



Standpoint Document

[Last updated: 05/04/2022]



What are Standpoints?

A SU 'Standpoint' is a formal position, or stance, that The SU adopts on a particular issue, topic, or aspect of University life. Standpoints should be used to guide all Students' Union representatives on what the student opinion is on a range of issues.

However, Standpoints do not bind The SU to any specific action, but they do demonstrate The SU's stances on a range of issues, and a stance can inform the actions of The SU.

Standpoints are approved, amended, and overseen by the SUMmit Committee.

How are Standpoints created?

Any student can propose a new Standpoint, guidance for this is on our [Standpoint webpages](#).

SUMmit committee discuss and vote on Standpoint proposals, they are the body that can formally approve proposals as SU Standpoints.

What is 'SUMmit'?

SUMmit is an SU Committee made up of a range of student leaders and elected representatives who vote to create Standpoints (SU stances on any given issue) and hold the SU Officers to account.

Read more on our [SUMmit webpage](#).

About this Document

The Standpoints are separated into categories, these categories will evolve and change as more Standpoints are added to the list.

Each Standpoint can be prefaced with 'The SU believes'.

The SU believes....

Education				
Standpoint	Proposer	Summit Approval	Date of expiry/review	Date of Amendment
There should be adequate study space capacity on and off campus for all students who desire to use it. This space should cater to students' study needs, from device charging, opening times and the type of space desired (group space, private individual space, etc.).	Education Officer 2021-22	November 2021	None.	
Students who have IMCs accepted should be able to re-sit their exam uncapped without having to fail it.	Education Officer 2021-22	February 2022	None.	
The University must require that all lectures are recorded.	Academic Exec Member 2021-22	February 2022	None.	
Sustainability should be embedded into the formal and informal curriculum.	Education Officer 2021-22	March 2022	None.	
Every department should offer a reading week to their students.	Senate Rep 2021-22	March 2022	None.	
The University should have the capacity to facilitate 100% in-person teaching for non-distance learners.	Education Officer 2021-22	March 2022	None.	
Wellbeing & Inclusivity				
Standpoint	Proposer	Summit Approval	Date of expiry/review	Date of Amendment
The University must be physically accessible to all students.	Community Officer 2021-22	November 2021	None.	
All students should have timely access to effective and appropriate support for any difficulties or personal issues they may be facing.	Community Officer 2021-22	November 2021	None.	
All students have the right to feel safe on University premises and within the community.	SU President 2021-22	November 2021	None.	
The University must acknowledge assessment/examination stress and anxiety as true impacting factors on students' performance.	Academic Exec Member 2021-22	February 2022	None.	

Students affected by harassment and discrimination should receive support and the University must respond promptly to reported incidents. Following action must be with consent of the student, and transparently communicated	Disability Action Group Rep, and SUMmit Chair 2021-22	February 2022	None.	
All university-managed buildings should have accessible and gender-neutral toilet facilities available which are clean and fit for use.	Disability Action Group Rep, and SUMmit Chair 2021-22	February 2022	None.	
Course attendance monitoring of optional sessions should only be used for wellbeing purposes.	Education Officer 2021-22	March 2022.	None.	
Campus Life				
Standpoint	Proposer	Summit Approval	Date of expiry/review	Date of Amendment
Students should have access to an affordable, accessible, safe and reliable transport service.	SU President 2021-22	November 2021	None.	
The University should provide a range of clean, accessible, safe and fit-for-use sports facilities.	Sport Officer 2021-22	November 2021	None.	
The University's provision of food and drink facilities should include healthy options and a range of options for students with dietary requirements. This also includes adequate provision of water fountains and microwaves.	Education Officer 2021-22	November 2021	None.	
Students engaged in 'work' at the University shall be paid at or above the UK living wage for hours worked. Where gifts or tickets are offered in lieu of pay, these must be of equal or greater monetary value at initial sale than the equivalent wage.	Member of Media Exec 2021-22	March 2022	None.	
The University should better support students on unpaid placements and encourage providers to financially compensate students fairly for their work.	Undergraduate Student 2021-22	March 2022	None.	

Sustainability				
Standpoint	Proposer	Summit Approval	Date of expiry/review	Date of Amendment
The University should reduce and remove single-use plastic on campus and look for alternatives wherever possible whilst ensuring access needs of students are met.	Activities Officer 2021-22	November 2021	None.	
The University should use a sustainable search engine as its default browser.	Activities Officer 2021-22	November 2021	None.	
The University should give regular updates as to their progress regarding the agreed Climate Action Framework principles.	Activities Officer 2021-22	March 2022	None.	
Housing & Accommodation				
Standpoint	Proposer	Summit Approval	Date of expiry/review	Date of Amendment
The University should provide enough affordable University-managed accommodation for all first-year UG students.	Education Officer 2021-22	November 2021	None.	
First year postgraduate students (Home and International) must have a choice for an on/off campus university managed accommodation.	Postgraduate Officer 2021-22	November 2021	None.	
University Policy, Governance and Operation				
Standpoint	Proposer	Summit Approval	Date of expiry/review	Date of Amendment
The University must provide greater transparency around how tuition fees (for both Home and International students) are calculated and where they go.	Activities Officer 2021-22	November 2021	None.	
All paid staff at the University must be paid a minimum of the UK living wage – as determined by the Living Wage Foundation.	Member of Media Exec 2021-22	March 2022	None.	



The University should commit to not using NDAs in cases of sexual assault and harassment.	SU President 2021-22 & Community Officer 2021-22	March 2022	None.	
Items bought with doctoral students Training Support Fund (TSF) should not be regarded as University Funded Device mandated to be returned.	Doctoral Exec member 2021-22	March 2022	None.	