

UNIVERSITY OF KENT STUDENT CHARTER

2023





THE STUDENT CHARTER

Welcome to Kent and the University's Student Charter. The Student Charter acts as a mutual agreement between the University of Kent, Kent Union and you – our students. This includes undergraduates and postgraduates studying at any of the University's locations.

It outlines what you can expect from the University and your Student's Union, as well as what is expected from you as a Kent student, to support our inclusive community. We ask all our students and staff to agree and follow this Charter, so you have the best time at Kent.



[KENT.AC.UK/REGULATIONS/
GENERAL.HTML](https://kent.ac.uk/regulations/general.html)

THE UNIVERSITY IS COMMITTED TO

- 1 Providing students with an excellent, high quality learning experience, by supporting, encouraging and enabling inclusive teaching of the highest quality and embedding innovative teaching methods across all courses.
- 2 Promoting the highest levels of student engagement, both academically and non-academically, to inspire, challenge and empower students to discover and reach their full potential.
- 3 Embracing equality of opportunity for all and ensuring that students and colleagues alike are treated professionally and with respect.
- 4 Providing students with accessible student support services throughout their journey, delivered by staff who prioritise the student experience, students' personal development and overall wellbeing.
- 5 Working in partnership with students, through Kent Union, the Student Rep Scheme and wider student body, to shape their University experience, listening and acting on feedback and continuously improving the University for all of its students.
- 6 Enabling access to activities that will enhance students' graduate prospects and employability, skills development and wellbeing, including opportunities arising from the University's international activities and partnerships.
- 7 Ensuring access to excellent facilities and resources including library and IT, accommodation and financial support.
- 8 Providing key information to all students, including:
 - a an outline syllabus before starting their course to inform module choices
 - b a termly timetable and details of the requirements for attendance, reading and academic work, including deadlines for the submission and the return of work
 - c appropriate periods of notice and consultation regarding any major changes to the curriculum or assessment, as outlined in the Student Protection Plan
 - d published course costs, payment options and deadlines, and an estimate of any additional costs related to their course
 - e clear communication through a number of key channels (please see 'How we will communicate with you...' below)
- 9 Working in partnership with the Students' Union, promoting the student voice in all aspects of University operations and facilitating opportunities for student involvement in its activities.

// **The objects of the University are to advance education and disseminate knowledge by teaching, scholarship and research for the public benefit. //**

Source: The University of Kent's Royal Charter



STUDENTS ARE COMMITTED TO

- 1 Taking responsibility for their own learning and development by fully utilising available learning opportunities, resources and facilities to strive to achieve success in academic and other activities.
- 2 Embracing a shared learning experience by attending all scheduled sessions and examinations related to their studies, as well as pursuing their academic studies in a diligent, honest and professional manner and embracing all aspects of University life to receive the best possible experience.
- 3 Engaging in opportunities to feedback on their course, and University experience as a whole, acting as active participants in their learning experience and adopting the principles of co-creation and co-production to create an exciting environment for learning and high-quality research.
- 4 Complying with the terms of all Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations relating to their studies and conduct, policies, rules and requirements of the University and Students' Union, as well as any professional standards and requirements applicable to their course.
- 5 Treating fellow students, University staff, visitors, neighbours and all people equally and respectfully, regardless of gender, religion, community background, nationality, race/ethnic origin, disability, marital or other status, responsibilities, sexual orientation or age.
- 6 Taking responsibility for their personal wellbeing, and that of their peers, proactively seeking support and advice when required, in order to maintain their health and fulfil their potential.
- 7 Engaging in appropriate activities outside of their curriculum to enhance their personal development and employability skills.
- 8 Behaving in a responsible manner, on and off campus, and ensuring that their actions do not have an adverse impact on the environment, their neighbours, the local community or those who work or study at the University and on the University's reputation.





The University's Royal Charter provides for "a union of the students of the University ("Students' Union") which shall conduct and manage its own affairs and funds in accordance with a constitution approved by the Council. No amendment to or rescission of that constitution shall be valid unless approved by the Council." (Source: University's Royal Charter)

Kent Union works in conjunction with the University of Kent to improve the educational experience of the student body.

KENT UNION IS COMMITTED TO

- 1 Being student-led through strong democratic structures and give members the opportunity to shape every aspect of the Students' Union, no matter how small.
- 2 Striving to be a Students' Union that members can always turn to, get advice from and be supported by.
- 3 Representing and amplifying the student voice, to ensure that students are at the heart of decisions made within the University and the Students' Union, by supporting and campaigning on issues with which members identify.
- 4 Championing an environment where all students feel safe and campaign for a positive and inclusive University culture.
- 5 Empowering members to find friends and a sense of belonging.
- 6 Ensuring that it meets its charitable objectives and is a successful, well governed and well-managed organisation.

// **Kent Union is a charity that “empowers students at Kent to: have a voice; fulfil their potential; and get the most from university”.** //

Source: Kent Union's Strategic Plan 2021-2025





FURTHER INFORMATION

Kent is a dual intensity University that values education and research equally, believing that one enhances the other. We are a campus based University that is committed to equality, diversity and inclusion, ensuring that we value and respect each other at every point in the student journey. We aspire to deliver one of the best education and student experiences amongst all UK Universities, that enables and inspires our students.

Our vision is underpinned by the Kent 2025 Strategy, which prioritises student engagement and highlights our commitment to community. Our key aim is to build a community at Kent that inspires students from a wide range of backgrounds to achieve their full potential, to find and shape their place in tomorrow's world, with academics who can explore and deepen students' understanding of their discipline and wider global issues.

This Charter, which aims to encourage and support student success, has been developed as a partnership between the University and Kent Union. It is subject to annual review by both the University and Kent Union in the Spring Term each year, with implementation from 1 August. It has been approved by both Kent Union President and Deputy Vice Chancellor for Education and Student Experience. It is designed as an overview of our expectations and responsibilities to help signpost readers to more detailed relevant information.

The Student Charter outlines the University's major commitments to students. For greater detail on these commitments, the responsibilities and entitlements of being a student, as well as the support and services provided by the University and the Students' Union, please use the list of links found on our Regulations page.



Professor Richard J Reece
Deputy Vice-Chancellor
Education and Student Experience



Zaid Mahmood
Students' Union President
Kent Union

HOW WE WILL COMMUNICATE WITH YOU...

We want you to make the most of all the support, events, and benefits on offer to you.

As you start at Kent, these are the key channels you need to stay informed and connected:

- **We will email** you anything important so please check your student account regularly. Examples include course, research, and project support; major university announcements; support information; accommodation updates if you're living on campus and significant surveys.
- **Check Moodle and KentVision** for everything related to your studies such as teaching updates and prep, lecture slides and recordings, assessments, timetables and results.
- **Go to the Student Guide or download the Uni Kent Student App** for university support services, contacts, events, news, guidance, opportunities, to give feedback and for key systems.
- **Follow @UniKentLive on Instagram** for the little added extras at Kent, from co-curricular opportunities and benefits on campus to University achievements and coverage from events.





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This booklet was updated in August 2023. The University of Kent makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in its publicity materials is fair and accurate and to provide educational services as described. However, the courses, services and other matters may be subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, see: www.kent.ac.uk Full details of our terms and conditions can be found at kent.ac.uk/termsandconditions

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Kent