

CHARIS MCCOBB (PRESIDENT)



Charis McCobb: a voice in the things that matter to you.

This year has been an incredibly difficult year for all of us, and it definitely hasn't gone the way that any of us would have wanted. That is why as your President **your priorities will be my priorities.**

1. Student relationship with the Senior Management Team

This year has highlighted the miscommunications between these two groups. As your President, we would **promote transparency**, and encourage students to bring issues to SMT personally. We would continue to **hold them accountable** and **ensure student engagement** in decision making. We would also continue to **celebrate the achievements** of both staff and students in an attempt to continue to improve this relationship.

2. Wellbeing and Financial Support

As we all know, this year has been difficult on everyone, both financially and personally. As your President, we would work with your lecturers to **encourage individual health check-ins** (mental and physical). We would also promote and expand the services offered by the **Student Union Advice Centre** to become as **all-encompassing of student needs** as possible, particularly in relation to financial support.

3. New Programmes

- Student Survival Skills

It is very rare that schools teach their students the **life skills** they need before university. Therefore, this programme, potentially taught by recent graduates, would teach students these skills, such as CV building, cooking and budgeting. There would also be a variance of this course for any final year students, enabling them to prepare for the world beyond university.

- Mentorship Programme

This programme would aim to **connect students** with members of the local community through similar interests or job prospects. It would also be an opportunity to improve relationships with our community, and for students to learn from current professionals. Potentially, this could create job connections for students after university.

4. Two years of Freshers and Graduates.

It would be impossible to write a manifesto without recognising this. Both of these groups, and rightfully so, feel they have had an unfair year. Graduations have been postponed, and freshers week made exceedingly different from any other year. As your President, we would work with both of these groups to understand the **celebrations** they would like to see as an **acknowledgement of their accomplishments**. We would also work to **support** them, especially the graduates, as they have attempted to go into the working world during a pandemic.

5. Offload with your Officers.

Having been a Student Officer this past year, I have learnt that you can't do what students need if you don't know what students need. We need to make your priorities our priorities. Therefore, we would implement **monthly meetings** to be held with officers that would give students a chance to **'offload'**. This would feed into every part of your SU, and influence everything your officers would do.

If any of the above are of interest to you, or things you would like to see implemented by your SU, **vote Charis as your SU President.**