



An Adobe Sign Story



The University of Bedfordshire are regarded as a Sustainability Leader in Higher Education, seeking out ways of improving efficiencies whilst reducing their carbon footprint. As part of their sustainability strategy, UoB have implemented Adobe Sign as their choice of digital signature solutions.

We asked Mujib Rahman, UoB's Assistant IT Director, for his thoughts on how using Adobe Sign has been utilised by staff and what benefits using a digital signature solution has provided.

Tell us about University of Bedfordshire

UoB are proud to be an internationally recognised and award-winning institution with a heritage of quality education going back more than 100 years. We lead the way in expanding educational opportunity; with more than 40% of our students coming from families with no history of participation in higher education. Around 70% are mature returners to education and over half are from Black or ethnic minority backgrounds, under-represented in higher education.

As a university, our role is to provide a clear path in higher education, giving our students the knowledge and tools, they need in their careers. Our Research Facilities also play a huge part in our overall strategy. The Higher Education sector is faced paced and competitive, requiring us to be agile and to embrace positive change.

The University of Bedfordshire's mission is **to create a vibrant multicultural learning community enabling people to transform** their lives by participating in excellent, innovative education, scholarship and research

How are departments and teams set up at UoB?

We have two main campuses in Luton and Bedford, with a large health teaching provision in Aylesbury at the world renowned Stoke Mandeville Hospital. We are also active in Milton Keynes, London and Birmingham, as well as globally, with a growing portfolio of international partnerships as far afield as Egypt, Vietnam, Oman and Mauritius.

What are your thoughts on using a digital signature solution, like Adobe Sign?

As a university delivering education to the next generation, we feel it's important we lead by example. Migrating toward a digital signature solution with Adobe Sign has allowed us to start reducing paper waste, whilst supporting our sustainability ambitions. In addition, the solution provides us with efficiency, saving us time and money whilst delivering a better experience for internal and external stakeholders. We intend to keep working with strategic partners like Academia and Adobe helping us realise our visions.

What types of tasks are handled using Adobe Sign?

Collection of signatures both internally and externally for required documentation and compliance documents on various projects. Evidence for these projects has to be "wet" signed, however during the pandemic, we have been allowed us to use a recognised system for digitally signing documents.

Which teams benefit most from working with Adobe Sign?

Any of our teams that have the need for Project Management, Research Support, Business Support, Business Growth Support, all benefit from the use of a digital signature solution. This is achieved thanks to the ease of implementation and standardisation of Adobe Sign across our campuses.

In summary, how does using Adobe Sign fit in with your sustainability goals?

We strive to contribute to more democratic, sustainable and just societies and to the globally defined Sustainable Development Goals. Our graduates need to be effective and resilient before the changes taking place in our physical and biological worlds. We are committed to work collaboratively to tackle shared challenges. Low carbon economies and employers are increasingly interested to hire graduates with backgrounds in sustainability. We aspire to prepare our students to make positive contributions to their communities as responsible citizens.

What is your vision for the next 5 years and how do you see the partnership with Adobe?

We intend to keep working with strategic partners like Adobe to help us realise our visions. This includes supporting students on Creative courses, but especially relates to our goals around retaining our status as a Sustainability Leader in Higher Education.

If you would like to find out more about Adobe Sign, get in touch with our team today by emailing info@academia.co.uk or call **01992 703900**.

