



2026

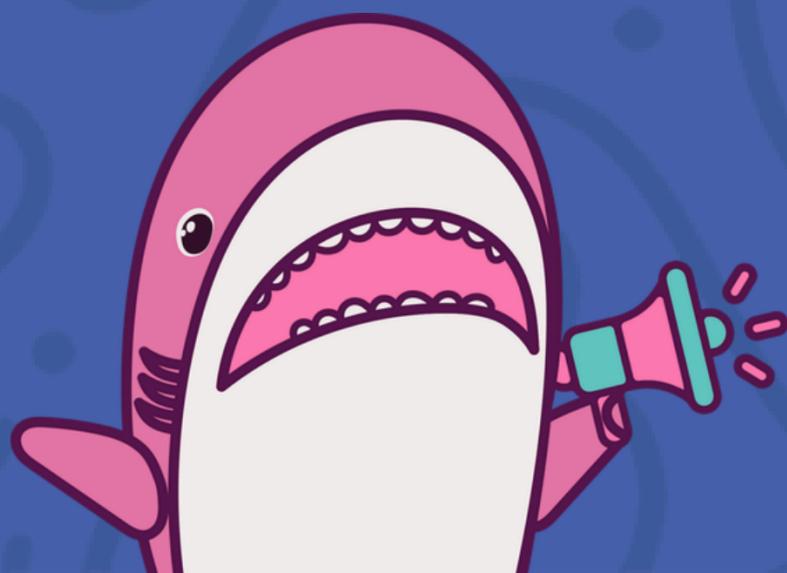
executive elections

VOTE



DEVELOPMENT
CONFERENCE

Please register
your attendance
here



SCHEDULE

11:00-12:45

Welcome, Strategy, Data impacting students, Ways to promote yourself as a candidate, Student Support

12:45-13:15

Lunch - SBB 2.03

13:15-14:00

(Pick one session to attend)

- Democracy and Student Voice - SBB 2.07
 - Sports, Societies, Sustainability & Volunteering - SBB 2.04
 - Liberation - SBB 2.05
-

14:15-15:00

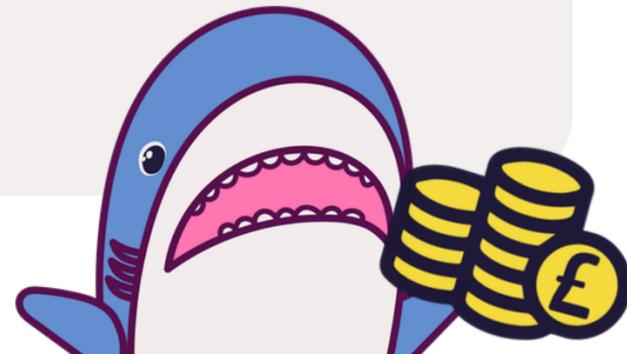
(Pick one session to attend)

- Democracy and Student Voice - SBB 2.04
- Sports, Societies, Sustainability & Volunteering - SBB 2.04
- Liberation - SBB 2.05

ROLES AVAILABLE

Executive Officers

- 3 roles available
- 34.5 hours a week
- £24.4k salary
- Full-time



Part-Time Officers

- 12 roles available
- 7 hours a week for 35 weeks during term time
- £12.60 per hour plus holiday pay
- Part-Time

KEY DATES



Nominations Period:
26th Jan to 4th Feb (PTOs)
26th Jan to 11th Feb (FTOs)

Candidate Development
Conference:
31st Jan and 7th Feb

PTO shortlisting:
4th-11th February

Campaigning Period:
27th Feb at 10am - 6th March
at Midday

Candidates list and
manifestos released:
27th Feb at 10am

SU Marketing Days
PTOs/Exec : 13th, 16th, 17th, 27th
Feb

SU Hustings (Q&A/Meet the
Candidates event)
27th Feb 12-6pm Union Studio

Voting Period:
2nd March at 10am to 6th
March at Midday

Results Night
3:30pm 6th March
SU Square - Everyone
welcome!

ELECTION DROP-INS

- 30th Jan 3-5
Liberation Room
- 3rd Feb 11-1 Training Room

MANIFESTO WRITING WORKSHOPS

- 10th Feb, Training Room, 2pm
- 12th Feb, Training Room, 10am

CANDIDATE SUPPORT

CANDIDATE BRIEFING AND CAMPAIGN TRAINING

- 11th Feb 2-3pm
- 12th Feb 1-3pm
- 13th Feb 10am-1pm and 1-3pm
- 18th Feb 10-12

ACTIVITIES TEAM DROP-IN

16th Feb
Training Room
10-11am

ADVICE TEAM DROP-IN

20th Feb
Liberation Room
11-12pm

LIBERATION TEAM DROP-IN

19th Feb
Training Room
10-11am

VOICE TEAM DROP-IN

17th Feb
Training Room
10-11am

WELLBEING SPACE

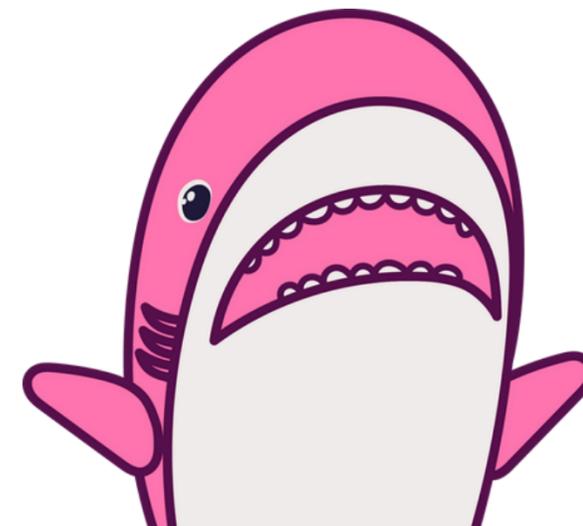
2nd - 6th March
Liberation Room
9am-5pm
*Training Room 9-11:30am
4th March

CANDIDATE DEBRIEF

10th March
Training Room
2-3:30pm

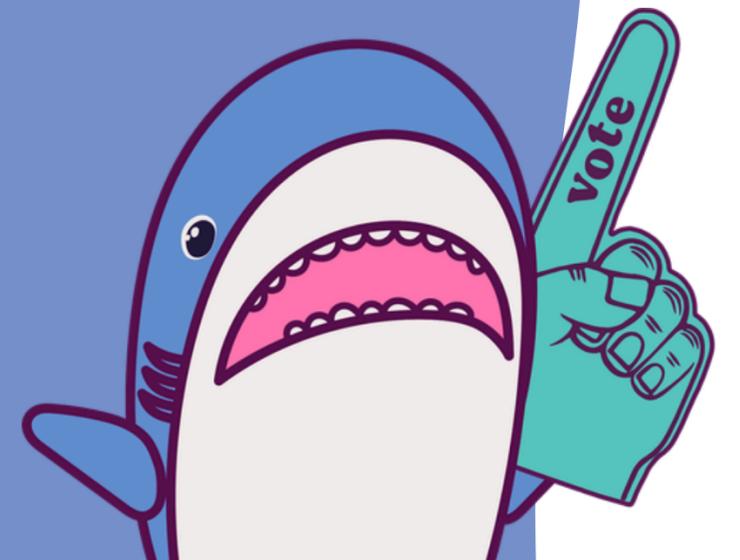


<p>Development Conference</p> <p>SU Elections: Development Conference 7 Feb Sir Bob Burgess Building (Second Floor)</p>	<p>Manifesto Writing</p> <p>SU Elections: Manifesto Writing Workshop 10 Feb SU Training Room (Percy Gee Building)</p>	<p>Candidate Rules Briefing</p> <p>SU Elections: Rules Briefing 11 Feb Ken Edwards Lecture Theatre 2</p>	<p>Manifesto Writing</p> <p>SU Elections: Manifesto Writing Workshop 12 Feb</p>	<p>Candidate Rules Briefing</p> <p>SU Elections: Rules Briefing 12 Feb SU Training Room (Percy Gee Building)</p>
<p>Candidate Campaign Training</p> <p>SU Elections: Campaigns Training 12 Feb</p>	<p>Candidate Rules Briefing</p> <p>SU Elections: Rules Briefing 13 Feb</p>	<p>Candidate Rules Briefing</p> <p>SU Elections: Rules Briefing 13 Feb</p>	<p>Candidate Campaign Training</p> <p>SU Elections: Campaigns Training 13 Feb SU Training Room (Percy Gee Building)</p>	<p>Activities Drop-In</p> <p>SU Elections: Activities Team Drop-In Session 16 Feb SU Training Room (Percy Gee Building)</p>
<p>Voice Drop-In</p> <p>SU Elections: Voice Team Drop-In Session 17 Feb SU Training Room (Percy Gee Building)</p>	<p>Candidate Rules Briefing</p> <p>SU Elections: Candidate Rules Briefing 18 Feb Ken Edwards Lecture Theatre 1</p>	<p>Candidate Campaign Training</p> <p>SU Elections: Campaigns Training 18 Feb</p>	<p>Meet Your Officers</p> <p>SU Elections: Meet Your Current Officers 18 Feb SU Training Room (Percy Gee Building) and Microsoft Teams</p>	<p>Liberation Drop-In</p> <p>SU Elections: Liberation Team Drop-In Session 19 Feb SU Training Room (Percy Gee Building)</p>

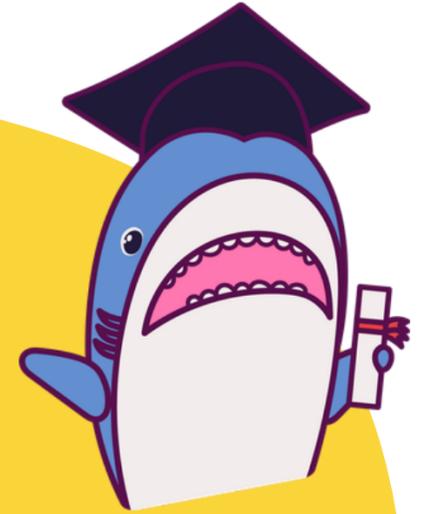


VOTING CHANGES

- Voting online will be for set period of the day only - 11:00-13:00 and 17:00-19:00
- Outside of these times, students will be able to vote at physical ballot stations (Library, Gee's)
- Changes have been implemented in response to student feedback/complaints last year
- This change was approved by the Leicester 100



CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY



- Attended a candidate briefing.
- Sign a declaration confirming that you have:
 - the right to work in the UK for the full duration of the post.
 - No record of academic/non-academic misconduct in the last year:
 - including decisions from University/SU complaints/disciplinary processes
 - No unspent criminal convictions - a DBS Check will take place after the elections

Additional requirements for Part Time Officer candidates:

- Be shortlisted as a candidate for the relevant role based on the application form
- Be a student during the 2026/27 academic year.

Additional requirements for Executive Officer candidates:

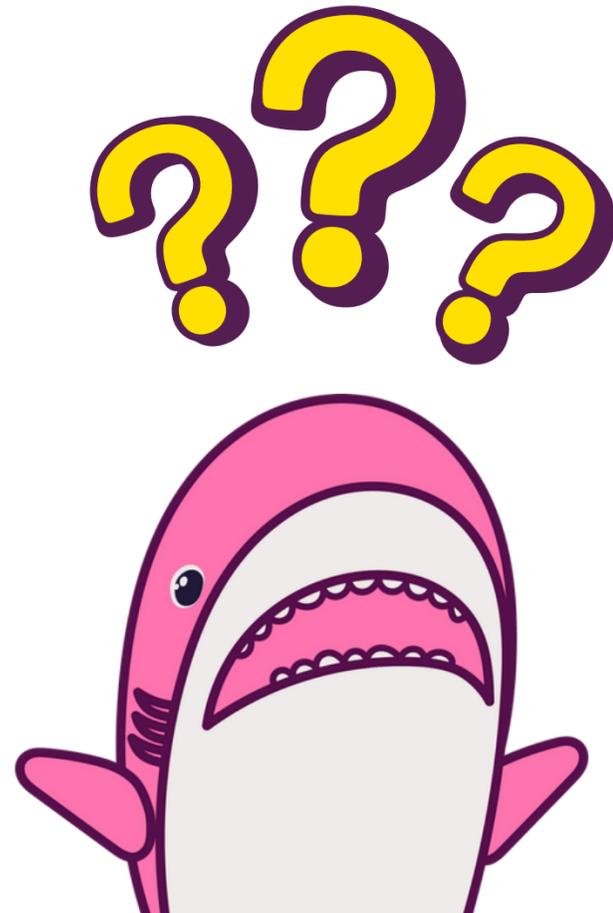
- No Restrictions placed on being a Trustee.
- Registered student at UoL for at least 3 months at the close of nominations.

ANY QUESTIONS?

SU-ELECTIONS@LEICESTER.AC.UK

WANT TO APPLY?

LEICESTERUNION.COM/ELECTIONS





**LEICESTER
STUDENTS'
UNION**

An introduction to Leicester Students' Union.

leicesterunion.com



THE STUDENTS' UNION - THE CHARITY

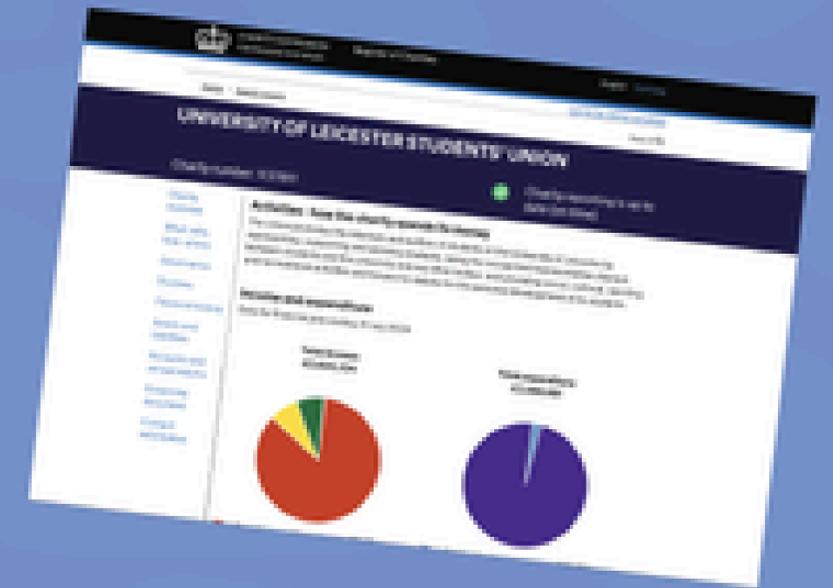
The Students' Union is a registered Charity and as such is governed by the charity commission.

The union has legally binding "charitable objectives" which dictate how its can and can't spend its time, effort and money.

The objects of the Union are:

"The advancement of education of Students at the University of Leicester for the public benefit by:

- Promoting the interests and welfare of Students at the University of Leicester during their course of study and representing, supporting and advising Students;
- Being the recognised representative channel between Students and the University of Leicester and any other external bodies;
- Providing social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities, and forums for discussions and debate for the personal development of its Students."





OUR VISION

A community where all students are empowered to **thrive, belong and succeed.**



OUR WHY

We believe students who engage with the Students' Union are **happier, make more friends and have better academic outcomes.**



OUR HOW

Advocate for, support and create spaces for all students.



A COMMUNITY WHERE ALL STUDENTS ARE EMPOWERED TO THRIVE, BELONG & SUCCEED

We will support our students in achieving better personal and educational outcomes. Students that are actively engaged with the union gain well-rounded development that enhances both their life and studies.

- We will support students to develop new life skills.
- We will empower students to build confidence, resilience and believe in their abilities.
- We will develop physical, social and digital spaces to enable students to thrive, belong and succeed.



BY 2028, WE WILL HAVE...

1. Expanded our Peer Mentoring programme to include PGT, Distance Learners and Foundation students.
2. Implemented a student group development programme to empower our student leaders to grow as people .
3. Developed systems and processes that allow us to be agile to proactively respond to student needs.
4. Heard that students feel more confident, resilient and equipped at the end of their university journey.
5. Committed to revitalising the Students' Union by investing significantly in our physical spaces that enable students to thrive.
6. Enhanced annual engagement of students in our democratic processes such as the Ideas System, Elections and Leicester100.

A COMMUNITY WHERE ALL STUDENTS ARE EMPOWERED TO THRIVE, BELONG & SUCCEED

We will build vibrant communities and networks to ensure our students have a place where they belong and can flourish as their authentic selves.

Students that are engaged and part of student groups/communities are more likely to stay at university, progress well and complete their studies with better outcomes.

We will continue to invest time, efforts and resources to reach and provide additional support to as many students as possible who we've identified as under-engaged or experiencing loneliness.

- We will create opportunities for students to make and build lifelong friendships.
- We will empower students to lead and develop their own communities.
- We will reduce loneliness amongst our members by creating enriching spaces for them to be their true selves.



BY 2028, WE WILL HAVE...

1. Boosted student engagement with the union, focusing on active and meaningful involvement year on year.
2. Targeted students most at risk of isolation, loneliness or low engagement by creating or facilitating activity and spaces designed to offer a half step into full student engagement or leadership.
3. Ensured we have a thriving calendar of community activity supported and delivered by our Part Time Officers.
4. Refocused and doubled our efforts to support the growth of Academic Societies to ensure growing sense of community within university schools.

SUCCEED

A COMMUNITY WHERE ALL STUDENTS ARE EMPOWERED TO THRIVE, BELONG & SUCCEED

We will advocate on behalf of students by representing their needs on issues that can affect and impact their success and experience at university.

We will achieve this by expanding our Academic Representation programme to build a valuable knowledge bank to transform Leicester Students' Union into a proactive, impactful, and data-driven entity serving its members.

- We will continue to develop and deliver sector leading academic representation.
- We will support students through challenging periods by strengthening our Advice Service to ensure we can provide help to those in need.
- We will ensure student voice is embedded into university decision making and advocate at the highest level for excellence in academic experience.



BY 2028, WE WILL HAVE...

1. Developed a knowledge bank that enables us to truly consider ourselves the voice of students. Staff and Officers will be able to tune in to real time student feedback that drives our work across the union.
2. Embedded systems of representation within the postgraduate community.
3. Made a meaningful and positive impact on student's academic journey.
4. We will have impact assessed our Advice provision and provided effective academic advice and general guidance to more students leading to better outcomes and greater satisfaction in the support they have received.



BEING A TRUSTEE

Gaining experience of being a trustee of a charity is a great personal development opportunity. You'll get front row seats to seeing how decisions are made. What's more, you'll have a critical vote!

- Monitoring Students' Union's performance against the Strategic Plan
- Rates of pay for student and career staff
- Updates to HR policies in line with new statutory requirements
- Approval of the annual budget for student activities
- Provide support, guidance and some line management to the CEO

The Trustees are legally responsible for ensuring that student union complies with the law, including;

- The duty to act in best interests of charity, which involves making balanced and informed decisions about what will best enable the charity to carry out its purposes
- The requirements, of charity law such as not engaging in political campaigns or actions outside the charitable object of advancing the education of students at the university
- The duty to maintain the reputation of the student union and to protect its funds from undue risk - this includes protecting its funds against legal claims by third parties
- The duty to act with reasonable skill and care, including seeking advice where necessary

Your Manifesto - Students as Students

The Charity Commission has issued operational guidance on political activities by students' unions:

A charitable students' union may comment publicly on social, economic, environmental and political issues if these relate to its purposes or the way in which it is able to carry out its work. For example:

- Street lighting near the campus;
- More public transport at night; or
- Nursery places for the children of students.

It should not comment publicly on issues which do not affect the welfare of students as students. For example: planning proposals for new roads or motorways which have no direct effect on the university campus or the students;

- Campaigns to outlaw the killing of whales; or
- The treatment of political prisoners in a foreign country.

A charitable students' union may not support a particular political party but it may:

- Encourage students to develop their political awareness and acquire knowledge of, or debate, political issues. To achieve this, it may make grants to political clubs or societies on the campus. But these should be even-handed and non-discriminatory and for the purposes of the clubs or societies."

CAMPAIGNING

- It's supposed to be fun. Be positive, be kind, champion each other.
- Students' Unions don't run without students, FT/PT student officers, volunteers and student leaders.
- Everyone is watching the way you conduct yourself. Including voters!
- The University and the staff team will observe how you operate. Your success in role depends a lot on how you conduct yourself through the campaigning process.
- Will you be a hard working, creative, enthusiastic, positive campaigner?

Securing Votes



Getting elected = finding ways to persuade people you don't know to willingly give up their time and do something that they might perceive doesn't have any value to them.

- Tell people why a vote for you is worth their time**
- Tell people why they should vote at all**
- Be clear on your plan – how are you going to do what you say you're going to do?**
- Be clear on Single Transferable Voting (More on this later!). 2nd Choice votes matter!**



STICK TO THE RULES!

- Rules are there to ensure free and fair elections
- If you are campaigning as a group remember it is "all for one and one for all"
- They will be enforced without fear or favour
- Last year we disqualified 16 candidates in total
- Some of them were holding leadership positions including the SU President



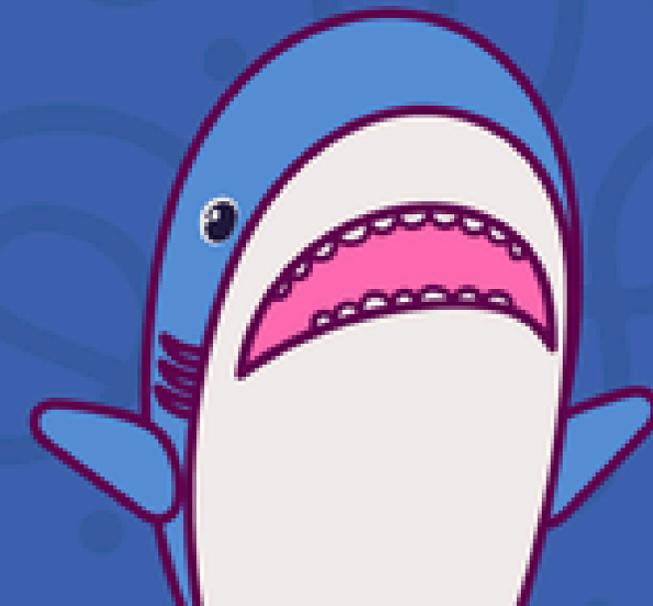
People who vote

- You
- Your Friends
- Your Friends Friends
- People on your course
- People you live with
- People who you don't know
- People in clubs and societies
- People who are voting for their friends in other positions who are willing to consider voting for other positions
- People who are voting because they've been offered an incentive
- People who will only vote if asked
- People who will vote and will read all the manifestos and make an informed choice
- People who won't read the manifestos and will vote anyway

Your job is to persuade people from these groups to cast a vote for you.

Making sure people know your name and a reason they should vote for you are key drivers in securing votes.

You won't be elected if you only speak to people you know.





**GOOD
LUCK!**



DATA IMPACTING STUDENTS



LEICESTER
STUDENTS'
UNION

DATA AND INSIGHT DEPARTMENT

Graham Pickering

Data and Insight Manager

Amy Illson

Research Coordinator

Ajan Mudey

Student Data Analyst



LEICESTER
STUDENTS'
UNION

DATA AND INSIGHT

Research

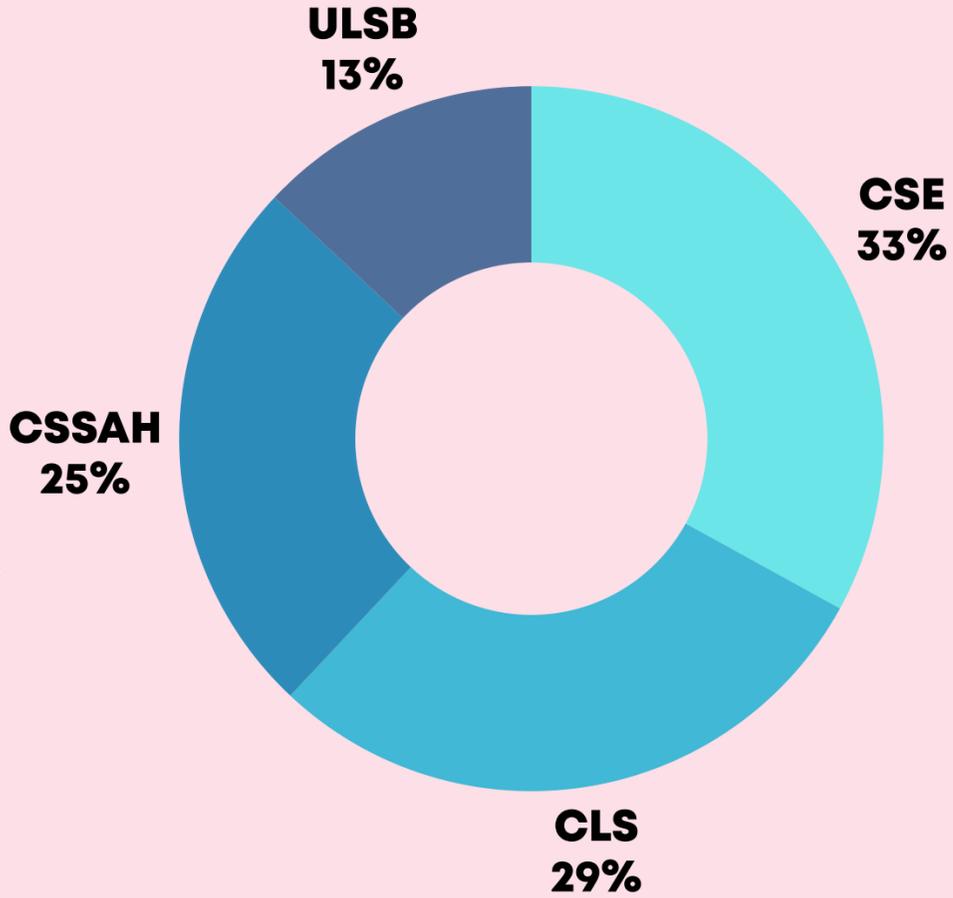
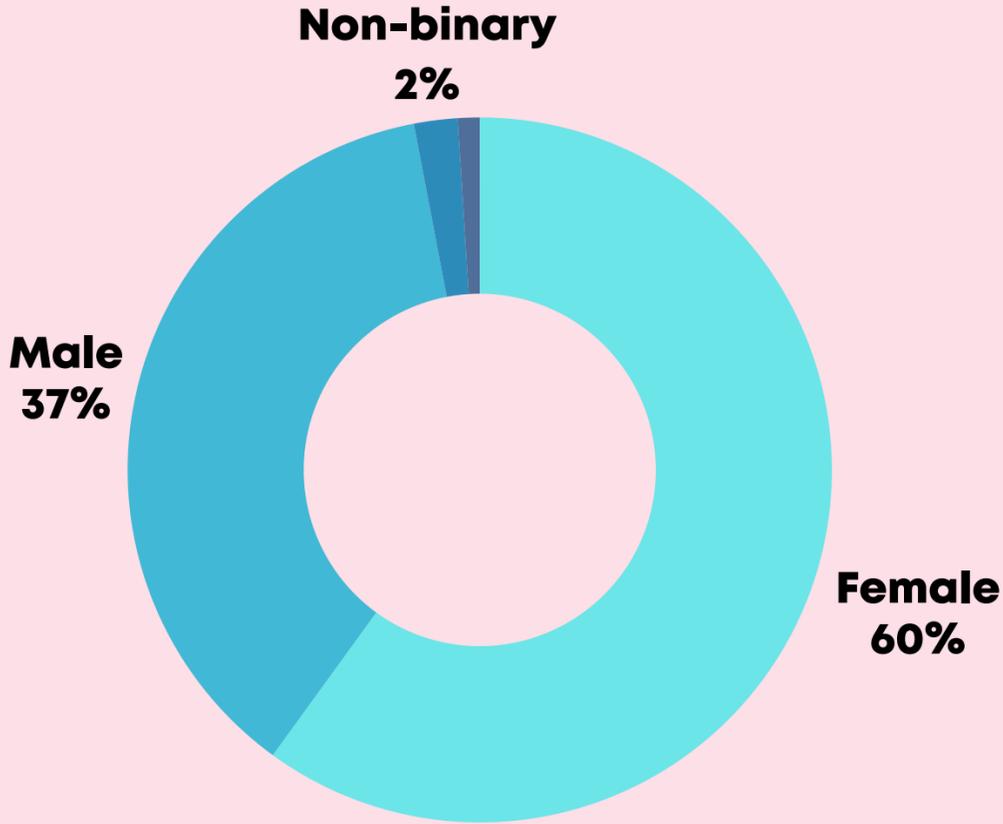
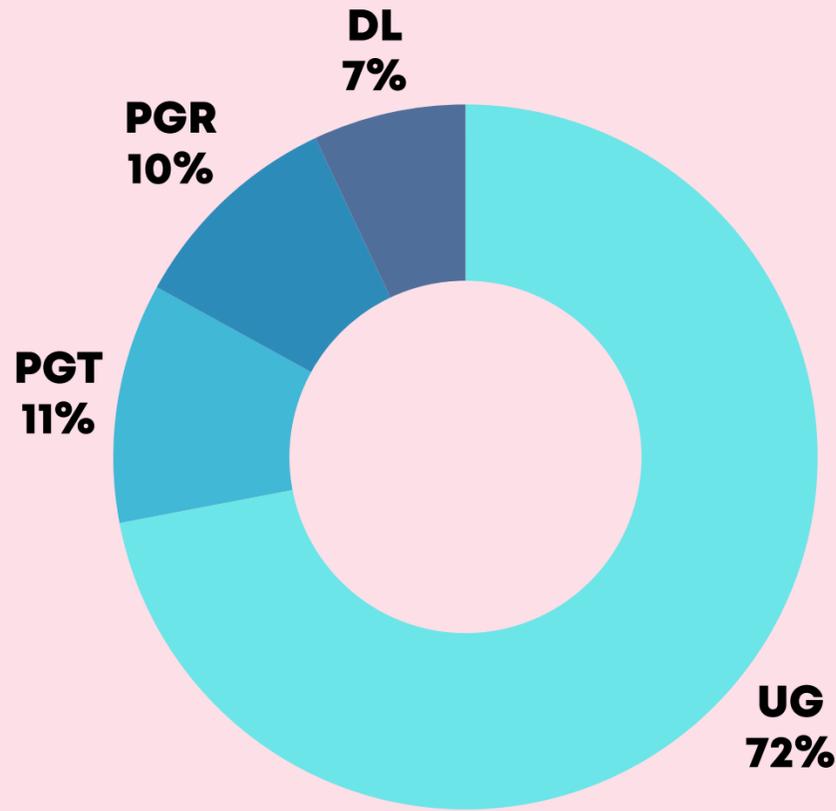
- Collaboration
- Comparison
- Focus Groups & Listening Events

Data

- NSS (National Student Survey)
- PTES (PGT Evaluation Survey)
- PRES (PGR Evaluation Survey)
- LeicsChat

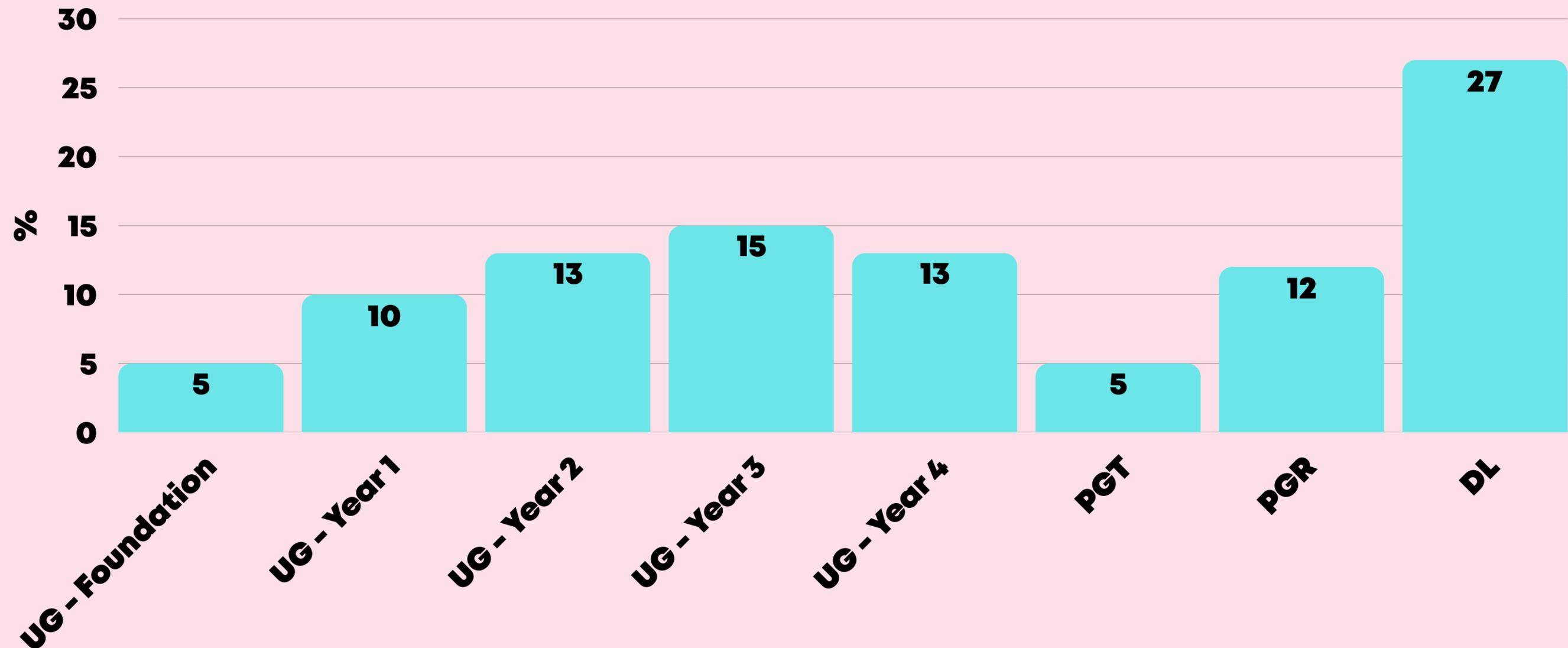


1,319 RESPONSES



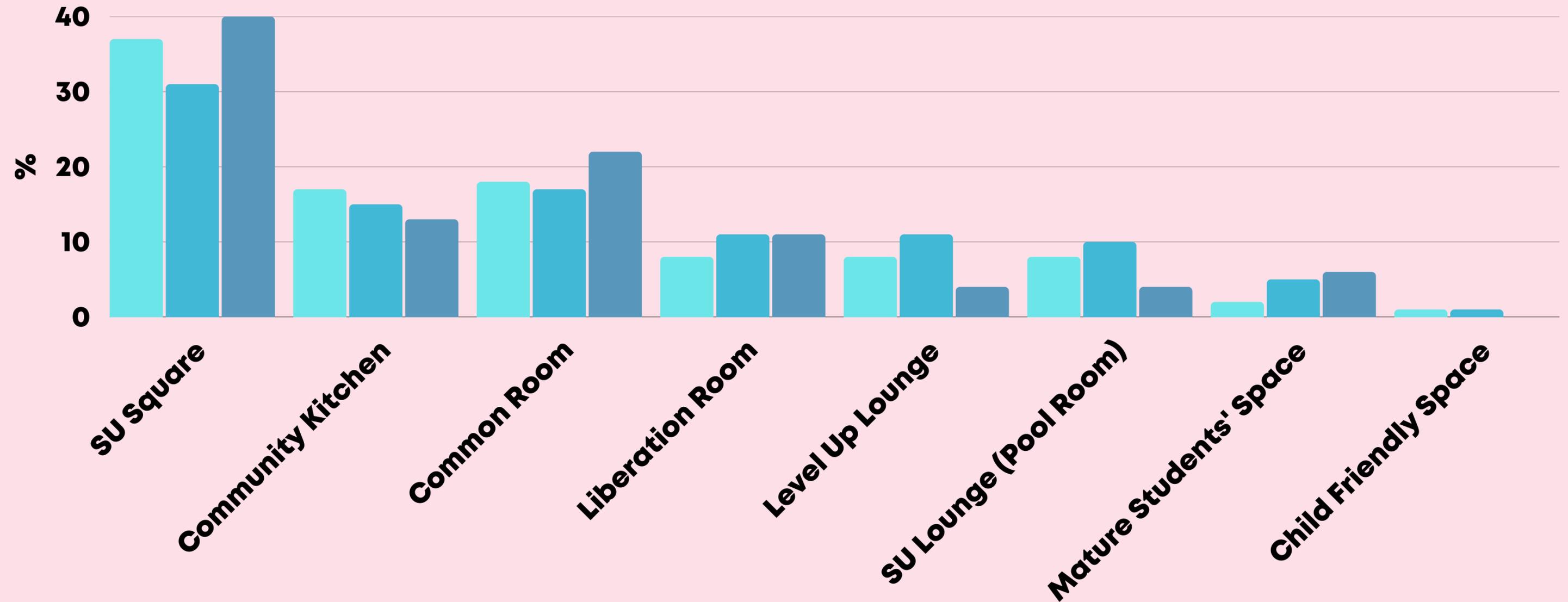
'I AM PART OF THE UOL COMMUNITY'

Those who didn't feel part of a community



Which spaces are used?

● UG ● PGT ● PGR

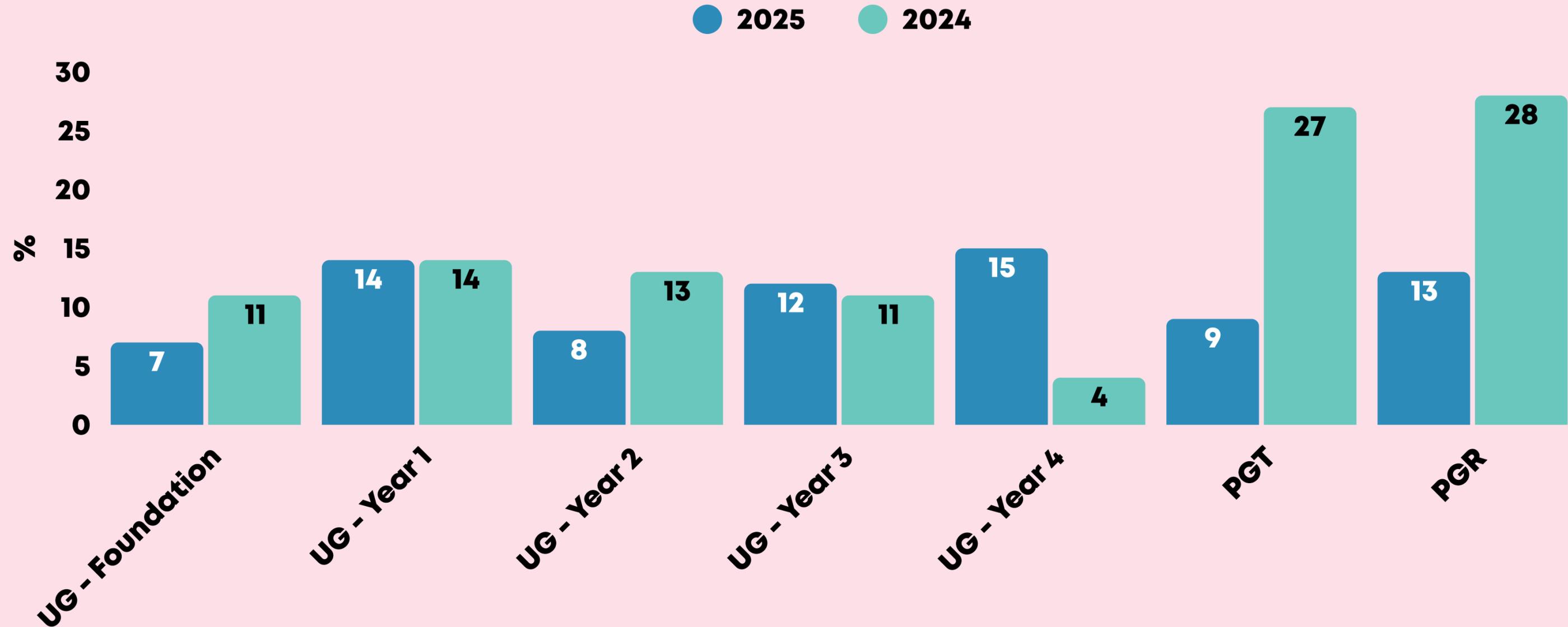


HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED LEAVING UOL?

- 33% of all students have considered leaving University
- 11% indicating they felt lonely
- 10% that their mental health was too poor

LONELINESS

I do not consider myself to have any true friends at University



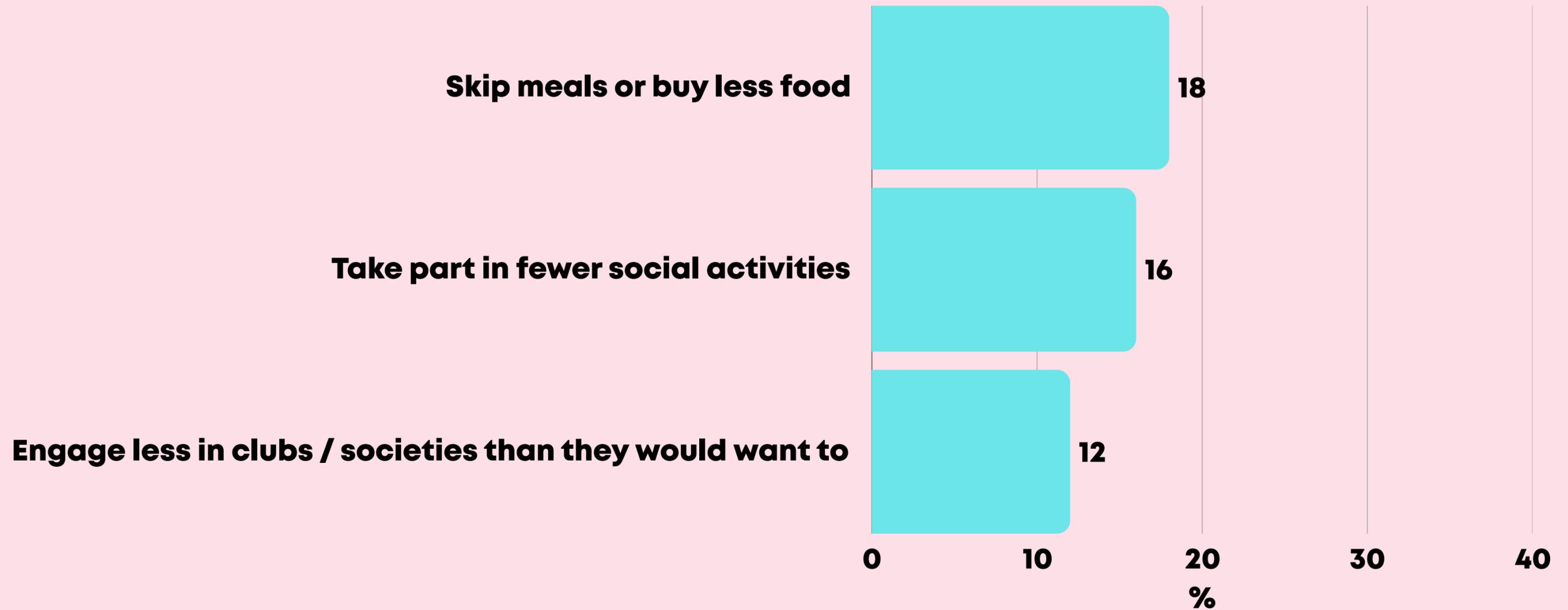
MENTAL HEALTH

	2025	2024
Average score	54 ▼	61
Male	54 ▼	69
Female	55 ▼	58
Heterosexual	56 ▼	64
LGBT+	45 ▼	49

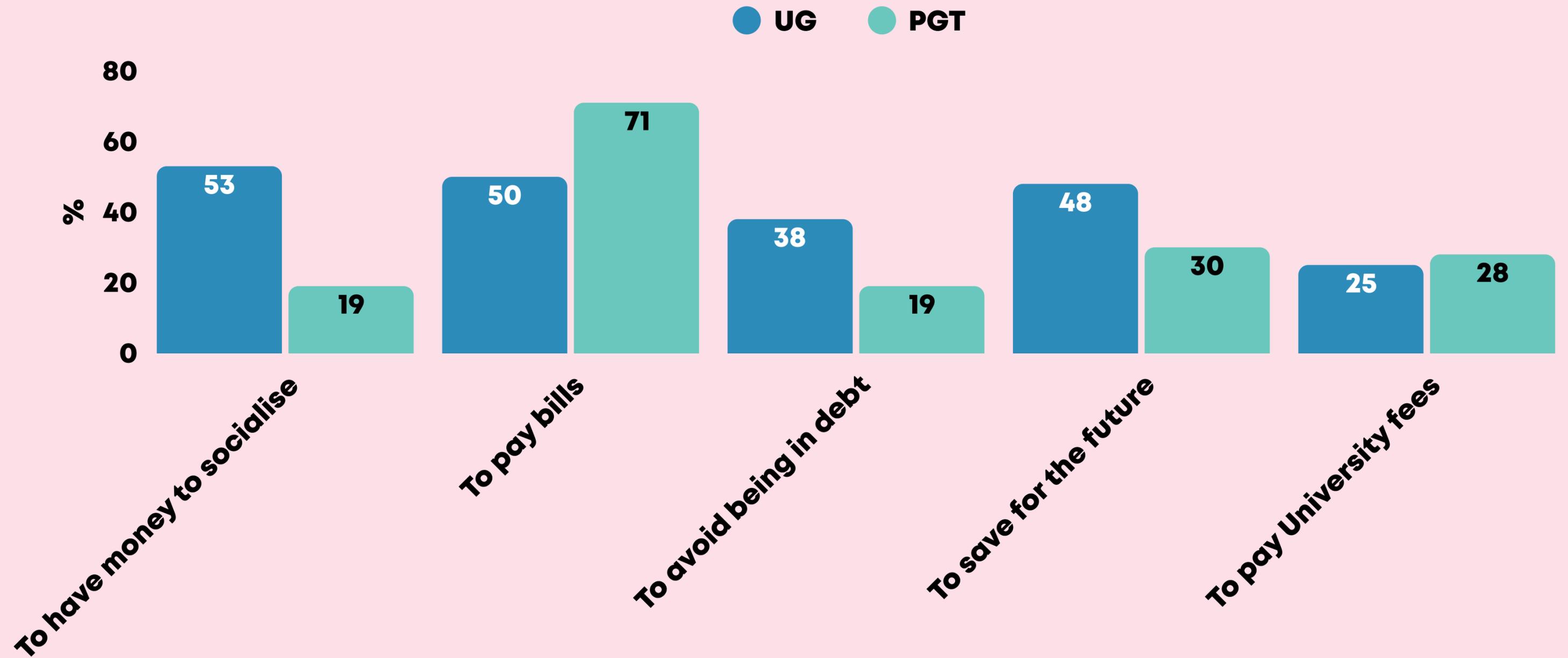
COST OF LIVING

- Nationally, over 60% of students working do so to pay bills
- According to our data, 54% of those surveyed work in order to pay bills
- 34% of UG students surveyed, and 50% of PGT students, do paid work alongside their studies

COST OF LIVING



Why do you take on part-time work? (More than one option)



THE KEY ISSUES

- Sense of community and belonging
- Loneliness and friendship groups
- Mental health

ANY QUESTIONS?

su-research@leicester.ac.uk

WAYS TO PROMOTE YOURSELF AS A CANDIDATE

Aisha Bhimani-Jassat
Brand, Comms & Marketing Manager
Leicester Students' Union



KNOW YOUR MESSAGE

Define top 3 key promises

- Keep your pitch rehearsed and ready so you can use it when speaking to students or through digital
- Keep it clear and concise, use less words than you think
- Show your personality, people need to believe in your values, skills and confidence as a leader

IF YOU WANT THE VOTES, YOU HAVE TO BE MEMORABLE!



BUILD YOUR BRAND

Consistent visuals

- Create a manifesto that's clear and to the point
- Contains a photograph of yourself
- Use a slogan if possible
- Decide on a colour palette and use it throughout your campaign. E.g clothing
- Put in the effort to see the return
- You're in constant interview mode



USE SOCIAL MEDIA

Engaging short posts

- Use video
- Be responsive
- Enjoy yourself
- Be approachable
- Build your personality and brand
- Talk to students



ON-CAMPUS PRESENCE

Posters in key areas

- Give out a little gift or branded stickers
- Be present and have conversations
- Hot drinks with a campaign sticker on the cup
- Again, it's being consistent that makes you memorable



STAY POSITIVE

Focus on your ideas

- Be respectful
- Smile and be approachable
- Talk positively about the things you'd like to do
- Avoid sarcasm
- Show confidence



PRACTICE

Talk about:

- What makes you unique and stand out?
- How will you communicate it?
- One idea you have that you'd like to work on



ACTIVITY: TURN TO SOMEONE NEXT TO YOU AND SHARE 1 IDEA.



QUESTIONS?

Happy to discuss strategies or examples.



Your Students' Union

A community where all students
are empowered to **thrive, belong**
and **succeed.**



Advice Service



- They can help with course-related queries
- Accommodation and housing guidance
- Free confidential and impartial advice on any personal issues

- Independent from the University, they will listen, consider your circumstances, and advise you on the best route to take.

Located in the Percy Gee Building

Plagiarism

Signposting

Housing Support

Appeals

Mitigating Circumstances

Academic Support

Peer Mentoring

This scheme is set up to support students with their transition to the University of Leicester.

Every first year student will be assigned a peer mentor. Mentors have a group of mentees in first year.

They are offer peer to peer support on:

- **Adjusting to university life**
- **Leicester city**
- **Tips on studying**

They also run workshops throughout the year on studying and making friends at university.



Getting support if something happens

It is important to note that if you witness or experience any unacceptable behaviour, that you are not alone and there is support available to you from our Standing Together team.

- Make a disclosure through reportandsupport.le.ac.uk or scan the QR code
- Security have a 24/7 presence on campus. You can also use the Safezone App for assistance.



Thank you.

**Any
questions?**



SCENARIO EXERCISE

You are out campaigning for the Students' Union elections when, suddenly, a visibly furious student strides straight toward you. Their voice is sharp and urgent as they declare that they have heard the Students' Union has decided to boycott the Careers Service. They insist this decision will have serious consequences for them personally—and for every other student on campus. Their frustration spills over as they demand, on the spot, to know exactly what you intend to do about it if you win the election.

GROUP 1

Discuss what you can do to de-escalate the situation?

GROUP 2

Discuss how you can address the issue raised by student?