

# VOTE SOPHIE CRAIG FOR MEMBER FOR WIDENING ACCESS & PARTICIPATION



- To publicise current schemes out-with the university website to allow for better communication
  - For weekly discussion groups to discuss issues with and suggestions for improving access and participation
  - For a member who is passionate about students feeling heard and feeling confident in accessing current services
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# Why vote for me?

*As a student from a working class background who has had a lot of experience with widening access schemes, I know that the application process can be confusing and often the communication throughout can be limited.*

**I want to use my role as member for widening access & participation to lessen the stress of applying for widening access schemes, accurately represent how students feel about them and establish what can be improved within the university.**

# My Aims

As your member for widening access and participation I want to focus on three key areas:

## **1) Increasing Student Representation**

I want to ensure that students have the opportunity to express their opinions and needs when it comes to widening access and that this information is passed onto all levels of the university

## **2) Increasing Knowledge and Participation**

I want to create accessible social media pages for widening access & participation to allow students to easily see what resources are available and have a platform to discuss them

## **3) Promoting Resources Outwith Uni**

I want to ensure students are aware of resources out-with the university and use social media platforms to promote these schemes too

# Increasing Student Representation

- 1) I want to hold weekly discussion hours, where I am available for any student to talk to about widening access and participation
- 2) I want to send monthly surveys to the student body to see if there are any key areas that the university lack in, in terms of widening access
- 3) I plan on doing lots of focus groups as I want every student to feel like they are being heard
- 4) I plan on using survey and focus group results in meetings with the university to make sure students are being represented on all levels
- 5) I would love to host meet up events, where students can informally discuss what we'd like to see in terms of access & participation

# Increasing Knowledge and Participation

The University is very formal and leave little room for discussion or to ask questions about widening access and participation schemes

- I would like to create specific widening access social media pages to allow more room for questions to be asked
- and also to act as one place where resources are advertised in one place

In order to make these resources accessible to all students I will:

- I will implement the accessibility pledge
- Implement things such as image descriptions, including videos and video captioning to allow resources to be read by everyone



# Promoting Resources outwith uni

While widening access schemes are available in the university, these are not the only options for students - many charities and trusts have things like bursaries and training that students can access

## My Aims:

- 1) Research and promote relevant outside resources to students through social media and email updates
- 2) Do instagram takovers with trusts and charities to help students get a clear understanding of expectations when applying for schemes and what resources these bodies offer
- 3) Work with the university to explore options for expanding current schemes by partnering with other organisations
- 4) Liase with local charities and innitiatives to see what kind of resources are available for students