

## The Guild of Students

The University of Birmingham Guild of Students is the students' union for more than 28,000 students. It represents students to the University and other organisations and is the voice on the issues that matter most to students. The Guild is also here to help you develop skills outside of study, have fun, meet people and make sure your time at Birmingham is special.

You can follow the Guild on Twitter at [@guildofstudents](https://twitter.com/guildofstudents) (<http://twitter.com/guildofstudents>) or Facebook at [www.facebook.com/guildofstudents](http://www.facebook.com/guildofstudents) (<http://www.facebook.com/guildofstudents>)

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### Guild Council

Guild Council is a democratic voice, the Guild's parliament, for all students at Birmingham. It meets regularly to agree Guild policy and holds the Officer Team to account. Any student can turn up, speak and submit motions.

### Student Representation Scheme

If a student has an idea, or issue with, your course, the Student Representation Scheme can help. Working alongside University staff to find solutions to the problems students raise, Student Reps are here to make sure students have the best possible academic experience. Contact them at [studentreps@guild.bham.ac.uk](mailto:studentreps@guild.bham.ac.uk) (<mailto:studentreps@guild.bham.ac.uk>)

### Advice and Representation Centre (ARC)

The Advice and Representation Centre (ARC) is an independent, free and confidential service for all students at the University which specialises in five main areas: academic, employment, finance, housing, and immigration. You can access support via the ARC's weekday drop-in service, an online enquiry service, or from the website resources. Visit [www.guildofstudents.com/thearc](http://www.guildofstudents.com/thearc) (<mailto:thearc@guild.bham.ac.uk>) to find out more.

### Job Zone

If you need to work to cover your living expenses while you study, the Job Zone gives you access to hundreds of part-time vacancies – locally, within the Guild, and vacation work all over the UK and overseas – as well as employment information and advice, including drop-ins and workshops. Visit [www.guildofstudents.com/jobzone](http://www.guildofstudents.com/jobzone) (<http://www.guildofstudents.com/jobzone>) to find out more.

### Worklink


Worklink is the University's dedicated internal recruitment agency based in the Guild and will connect you to on-campus casual work opportunities. Visit [www.birmingham.ac.uk/worklink](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/worklink) (<https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/has/worklink/Worklink.aspx>) to find out more.

### Student Mentor Scheme

The Student Mentor Scheme provides advice and guidance to all students living in University accommodation. The scheme can help with a variety of issues relating to: shared living and accommodation, academic courses, financial matters, and general wellbeing whilst studying at the university. Visit our [student support](#) ([/undergraduate/support/mentor.aspx](https://undergraduate/support/mentor.aspx)) pages or contact: [mentorwelfare@guild.bham.ac.uk](mailto:mentorwelfare@guild.bham.ac.uk) (<mailto:mentorwelfare@guild.bham.ac.uk>) to find out more.

### Community Warden Scheme

Our Community Wardens aim to make the local area safer, cleaner and greener for all residents. The team of Wardens work in places where students live in significant numbers, helping to tackle crime, dealing with problems with neighbours and refuse disposal issues and encouraging a sense of responsibility and pride in the area.

 **Ben, Community Warden** "As a Community Warden, I work alongside local police, council and community groups to ensure that students and residents in Selly Oak live in a safer, greener, cleaner environment. We complete patrols in Selly Oak identifying the key issues on waste, recycling and safety and advise students on ways to prevent any potential problems arising. We get involved with a number of local community groups and projects that bring all the residents of Selly Oak together; a challenge that is extremely rewarding"

Contact [community@guild.bham.ac.uk](mailto:community@guild.bham.ac.uk) (<mailto:community@guild.bham.ac.uk>) to find out more.

### SHAC

The SHAC is a dedicated lettings agency for students at Birmingham. They provide high-quality student accommodation from reputable landlords. And unlike other lettings agencies, they won't charge administration fees. Contact [shac@guild.bham.ac.uk](mailto:shac@guild.bham.ac.uk) (<mailto:shac@guild.bham.ac.uk>) to find out more.

### Entertainment

Throughout the year the Guild provides entertainment just for students at Birmingham – from regular weekly events such as Fab 'n' Fresh, to Sports Night and live music, to annual events such as the Grad Ball and Vale Fireworks. The student groups also host and deliver events, which include comedy nights, theatre productions, dance classes, trips abroad and festivals such as Vale Fest. Visit [www.guildtickets.co.uk](http://www.guildtickets.co.uk) (<http://www.guildtickets.co.uk>) to find out more.

## Groups and societies

With more than 170 student groups, there really is something for everyone. With societies from Bhangra, Tea Appreciation to Battle Re-enactment, there are lots of opportunities to get involved. And if you can't find the group you want, the Guild can help you set one up. Contact [studentgroups@guild.bham.ac.uk](mailto:studentgroups@guild.bham.ac.uk) (<mailto:studentgroups@guild.bham.ac.uk>) to find out more.

## Volunteering

The Guild also has a wide range of volunteering opportunities to suit all interests, passions and timetables. Students can volunteer on a regular or one-off basis, choosing from a range of roles – from teaching sports to local children to organising fundraising events. Contact [volunteering@guild.bham.ac.uk](mailto:volunteering@guild.bham.ac.uk) (<mailto:volunteering@guild.bham.ac.uk>) to find out more.

## Postgraduate and Mature Students Association (PGMSA)

Specifically aimed at postgraduate and mature students, this association is a great way for you to discuss issues particular to you. The Postgraduate and Mature Students' Officer (PMSO) is also on hand to represent your views and offer support.

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