

WE BRING STUDENTS ACROSS DURHAM TOGETHER

Thank you for your interest in joining Durham SU

Since 1899, students have come together through Durham Students' Union to spend time with and stand up for each other. Today we're a charitable organisation, all Durham students are our members, and we're run by hundreds of student volunteers and elected student leaders.

Originally called the Durham Colleges Students' Representative Council, the union aimed to allow students to work collectively, regardless of their college, on issues affecting Durham students.

The ethos of bringing students from across the University together continues today. It can be seen in the 300+ societies run by students with the support of the students' union, elected union officers in representing students' views at all levels of the University, campaigning on issues like getting more affordable housing, and associations for particular groups of students like trans students and mature students.

VALUES & PURPOSE

Our Values	We are students championing students We are students making the future better We are proud to be Durham students
Our Mission	We are the champion of Durham students
Our Vision	Durham will be a better, fairer, university because students make it happen.

We value:

- **Care** and **responsibility**, because our students matter more to us than anything.
- **Imagination** and **collectivism**, because we're grounded in our distinctive collegiate community.
- **Ambition** and **optimism**, because we believe Durham students can – and do – change the world.

OUR PRIORITIES

We've committed to a four-year plan focusing on these priorities:

- We'll bring students across Durham Together.
- We'll tackle the big issues that hold students back.
- We'll build confidence in the purpose and value of Durham Students' Union.

Our strategy has emerged from listening to students talk and inviting their input on the challenges they have faced over the last few years, what matters to them and what they want their students' union to be. We heard that the things that matter to students and the issues that impact them aren't new but that the context and perspective of students'

experiences have been changing rapidly. This strategy builds on the opportunities generated by how students adapt, challenge and innovate for change in their communities to strengthen the parts of Durham they value most and progress on the problems that impact them.

OUR TEAMS

ASK (Advice, Support, Knowledge)

Our student ASK Assistants are the first point of contact if students have a question or problem. Whether that's advice with housing, academic or welfare issues or dealing with student group queries, they go above and beyond to help our student members, and their passion for helping make life better for them is clear. They make student life easier to navigate.

Advice and support when things get tough

Independent, free, confidential advice for housing, academic, financial or welfare issues.

Support with student group queries

- Student spaces, events and room bookings
- Student group membership support

Knowledge about development opportunities

- Volunteering
- Student leadership support and training
- Student group development and learning

From running a student group event, being a member of group to strutting down the catwalk at the Durham University Charity Fashion Show, all these activities wouldn't happen without student volunteers, and the ASK team is proud to support them.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

The marketing team focuses on delivering quality communications to provide a regular flow of information to key stakeholders. Student digital content creators ensure our communications are student led, uplifting different voices and platforming content that helps students share ideas, cultures, and interests.

Because we build confidence in the purpose and value of the students' union at Durham University, we recognise and speak to students' different interests and needs. We know that if we talk to everyone, we're heard by no-one. We use data to tailor and personalise.

STUDENT VOICE

Durham SU amplifies the impact of students acting for themselves. Our members come together to challenge and innovate for change in student communities to strengthen the parts of Durham they value most and progress on the problems that impact them.

Our team supports students to campaign on important issues, from climate crisis protests to making accommodation more affordable. Inspired by student leaders across campus we lobby, influence and campaign to improve the big issues that hold students back – housing, quality induction and access and participation in student opportunities. We're the backbone of student Officer support at Durham SU, and are here to make sure Officers have what they need to be effective in campaigning and influencing spaces.

STUDENT OFFICERS

“Durham students clearly benefit from having Durham SU in their corner, which means we must continually work to ensure the SU is unapologetically student-led.”

Charles Lawrence Stephenson College JCR President, 2022/23

Increasing student voice in academic spaces, tackling Durham's housing crisis, or improving access and participation at Durham - Student Officers bring students across Durham together as leaders of the SU. They make the SU student led, and uplift student interests in key decision making bodies across campus, and in the campaigns they run and support.

Each elected role has a different purpose, but all are held and voted in by students.

CENTRAL

We are here to assist staff with the day-to-day effective functioning of their role at Durham SU, enable SU governance to be high quality, and support student groups with their finances. This means we work with students, staff and trustees, providing HR, finance, administrative and governance support in different areas, so that students can experience SU quality SU activities.

COMMERCIAL SERVICES

Durham Students' Union run commercial services for students and to generate funds that support student activity.

We work with commercial partners to help students access the best deal on great brands and raise funds for student activity. The range of commercial partners available to students at Freshers Fair is always a highlight, and events such as our poster, vintage and plant sales often see the building packed.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Durham SU strongly believes in inclusivity and equal opportunity for all. Diversity should be celebrated, and Durham should be a welcoming environment where students, staff and visitors feel safe and can express themselves. We would particularly welcome and

encourage applications from BAME candidates for our roles. We are committed to promoting equality and diversity in our workforce and employment practices, and in all the work we undertake. We therefore expect all Durham SU staff to be willing and able to make a positive contribution to the promotion and implementation of the Durham SU Equality and Diversity Policy