

# **LABOUR STUDENTS:**

## **How to run a Labour Students Society**

# Labour Students: Why should you join a Labour Students society

Labour Students represents thousands of students across the country who believe in fighting for a fairer future in our communities and on our campuses.

Generations of leaders, activists, and organisers who've changed our country found their political voice and developed their skills in Labour Students.

In 2024 we helped deliver a landslide victory for Labour – the first that most of our generation can remember. This was only possible because of the hard work of Labour Students across the country.

Joining Labour Students or setting up a Labour Society could be the start of your political journey. You never know where it will lead but we can promise it will be worth it!



# Setting up a new society

## Getting started!

If your university or college doesn't already have a Labour Society email us at [labourstudents@labour.org.uk](mailto:labourstudents@labour.org.uk) and we'll schedule an introductory call to walk you through the steps and support you through the process!

## National Labour Students

National Labour Students is the organisation that oversees all Labour Students Societies. It's led by a National Committee, elected every two years by all Labour Students members.

We're here to help your society thrive – whether it's been going for decades or you're just getting started.

## Key Contacts

Find: [Your Committee](#)

Email: [labourstudents@labour.org.uk](mailto:labourstudents@labour.org.uk)

Instagram: [@labourstudents](#)

X: [@labourstudents](#)

Bluesky: [@labourstudents.bsky.social](#)



# Creating your first committee

Starting a society can feel daunting – especially if you're on your own at the beginning. The best thing to do is to recruit a core group to share the workload and form your first society committee.

Key roles to consider:

**Chair**

**Secretary**

**Treasurer**

**Campaigns Officer**

**Events Officer**

1. Ask friends, coursemates, or members of other societies you trust to help! If you're stuck, National Labour Students can connect you with other student members in your area.
2. Once you've got your team, hold your first meeting to discuss your vision for the society.
3. Then it's time to make your society official by reaching out to *National Labour Students* and your *Students' Union*.



# Getting recognised by your Students' Union

Your Students' Union (SU) oversees all student societies at your university or college. To be officially recognised, you'll need to follow their process for setting up a new society. Each SU is different, but you can usually find the steps on their website.

Typically, you'll need to show that enough students are interested in forming the society.

## Affiliating to National Labour Students

Affiliating with *National Labour Students (NLS)* is quick and is quick and easy and a really important step to get involved in our movement!!

To use the Labour Party's name or take part in Labour Students events nationally, your society must be affiliated.

There's *no fee* to affiliate, just email [labourstudents@labour.org.uk](mailto:labourstudents@labour.org.uk) and agree to our constitutional rules.



# What to do in freshers' week

## Book a stall for your society!

Contact your Students' Union early to book a stall for Freshers' week so you can recruit new members.

## Resources from Labour Students

Email [labourstudents@labour.org.uk](mailto:labourstudents@labour.org.uk) in the lead-up to Freshers' Week and we'll post a box of materials, including leaflets and stickers.

## New members

Freshers' Week is prime time to sign up new members. Print QR codes that link directly to your society's membership sign-up and display them at your stall.

## Welcome events

Organise a welcome event right after Freshers' Week. Attention spans are short – engage members as soon as you sign them up!



# How to recruit members

Putting on exciting events is the best way to attract new members. But it can be tough when you're just getting started. Here are our top tips:

🕒 **Spread the word:** Use posters and leaflets around campus to promote your first event.

🕒 **Engage with other societies:** Other societies may share our values. Attend their events and invite interested students to join yours.

🕒 **Course connections:** Courses like politics, sociology, or law often have politically engaged students. Ask friends or email lecturers to share info through their mailing lists.

🕒 **Freshers/Refreshers:** Make sure to book a stall at your Freshers and Refreshers fairs through your Students' Union.

🕒 **Social media:** Make sure to set up social media accounts for your society and use them to reach new members.

🕒 **Local Labour Parties:** You can ask the local Labour Parties where lots of students live to send an email to members to let them know about your new society and how students can join.



# Our top ideas for exciting events

Putting on events for members is the core purpose of a Labour society. We've put together a few ideas for the kind of events you can put on! It's important to see what works best for your members, try new formats and keep it varied so everyone gets the most out of your society.

🕒 **Quiz night** – Put on a quiz for your members, need some inspiration for questions, test your knowledge in the [Labour Students Quiz here!](#)

🕒 **Speaker events** – Pick a topic that you know will interest other students and invite either a whole panel or just one keynote speaker.

🕒 **Pint & Policy** – Combine a pub social with informal political discussion – themes make it even more fun!

🕒 **Sports tournament** – Organise a friendly match and invite other political societies to compete.

🕒 **Society dinner** – Food is always a great way to bring people together and celebrate.

🕒 **Labour campaigning** – Campaigning is a great way for members to get to know the Labour Party and each other! Keep reading to find out how to mobilise your members to head out on the doorstep.



# How to run an event

When you've picked the type of event you want to do, here's a few steps to follow to make sure it all runs smoothly!

## Venue

Most SUs and universities offer free rooms. Otherwise, book tables at a local pub or café. Ensure the venue is accessible and easy to reach.

## Publicity

Promote your event early so people can save the date. Post on social media, share in WhatsApp groups, and invite people personally – it makes a big difference!

## Keep it informal

Avoid overwhelming new members with jargon or procedures. Accessible, friendly events are more likely to grow your society.



# How to run a canvassing session

Labour Students are a major campaigning force in the Labour Party. In the last election, we canvassed in nearly 100 target seats.

Organising a campaign day is a great way to support local candidates and get involved in national campaigns. It's also a brilliant opportunity for your members to meet one another and learn new campaigning skills.

## Who to reach out to:

- 📍 **National Labour Students** – We'll help coordinate your campaign and connect you with other student groups. Your Regional Representative will also try to join you on the day.
- 📍 **Your local Labour Party** – They'll already have regular campaign days organised, and have all the resources and leaflets you need for campaigning.
- 📍 **Labour Party Organisers** – Every area has a paid Labour Party Organiser. If you don't know yours, we can help connect you.

## Travel Fund

- 📍 Labour Students might be able to help with travel costs for your campaign day, get in touch with us ahead of time and we'll try our best to help!

