



Political & Campaigning Society Guide

A how-to-guide for your
Political or Campaigning Society

An introduction to Political & Campaigning Societies

A political or campaigning society at SUBU (Students' Union Bournemouth University) is a student-led group centred around a shared cause or identity, political engagement, activism, or social change. They may be aligned with existing political groups, or be independent issue-based societies (e.g., climate action or human rights). This spans from political groups like Socialist Workers Students Society, to identity based ones like Iris Society.

They offer the opportunity to explore what matters to you, connect those who share your values, and advocate for and educate around your passions.

These clubs, like all clubs at SUBU, are created to provide a welcoming space for students to connect with like-minded people, explore their interests, and take part in fun, engaging events throughout the year.

Whether you're looking to try something new or to deepen an existing passion, SUBU's clubs offer a great way to enhance your university experience.

As leaders of these communities, these guides have been created to give you some handy hints and tips that can enrich your activity and experience for yourself and your members!

What can you do as a Political/Campaigning Society?

Debates & Discussions: Host panels, Q&As, or forums. This could be done within your society or in collaboration with another society.

Campaigns: Organise awareness days, stalls, or petitions to promote the causes you care about. Create educational materials or handouts, and speak to other students on campus.

Guest Speakers and Educational Events: Invite speakers to give educational talks on topics relating to your club or host workshops about your society and its causes.

Film Screenings: From screening documentaries on key issues, to watching a film together for a social, these events can be low-effort but very effective.

Collaborations: Work with other societies for intersectional campaigns and collaboration.

Trips to Large Events: Such as Iris Society trip to London Pride, these are a great way to connect to the wider community.

Social Events: Create a space to relax with likeminded people and provide a break from campaigning. This could be a unstructured hang, a night out, or a specific event.

Craftivism: Creative events that are linked to good causes and can promote wellbeing through art - could be anything from making pride flag bracelets to painting protest signs.

Useful Contacts/Suppliers

Merchandise Providers

- The Funky Peach: <https://www.thefunkypeach.com/>
- Yazzoo Personalised Clothing: <https://personalised.clothing/>

Room Bookings

- If you need to cancel, or enquire about capacity of rooms available on campus
- (All rooms need to be booked through the form on the Committee Zone)
- Email: rbookings@bournemouth.ac.uk

FAQS

Can we support a political party? Yes, clubs such as Labour Society, Conservative Society, Greens Society, etc., are allowed.

Can we campaign on national issues? Yes, within the law, Bournemouth University guidelines, & SUBU's guidelines. For support in campaigning, contact subudemocracy@bournemouth.ac.uk

Can we hold protests? Yes, within the law, BU, and SUBU's guidelines, and after meeting with the Student Opportunities Team in advance.

Can we fundraise? Yes, whether you're fundraising for a specific charity close to your hearts, or for your society running costs, fundraising campaigns can be a brilliant opportunity to bring your members together for a united cause. You may keep money you have fundraised for your society or donate it to a charitable cause, but cannot donate to a political party or use it to otherwise support a party, e.g. for canvassing costs.

If you have any further questions, please contact the team at suclubs@bournemouth.ac.uk