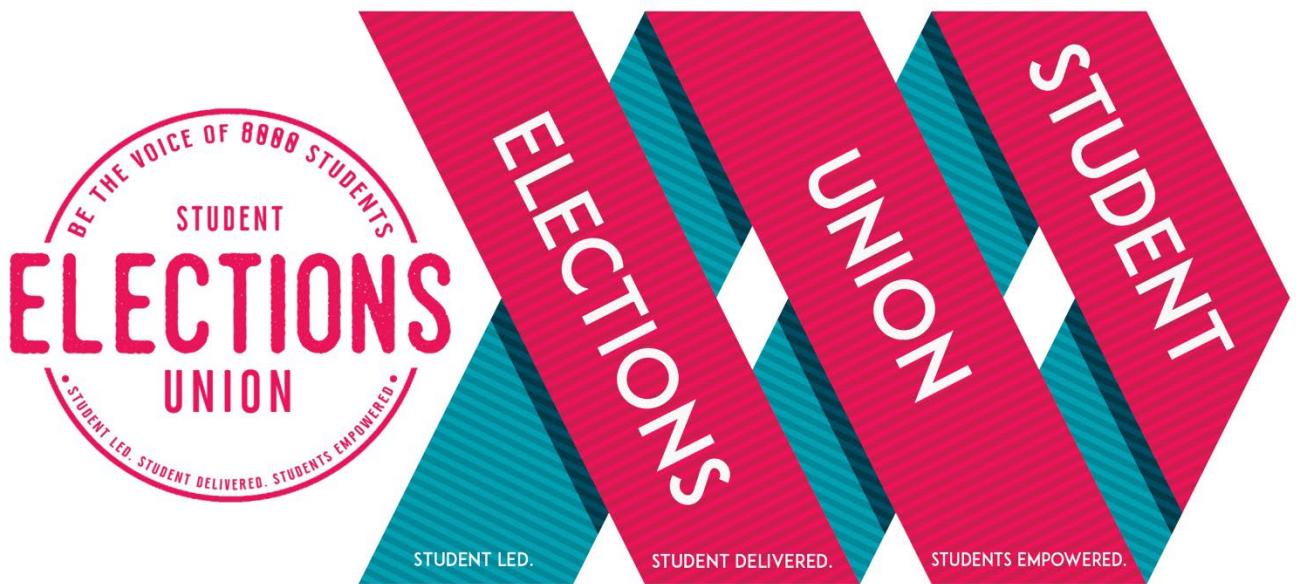


# ELECTIONS 2024

# CANDIDATE MANIFESTOS

**STUDENT UNION PRESIDENT**  
**VICE PRESIDENT, EDUCATION & WELFARE**  
**VICE PRESIDENT, ACTIVITIES & COMMERCIAL**  
**STUDENT OFFICER x4**



[WWW.WINCHESTERSTUDENTS.CO.UK/SUELECTIONS](http://WWW.WINCHESTERSTUDENTS.CO.UK/SUELECTIONS)

# ELECTIONS 2024



## THE CANDIDATES

**The following list represents all posts and candidates standing in the Union Officer Elections 2024.**

R.O.N. or Re-open Nominations is a candidate in all elections and represents the constituents desire to reopen nominations for further candidates.

**There are 16 (12 not including R.O.N.) candidates standing for 7 positions.**

**Student Union President** (full time/Officer Trustee):

ALEXANDRA WILSON

R.O.N.

**Vice President, Education & Welfare** (full time/Officer Trustee):

LILY ANNIS

EVE BIDGOOD

SAL FOX

R.O.N.

**Vice President, Activities & Commercial** (full time/Officer Trustee):

ELLA MAXWELL

JACK NEVILL

EMMA SHORNEY

GEORGE WATKINSON-BIDDULPH

R.O.N.

**Student Officer** (part time, x4 posts available):

GEMMA BROWNSWORD

JET GATES

KHUSHI PANCHOLI

OLIVIA WRIGHTSON

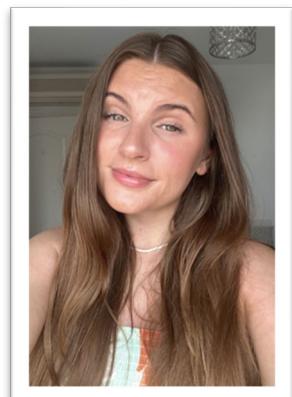
R.O.N.

# ALEXANDRA WILSON (STUDENT UNION PRESIDENT)

**Vote Alexandra Wilson for a President who is passionate about empowering students' voices, so you can flourish within all aspects of your student journey.**

I am running to be your Student Union President because I am passionate about developing the current values of our student-led organisation. I want to embody a welcoming, accountable, and empowered voice for the diverse population of students we have here at Winchester, through:

**Celebrating our Student Body and ensuring they can meet their full potential.**



- Updating our current guide for future students to include more support for adapting to student living and learning independence in areas they may be unsure about – as everyone starts University in different places and that's okay!
- Providing a space for students who might be struggling with the loneliness/homesickness of University throughout Freshers week and beyond – to connect with other like-minded students.
- Ensuring to implement more freshers and semesterly activities that support engagement with Mature, Part-Time, Student Parents, Young Carers etc – whilst connecting and asking these demographics what they would like from their Union.
- Lobbying the University to provide more accommodating spaces on campus for socialising such as wind down / quiet areas in libraries or classrooms.
- The continuation of the current One Winchester campaign, allowing students the opportunity to campaign and work collaboratively regarding areas that are important to them in Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion.

**Staying alert and present within our ever-changing student community:**

- Ensuring the Cost of Living continues to be a priority – with the continuation of clothes and food drives, The Bookcase and Breakfast Club, exploring opportunities for funding so that the incentives can thrive and expand to be more frequent.
- Ensuring that ALL student communities are at the heart of the student experience when engaging with Executive Leadership Team, ensuring I remain alert in adaptation of policies, ensuring they benefit the student body.

**Educating and providing opportunities for students to understand all the Union can do for students:**

- Ensuring students can identify the Union is not just BOP, and being transparent and vocal about what I can do and what I am working on for students.
- Creating a virtual "Campaign Portal" allowing students to submit and advocate for areas within their student life they would like to lobby for and getting both these students and the Executive Committee involved to carry out these campaigns. Create Communities to advocate for better student finance, living conditions and student opportunities.

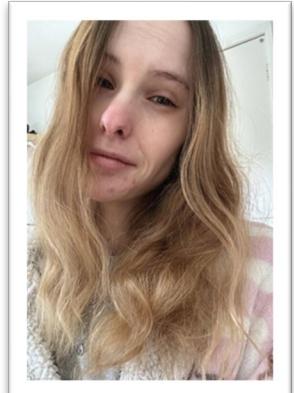
Having been involved with the current Executive Committee as a current Student Officer and holding a variety of positions within both the Union and University, I am confident that my knowledge and experience holds me as a credible candidate to advocate for students. I truly love being a part of the Winchester community and being involved with campaigning, getting to know students and being a friendly face. I would love your support so I can continue working towards enhancing the student body, by electing me as your President.

# LILY ANNIS (VICE PRESIDENT, EDUCATION & WELFARE)

Hello! My name is Lily Annis, and I would love to be your Vice President, Education and Welfare for 2024-25.

I am a third year Creative Writing student, and a member of the University Mental Health Charter.

I am also part of the team at *Smashing Blobfish* (Winchester's creative, multimodal magazine), running a two pages, 'The Pet Page' and 'Self-care Through the Seasons'. Throughout my time here, I have been impressed with the standards of pastoral care. However, I believe I would be able to elevate these standards further.



## My primary proposition is a student wellbeing journal!

While there are many effective Recharge Days, I understand that you might have difficulties accessing these resources in person due to schedule overlaps or mental health conditions making it feel impossible to attend.

Therefore, the journal would:

- Include self-care and relaxation activities, designed to support you through the semesters with a calm and positive mindset
- Be scheduled around the academic year and help you keep organised
- Provide space to jot down notes
- Give gentle reminders to encourage self-worth
- Provide guidance and instruction on using the University's online resources to ensure that when you face challenges such as train strikes or days when you cannot attend campus in person, you won't risk falling behind with your studies

During my time as a Smart Buddy/Academic Student Mentor, most of my mentees expressed difficulties staying organised and timetabling in self-care. These two topics are vital in avoiding burnout, and my proposition aims to tackle this issue. The journal would entwine creativity and wellbeing, to which research suggests a strong link. You could use your journal as much or as little as you wish, but in my experience, having a physical item that can help support you is pivotal.

## My second proposition is a means of getting your voices heard.

In 2022, the University attempted to set up a feedback app for student voice (Unitu), and I aim to revive a similar idea - your opinion matters! I propose an accessible app or way of communicating your feedback about your university courses and issues that concern you. You can influence your educational experience for the better!

Lastly, I would raise awareness and update the resources that are already available, for example, the Mental Health Mobile App and Academic skills workshops and advisors, resources which aim to benefit your educational and student experience.

I would work hard to ensure I fulfil further wishes around student welfare and education and take any suggestions on board.

I am here for you, and your voice matters.  
#be\_supported

# EVE BIDGOOD

## (VICE PRESIDENT, EDUCATION & WELFARE)

Vote for Eve, who will embrace authenticity, empowerment, and equality, creating a future where all flourish with resilience and compassion, embracing freedom and fulfillment.

I'm Eve (she/her) a third-year primary education student. I have been a One Winchester Representative. I work closely with the president to ensure that, in particular, mental health at the university is a priority. I would like to make a difference within the university to ensure that students are listened to and changes are made accordingly.



I would like to be your Vice President, Education and Welfare, so that I can work with students to ensure that their voices are heard and changes are made. As a student, I understand what struggles people may go through and what support they require. Therefore, I endeavor to work with the current services provided so that each student is cared for.

I am dedicated to effecting positive change and will exert every effort to accomplish this objective. My aim is to ensure that every student thrives in their social, personal, and emotional well-being.

First and foremost, my dedication to education and its transformative power is unwavering. If elected as Vice President, I'll ensure our university encourages a supportive, inclusive learning environment. This means advocating for resources to support student success, endorsing innovative teaching methods, and nurturing a culture of continuous learning.

Furthermore, I prioritise student welfare. I comprehend the academic and personal challenges students encounter and am committed to cultivating a campus where every individual feels valued, supported, and respected. This involves advocating for mental health resources, championing diversity and inclusion initiatives, and addressing issues like housing and food insecurity that affect student well-being.

Most importantly, I lead with a collaborative, student-centric approach. I believe in actively listening to student needs and collaborating to find solutions that benefit all. As Vice President, I'll tirelessly advocate for students, amplifying their voices and championing their interests.

In conclusion, I am deeply grateful for the prospect of serving as Vice President of Education and Welfare. If elected, I pledge unwavering dedication to representing every student, ensuring our university is a place where academic excellence and student well-being are paramount.

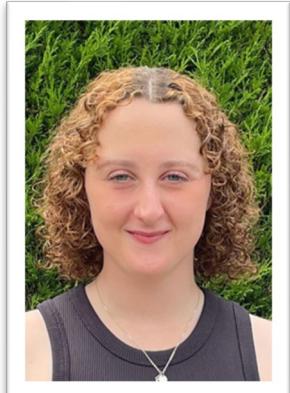
Thank you for considering my candidacy, and I graciously request your support. Together, let's continue to make our university a hub where every student can thrive and achieve success.

# SAL FOX

## (VICE PRESIDENT, EDUCATION & WELFARE)

Hello! I'm Sal Fox (she/her), and I am running for re-election as your Vice President, Education and Welfare. Having served in this role for the past year, I've actively listened to your concerns and worked hard to represent your needs. But there's always more to be done and I'm ready to take on new challenges to enhance your student experience.

My journey from being a Musical Theatre student at the University of Winchester through to my current role as VP, Education and Welfare, has been enriched in many ways. From being elected as a Student Officer for 2022-23, participating in two Activity Groups (Winchester Spirits Cheerleading and Ultimate Frisbee), and recently being elected as your NUS National Conference Delegate for 2024. With my experience being evident, I am passionate about continuing the positive impact I've made so far.



### Highlights From My Current Term

- Revamping Recharge Day, where I altered the timings and diversified the events at Recharge Days, making them accessible to a broader range of students, including those who commute and students on placement.
- AI Guidance Advocacy, where in recognizing the importance of transparency in the use of AI within academic work, I lobbied the University for clearer guidance.
- Re-introducing StAR of the Month to further recognize and celebrate the work of our Academic Reps.
- 'Sex and Safety' Campaign, launching a comprehensive campaign which focused on promoting sexual health and safety on campus, as well as advocating for the SU's services.

### My Re-election Goals

**Digital Well-being Initiatives:** Launch a campaign promoting healthy digital habits, right through from Foundation Year to PGR (Postgraduate Research). Provide resources and workshops on managing screen time, avoiding burnout, and fostering positive online interactions to enhance overall well-being in the digital age.

**Reviewing of SSLC Co-Chair Model:** Ensuring that student voice is effectively heard through to the highest level by considering the current formats of SSLCs and how these can be used to their fullest potential.

**Improve Website Accessibility and Compatibility:** What good are pages of helpful resources and information if they are in an in-accessible format? The website is currently not mobile friendly, and in the digital age of the 21st Century, this is an essential change to be made.

**Effective Timetabling:** Ensure that the University takes into account the needs and preferences of students when structuring timetables, so that there is greater flexibility for commuting students and those who work part-time.

**Enhanced Placement Support:** Expand support for students on placements by establishing a dedicated platform to connect those on similar placements. Create a hybrid networking opportunity that will foster a sense of community and provide valuable insights into placement experiences.

Re-elect Sal Fox for Vice President, Education and Welfare and **#licktheboxforfox** for a future where every student has their voice heard and is represented in the fairest way possible.

# ELLA MAXWELL

## (VICE PRESIDENT, ACTIVITIES & COMMERCIAL)

Cast your vote for someone who will make sure your voice is heard and is passionate about you finding the place you belong at uni. **I plan to turn your needs into a reality. – Vote Ella.**

Hi, I'm Ella Maxwell, I'm excited to announce that I am running to be YOUR Vice President, Activities and Commercial.

I'm currently in my third year studying marketing. It has given me an understanding of what people want. I am able to identify that different people need different things and no one is the same. Studying marketing has taught me how to discover solutions that work for each and every one of them. I intend to make this a priority whilst in this role.

I have been part of the swimming team for 3 years and they have become my family. I have been fortunate enough to be their vice-captain and their fundraiser. Being a part of the committee has taught me how valuable the student experience is. I want to ensure that every student gets to experience what it is to be part of an activity group because it is more than just teammates, it's a support system.

I am an outgoing and approachable person. **I am here for you and only you.**

### **My priorities**

#### Student support

Mental wellbeing is one of the most important things to me. I am committed to prioritising this across all activity groups. I am determined to make sure that everyone finds a place where they can grow and make the most of their university experience, whether that is within a sports team, society, or a representational network. I pledge to work closely with students and become a familiar face for them to turn to in times of need. I will work directly with the well-being reps of all teams, providing them training and assistance to help them become a more fundamental member of the committee.

#### Engagement

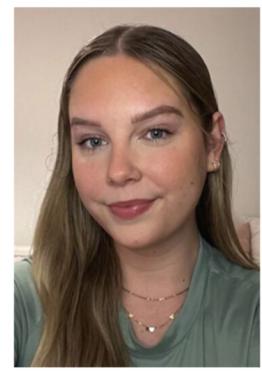
I pledge to interact with as many groups as possible. I want to honour and celebrate all of Winchester University's brilliance across teams, societies, and network groups through the SU platforms. I want to bring everyone together in order to motivate students to venture beyond their comfort zones and explore new experiences, regardless of ability. I will help everyone to be seen and heard and will listen to all your thoughts and ideas, however big or small they may be.

#### Equal opportunities

Being part of a team can help your mental and physical wellbeing. Regardless of talent and skill. I understand that each society has the right to equal support, funding, and facilities. I want to dedicate my time to making this a priority. Everyone society should have an equal opportunity to thrive without limitations. I promise to be an advocate for this.

I promise to make every single one of your votes worthwhile. By voting for me, you will allow me to fulfil my obligations to you.

**I will listen to you. I am here for you and only you.**



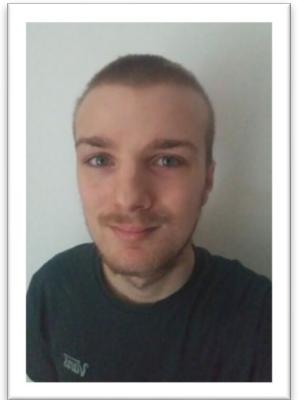
# JACK NEVILL

## (VICE PRESIDENT, ACTIVITIES & COMMERCIAL)

Community is what brings us together, and as students - nothing says community better than meeting up with those who share the same passion or hobby as yourself!

I'm Jack Nevill. I'm a second-year Acting student, and I'm running to be your next Student Union VP - Activities and Commercial!

You're probably thinking, "If he's second-year, why is he running for Vice President?" Well, there's a few reasons for that. The first one is that I'm looking to take a gap year, as I want to focus on side projects in my spare time. The second reason is that I've always wanted to work with the Student Union in one form or another, and I'm an advocate for improving every aspect of Student Life and making sure everybody is enjoying themselves to the fullest!



I feel I would make a great candidate for the position as I'm always hard working, and ready for every challenge that's thrown against me. I love pressure, it is what gets the best out of me. And I know that although there will be times where it will be tough, I will never give up no matter the situation I'm in. That's not who I am.

I also have prior experience when it comes to these positions. I was Deputy Head Boy in my high school in the 2019 - 2020 academic year, where I had to make some difficult decisions regarding school life and how the rest of the pupils would be affected.

More recently, I've had the honor of being the Social Secretary for the Boxing society, in which with my other Social Secretary - we had to organize socials and other things so that our members are happy and regularly turning up.

As your Vice President - Activities and Commercial, I will:

- Honor and uphold the values of the Student Union.
- Ensure that every Society, Sports Team and Representational Network is treated fairly and equally.
- Ensure that SU events are regularly advertised at both University and on Social Media.
- Give Societies, Sports Teams and Rep. Networks more access to put on their own events within the SU.
- I will also give students the platform to put on their own events, and will publish guidance on how to do that.
- Ensuring that all student safety schemes are upheld (e.g Ask for Angela, Say NO to Spiking), and that students will be provided support when they need it.

In order to fulfill those pledges, I will:

- Have meetings with Chairs and Captains, in order to see what needs improving and take feedback about the Student Union.
- Speak to Social Secretaries about the events they would like to put on when needed, and will liaise with the Venue Team about when SU facilities are available.
- Advertising our support schemes on social media and the University, in order to make more people aware of the support we provide.

Thank you for reading my manifesto, and I hope I can secure your vote in the upcoming election!

# EMMA SHORNEY

## (VICE PRESIDENT, ACTIVITIES & COMMERCIAL)

**Elect EMMA for Vice President, Activities and Commercial for a VPAC who will put the student body first and restore the student community and experience on campus.**

#EMMA4VPAC

### WHY ME?

I'm Emma, a 3<sup>rd</sup> year sociology student and I'm running to be **your** Vice President, Activities and Commercial. I have voluntary work experience in the activities and commercial office and know the role well, I also hold a committee position within a society group, chair the sociology student staff liaison committee and am a proud part of team winch! I am passionate about bringing a real sense of community to **YOUR** Student Union and improving **YOUR** student experience.



### WHAT I WILL WORK TO CHANGE:

#### Community.

- Winchester student union is the heart of the student community and as **YOUR** representative I aim to boost student engagement in this area by:
- Holding internal university varsity challenges, to promote the collaboration of different activity groups and allow the opportunity to try new sports/skills.
- Encouraging a sober social week on campus as well as within societies, sports groups and representational networks to improve the sense of community for those not wanting to drink.
- Implement freshers' officers and guides within halls, to support first years through the activities in fresher's week and help to navigate the week so that they get as much out of the union and the activity groups as possible from day one.
- Advertising, supporting and celebrating **YOUR** sports teams, societies and representation networks whenever possible.

#### Student Led Commercial Services.

- I know how important **YOUR** student led services are so I **WILL** ensure they are run in accordance with students wants and needs by:
- Keeping a suggestion box available year-round as well as regular opportunities for **YOU** to say what you want/need from **YOUR** services.
- Host club events for a wider variation of music genres to cater to a wider spectrum of the student body including DNB, rap, techno etc.
- Revive the SU shop so that more student essentials are available throughout the year as affordable as is possible, meeting the student bodies everchanging needs.

#### Nighttime Safety.

- I am conscious that consistent nighttime safety is something that students want and need, I strive to implement new campaigns to help improve this on campus including:
- Encouraging consent and drink safe training to the wider student body, to maintain a safe environment for **YOU** at on campus drinking events.
- Maintain and ensure that specific welfare officers are available for student nights on campus so that students who are in distress or unwell are approached calmly, are supported appropriately and have a safe route home.

**BRINGING US ALL TOGETHER, VOTE FOR EMMA**

# GEORGE WATKINSON-BIDDULPH

## (VICE PRESIDENT, ACTIVITIES & COMMERCIAL)

Give me a V, give me an I, give me a C, give me an E.

### George for Vice, President, Activities & Commercial.

In this role I WILL:

- Elevate support and well-being for committee members, involving regular check-ups and trainings so everyone feels rewarded and supported.
- Supporting, representing, and championing sports teams, representational networks, and societies at hosted events and match-days, empowering them for success.
- Make social events more accessible by being affordable.
- More investment in the activity participation fund to aid individuals in activity groups.
- Continue to celebrate and reward societies for exceptional weeks and achievements.
- Continued support of campaigns that make a difference (e.g. This Girl Can, Black Lives Matter, Rainbow Laces, Movember, and Boys Don't Cry).



Now, imagine a campus **buzzing** with energy, where every student feels like they **belong**. With my background in Cheerleading and Tennis, I've got the zest and know-how to pump up our extracurricular scene.

But wait, there's more! My marketing **expertise** isn't just about selling products; it's about understanding people – us students. After years of studying marketing and a postgrad degree, I've got the playbook to turn our ideas into reality.

As your Vice President, I'm here to make a **difference**, not just fill a seat. I'm your megaphone, your **advocate**, your go-to guy for making things happen. Whether you're a sports star, a society enthusiast, or just looking to dip your toes into something new, I'm all ears.

So, let's talk student nights. Why settle for good when we can make them **legendary**? Deals on drinks, banging tunes, and an atmosphere that screams "best night ever!" I'm all about ramping up the **fun** and making sure everyone feels like they're part of the action. Whether you're dressed as your favourite Tellytubby or in your best going out wear.

**Diversity** isn't just a checkbox for me – it's who I am. I'm **committed** to making sure every student feels like they **belong**. Together, we'll **celebrate** our differences and make our campus a place where everyone feels at home.

And hey, don't just take my word for it. A peer recommended me for this role, citing my **passion**, **knowledge**, and **reliability**. I'm your **advocate**, your **ally**, your biggest cheerleader. Together, let's ensure every voice is **heard**, **valued**, and **celebrated**. Vote George – because your campus experience matters!

Together, let's create **unforgettable** memories, forge lasting friendships, and build a campus community where every voice is heard, and every dream is within reach. Let's elevate our university experience, with George as your Vice President, Activities & Commercial, we're not just aiming for the best – we're making it happen.

Most of us can agree that being a part of something more (extracurricular activity groups) have made our university experiences, I know it has mine. So let me give something back to you all and ensure you all have the best university experience.

**#GeorgeBforViceP**

# GEMMA BROWNSWORD (STUDENT OFFICER)

Hey! My name is **Gemma Brownsword**, a second year Primary Education student. I want to be one of your 2024-2025 Student Officers.

Here at the University, I am involved in multiple areas the Student Union supports. These include being elected as *Chairwomen* of a sports society and a continuing *StAR* representative.

Students should be given every opportunity to express their thoughts on the facilities and education provided by the University. Listening to students is something I will do, by providing more opportunities for students to voice their concerns. But don't take it from me, I was nominated for this role, for doing "everything I can to support students".



I have worked closely with the Student Union, assisting with numerous events, and using social media to promote these. I really enjoyed being a *student volunteer* during welcome week, especially taking students up St Catherines Hill on a sunset walk, speaking to parents on the SU stand and helping run The Big Pub Quiz. It is these types of interactions I believe will make me **an effective Student Officer**.

I would like to go one step further and **become a voice for all students**. My main aims are broken down into the four key zones of the Student Union. I consider them all to be equally important:

## Education zone:

- Highlight ongoing commuting student's problems with travel and lack of opportunities to engage in SU events.
- Continue to support and provide opportunities for students to give feedback and ensure these are acted upon.

## Activities zone:

- Promote inter- society engagement to create a more united sports, society, and representational network front.
- Continue to support present campaigns such as "Say no to initiations" and "Show Racism the Red Card" alongside introducing new strategies as they emerge.

## Welfare zone:

- Support the Student Union with 'Welcome week' projects to allow new and present students to start their semester in a comfortable and friendly environment through a variety of activities.
- Continue to increase awareness of ways in which students can boost their wellbeing throughout their time at university.

## Commercial Service zone:

- Increase student awareness of commercial service zone as well as opportunities available to them and how to access these.
- Set up a campaign looking into recycling small furniture to allow students with the ongoing Cost of Living Crisis.

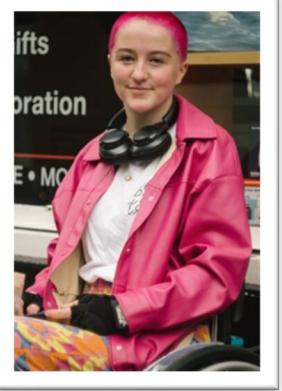
## Why me?

Ultimately, I have seen what the Student Union has to offer and want to see it **grow, evolve, and develop**. I have lived in halls (as a mature student) and will potentially be commuting in my third year. I will, of course, work alongside my fellow Student Officers, if elected, and provide support where needed. I know I am an approachable person and will endeavour to represent the students in a positive manner. I have learnt how to balance my time, both within and outside of university life and will always make time for advocating for your voice. Afterall, I stand by the Student Union in being **Student led, Student delivered, Student empowered**.

#VoteBrownsword!

# JET GATES (STUDENT OFFICER)

Ello ello! I'm Jet (they/them), a second year queer and disabled design student, who is passionate about representing our diverse student body. For the last 2 years I've been fighting hard to resolve issues affecting our student population. This work includes running Access (disabled students network), being an active member of the Inclusive Environments Group with the senior leadership team and working within One Winchester. The work that I have fought relentlessly for has resulted in changes including introducing lift failure notifications for disabled students, changes to policy for evacuations to ensure that all students are safe and campaigning for improved access between campus'.



As student officer I will aim to improve the following areas:

- Accessibility:
  - o Access between campus' through the use of a shuttle bus.
  - o Ensure that all students have access to important tools such as fidget toys to assist with their learning.
  - o Bringing back previous campaigns such as accessibility in sport, to allow us to foster an inclusive environment.
- Cost of living:
  - o Keep a cap on the prices of halls as well as keeping it open to returning students to ensure that everyone has equal access to safe and affordable homes for all.
  - o Continue Cost of Living Tuesdays that our current president has set up, which include events such as Breakfast Club, Aldi shuttle bus and the Bookcase.
  - o Work directly with the university to roll out a reduced set of prices across the canteens, alongside providing alternative dietary options.
- Empowering students:
  - o I will be empowering marginalised students through the use of open consultation sessions, with opportunities for these students to create change.
  - o Increasing the focus on the wider student experience to ensure that when you leave this university, you are fully equipped with the life skills that you need. This includes basic cooking skills/sessions, tours of the city, budgeting lessons and more.
  - o Bringing students in directly to find out where **you** would like to see your money going to.

As someone who has worked in the marketing industry for over 6 years, you can count on me to ensure that your voice is heard! Lets get this show on the road and ensure that all of our students can say that they are truly "living the dream".

# KHUSHI PANCHOLI (STUDENT OFFICER)

Hi, I'm Khushi, a second-year physiotherapy student currently serving as a STAR (Student Academic Representative) chair, One-Winchester Representative and Vice-Captain of the women's basketball team. Through these roles, I have honed vital interpersonal skills that make me a strong candidate for your Student Officer.

The Student Union is already working on remarkable things for its students. As a potential elected Student Officer, I want to enhance their efforts by bringing innovative ideas to improve our academic and extracurricular experiences.



My motivation to stand for this position stems from various reasons, but my primary goal is to improve students' day-to-day lives by ensuring that every student on campus feels welcomed, valued and supported.

As Student Officers, we are responsible for representing the diverse voices and needs of our student body. To that end, I'm committed to creating an inclusive and equitable campus environment where every student feels heard and respected. I will strive to foster a culture of open communication, empathy, and mutual understanding. I will ensure every student's concerns and ideas are considered and communicated to make changes.

## **Mental Health:**

Navigating the challenges of a degree can be mentally demanding; I'm determined to explore avenues for improving our mental health support system, ensuring easy accessibility and reducing the stigma associated with seeking help to foster a culture of understanding and empathy. To address this, I'd like to raise awareness about mental health issues and promote available mental health resources on campus.

Financial stresses could also impact mental health, so I'd like to look into Financial Literacy, raising awareness about budgeting, saving, and managing student loans.

## **Inclusivity and Diversity:**

I would also like to dedicate my time to making events, services, and facilities accessible to students with disabilities supporting diverse needs. I would advocate for a more inclusive and diverse campus environment, ensuring that all students see themselves represented in their education through discussing and implementing initiatives celebrating different cultures, backgrounds, and perspectives, fostering a sense of community and belonging among students.

## **Student Engagement:**

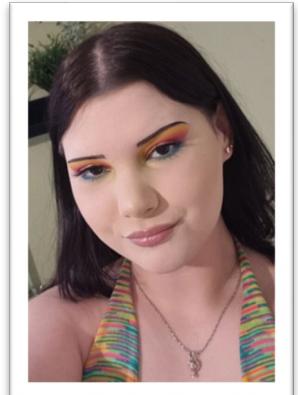
Furthermore, I understand the importance of a vibrant and engaging campus life. Conversations with my peers made it evident that individuals needed to be made aware of what Winchester has to offer. Extracurricular clubs play a vital role in the holistic development of students at university, and I want to showcase the possibilities available for involvement. Whether you're interested in sports, arts, community service, or social events, I want to help students find their niche and make meaningful connections with their peers separate from their studies.

I'm deeply committed to serving our student body and working to make our university a place where every student feels better valued, supported, and empowered to reach their full potential. By voting for me, you are voting for a Student Officer who will be dedicated, compassionate, and inclusive. I ask for your support and vote, and I look forward to working with you to build a university experience that truly reflects the needs and aspirations of every student.

# OLIVIA WRIGHTSON (STUDENT OFFICER)

The accessibility around the University is one of the many things that I want to improve on, there is so much more to accessibility; it contains many subcategories, such as improving the physical environment and helping to get rid of social barriers that people face, whether it be due to their sexuality, gender, ethnicity, religion, or social class. Accessibility is incredibly important; it enables people to achieve more within their own lives despite the barriers that people can face daily. For this reason, that is a massive passion of mine and something that I, on the daily, advocate for.

The physical environment around the University is incredibly inaccessible to disabled students, and the journey between campuses can be incredibly difficult due to the lack of street lamps and ramps that allow students to get around safely. There are also issues with the lifts breaking down and the communication around that, alongside learning agreements not being fully met. These are just a small number of issues that I want to fix within the University, as everyone has the right to an accessible education. I intend to improve the accessibility for disabled students, especially as I am one myself.



Additionally, the cost of living crisis has heavily impacted students, limiting the accessibility for those within the lower classes; I would like to limit its overall effect on students. This has also led to students' mental health and well-being declining, and according to student feedback, the university's support is lacking. This is something I desperately want to improve on, as it is important that all students have a support system from the university. I personally know the struggles of dealing with mental health whilst studying at university, whether this is due to assignment stress or outside factors. It is vital that we all, as students, can get adequate support from the university. I hope and plan to limit these issues and improve accessibility within the university.

Diversity and inclusion are just one of the many things that I am also passionate about and very eager to improve. This also is another sub-category of accessibility! There is a general lack of representation across the universities, and I would love to work with the social networks in an attempt to help improve this. I would love to increase the number of events that take place under the student union and include different types of holidays across all religions and cultures so that we can truly embrace the diversity that there is at the university.

These are just a few issues that I intend to change, and as of now, I am actively putting in a lot of time and energy to help make a positive change for these things. I am able to attempt to make a change through being a StAR, a One Winchester Representative, and working towards being a co-chair for the disability, inclusion, and equality group. It is through these groups that I can start to make a change for the better.