



The Student Debrief

Are university and college cutbacks impacting your student experience?

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Introduction to today's team



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What have you told us so far

Not receiving enough support from the university

Uncertainty over future of their university or course

Cuts to my electives yet I signed a contract and pay the same amount

None of the modules I wanted to do next year will run because a lot of staff have left because of cuts

Cost of living, impacts of course closures and redundancies

Want to know what are we actually entitled to by law for teaching and marking

Lack of funding within universities for support services due to limit on tuition fee

Want to hear more about addressing course closures and funding shortages

Quality of education - particularly research

Course closure and erosion of university support

Lots of online lectures

Stretched student support services

Classes getting larger with less support from tutors

Budget and curriculum cuts

Cuts to union funding

Today we will:

- **Explain:**
 - Insights on the financial health of the sector
 - The OfS's interests and role in this context
- **Listen to you to understand:**
 - Whether you feel your university or college is considering the impact of financial decisions on students
 - How cutbacks may be impacting student experience
 - Whether you think that the OfS is doing the right things to support students in the face of cuts





Context

- Our 2024 financial sustainability report highlighted the financial challenges facing universities and colleges in England.
- Many universities and colleges are facing tough financial decisions and are taking measures to prepare for and address financial challenges, including making cuts, to support a longer-term sustainable future.
- We're temporarily refocusing resources to support our response to the financial challenges impacting universities and colleges

[Read the full report](#)

Office for
Students

OfS

The OfS's role

- Work **collaboratively** with universities, colleges and other sector representative bodies to understand financial risks and how those risks are being managed – this includes ongoing **monitoring** and **reporting** on financial sustainability
- **Engage** with individual universities and colleges where there is greatest concern
- **Regulate** in areas that students might be impacted
- **Champion** the needs of all students





Tell us your thoughts

- Do you think your student experience has been affected by funding cuts (or other financial decisions)? If so, how, and what has the impact of that been?
- What do you think the OfS could do to protect your student experience...
 - A. if your university or college needed to take further measures to remain financially viable and sustainable?
 - B. in the worst case that your university or college is no longer financially viable and sustainable?

Key takeaways

Other organisations that can provide support:

- [Office of the Independent Adjudicator for higher education \(OIA\)](#)
- [SHOUT](#)
- [Disabled students' helpline](#)
- [Student Minds](#)
- [International students' advice and guidance-UKCISA](#)
- [Samaritans](#)

Contact us about:

Student debriefs, further signposting and questions:

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