

Welfare & Community: Staff Update

This document provides a summary of activity across the Welfare & Community Teams from December 2024 to January 2025. Staff have also included upcoming activities to look out for.

Intercultural Engagement

Lunar New year (29 January)

On 29 January, the Students Union will be celebrating the Year of the Snake. Key events to look out for include:

1. 28 and 30 January // 4pm-5pm // Phineas: speed friending events.
2. 29 January: Lunar New Year Celebration at the JBR, which will include a live lion dancers' performance and complementary food.

International Festival (3-7 February)

We're lucky to represent such a diverse global community at UCL. We're home to more than 20,000 students from outside the UK, and our International Festival (Monday 3 Feb - Friday 7 Feb 2025) is an incredibly important annual celebration for our community. Every year, we host a week-long programme of activities and events, delivered for and by our students, to showcase and celebrate our internationalism and global outlook. The main activities will be taking place at Gordon square, the highlights include:

1. Monday 3 February
 - a. Phineas International Pub Quiz Takeover
2. Tuesday 4 February
 - a. Visit to the Muslim World League London Office
 - b. Intercultural Pub Quiz
3. Wednesday 5 February
 - a. CSSA Temple Fair
 - b. International Film Screening (film tbc)
4. Thursday 6 February
 - a. Westminster Abbey visit
 - b. Societies Performances Showcase
5. Friday 7 February
 - a. 5-a-side World cup
 - b. International Festival closing party at Phineas

Discover the UK

Launched this year, the Students' Union's Discover the UK visits programme has been designed to provide students with easy and low-cost opportunities to explore the UK. Our ambition is to enable you to see the best of British heritage and culture, whilst providing students with the opportunity to make new friends, helping you to create lasting memories during your time at UCL. In December, we ran a successful trip to Bath. Details of our next trips are still to be confirmed, but might include a trip to Cambridge in March or April and a trip to Canterbury or Brighton in June or July.

Advice & Wellbeing

1. [Ygam](#) pop-up held in the Student Centre on Wednesday 22 January, followed by a free City and Guilds assured [online workshop on Monday 27 January](#) to help raise awareness of gaming and gambling harms, and how they affect students.
2. [Language+Writing](#) appointments are available for non-native English speaking students to book to discuss specific pieces of written work or get help with oral presentations. The aim of appointments is to help non-native English speaking students with their academic writing and speaking. New appointments go live 2 weeks in advance.
3. Working with the Welfare and Community Officer to arrange an information session for Halls Community Officers to explain the rights each student has a licensee in Halls and what that means if they have an issue or complaint.
4. [Active Bystander](#) workshops have gone live for Term 2. Departments are able to book additional workshops, but for anyone who missed their workshop we now have some available for booking through our [WhatsOn calendar](#).
5. Period products have been restocked in the Advice Service and TeamUCL gym. We are refreshing the information poster for SU spaces, and we are continuing to work with UCL's Project Period group (with the Welfare and Community Officer and Women's Officer) to fight for free period products to be available across campus.