Public engagement with research is a core pillar in Imperial College London’s mission and strategy, and as part of a larger programme of culture change, Imperial has appointed a central Societal Engagement team dedicated to supporting researchers to engage with the public and society more broadly. The team provide resources and guidance in public engagement, with specific strands focused on community, patient, and schools engagement as well as engagement with research. They run training and development opportunities and support researchers in evaluating engagement, developing events and activities, and demonstrating research impact through engagement.

The Societal Engagement team have experience working in informal science learning environments such as museums, botanical gardens, festivals, events and community engagement, and many contacts of potential collaborators in the engagement sector. The team convene a network of societal engagement champions and practitioners who share and disseminate guidance and opportunities and can support engagement programmes at a departmental level, thus supporting best practice across the College and deepening the institutional culture of engagement with research.