

Guild Statement on Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Speech

Liverpool Guild of Students is a democratic, student-led organisation, and a registered charity. The Guild aims include a commitment to providing opportunities for students to express opinions through democratic structures, and societies. The Guild also actively represents, supports and provides advice to students.

The Guild is committed to creating a vibrant culture on campus where students can engage in challenging and important conversations on a wide range of topics without fear of harassment or intimidation. This is reflected in the Guild's Mission and Values, which underpin the work of the organisation.

The Guild recognises its legal responsibility to protect Freedom of Speech. To discharge our duties, we share a joint code with the University; the [Joint Policy and Code of Practice Regarding Freedom of Speech](#), which specifically emphasises our responsibility and legal duty to promote freedom of speech - and we take our obligations to do this very seriously.

Under the Equality Act (2010), The Guild also has a duty to protect students from harassment related to aspects of their identity. These are age, disability, race, sex, gender reassignment, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership status, or pregnancy and maternity status. This is because, like the right to freedom of expression, the right of each person to be protected from discrimination and violence are fundamental human rights.

The Guild supports these rights in line with UK law. In situations where legislation may be conflicting, our approach has always been to work directly with students in consultative, inclusive and transparent way to ensure events and speakers can go ahead in a respectful way within the law.

