ESG data Strategic report

Our performance

About our reporting

This report provides a summary of Pearson's sustainable business strategy and our environmental, social, and governance (ESG) performance for the calendar year ended 31 December 2023. The Board's Reputation & Responsibility Committee has reviewed the reported information, including the list of material topics on page 94.

Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)

Our report is in accordance with the GRI standards, using the GRI 1: Foundation 2021 guidance. There is no relevant GRI sector standard for our industry.

Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB)

We continue to report in line with the SASB's standards to provide industry-based insights into the most relevant sustainability-related risks and opportunities for the media, and professional services sectors.

UN Global Compact (UNGC) and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

We were proud to participate in the Early Adopter Programme of the UN Global Communication on Progress (CoP) designed to add value and streamline sustainability reporting for all participating companies of the UNGC. Our CoP is publicly available on our participant profile at: https://unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/participants/7319-Pearson-plc

Lifelong learning and education have an important role to play in achieving all the UN SDGs, but we focus our efforts on those where we have the greatest impact. Our priority SDGs are: 4 quality education, 8 decent work and economic growth, and 10 reducing inequalities.

ESG material issues reporting against GRI and SASB

Material issues	GRI	SASB	Page/web reference	Comments/omissions
Product effectiveness	GRI 203-2: significant indirect impacts		Risks, opportunities, and management approach: Pages 34-38 Performance: non-financial KPIs Page 24	
Consumer engagement	GRI 203-2: significant indirect impacts		Risks, opportunities, and management approach: Pages 34-38, 16-17 Performance: non-financial KPIs Page 24	
Digital growth	GRI 203-2: significant indirect impacts		Risks, opportunities, and management approach: Pages 34-38 Performance: non-financial KPIs - Page 24	
Employee learning and development	GRI 404-1: average hours of training per year, per employee GRI 404-2: programmes for upgrading employee skills and transition assistance programmes GRI 404-3: percentage of employees receiving regular performance and career development reviews		Risks, opportunities, and management approach: Pages 39-41 Performance: Pages 24, 39-41	We do not report on average hours of training, or % of employees receiving reviews. 100% of direct employees are covered by the Gallup survey.