

INTRO TO STUDENT VOICE

Student Voice and Advocacy Team

KIT EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY OFFICER



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DREW **STUDENT VOICE AND** CAMPAIGN **CO - ORDINATOR**



WHAT WILL WE COVER?

> What is Student Voice?

How does it benefit me? How can I get involved? What is the Advice Service? WHAT IS Student Voice?



- Student Voice is the idea that all Students should have the right to be partners in their own education.
- It gives all Students the opportunity to share their thoughts in multiple ways e.g., through Course Reps, Networks, Students Council, The AGM and through Voice It/Change It.
- A structure led by students for students.
- The lead representative is the Education and Community Officer who is supported by a core staff team.

HOW DOES IT Benefit ^{that} Me?

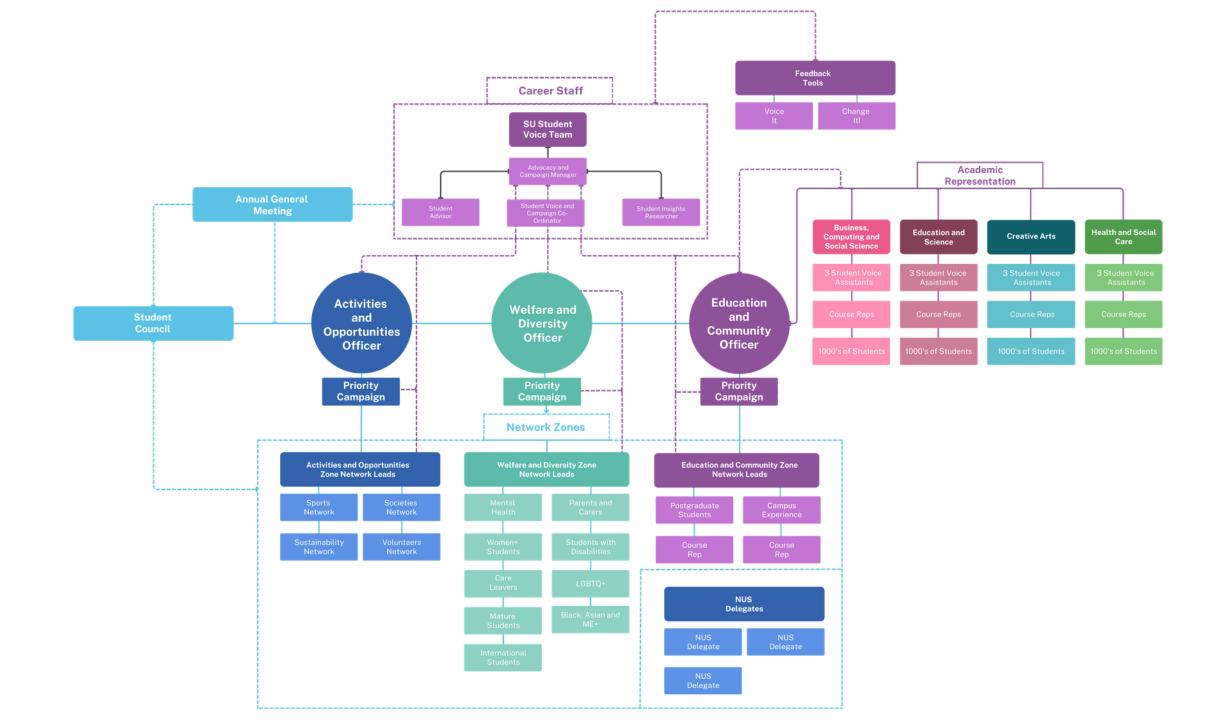
- It means that I can help create a learning environment that is inclusive to the needs of myself and others.
- It's a way I can ensure the course will be accessible for future generations of students.
- The unique experiences of underrepresented groups can be shared with the university.
- My student voice can help create a greater sense of belonging for all university students.

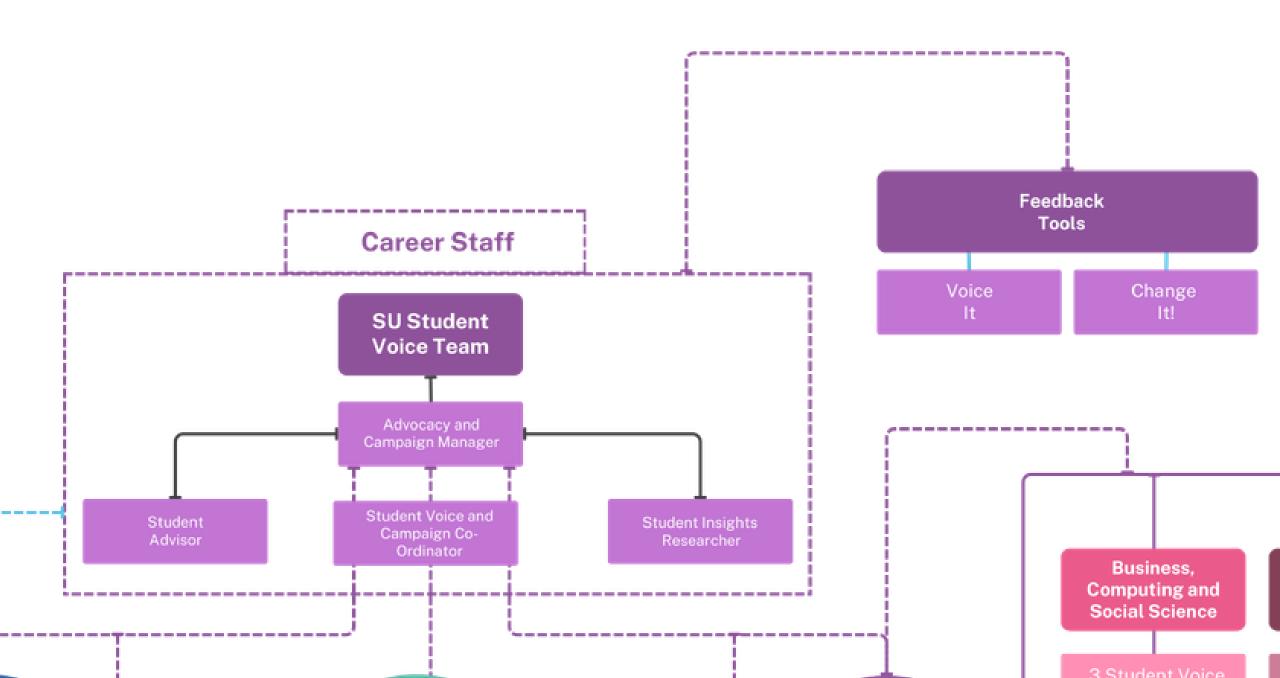
WHAT CAN MY COURSE REP DO?

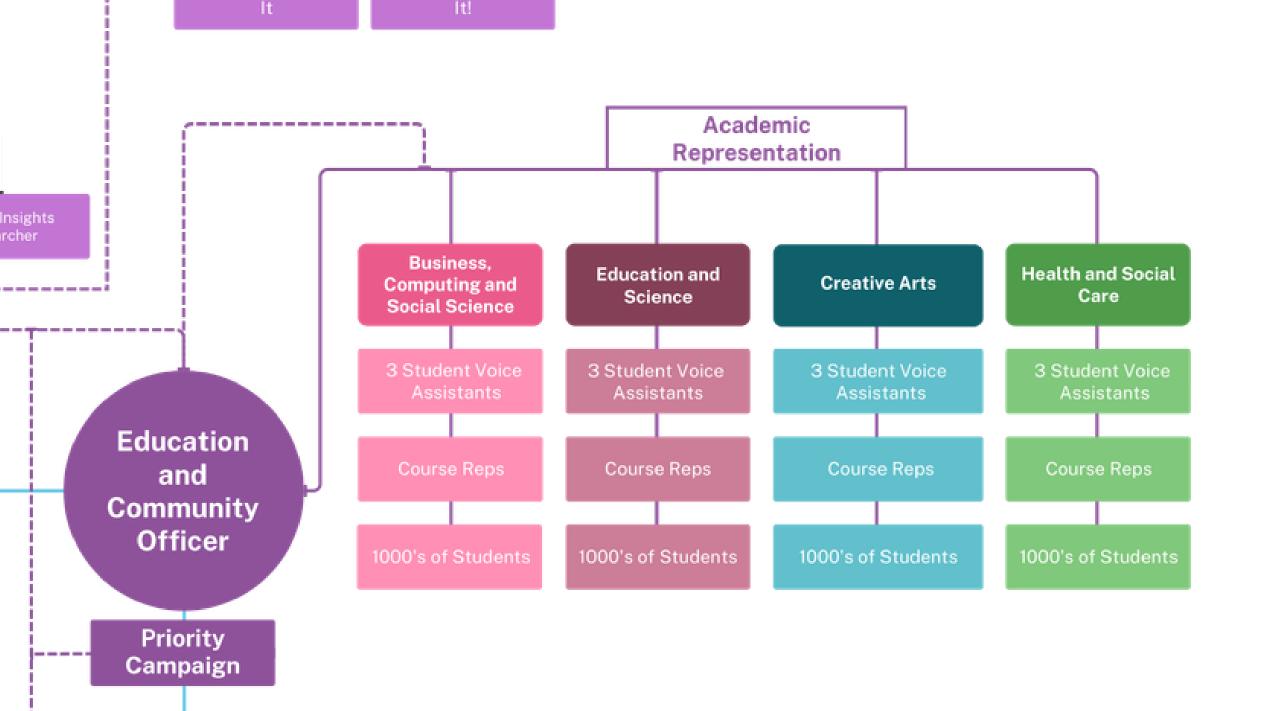
- Feedback to Academic Course Leaders (AC
- Feedback to Student Voice Assistants (SVAs)
- Signposting students to relevant support for example Student services and/or SU Advice
- Representing students at a course level

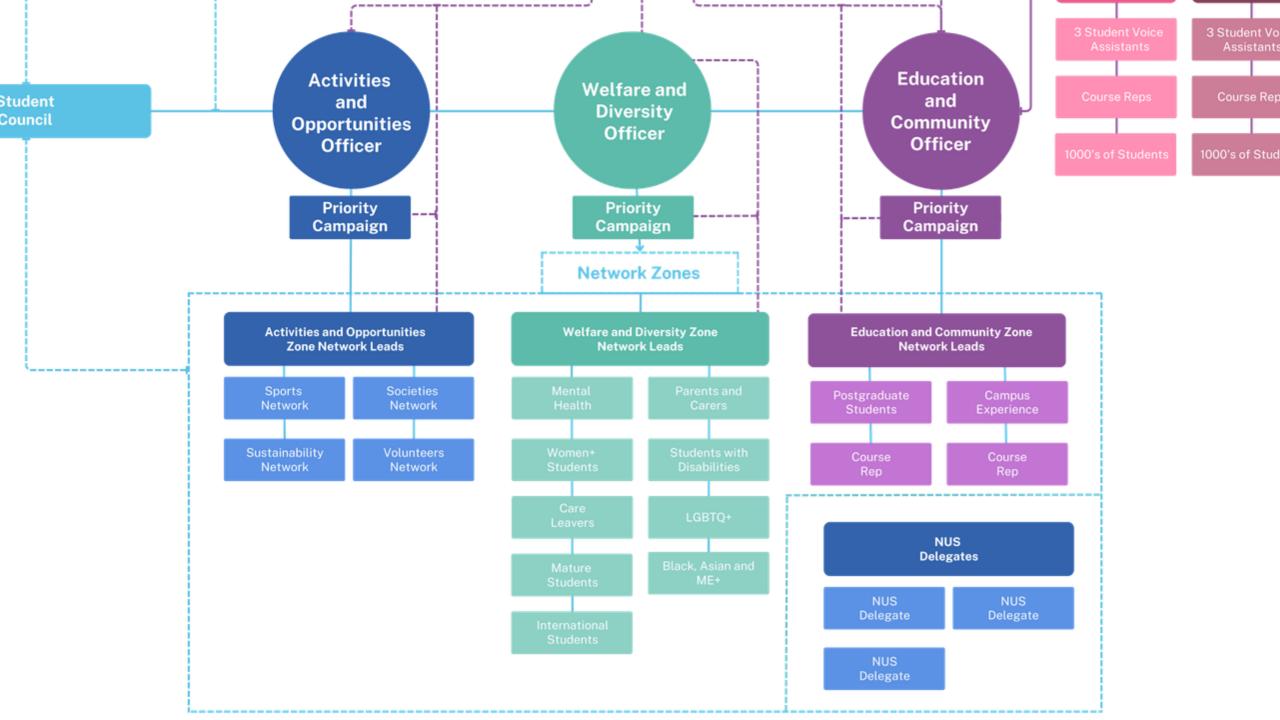
WHAT CAN'T MY COURSE REP DO?

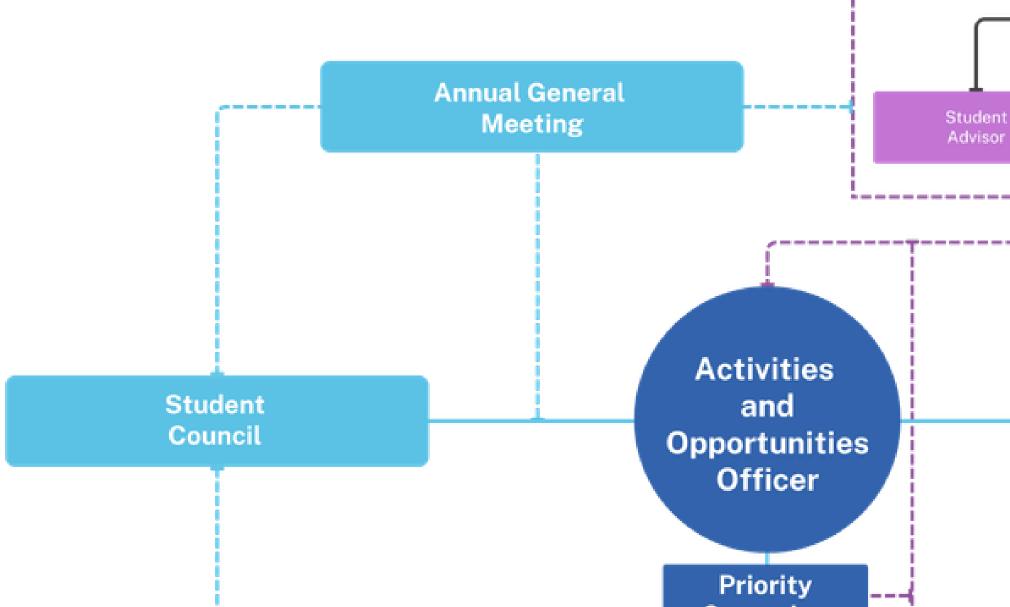
- Representing students outside of your course
- Engaging students outside of your course
- Offer advice on academic issues
- Provide mental health and well-being support











How Can I Get Involved?



COURSE ELECTIONS

16th September – 11th October

NETWORK ELECTIONS

16th September – 11th October



BECOME A SVA

A PAID OPPORTUNITY THAT'S JUST 2-4 HOURS PER WEEK AND TOTALLY FLEXIBLE AROUND YOUR STUDIES!



Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 1st April 2025



CHANGE IT

WHAT IS VOICE IT?

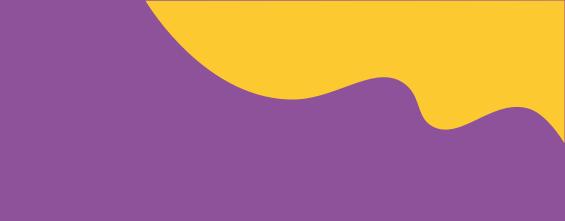
-Individual feedback

-Course feedback – send as a whole

-Survey results

-Anonymous feedback

WHAT IS CHANGE IT?



- Specific ideas to improve your course
- Specific ideas to improve your University
- Issues that are widely felt by students
- Issues outside of your course facilities, resources



EQUITY DIVERSITY INCLUSION

Student Voice and Advocacy Team

THINK PAIR SHARE!



- What does Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (EDIB) mean to you?
- Why might EDIB be important to my club/soc?
- Do you have experience of using EDIB strategies in your club or sock?

EQUITY

Ensuring fair treatment, opportunities, and advancement for all individuals, while working to eliminate barriers that have historically marginalised certain groups.

DIVERSITY

Recognising, valuing, and celebrating the differences and variety of identities, perspectives, and experiences within a group or organisation.

INCLUSION

Creating an environment where all individuals feel respected, accepted, and valued, enabling full participation and contribution.

BELONGING

Creating a sense of connection and acceptance, where individuals feel they are an integral part of the community, valued for their unique identity and contributions. So, In Short...

- Equity: Everyone gets an invitation and the resources they need to attend and enjoy the party.
- Diversity: The party has a mix of people from different backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives.
- Inclusion: Everyone at the party is encouraged to participate and feels welcome to dance, eat, and engage in conversations.
- Belonging: Everyone feels like they truly belong at the party, comfortable being themselves and knowing they're valued for who they are.

The Awarding Gap

Gap between the percentage of White and "BAME" Student's achieving a good degree 2020/21

8.8%

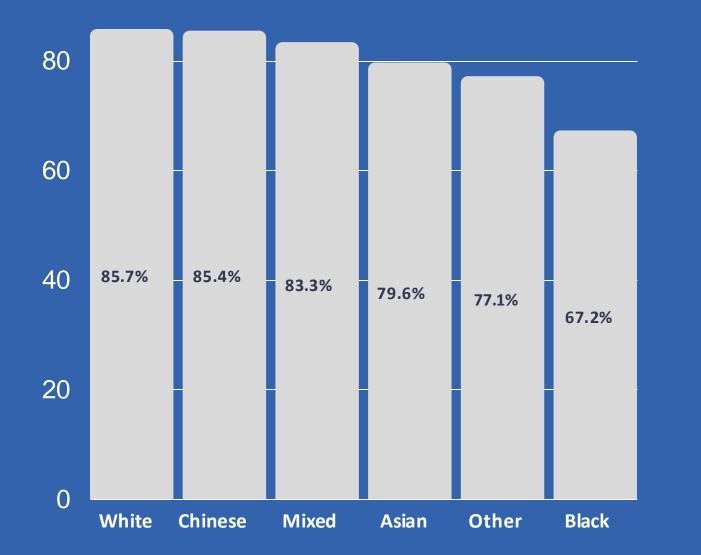
Gap between the percentage of White and Black Student's achieving a good degree 2020/21

18.4%

Over categorisation does not give us the full picture

Universities UK, 2021





Let's Break it Down

Nuance in understanding individual circumstance is

key.

Let's Add Gender into the Mix

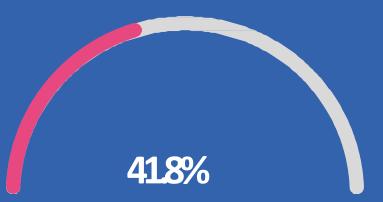
Of Black Male Students where awarded a good degree [†] π [†] π [†] π [†]
[†] π [†] π [†]
^π π [†] π [†]
^{82.9%}

Of White Female Students where awarded a good degree

Wonk HE, 2020

The Participation Gap

Percentage of White Students' progressing to HE by 19.



Percentage of Black Students' progressing to HE by 19.

63.5%

Gov UK, 2022

UK Professors by Ethnicity

901%

Of Professors Identify as White

Advance HE, 2022

UK Professors by Ethnicity

 $\dot{\mathbf{n}}$

4%

Of Professors Identify as

Asian

Advance HE, 2022

UK Professors by Ethnicity

 $\mathbf{\dot{n}}$

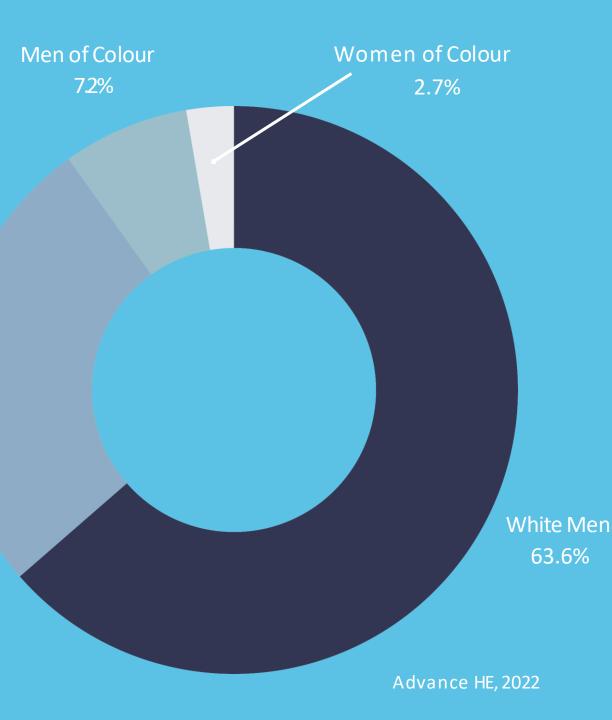
0.7%

Of Professors Identify as Black

Advance HE, 2022

If You Look at Where Race Gender Intersect

White Women 26.5%



HOW DOES THAT EFFECT US

- Activities at University are a welcome break from the competitive world of higher education.
- They should serve as safe spaces for people to relax amongst friends.
- Nobody should feel excluded from a club/society.

BE THE LEADER YOU ALWAYS WANTED

- Encourage two-way communication
- Support and challenge your fellow committee and your members.
- Promote inclusive culture
- Celebrate the achievements of all members.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

- You're at a social in a venue in town.
- One of your members was talking about their partner.
- Another member stated, "I wouldn't have thought you were gay!"
- The other member looks visibly uncomfortable and looks visibly uncomfortable and withdraws from conversation.

WHAT COULD YOU DO?

- Speak to the chair or Welfare Officer
- They can report it to one of the SU staff team, who can help resolve the issue.
- Consider doing a workshop for all members on micro-aggressions and inclusive language.
- Check-In with members involved.

Padlet Q&A

