



executive elections

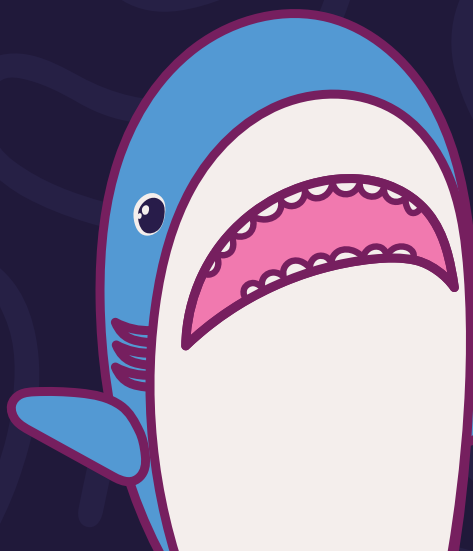
2025

VOTE



Candidate Manifestos!

The views expressed by the individual candidates are not necessarily the views of the Students' Union. We encourage you as a student to carefully consider what the candidates have stated in deciding whom you wish to cast your vote(s) for.



Your voice
Matters!



LEICESTER
STUDENTS'
UNION

Matt Schofield



**#ThePeople's
President**



[matt.for.pres](https://www.instagram.com/matt.for.pres)

**Vote Matt Schofield
for President**

CAMPAIGN PROGRAMS

01 Student Safety

02 Student Cost Crisis

03 Student Wellbeing

04 Societies Funding System

Matt Schofield VOTE

Issue	Why is it an issue?	How I will fix it!
Student Safety	The poor lighting around campus at night poses serious risks for all but particularly women, with 86% of those ages 18-24 experiencing harassment. With the lights turning off at 12 and buses stopping, vulnerability increases massively.	To improve this, I will extend the bus service hours particularly during exam season when late nights are spent at the library. I will work with Leicester City council ensuring that we protect our students by keeping street lights on.
Student Cost Crisis	At university, costs are getting higher without our student loans increasing. Rent has increased massively over the past 2 years with student accom prices rising by £20 to £30 a week. Food prices rising each week with a bottle of water at £1.20. As well as many hidden costs when starting uni which many students don't account for.	I will ensure that the university clarifies any hidden costs such as stylus pens, lab coats and textbooks needed. Also, improving the contract with the Leicester food partnership to get the cost of products lower and much more affordable for us students.
Student Wellbeing	Currently, Concerned help service is overran with initial waiting times over a month from disclosure to initial meetings. One month is too long to put someone's life at risk and on hold.	Efficiently combining resources together to reduce wait times and increase the amount of people treated, helping to protect our students from mental health challenges. By promoting and increasing awareness of our services ensuring all students know what help is available for them.
Society Funding System	Sport and Societies struggle gaining support from the SU due to their lack of funds. Student groups are having to pass heavy costs onto their members as a result leading to missed opportunities due to financial hardship.	With better allocation of resources within the SU and support from the university would allow for more opportunities for students with financial support. No one in the SU can tell you how much money there is for societies, this changes with me as your president. Clarity with students is my priority.

Matt Schofield Experience



- President of Hockey Club (1 year)
- Mens Hockey Club Captain (1 year)
- Mens Hockey Club Kit Sec (1 year)
- University Hockey Club Head Coach (2 years)
- Football Campus League Captain (3 years)
- SU Sports Council Performance Coordinator (2 years) - Working in the SU for 2 years, I have seen how it operates and how day to day issues arise without being solved

#ThePeople's President



Cast your vote below



[matt.for.pres](#)



ms1234@student.le.ac.uk

Cleo for



Communities



About me

My name is Cleo Cornou, and I am running to be your next Communities Officer. Here are some fun facts about me:

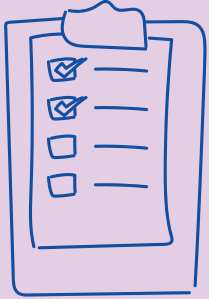
- I study Criminology with Forensic Psychology
- I have competed in three sports at uni: Cheer, Archery and Ultimate.
- I am French!
- I am passionate about advocacy

Why me?

I have the skills and experience necessary to be the perfect Communities Officer. With a lot of experience in volunteering and working with the SU, I have been actively advocating for various student communities:

- As Course Rep, I represent my cohort to have their concerns and feedback heard in staff meetings.
- As a member of Sports Council, I ensure International Students have a voice in sports.
- As a part of neurodiversity and inclusivity working groups, I helped with awareness campaigns and more.

I am passionate about representing students and enacting change, and electing me will give me the tools to do so on a bigger scale.



My Priorities

Female Safety on Campus

- Create a clear procedure to report harassment and assault in the O2 Academy and advertise it to students
- Organise a bus chain system so students do not have to wait for the bus in the dark at night

Increase Student Employment

- Work with the food vendors on campus to employ more students
- Partner with local businesses to offer opportunities for Uni of Leicester students



Ensure Accommodation is up to SAC Standards

The University needs to follow The Student Accommodation Code for every accommodation, no matter how cheap.



Improve the SU Website

Revamp the website to make it more effective and accessible to students, and easier to navigate for societies and volunteers.



Low Income Students

- Provide help to low income students to partake in sports and activities at University.
- Advertise existing payment plans clearly so students are aware of this support.

Continuation of previous work

Ensure the continuation of the work done by previous officers and staff, such as the free bus service, cheaper food, sanitary products available on campus...



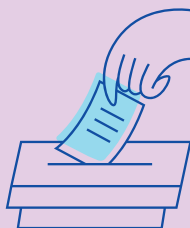
Collaboration

- Encourage teamwork within the SU, joining the full time officers and part time officers.
- Organise meetings between the different councils to work more effectively.

Advertise Opportunities

- Make students more aware of the volunteering opportunities available to them at university.
- Advertise the ways in which students can be heard eg. Course Reps.

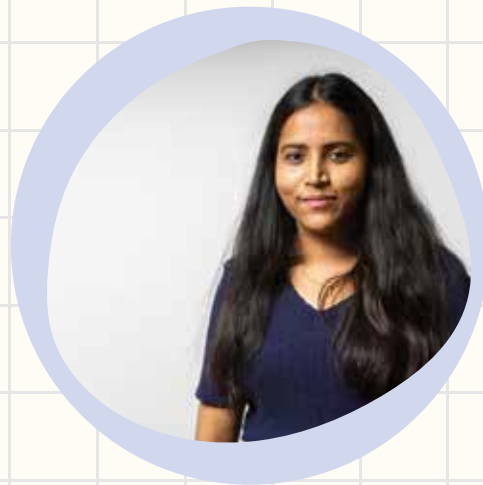
Join the Community,



Vote Cleo!

VOTE

AISHWARYA KOTE



For Education officer

Hi, I'm Aishwarya Kote— a curious international student who packed her dreams and a suitcase to chase an education that goes beyond textbooks. Coming from India in January 2024 to pursue my master's in international business, I quickly realized that every academic challenge is an opportunity to create meaningful change. My own journey of adapting to a new educational system, navigating cultural differences, and overcoming unexpected hurdles has transformed me from a student into an advocate. I've learned that education isn't just about grades – it's about breaking barriers, understanding diverse perspectives, and empowering every single student to reach their full potential.

MY EXPERIENCE

As your current Liberation Officer and candidate for Education Officer, I bring proven experience in advocacy and student representation. As Liberation Officer, I have led several impactful projects, including:

1. Established the **Liberation Council** to represent all underrepresented students at the university, creating a platform to discuss campaign ideas and policy changes.
2. Organized **Global Fusion Fest** to celebrate International Students Day, which brought diverse cultures together with over 150 students attending. This first-of-its-kind event featured successful collaborations with student societies, external stakeholders, and officers. I'm currently working to establish this as an annual tradition through official policy.
3. Coordinated a comprehensive **Black History Month** celebration featuring exhibitions, talks on Black Excellence, interactive workshops, and film screenings that engaged dozens of students and promoted greater cultural understanding on campus.
4. Launched **Neurodiversity Celebration Week** in collaboration with Students' Union staff, council members, and our Accessibility Officer.
5. Led the "**Bridging the Gap - Listening Event**" initiative alongside the university's Black Student Experience Team and SU President. This listening event gathered valuable feedback from Black students about their experiences at the university that relates to the awarding gap and other aspects of the university. If elected, I will continue this valuable work, to transform student feedback into concrete actions, ensuring fair academic outcomes for all.

FIVE MAIN PLEDGES

01.

ADVOCATING FOR STUDENT ACADEMIC RIGHTS

I commit to supporting students with academic **appeals**, advocating for appropriate **resit and dissertation timeframes**, and resolving conflicts between academic deadlines and visa requirements. I will ensure international students receive **CAS extensions** when needed to complete their degrees without immigration complications.

Additionally, I will push for policy changes to **allow neurodivergent students and those with learning difficulties to receive extra time for coursework**. Currently, these students are denied this support under mitigating circumstances policies, as their conditions are considered “not unforeseen.” However, this fails to acknowledge the unique challenges they face in processing information and completing tasks within standard timeframes. I will advocate for the university to revise its policy or introduce a dedicated process for these students to request additional time, ensuring a more equitable and supportive learning environment.

02.

BREAKING DOWN FINANCIAL BARRIERS AND PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY

I commit to introducing innovative financial support systems, including **flexible fee payment plans** and establishing a loan scheme for essential academic items, while partnering with National Union of Students to campaign for fair work conditions.

03.

TRANSFORMING THE POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

I will implement a Supervisor Excellence Program with mandatory training and **enhance PGR support structures** by streamlining processes, improving resource access, and standardizing support roles across departments.

04.

SUPPORTING DISTANCE LEARNING, INTERNATIONAL, AND COMMUTER STUDENTS

I pledge to streamline visa processing and develop comprehensive guidance for international students, while advocating for **commuter-friendly timetabling** and more relaxed student spaces on campus. I will advocate for better virtual engagement, **ensuring distance learning students have equal access** to academic support, career services, and networking opportunities.

05.

COLLEGE-SPECIFIC IMPROVEMENTS AND TARGETED SUPPORT

I will address unique challenges across different colleges to enhance your academic experience



TACKLING COLLEGE-SPECIFIC CHALLENGES

College of Business (CBU)

- Transform Brookfield into a vibrant student hub by extending café hours beyond 2-3 PM and establish a separate academic group within the College of Business to create a structured and sustainable way to engage students and promote participation.
- Address critical timetabling issues between Brookfield and main campus.

College of Social Science, Arts & Humanities (CSSAH)

- Create dedicated spaces to combat isolation for arts students during self-study periods
- Integrate more industry-relevant practical skills in Arts, Media, and Communication courses
- Provide additional support for Law students managing large reading lists and cohort sizes
- Ensure smooth transition during departmental mergers

College of Science & Engineering (CSE)

- Secure quality alternative spaces for students affected by building closures
- Address teaching consistency in Engineering, particularly during staff changes
- Modernize Computing and Mathematical Sciences curriculum to reflect industry developments
- Develop comprehensive AI literacy programs while maintaining academic integrity

College of Life Sciences (CLS)

- Broaden career pathway presentations beyond traditional routes
- Standardize placement experiences across Healthcare and Medicine programs
- Plan well-being events at times that work for students on placements, so they don't miss out on opportunities to relax and recharge.



National Union of Students (NUS) Campaign Initiatives

- Partner with NUS to eliminate age-based minimum wage discrimination
- Campaign for increased work hour limits for international students (currently 20 hours/week)
- Advocate for rights for international students to pursue freelance work and entrepreneurship
-
-

Why Your Vote Matters

Every student deserves to graduate with the best possible outcome and feel that their education has been worth the investment. University should equip students with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities they need to succeed—not just in their studies, but in their future careers. If elected as your Education Officer, I will work to ensure that every student receives fair academic support, accessible resources, and a learning experience that truly reflects the value of their time and money.



Vote Aishwarya Kote for Education Officer - Because every student deserves to succeed!



VOTE AYSU!!

Hi! My name is Aysu Aghaei and I am a current 2nd year Law student.

I am running for the role of Women's Officer because I envision a university experience where **every woman**— regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, or background— has the opportunity to thrive **academically, professionally, and personally.**



The 'Leicester Leaders' Mentoring Scheme

An interdisciplinary mentoring network that connects women students with alumni and professionals. This initiative will bridge the gap between education and employment, providing guidance and opportunities to improve employability and future prospects.

Women-Only Study Spaces

I will create study spaces that are exclusively for women. These spaces will provide a safe, comfortable, and focused environment where women can work free from distractions.

Women-Only Sports & Fitness Opportunities

- Women-only swimming sessions and gym hours led by women instructors.
- Free women's self-defence classes to equip women with the confidence and skills to protect themselves in any situation.

Increased Support for Mothers & Caregivers

- A dedicated study space where mothers can work alongside their children.
- More flexible exam arrangements, mitigating circumstances, and deferral policies to accommodate students facing challenges.
- Lecture live-streaming where possible to ensure accessibility for all students.

Together, let's build a University where women are not just present but thrive.

Izzy Obrey for LGBT+ Officer



I am Izzy Obrey,, I'm bisexual and I wish to create a welcoming environment for all members of the LGBT+ community.

I plan to create drop-in sessions with me where students can ask questions or raise any issues they want to or for support.

Coming to university really helped me to express my sexuality in my own way and made me more comfortable in myself and I want to help others feel like that.

I also want to raise awareness of the issues and discrimination that members of the LGBT+ community still face in 2025 and make resources more accessible



For any information or questions,contact me at io62@student.le.ac.uk

FOR SOCIETIES OFFICER ELLIE STOBIRSKI

WHO AM I?

- Hi my name is Ellie (she/her) and I'm from Essex
- I am a 2nd year Medical Biochemistry student
- I am involved in lots of societies including: Panthers Cheer, Gymnastics, Cocktail society and DKMS stem cell society
- I have experience in running societies from my time as treasurer for Panthers Cheer and Gymnastics
- I am the Vice Chair of the Societies Council this year

WHY VOTE FOR ME?

- From my time on Societies Council, I know how the council works and would be confident in leading it
- I am super organised from balancing my roles as treasurer and have insider knowledge on how to run a society
- I am familiar with the process of setting up a society from setting up the Gymnastics society this year
- I am super friendly, open to suggestions and want to make societies more accessible at Leicester

VOTE HERE



MY AIMS AND IDEAS

- I would like to support our existing societies by creating committee drop in sessions and a question page on committee hub pages
- I would love to encourage society networking events, where society leaders can meet, collaborate, and share best practices.
- To help those interested in starting a society, I will help to make that process easier encouraging more in person meetings
- To try and financially aid societies I would help organise talks on how to better apply for grant funding and organise fundraising

STOBIRSKI FOR SOCIETIES

Message me with any questions es472@student.le.ac.uk



 **VOTE**
BEN CARPENTER
FOR
SPORTS OFFICER
2025 - 2026



A BIT ABOUT ME

- 3rd Year Aerospace Engineer
- Member of Swimming & Water Polo, Hockey and Mixed Hockey Club through my 3 years!
- President of Swimming & Water 2024/25
- Student Athlete Winner 2023/24
- Secretary on Sports Council
- Played International Water Polo against Australia.
- Currently compete for Bedford Water Polo and Hockey Clubs
- Founded and Tap In XI Hockey Team back in Bedford
- Experienced and qualified Water Polo Coach

WHY YOU SHOULD VOTE FOR ME!

- I want to see every student feel welcomed and have equal opportunities across the University sporting catalogue
- I want to strengthen the communication between the students, Team Leicester and the SU
- I've been a part of many clubs and know how it feels when things need to change
- running campaigns from being Swolo President and sports council Secretary
- Want to ensure transparency regarding finances so that students know where their money is being spent



MY CAMPAIGN GOALS

GREATER REPRESENTATION FOR ALL CLUBS

As sports officer I want to make sure that every club is getting equal access to facilities and resources. Not just for Team Leicester Clubs, but all sports clubs across the University. Supporting clubs that may suffer from lack of training times or funding is essential. I want to work with them to try and combat any issues. So that every student taking part in sport at Leicester can make the most of it!

STRENGTHEN COMMUNICATION

I want to set up more regular feedback sessions between Club Captains, Team Leicester and the SU. Allowing for an open environment for students to share concerns or anything they think could be worked on. Also, to look into providing more transparent information to the student body to know where their membership fees are going, and the decisions that are being made behind the scenes.

IMPROVE PLAYER SAFETY AND WELL-BEING

I believe it is essential for at least 1 member of each team and any coaches to be first aid trained to handle any issues where paramedic response might be delayed. To tackle this, scheduling of more training days throughout the year should be done. Making it compulsory for teams to send someone to take part. Alongside this, I want to build on the work done this year to help strengthen the support for athletes' wellbeing by ensuring easy to follow sign posting of information.

CAMPUS LEAGUES

As sports Officer, I want to celebrate and build up our Campus League network across all the sports that provide them. I would look into streamlining all the organisation and look to advertise the schemes more to encourage maximum engagement. From speaking to people I've heard of, many facility setbacks have also resulted in fewer campus league activities. I want to look into combating this, improving the facility selection so that the campus league can flourish.



bc249@student.le.ac.uk



@bcarpenter_

VOTE HEATH FOR TRANS AND NON-BINARY OFFICER



My name is Heath Burns, my pronouns are he/him, and I want to be your trans and non-binary officer. You should vote for me because I want to implement initiatives that will directly benefit trans and non-binary students.

These initiatives include a database compiling local trans and non-binary friendly barbers, hair salons and any other businesses students want including. I would also include local doctors that offer bridging prescriptions or work with places that offer private gender affirming care, making it easier for students who can afford private gender affirming care to find a GP to fulfil their prescription. This will be a document for the trans and non-binary student body by the trans and non-binary student body as anyone will be able to add to this database. I hope this resource will help alleviate some of the anxiety around being trans or non-binary in a new place. On top of this I would also more clearly signpost the location of the resource guide for trans and non-binary students

VOTE FOR DONO ARTS OFFICER!

LIFE IS SHORT



@donosya follow me on Instagram!

ART IS FOR EVERYONE!

Art is not just for artists—it's for everyone. Whether you paint, design, write, perform, or simply appreciate creativity, you deserve a space to express yourself. As your Arts Officer, I will make sure the arts at our university are inclusive, accessible, and inspiring for all students!

YOU ARE THE ARTIST AND THE ART.

ABOUT ME:

I'm Dono, a passionate advocate for the Arts with a background in Creative Industries and Art. My experience in this field, improved such skills as: organizing events, working in cultural development, and supporting student initiatives which has shown me how powerful creativity can be in bringing people together.



ART IS LONG.

VOTE FOR DONO ARTS OFFICER!

MY PRIORITIES:

Ensure all students, regardless of background or skill level, have opportunities to engage in the arts.

Promote diverse cultures and artistic traditions through multicultural art events.

Support student-led art exhibitions, performances, and creative projects.

ART IS:

You!



Vote Dono for Arts Officer! Let's make art an open, inclusive, and exciting space for all!



MOHAMMED SIDDIQUI FOR SUSTAINABILITY OFFICER

ABOUT ME

Hey, I'm Mohammed Siddiqui, a carbon literate PhD research student in Sustainable Steelmaking with a background in Mechanical Engineering. Having been part of our university community for five years now, I've seen how much potential we have as students to make a real impact on campus, especially when it comes to sustainability.

PAST ON-CAMPUS PROJECTS



Designed & manufactured a litter collecting robot to pick mainstream litter from campus



Hosted stalls to raise awareness and engage students in solving sustainability challenges



Delivered educational workshops on integrating UN SDGs in to student life



Working on a drone that can clean the solar panels atop our library to boost efficiency

SUSTAINABILITY EXPERIENCES



National Grid [Year in Industry]

Undergraduate Project Development Engineer
Worked on a multi-million pound project on waste heat recycling to heat offices on site

Sustainability Network

Vice-Chair
Organised and led sustainability student activities and workshops on campus



Innova

Founding President
Led 100+ members on sustainable innovation projects to solve environmental challenges using technology

School of Engineering

Course Representative
Advocated for sustainability initiatives at Student-Staff Committee meetings



Sustainability isn't just a buzzword for me, it's at the ♥ of everything I do!



Whether it's reducing waste, protecting green spaces or finding innovative ways to be more eco-friendly, I believe small, smart changes can drive big impact.



My goal is to make sustainability accessible, innovative and something we can all be part of without it feeling like a burden.

Therefore let's together turn:
Ideas into action & build a greener, better campus!

MY SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR CAMPUS



Display carbon footprint values on food items sold at the SU to help make more eco-conscious decisions



Create a platform for students to turn their sustainability ideas into real-world startups via a green incubation hub



Organise Green Career Fairs and industry visits to connect students with sustainability-focused careers and businesses



Empower students with environmental skills through hands-on projects, UN SDG workshops and free carbon literacy training

VOTE FOR ME

To drive action, spark innovation & promote sustainability on campus



Vote K.Y for PGR Officer!



Hello, I'm
Kweku
✦ **Yamoah**



I am a Second-Year Ghanaian PhD student in the School of Economics at the College of Business. I am the deputy PGR Rep for Economics and a past student mentor.

My Mission

As a Postgraduate Research (PGR) student, I understand the unique challenges we face—straddling the fine line between student and staff- often leading to a lack of community and belonging.

My mission as your PGR Officer is to bridge this gap, ensuring that PGR students feel integrated, supported, and empowered within the University of Leicester. Through engagement, advocacy, and targeted initiatives, I will work to enhance the PGR experience.

Building a Stronger PGR Community

Recent surveys have highlighted that many PGR students experience isolation, largely due to our unique position in academia. To address this, I will:

- Actively collaborate with the PGR Representative Forum and the Doctoral College to organize regular social events that foster networking and camaraderie among PGR students.
- Create opportunities for interdisciplinary interactions, enabling students from different faculties to connect and exchange ideas.
- Advocate for dedicated PGR social spaces within the university where students can gather, work, and engage informally.

Vote K.Y for PGR Officer!



Creating PGR-Specific Societies and Clubs

Whilst the university boasts numerous clubs and societies, there is a need for societies specifically targeting PGR students. Having such societies will

- Provide a consistent platform for PGR students to engage with their peers beyond the annual Doctoral Research Conference.
- Foster a sense of identity and community within the postgraduate research cohort.
- Encourage knowledge-sharing, peer mentoring, and collaborative research initiatives.



Engagement & Representation

Beyond these key initiatives, I am committed to being an active and accessible representative for all PGR students. My role will involve:

- Regularly engaging with PGR students through forums, surveys, and one-on-one discussions.
- Negotiate for tailored support pre- and post-probation and cut down the required words from 10,000 to 2000 for first-year PGRs.
- Advocate for more teaching opportunities across departments and colleges so PGRs are rounded academics and researchers

Vote for me because...

I am dedicated to making the University of Leicester a more inclusive, supportive, and resourceful environment for PGR students. By fostering community, enhancing access to training, and creating dedicated spaces for engagement, I will work tirelessly to ensure that every PGR student feels valued and empowered.

I hope to earn your trust and your vote. Together, we can enhance the PGR experience at the University of Leicester!

Ethnic *Equity Officer*

Key Policies:

- Launch a Student & Alumni Mentorship Program
- Expand Cultural Visibility at the SU
- Increase Diverse Food & Social Inclusion

How I'll achieve these Policies:

- Work with SU leadership & societies to make real changes.
- Secure funding & sponsorships for cultural & mentorship programs.
- Engage students via social media & community forums.

VOTE

★ Why You Should Vote for Me ★

- **Led Black History Month events at a leading global tech company.**
- **Advocated for diversity in sports & inclusivity in BUCS rugby.**
- **Worked on multiple diversity-focused initiatives & leadership roles.**

Hi, I'm Patrick, and I'm running to be your Ethnic Equity Officer! I believe in making the Leicester SU a place where every student from an ethnically diverse background feels represented, valued, and empowered.

Lets get Pat Abor through the door!

Patrick
Abor





Margarita Panteleli

Hi, I'm **Margarita**, a Greek law student in the LLB/Maîtrise program, and I'm running to be your **International Officer**! I'm passionate about bringing people together, standing up for others, and making sure every international student feels at home here. Friendly, proactive, and determined, I will work to ensure your voice is heard and your concerns are addressed. From visa and housing support to cultural and language exchange programs, I am committed to making our university a welcoming and inclusive space for all.

Vote for me to represent you!

International Officer

Bridging Cultures, Building Futures!

I will ensure **university services**—academic support, career guidance, and mental health resources—are inclusive and accessible for international students. By pushing for better representation and stronger support, I will help create a welcoming environment where every international student feels valued and heard.

Integration & Inclusion

Visa Support

I will ensure that international students receive clear and accessible visa and work rights guidance before they even arrive. I plan to introduce a **Visa & Work Rights Guide**, a PDF leaflet sent to all incoming students before the academic year, covering key information on visas, working restrictions, and useful contacts. Additionally, I will advocate for a **dedicated support service**, where students can submit visa-related queries through a simple email or form, ensuring they get timely and accurate responses.

I will introduce a **Language Exchange Buddy Program**, pairing international students with local students to help improve language skills while fostering cultural exchange. Through casual meetups, conversation groups, and an online platform, students can practice a new language in a friendly setting. This will not only help international students feel more integrated but also encourage local students to engage with different cultures.

Language Exchange Program

Jamie Hyland

For Accessibility
Officer



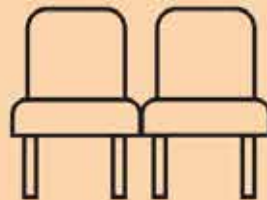
Why Me?

As a disabled person with physical and mental illnesses I understand how difficult it is to get through university and I know it is not just me that has this struggle during university

My Aims:



Regular maintenance of lifts, automatic doors and disabled toilets



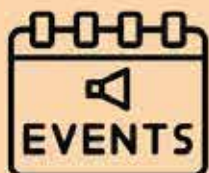
Accessible seating in the lecture theatres that won't strain students necks and legs



Make sure all lecturers make module timetables on Blackboard accessible



Signposting on how to receive resources such as Disabled Students Allowance



Run disability events such as neurodiversity week



Lower the prices for Freemans Common accommodation for disabled students



VOTE NATALIE

DISTANCE

LEARNING

OFFICER

Why?

- As current Distance Learning Officer I have fulfilled all my previous campaign priorities and continue to create new ideas.
- I have almost 3 years experience working with distance students.
- I have become a visible and reliable point of contact for both students and staff when discussing issues around distance learning.

Priorities

Vote
here



1

- Expand Distance Learners' Day to more distance students

2

- Empower distance students to better advocate for themselves

3

- Create a brand-new peer mentoring scheme for undergraduate distance learners

4

- Campaign for the guidelines on fees and discounts to be revised, and encourage high achieving students to remain at Leicester

www.leicesterunion.com/vote