

Sarah-Jane

for

Vice Chair Events and Communications



Hi, I'm Sarah-Jane and I'm standing to be your next Vice-Chair Events and Communications.

I'm a third-year pharmacy student at the University of Manchester and have been an active member of Labour Students since moving to university from Northern Ireland in 2016. My experiences growing up have shaped my politics. Living in a country with LGBT+ rights and women's rights far behind other countries, I was determined to play my part in fighting for a brighter future, and that meant campaigning for Labour.



Labour Students enabled me to get more involved with the Labour Party and helped me find my voice politically, but unfortunately this hasn't been everyone's experience with the organisation. I want to change that. Too many students are *still* priced out of Labour Students events, despite promises from every FTO and Vice Chair Events and Communications before me. I would use my voice on national committee to ensure that events are made accessible for all members. Here's how:

1. Diverse locations and more regional events

Whilst no one location is ever going to be easy for every club to get to, we can, and we should remove as many obstacles for clubs to attend as possible. Smaller clubs are particularly, continually shut out. I'll work with our Regional Coordinators to bring the quality training we receive at national events to the regions, increasing affordability and participation of our events.



2. Live streaming events
Unlike many other organisations in 2019, none of our events are live streamed. This is an easy, practical way to open up our events to more of our membership. If elected I would work with committee to ensure panels and key note speeches from our events are streamed so that no students miss out.

3. Travel fund priority

I would also aim to increase attendance of students from liberation groups, specifically women and BAME students, by offering priority of travel funds to students from these groups. Too often, Labour Students events are attended by mostly white men and this needs to change. Our events need to be representative of our members.

4. Diverse political education

As a pharmacy student, I have often felt out of my depth in conversations with Politics and History students, especially when I first started to get involved. We need to encourage Labour-supporting students from all degrees to get involved and educated them on Labour's rich socialist history.

The Labour Party was formed out of the trade union movement, and trade unions continue to play a massive role in the Labour Party - but our members aren't hearing about it. I want to ensure our clubs are inviting speakers from trade unions to talk about student=staff solidarity.

"Labour Students has got to change, and I want to help transform it. Elect me as Vice-Chair Events and Communication and I will fight for the Labour Students our members deserve."

