HGSF Weekly Newsletter

Monday 9th November 2026

PT Time	
Monday	Year 12 & Year 13 (Atrium) : Assembly with Mr Alexander
Monday Launchpad	Year 12 (Atrium) : Manchester Access programme Year13: (SF7/8) : UCAS Offers
Tuesday	Notices and Week Ahead
Wednesday	Year 12 : The Big Conversation Year 13 : The Big Think
Thursday	PT Quiz
Friday Extended PT	Year 12 (Atrium) : What are the current drug trends in Greater Manchester? Year 13 (SF7/8) : AI and its place in study, work and life

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What's on this week	
Tuesday 10th November & Wednesday 11th November	Smoothie and Sushi Event - *all students involved have been advised*
Wednesday 11th November	eDofE Sign Up Session - *all students involved have been advised*
Wednesday 11th November	Creative Futures Trip - *all students involved have been advised*
Wednesday 11th November	Y13 TMUA/STEP Support Session, Crown Streeet Primary School - *all students involved have been advised*
Wednesday 11th November	MMI (Multiple Mini Interview) at CHSF - *all students involved have been advised*

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Upcoming	
w/c Monday 16th November	Y13 Common Assessments
Thursday 19th November	Year 12 Parents Evening
Thursday 19th November & Friday 20th November	Y13 Voice Workshops with Tom Morrison - *students involved will be advised*
w/c 23rd November	Y13 Common Assessments
Tuesday 24th November	Year 12 Biology in Action Trip - *all students involved have been advised*
Wednesday 2nd December	Life Drawing - Year 12 Art Trip - *all students involved have been advised*
Wednesday 2nd December	Y13 TMUA/STEP Support Session, Crown Streeet Primary School - *students involved have been advised*
Thursday 3rd December	Year 12 Chemistry in Action Trip - *all students involved have been advised*
Friday 4th December	Year 12 and Year 13 Spanish Workshop - *all students involved have been advised*

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Upcoming	
Wednesday 9th December	Life Drawing - Year 12 Art Trip - *all students involved have been advised*
Tuesday 15th December	A Level Certificate Evening for our previous Year 13 cohort - sixth form will close at 5.15pm
Wednesday 16th December	Life Drawing - Year 12 Art Trip - *all students involved have been advised*
Wednesday 16th December	Y13 TMUA/STEP Support Session, Crown Streeet Primary School - *students involved have been advised*
Friday 18th December	Sixth Form closes for Christmas 
Tuesday 5th January	Return to Sixth Form

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Student Notices:

Silent Study Centre: Silence Required at All Times. This space is dedicated to silent study only. To maintain a focused and respectful environment, we ask that you remain silent at all times while using this area. If you need to collaborate or talk, please use a collaborative study space. Thank you for respecting your fellow students and helping us preserve a quiet atmosphere for everyone.

Electives: Please be reminded that attendance at your Electives is mandatory.

Classroom use/Food in classrooms: We are noticing an increase in food and drink waste in classroom bins. Please note, we do not allow food and drink in classrooms so this should not be happening. Please adhere to this request and ensure all food and drink is consumed in the refectory. If using a classroom at lunch you must book this out via the Room Booking sheet.

The 16-19 Bursary: The 16-19 Bursary Fund is a scheme to help students facing financial hardship to continue in full time education after Year 11. We would encourage all students to read the information here, or to see Mrs Gill for further advice. The bursary is discretionary and you do not always need to meet the criteria outlined.

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www.connectr.com

MANCHESTER * DISCOVER TECH * FEBRUARY

MANCHESTER

DISCOVER TECH MANCHESTER 17 &18 OR 18& 19 FEBRUARY 2027



WHAT IS DISCOVER TECH?

Discover Tech is a two-day immersive work experience programme that connects Y12 & Y13 students with leading tech employers.

STUDENTS WILL

- *Take part in hands-on tech workshops (AI, Cybersecurity and **more!**)*
- Learn how to stand out in interviews and communicate with confidence
- Solve a real-world challenge in an employer's office



Y12 & Y13 students apply here:

Applications close on Sunday 15 November.

Tech breakout sessions covering:

AI Agents, Cybersecurity, Digital Storytelling, cloud computing and Programming.

CISCO softcat accenture

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Newcastle University

Opportunities to visit us on Campus and more

November Open Day - Saturday 21 November between 9:00 - 16:00

This is the last chance for Year 13 students to visit before the UCAS Deadline in January.

Join us for an Open Day

Mini-Medical School

The Mini Medical School will be held on Zoom and run on Thursdays 5pm-6pm from 5th November to 10th December 2026.

Our Mini-Medical School runs every autumn and is open to anyone aged 15 and over. The programme offers the public the chance to find out about exciting topics such as:

- anaesthetics
- dermatology
- emergency medicine
- medical scanning technology
- psychology
- pharmacy
- sport and exercise science

This includes current research developments at the University.

Students Register Here

Upcoming events

Visit our events calendar to see the full programme of events, this includes:

- 12 November: Music Experience Days (Years 9-12)
- 18 November: Medicine Experience Day (Year 12)
- 21 November: Open Day
- 24 November: Engineering Experience Day (Year 12)
- 25 November: Engineering Experience Day (Year 12)

Outreach Events Calendar

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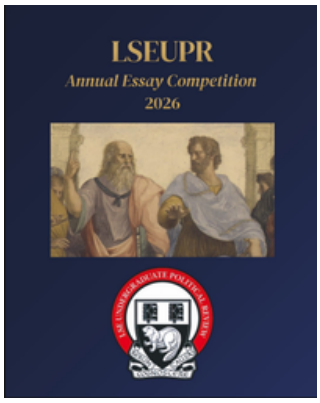
LSE Undergraduate Political Review Essay Competition 2026



Write up to 1,000 words on a politics question for a chance to win Amazon vouchers of up to £100, a certificate signed by the Head of LSE's Department of Government, and publication on the LSEUPR blog.

Deadline 1 December 2026.

Further Guidance

Submission form (you will need a Google Forms account)

Essay Prompts

- Marx wrote that philosophers have only interpreted the world; the point is to change it. Should political theory aim to change the world?
- Should the voting age be lowered to 16?
- Some technologists imagine a future in which AI versions of ourselves, trained on our views, vote on our behalf on every policy question. Would this be more democratic than voting in elections, and if not, what does that tell us about democracy?
- Migration is among the most divisive issues in contemporary politics. Do states have a right to restrict who may enter and settle within their borders?
- The world appears to be shifting from American unipolarity towards several competing centres of power. Is a multipolar world likely to be more or less stable than the one it replaces?
- Jürgen Habermas saw the public sphere, a space of rational debate among citizens, as the foundation of democratic legitimacy. Have social media platforms destroyed the public sphere, or made it more democratic than ever?

Submission Specifics

Deadline: December 1st, 2026, 23:59 GMT

- Students from any country are allowed to enter, but you must be yet to complete your A-level studies, IB or equivalent.
- The word limit is 1,000 words.
  - note: any submission that is longer than this will be automatically disqualified
- Essays should be analytical and impartial, not opinion pieces.
- Essays must be evidence-based and contain cited sources. (any referencing style is accepted as long as it remains consistent)
- The essay should be an independent piece of work.
- Essays shall be written in English and follow the expected format (Word file, Arial font, size 12)

For more information, see link in bio!

1st Place Prizes

- £100 Amazon Voucher
- Certificate signed by Professor Sara Hobolt, Head of the LSE Department of Government
- Essay to be published on the LSEUPR blog
- The opportunity to attend and present your essay at the LSEUPR

2nd Place Prizes

- £50 Amazon Voucher
- Certificate signed by Professor Sara Hobolt, Head of the LSE Department of Government
- Essay to be published on the LSEUPR blog

3rd Place Prizes

- £25 Amazon Voucher
- Certificate signed by Professor Sara Hobolt, Head of the LSE Department of Government
- Essay to be published on the LSEUPR blog

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UniTasterDays

Subject Guide Videos

An impartial guide to university courses - featuring expert speakers



On Demand Webinar Library









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The Uni Guide Podcast

University guidance, expert insights and real student experiences

The Uni Guide Podcast: honest university advice from students and experts.

Thinking about university? The Uni Guide Podcast is here to help you make sense of it all.

Each episode explores the big questions about choosing a university, finding the right course, applying through UCAS, student finance, preparing for university and what student life is really like.

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Are you considering university? Discover resources tailored to support you

[Search University Events]

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Work Experience

Discover where your future could take you

Work experience at Sellafield gives you the opportunity to explore different careers, meet our people, develop new skills and experience the world of work for yourself.

Our one-week work experience programmes are designed for students to provide an opportunity to step inside Sellafield, experience real working environments and discover the range of careers that help deliver our mission.

Whether you already have a career in mind or you're still exploring your options, work experience can help you discover what interests you, understand your strengths and make more informed decisions about what could come next.

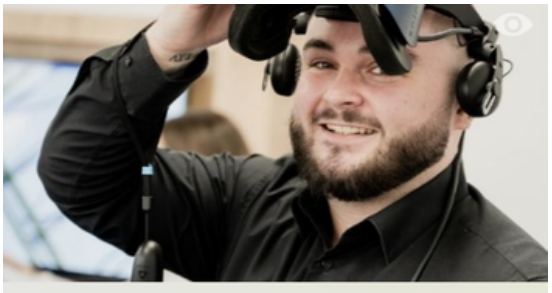
Find your work experience placement

You don't need to know what you want to be yet. Explore what interests you, experience different careers and discover where your skills could take you.









For more information and how to apply

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A magical evening of festive music and words with Figgy Pudding



Overview

The Figgy Pudding four are back with Manchester Lit and Phil for another helping of Christmas music, poetry, readings and other festive finery.

Prepare to be transported into the mystery and magic of Christmas with an all new programme including ancient and modern, the familiar and obscure.

Original writings from wordsmith and actress Kate Millward; solos and duets with singers Julia Morley and Jill Taylor; and effervescent sparkle of the very talented pianist Claire Dunham.

A buffet will be included in the ticket price and served after the entertainment in the Percival Suite.

Booking is essential.

Date and time
2 December 2026
7:00pm - 9:30pm

Location
Cross Street Chapel
Cross Street,
Manchester M2 1NL

Price
£20

Get Tickets Here

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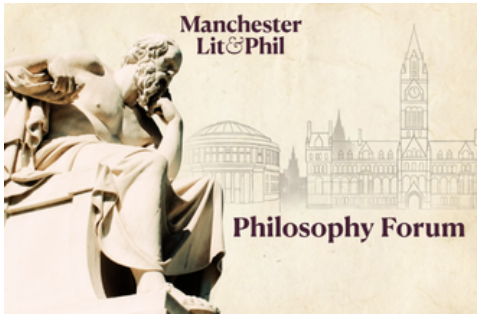
Manchester Lit&Phil

The Paradox of Toleration – Must we put up with the malign?



Overview

The word “toleration” derives from the Latin tolerare, which means to put up with, to countenance or to suffer.
In English usage it has to be directed towards behaviour or beliefs with which one is at variance; otherwise, it would merely count as agreement.

It also needs to be practiced voluntarily; were it to be compelled you would just be enduring that with which you disagreed.

It is a key tenet of Liberalism that beliefs or practices considered to be wrong can still be tolerable; and so, instead of being prohibited or constrained, they may be accepted without interference.

But this raises a problem, called the paradox of tolerance by philosopher Karl Popper in 1945:

If a society is tolerant without limit, its ability to be tolerant will eventually be seized and destroyed by the intolerant.

It is this paradox that the paper seeks to address.

Date and Time
Thursday 10 December, 7.00pm - 9.00pm
Friends’ Meeting House, Mount Street, Manchester M2 5NS

Price
£5.00 General Admission / £3.00 Students / Members
book for FREE

Book now

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Join psychologist and author Prof Ethan Kross to learn simple, practical tools for managing your feelings when life gets tough.

10 November 2026 7pm - Online via Zoom

Register here

Who's in charge: you or your emotions?

We can't stop difficult feelings from arriving - frustration, worry, anger and sadness are all part of being human. However, although we can't choose what we feel, we have more control than we realise over what happens next.

At this special event, leading emotion scientist Professor Ethan Kross will share insights from his bestselling book Shift. He'll explore why some of the most powerful ways to change how we feel are outside our heads, and why building your toolkit in the calmer times means you're ready when the storm hits.

Ethan will guide us through some of his favourite tools. These include coaching yourself through tough moments with distanced self-talk, finding the sights, sounds and tastes that reliably lift your mood, and working out who to turn to when you're struggling. Whether you're going through something big, or just the ups and downs of everyday life, this event will leave you with simple, science-backed tools you can use straight away.

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Keep up to date with us on Social Media

hazelgrove_sixthform

Hazel Grove Sixth Form