

Student Priorities 2020/21 Results & Outcomes

Overview

From research conducted with 399 students in November 2019, a list of priorities (specific issues faced by students) were put to the student community to rank in order of preference. Over the course of December 2019 - January 2020, 531 students voted on which priorities they wanted the Students' Union to work on to effectively represent their needs across various categories related to their student experience. The Students' Union is mandated through this process to work on the priorities (issues) the student body have chosen in the upcoming academic year 2020/21.

Categories

Priorities were shortlisted and divided into categories in order to ensure individual voices were heard on various issues and that students were given various choices on where the Students' Union needs to address matters affecting them. This included:

- *Academic changes*: issues related to students' courses, teaching and learning while at University.
- *Support to you*: wider issues outside of studies which students have highlighted more support and attention needs to be given.
- *Opportunities*: what more can be organised or put on to support the interaction between students related to events and socials.
- *Greenwich campus*: focus on specific issues that need to be addressed within the community on the campus.
- *Avery Hill campus*: focus on specific issues that need to be addressed within the community on the campus.
- *Medway campus*: focus on specific issues that need to be addressed within the community on the campus alongside GK Unions (Greenwich and Kent Unions Together).

Top Voted Priorities

- ✓ *Academic changes*: Communication with Lecturers
- ✓ *Support to you*: Job/internship opportunities during studies
- ✓ *Opportunities*: Course based social events
- ✓ *Greenwich Campus*: Development social/study spaces
- ✓ *Avery Hill Campus*: Cheaper food options on campus
- ✓ *Medway Campus*: Bus timetable and prices review

Please see the full breakdown of the priority ballot result and details on the top ranked priority.

Academic Changes

1st Voted Priority: Communication with Lecturers

- Improvements needed in how students can communicate with Lecturers and academics outside of lessons.
- Students need to have deadlines, events and avenues of support clearly communicated to them throughout the year from lecturers.
- Clearer expectations to be set on when students will hear back from their Lecturer when they are emailed
- Avenues of support from lecturers told to students at the beginning of the year in assignment support, drop in times and course specific questions

Quote: *"More communication from lecturers to students about deadlines, events and support"* (FEHHS student)

Quote: *"The relationship between lecturers and students need to be better, the course leader should be a bit more flexible"* (FES student)

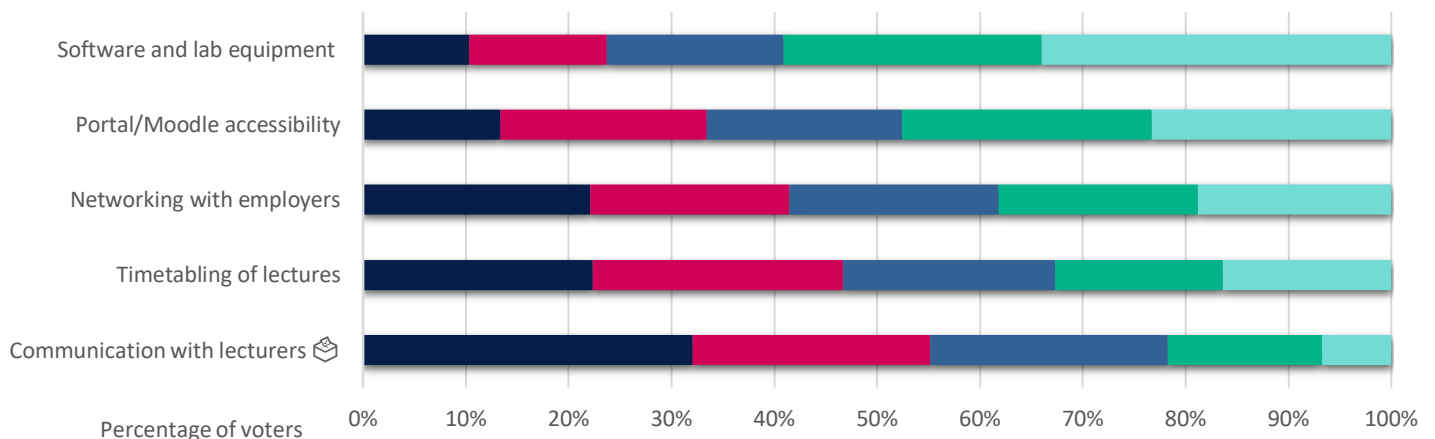
2nd Priority: Timetabling of lectures


3rd Priority: Networking with employers/academics

4th Priority: Portal/Moodle accessibility

5th Priority: Software and lab equipment

Academic Changes



	Communication with lecturers 	Timetabling of lectures	Networking with employers	Portal/Moodle accessibility	Software and lab equipment
■ Ranked 1st	32.00%	22.10%	22.10%	13.40%	10.30%
■ 2nd	23.10%	24.10%	19.40%	20.00%	13.40%
■ 3rd	23.10%	20.40%	20.40%	19.00%	17.20%
■ 4th	15.00%	16.20%	19.40%	24.30%	25.10%
■ 5th	6.70%	16.20%	18.80%	23.30%	34.00%

Support to You

1st Voted Priority: Job/Internship Opportunities during studies

- Students want more part-time job opportunities through the University & Students' Union during their studies.
- Jobshop application on the portal to be developed, more widely used by staff and communicated out to students
- PHD students are limited to having only 6 hours a week of paid employment with the University.
- Placement students want more available job opportunities alongside their placement hours

Quote: "I want more jobs available around the campus for students" (FES student)

Quote: "Help us to find part-time jobs" (FEHHS student, parent & placement student)

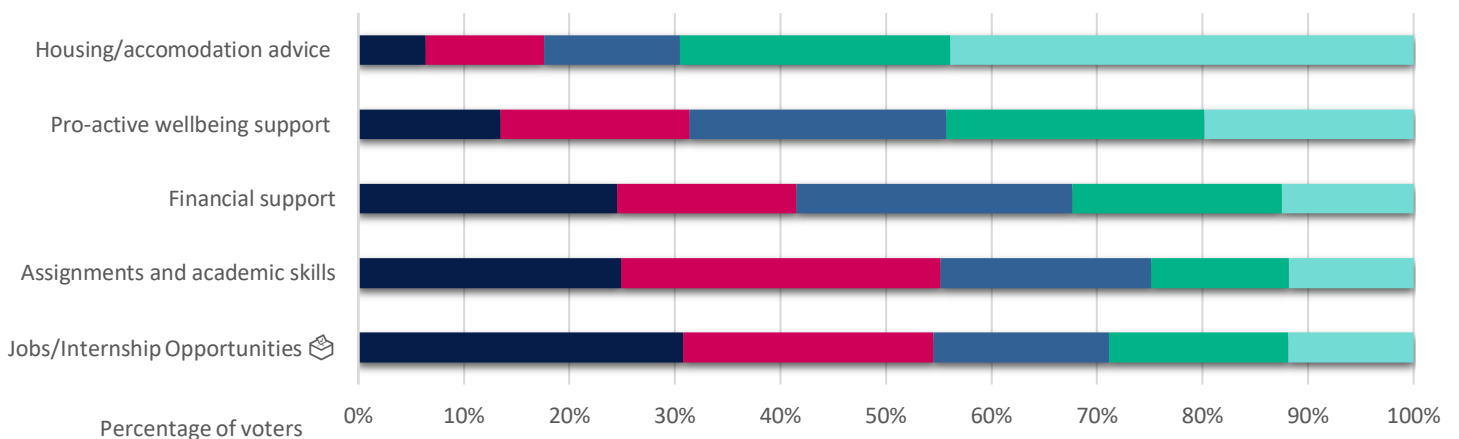
2nd Priority: Assignments and academic skills

3rd Priority: Financial support

4th Priority: Pro-active wellbeing support

5th Priority: Housing/accommodation advice

Support To You



	Jobs/Internship Opportunities	Assignments and academic skills	Financial support	Pro-active wellbeing support	Housing/accommodation advice
■ Ranked 1st	30.80%	24.90%	24.50%	13.50%	6.40%
■ 2nd	23.70%	30.30%	17.00%	17.90%	11.20%
■ 3rd	16.60%	20.00%	26.20%	24.30%	12.90%
■ 4th	17.00%	13.10%	19.80%	24.50%	25.60%
■ 5th	11.90%	11.80%	12.50%	19.80%	43.90%

Opportunities

1st Voted Priority: Course based social events

- Students want more social opportunities to get to know their peers on their course to find friends and a support base
- Social opportunities need to be built into academic timetable over lunch times or breaks between lectures
- More networking between students of different years on course in order to provide support and share experiences.
- Social

Quote: "I would like to interact with other students more, I don't know any students on my course or around the University"

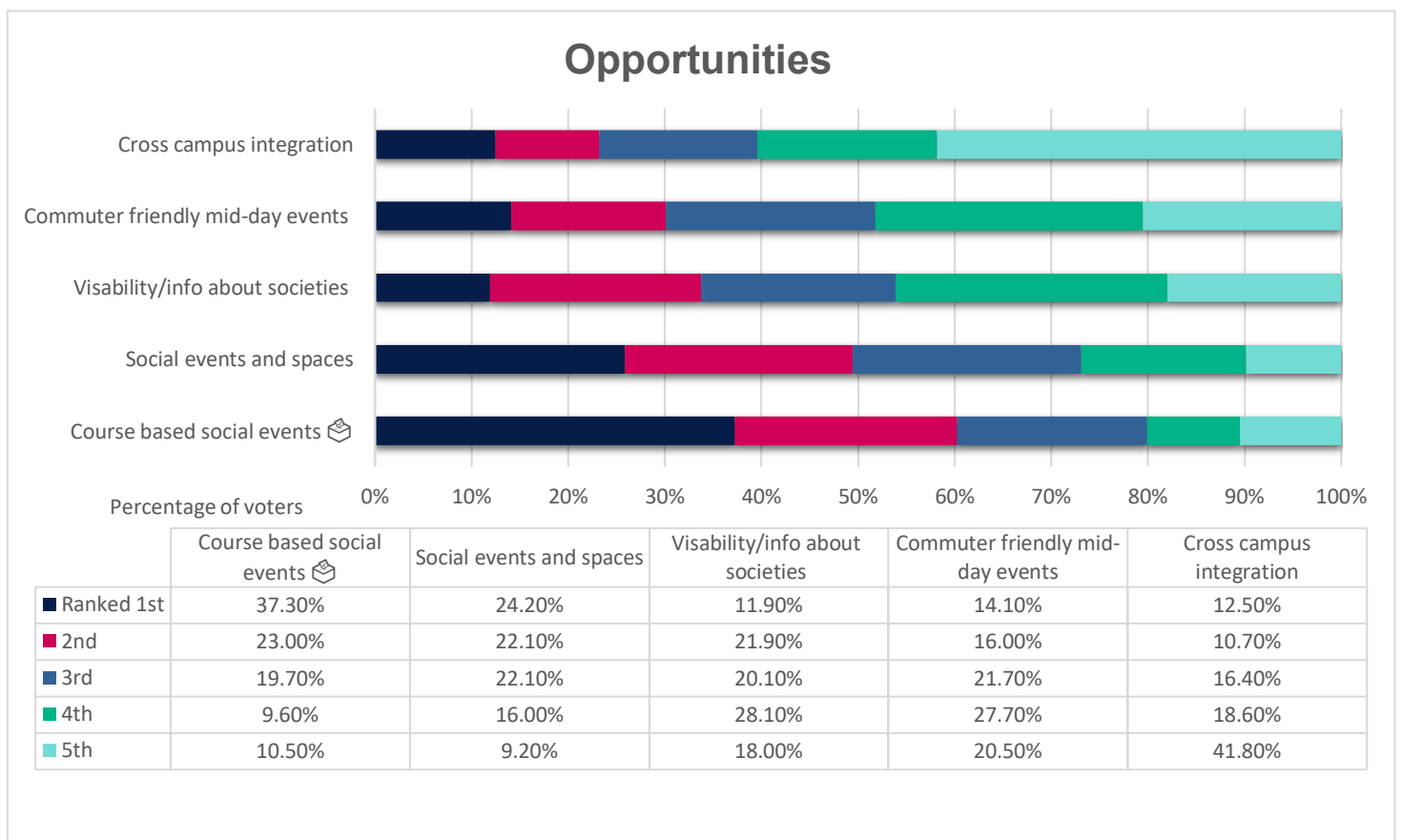
Quote: "I find it really hard to socialise with people on my course, its very hard to get to know people"

2nd Priority: Social events and spaces

3rd Priority: Visibility/info about societies

4th Priority: Commuter friendly mid-day events

5th Priority: Cross campus integration



Greenwich Campus

1st Voted Priority: Development of social/study spaces

- More social and study spaces are needed around the campus in buildings.
- The capacity of the library with study spaces and bookable spaces needs to be expanded.
- More spaces provided for Postgraduates and students with children.

Quote: "More study and social spaces are needed, I often sit on the floor to study because there are no seats in the library"

Quote: "I value the time I spend on the campus with the friends I see, resources I access and spaces I use"

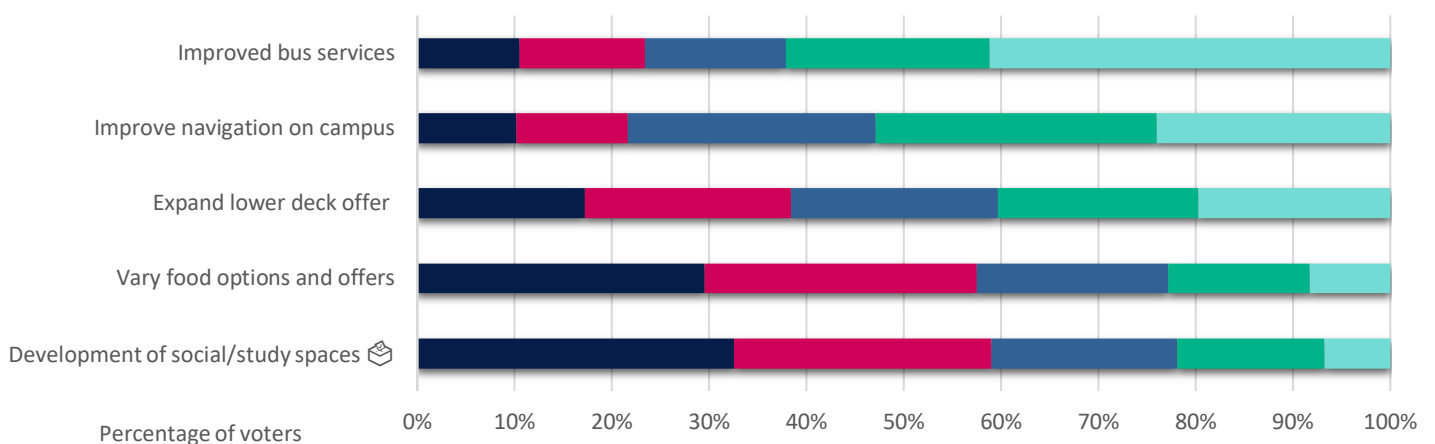
2nd Priority: Vary food options and offers


3rd Priority: Expand Lower Deck offer

4th Priority: Improve navigation on campus

5th Priority: Improved bus services

Greenwich Campus



	Development of social/study spaces 	Vary food options and offers	Expand lower deck offer	Improve navigation on campus	Improved bus services
Ranked 1st	32.60%	29.50%	17.20%	10.20%	10.50%
2nd	26.50%	28.00%	21.20%	11.40%	12.90%
3rd	19.10%	19.70%	21.20%	25.50%	14.50%
4th	15.10%	14.50%	20.60%	28.90%	20.90%
5th	6.80%	8.30%	19.70%	24.00%	41.20%

Avery Hill Campus

1st Voted Priority: Cheaper food options on campus

- Food options on campus are viewed by students as too expensive and not good value for money. More social and study spaces are needed around the campus in buildings.
- More variety of food needed in venues (e.g. healthy food, salads, halal and vegan)
- Students want meal deals to be between £2.50-3.50

Quote: "I often spend £20 a day on travel and food while studying at Avery Hill"

Quote: "Food outlets are too expensive which I means I must bring in food from home to heat up".

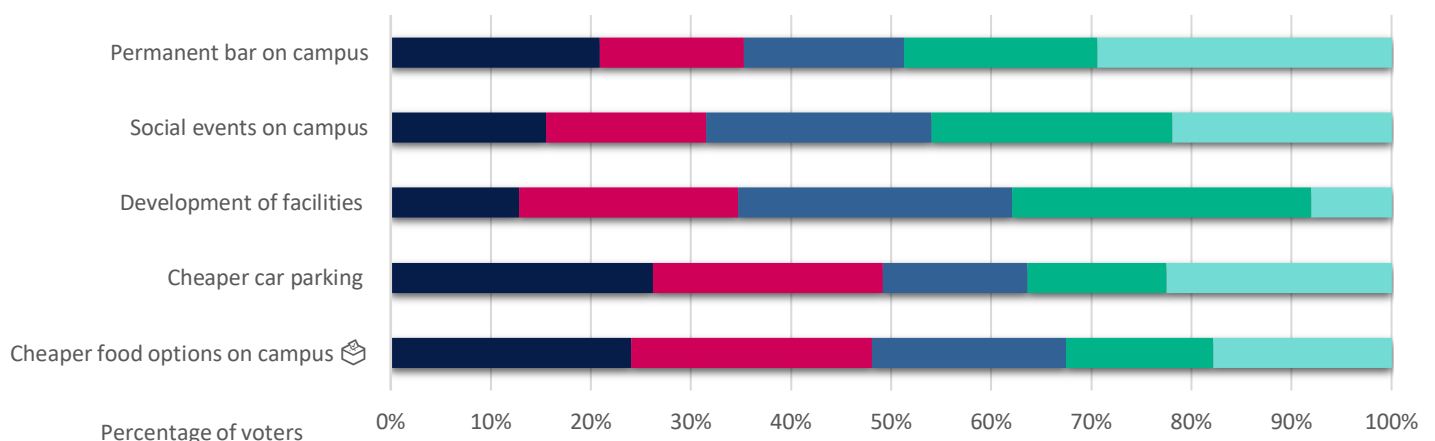
2nd Priority: Cheaper car parking

3rd Priority: Development of facilities

4th Priority: Social events on campus

5th Priority: Permanent bar on campus

Avery Hill Campus



	Cheaper food options on campus	Cheaper car parking	Development of facilities	Social events on campus	Permanent bar on campus
Ranked 1st	24.60%	26.20%	12.80%	15.50%	20.90%
2nd	24.60%	23.00%	21.90%	16.00%	14.40%
3rd	19.80%	14.40%	27.30%	22.50%	16.00%
4th	15.10%	13.90%	29.90%	24.10%	19.30%
5th	18.20%	22.50%	8.00%	21.90%	29.40%

Medway Campus

1st Voted Priority: Bus timetable and prices review

- Bus times are were regularly mentioned by Medway students as inconvenient and infrequent with their timetable and the general demand of those using it.
- Many mentioned the need for a live tracker app to let students know exactly when the bus arrives in order to leave classes at the appropriate time.
- The common questioned asked by students is “*Why do we have to pay for the bus*” and secondly “*Where does my money go?*”.
- Residents at the Medway campus commented on the need for a late bus back to Medway from Greenwich at 10pm-11pm (particularly on a Friday) along with weekend times

Quote: “*We need more regular Greenwich-Medway buses. They get packed and sometimes students can't get in*”.

Quote: “*As a commuter student I miss most events because of the bus timetable. Events start before the first bus from Greenwich gets to Medway*”.

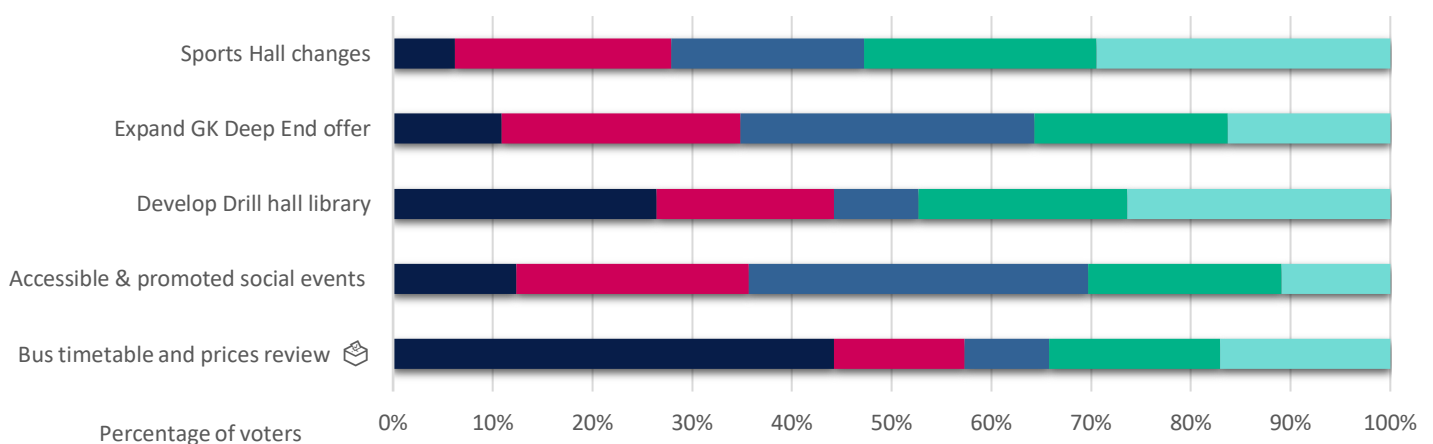
2nd Priority: Accessible & promoted social events

3rd Priority: Develop Drill Hall library

4th Priority: Expand GK Deep End offer

5th Priority: Sports Hall Changes

Medway Campus



	Bus timetable and prices review	Accessible & promoted social events	Develop Drill hall library	Expand GK Deep End offer	Sports Hall changes
Ranked 1st	44.20%	12.40%	26.40%	10.90%	6.20%
2nd	13.10%	23.30%	17.80%	24.00%	21.70%
3rd	8.50%	34.10%	8.50%	29.50%	19.40%
4th	17.10%	19.40%	20.90%	19.40%	23.30%
5th	17.10%	10.90%	26.40%	16.30%	29.50%