

Student policies

Policies for student societies in 2022



Centre Students

Support with Bills:

A good housing guarantee. Students can often end up with damp, mould and bad living conditions in their accommodation causing health issues in the long term. A housing guarantee would aim to ensure that all students have good housing, free of mould. The guarantee would mean that the mould or damp will be dealt with properly within two weeks and a guaranteed offer of new accommodation of the same standard if the issue reoccurs or can't be dealt with. If the University has no accommodation that is the same then any other new accommodation should be discounted at a 10% rate.

A housing watchdog. This would be an independent body to arbitrate disputes over housing between landlords and students. It would act to support students who have mould, damp or bad living conditions in their accommodation.

An end to NDAs to cover up complaints. Non-Disclosure Agreements or NDAs can be used to prevent people from speaking out about discrimination and sexual assault. It's time the University committed to ending the use of NDAs in harassment, discrimination and sexual assault cases in the future and to release anyone on an NDA that has been previously signed.

Better complaints procedures. Universities need better complaints procedures to handle complaints. This is especially important for complaints involving sexual assault, harassment and discrimination. Universities should create arm's length complaints systems along with building new best practice templates for complaints procedures.

Tackling spiking. Universities should provide free test strips for students. This allows them to see whether their drink has been spiked and can potentially prevent people from drinking spiked drinks. Universities should also provide drinks stoppers, ensure that students aren't penalised for missing lessons even if they don't have evidence that they were spiked and that local bars, pubs and clubs and publish details of where to go if someone is spiked and what to do in each of these venues on their website.

Improved mental health support. Students need easy access to mental health support without needing to rely on private services. This can include increased spaces for counselling and an increase in the number of councillors working for the university.

Tackling the cost of living crisis. Universities should improve access to food banks for students that may need them and advertise where they can be accessed. We also support Universities providing more financial support for students in need and ensuring university hardship funds don't require students to go into their overdraft.