alumni and strategic partners and cultivate new relationships with the private sector
- invest in world-class digital and physical facilities
- engage citizens around the world and develop thought leadership, building on our renowned public lecture programme and award-winning LSE IQ podcasts.



## Priority 3: develop LSE for everyone

### One community of like minds and different opinions

LSE thrives on diversity – of people, ideas and interests. We will invest in our community and enhance our services and infrastructure, so that we continue to attract the best and brightest, and enable every member of our community to excel.

#### We commit to:

##### Investing in our community

We will invest in supporting and developing all our researchers, educators and professional service staff.

##### Being open all life long

We will facilitate lifelong relationships with LSE alumni, friends and partners, and encourage active involvement with life at the School.

##### Ensuring LSE works for everyone

We will work to build a School – and a society – in which everyone is able to fulfil their potential, and everyone's contribution is valued.

##### Creating a sustainable LSE

We will create a world-class campus for our community, with state-of-the-art teaching, learning and social spaces, and adopting an approach of “freedom within a framework” to streamline administrative processes whilst supporting innovation.

#### Examples of how we will do this:

- support faculty to maximise their time for teaching and research
- launch a digital Staff Hub to improve access to services and opportunities
- empower staff to shape their own development, including giving all staff access to LSE's courses and programmes
- launch a digital Alumni Hub to complement the new Alumni Centre
- develop a Welcome Centre to improve visitor experience on campus
- invest in School-wide resources to advance diversity of staff and students and address systemic inequalities
- ensure policies are in place to foster equitable and inclusive working practices
- continue to invest in capital development to upgrade teaching, learning and social spaces, including a new education and conference facility
- use our strengths in data analysis to inform decision-making and robustly evaluate our own activities
- empower and support staff and students to innovate and lead change.





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