

Student Media Guide



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Welcome from NUS

Student media is one of the cornerstones of an active and engaged student body. Not only is it an important training ground for young people looking for a career in the media, it also keeps the wider student body informed of events and news happening both on and around their campus. It entertains and educates readers, listeners and viewers, as well as holding institutions around the university to account. But we know each newspaper, radio and television station and online outlet is different, and as a result faces unique challenges.

We hope this guidance document will help student media and students' unions to work together in supporting and promoting the voice of our members studying across the UK. We have seen that the power students have when organising around common interests can change the world around them. NUS will continue to support student media to take that power and push it out into our campuses and local communities.

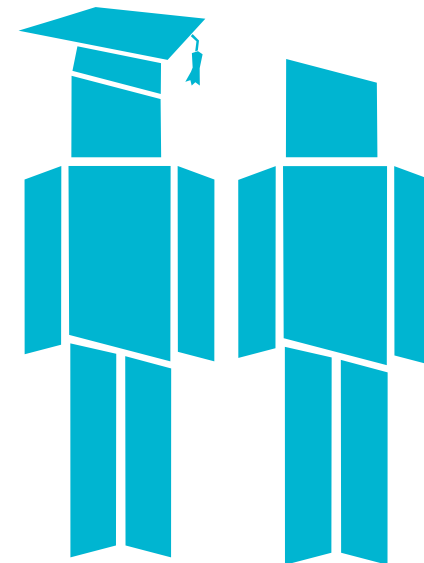


Welcome!

Welcome from NUJ

In a world of work that is changing all the time, unions are a vital source of support and a way to ensure your voice is heard and your rights are properly respected. Journalism students and those working in student media are warmly welcomed into the NUJ, and our network of branches and events are a great way of meeting established journalists and finding out more about what makes the industry tick. Whether it's tackling the scourge of unpaid internships, providing access to affordable ongoing professional training, campaigning on press freedom and ethics, offering advice on copyright, securing better pay or representing you at work, the NUJ is there for you at every step of your career in journalism.

Join us so you can be part of our work. As a student member you can attend NUJ events, get advice on ethical journalism and will receive your own NUJ student card that will help with your work. Find out more about the NUJ, and apply to join the NUJ online today, at www.nuj.org.uk



Welcome from Journo Resources

Breaking into the media can be tough, but working in student media is one of the most valuable experiences that can help you to take your first steps. As well as giving you the space to practice and train, it can provide a supportive environment and community both at your campus and across the country.

Journo Resources is there to support all young people making their way in student media, as well as those transitioning into further training, first jobs and beyond. Supported by industry partners, we are completely free to access, and provide training and tools, as well as lists of paid jobs and internships, awards, mentoring and funding. We publish details on salary data, freelance rates and graduate schemes, as well as in-depth careers advice, CV and pitching clinics, and hands-on events around the country.

Find out more at www.journoresources.org.uk and follow us on social media @JournoResources.



What is NUS?

NUS champions students to shape the future of education – and create a better world.

We promote, defend and extend student rights. We fight discrimination, isolation and injustice. Through practical information and national action, we make sure students can thrive. We support and strengthen students and their unions. We are informed – developing research that influences national policy. We are active – taking on all the issues that affect students' lives now and in future.

We know students. We are students. We are seven million student voices.

What is a students' union?

A students' union is the representative body of students studying at a university or college. Students' unions in the UK are strong, vibrant organisations where students often realise their true potential while studying.

Whether it's through participating in a sports club or society, by leading a campaign to improve circumstances for themselves and their fellow students, or by getting elected to lead the union as a sabbatical officer, students have been feeling the benefit of getting involved in their students' union for decades.

What is student media?

Produced by the students of a university or college, student media can include printed newspapers or magazines, online content, television output or radio productions.

Each place of study will have its own unique relationship with its student media outlets. Some are paid for by the institution, some by the students' union, some are simply housed within the students' union and others can be entirely separate with complete editorial independence.

NUJ and student media

The National Union of Journalists (NUJ) is an independent trade union and has represented journalists throughout the media industry in the UK and Ireland for more than 100 years. The NUJ is the voice for journalists and journalism – an active, campaigning, membership organisation promoting media freedom and ethics.

The NUJ speaks on behalf of more than 30,000 members and NUJ members shape union priorities and policies. It's open to students and young members who work throughout the industry – as freelancers, casuals and staff in newspapers, news agencies, magazines, online, book publishing, public relations, and photographers.

Anyone over 16 and in higher or further education can become a student member of the NUJ – people are welcome to join the NUJ if they are studying journalism or a related subject; or involved in the student media.

Some of the benefits of being an NUJ member include:

- NUJ student press card;
- membership of your local NUJ branch;
- networking conferences and events;
- career information and advice;
- discounts on some Apple Mac products;
- free NUJ newsletters and magazine;
- opportunities to get involved in union activity.

Michelle Stanistreet, NUJ general secretary, said:

“Your NUJ card is a vital passport to your career in the media. Starting out in journalism can be tough, the competition is fierce – employers are quick to exploit new journalists. You need to protect your interests at work by joining the NUJ.”

The union also fights for –

- **Employment rights:** the NUJ campaigns to make media workers aware of their rights at work – and how to use them.
- **Better pay and conditions:** unionised workplaces have better wages and holidays.
- **Ethical journalism:** the union's ethical framework is set out in the NUJ code of conduct and the union has a range of guidelines on ethical reporting available online.
- **Media plurality:** the union campaigns for quality journalism, independent regulation and reform to media ownership.
- **Equality:** the NUJ challenges all forms of inequality and discrimination at work and wants journalists to have a decent work/life balance.
- **Fight for our BBC:** the NUJ supports public service broadcasting and campaign against cuts.
- **Interns:** the union helps people who have worked for little or no money get the national minimum wage.
- **Training:** the union provides professional and trade union training for NUJ members.

The union's website contains lots of information about the industry and offers advice and support for all NUJ members including guidelines for ethical journalism and help with reporting specific issues, for example:

- mental health, mental illness and death by suicide;
- race, age, LGBT and violence against women;
- legal briefings on a range of issues including surveillance and defamation;
- data protection and journalism – a guide for the media.

The NUJ code of conduct for ethical journalism:

www.nuj.org.uk/about/nuj-code/

NUJ guidelines on reporting are available in the resources section of the NUJ website: www.nuj.org.uk/about/nuj-resources/

If you want to join the NUJ you can:

- call the NUJ from anywhere in the UK on 020 7843 3700;
- call NUJ Ireland on 01 8170340;
- join the union online: www.nuj.org.uk/join;
- email: membership@nuj.org.uk.

NUJ student membership is a one-off payment and membership ceases after university, but if you have been a student member you can get a 50 per cent discount on NUJ temporary membership and a 25 per cent discount on your membership fees if you're employed as a full-time journalist.

NUJ code of conduct

Student media should be independent, accurate and ethical in its operations and reporting. The NUJ and NUS would like to encourage all student media to adhere to the NUJ code of conduct for journalists.

The NUJ's code of conduct has set out the main principles of UK and Irish journalism since 1936. All journalists joining the NUJ (including NUJ student media members) must sign up and 'must agree to adhere to its professional principals'

We encourage you to read and support the code of conduct. If you are a member of the NUJ and you have a query about the code and its practical application, contact the union's ethics council: ethics@nuj.org.uk



The NUJ code of conduct states a journalist –

1. At all times upholds and defends the principle of media freedom, the right of freedom of expression and the right of the public to be informed.
2. Strives to ensure that information disseminated is honestly conveyed, accurate and fair.
3. Does their utmost to correct harmful inaccuracies.
4. Differentiates between fact and opinion.
5. Obtains material by honest, straightforward and open means, with the exception of investigations that are both overwhelmingly in the public interest and which involve evidence that cannot be obtained by straightforward means.
6. Does nothing to intrude into anybody's private life, grief or distress unless justified by overriding consideration of the public interest.
7. Protects the identity of sources who supply information in confidence and material gathered in the course of their work.
8. Resists threats or any other inducements to influence, distort or suppress information and takes no unfair personal advantage of information gained in the course of their duties before the information is public knowledge.
9. Produces no material likely to lead to hatred or discrimination on the grounds of a person's age, gender, race, colour, creed, legal status, disability, marital status, or sexual orientation.
10. Does not by way of statement, voice or appearance endorse by advertisement any commercial product or service save for the promotion of their own work or of the medium by which they are employed.
11. Shall normally seek the consent of an appropriate adult when interviewing or photographing a child for a story about their welfare.
12. Avoids plagiarism.

Student journalists should also be aware of their legal and ethical responsibilities including specific regulations for broadcasters, print and online (or across different media platforms) where appropriate. Publications and students' unions should provide adequate, high-quality training for student journalists. Training should be provided by professional journalists where possible in news, features, digital journalism, sub-editing and production, radio and TV production and editing and in the law affecting journalists; 'in particular copyright, libel, and other key aspects of media law'.

Student media within the student movement

Student media is a central part of the student movement'. It provides fantastic opportunities for students to gain new experiences and develop their skills which can provide a solid bases of a variety of careers in the media. It acts to keep students informed and entertained and provides key information about what is going on at their campus, college or university, locally or in the or the wider student movement.

It also plays a key role in holding the university, college, students' union or NUS to account, as well as providing accountability, awareness and supporting the democratic functions of these organisations.

Just as national media outlets are seen as the 'fourth pillar' of any society alongside the courts, Parliament, and Government, and crucial to informed citizenship, student media outlets are the 'fourth pillar' of the student movement – and a vibrant, high quality and engaged student media makes the student movement all the stronger.

There is a huge range of ways student media and students' unions can work together. Formal relationships could include the outlet being housed within the students' union, paid for by the students' union or entirely separate. However, no matter what the relationship, student media and the SU will always be closely tied together. Students' unions are the hub of student life on campus, so will often be a good source of stories about opportunities, democratic processes, and students themselves.

There's no perfect way to structure student media within the students' union, and indeed in some cases, student media is run completely independently of the students' union. Some media outlets will elect their teams, some will appoint through an interview process. Some will have a sabbatical officer as an editor, others are entirely volunteer-led. There will also be different processes with regards to signing off content, though SUs should make sure papers' are editorially independent.

Student media editorial policy

Student media works best when it knows who its audience is and what that audience wants, something all should set out in their editorial policy, detailing what they do and do not do.

This might include a target editorial mix of news, opinion, features, arts, sport, politics, and business. This policy needs to be kept up to date, to make sure it remains relevant and achievable and everyone who works for the student media outlet knows the purpose or mission statement that applies to where they work.

Student media works best when it:

- **includes news that appeals to a variety of audiences in further and higher education institutions** – universities and colleges are melting pots. Students do not have homogenous views, go to the same events, join the same clubs and societies, so ideally you should include as wide a variety of views as possible;
- **reflects students' interests** – politics, scandal, the price of beer, sport, getting a job, making a student loan stretch as far as possible – and is not driven by national news agendas or directed by students' union policies;
- **thinks locally** – what is happening on campus or in the local community? Who is claiming too much in expenses? How much did that cost? Think how national issues affect students locally and how local news fits in or impacts the national news agenda;

- **campaigns** – student media should 'have an excellent opportunity be a campaigning voice for students.' That may mean supporting SU campaigns or it may mean campaigning for SU action when none is forthcoming. An example of this would be Leicester's The Ripple challenging its union;
- **promotes democracy** – student media is ideally positioned to generate interest in students' union elections, which can suffer from low voter turnout. Journalists can help to convey what candidates stand for to the student body, and why it is important that they turn out and vote. University decision-makers regularly use low turnout in union elections to justify ignoring issues raised by students through the union or other committee structures, so building interest in student elections can have a positive 'knock-on' effect in other areas. The same applies to students' union meetings, decisions, AGMs etc.

Students' unions as editorial content

Anyone can pick up a national newspaper and read about what the government is doing, but student media outlets are uniquely placed to cover what is going on in their students' union and issues that impact on students in the local community. It therefore makes a great deal of sense for student journalists to take advantage of this. Focusing on topics where you can be expert, get access to comments, and can easily speak with those affected (the students on your campus) will make your content more appealing.

Covering your students' union's activities is also incredibly important to maintain a healthy democracy on campus. Democracy doesn't just involve voting – it should involve informing your audience, accurate scrutiny of the decisions being made, articulating the views of your readership and engaging with the local audience. Democracy works best when people are aware of what is going on, and when there are good opportunities to hold those in power to account and for lobbying or campaigning to influence the decisions they make.

This is just as important within the student movement as anywhere else. Strong student media will play a key role in raising awareness of what the

college or university, the students' union and NUS are doing – whether good or bad!

However, student media should also ensure that minority views not represented through elections still get heard. It should... ensure that minority views that were not represented through election results still get heard. For example, it will scrutinise students' union finances as well as watch policies and practices, official and unofficial spending and expenses.

- Look at the agendas of upcoming union and university meetings to see if anything interesting is going to be discussed and promoting events and activity before, during, and after the event.
- If you hear about something happening on campus which may be a story, try to find a range of viewpoints and opinions. Check out the facts, making sure to make it clear when you're reporting facts and when you're reporting opinion. Your union is often an excellent place to ask, and can often provide comment, insight or discussion.
- Think about stories in terms of their relation to the union or to students and what they care about – if you're writing about a key student service, find out who runs it and ask for a comment, eg student halls, library, catering facilities etc.
- Remember that there are two sides to every story, so when writing about the union it is always worth speaking to as many sources as possible – this can include a students' union officer or college staff. Before writing anything, whether positive or negative, make sure you fact check your writing.
- As with any other organisation that you might deal with as a journalist, it is helpful to develop a good working relationship with your students' union and other local contacts regardless of the piece you are covering. People respond best when they feel that whether the piece you are covering is positive or negative about them, you are being fair minded and looking at all sides of the story.

Students' unions as broadcasted content

As well as the NUJ code of practice, additional rules apply to content which is broadcast on TV or radio stations. This is regulated by Ofcom, the watchdog for broadcasting in the UK. While the rules technically only apply to stations which have a broadcast licence (for example those broadcasting on FM or DAB radio, or on satellite TV) it is generally seen as good practice to adhere to these in any TV or radio reporting at your university station.

The Ofcom code covers 10 key sections:

- protecting under 18's;
- harm and offence;
- crime, disorder, hatred, abuse;
- religion;
- due impartiality and due accuracy;
- elections and referendums;
- fairness;
- privacy;
- commercial references on TV;
- commercial references on radio.

Full details can be found on the Ofcom website: www.ofcom.org.uk/tv-radio-and-on-demand/broadcast-codes/broadcast-code?lang=c

Multimedia content online

As previously mentioned, releasing videos online (such as on YouTube, Facebook or other social media) are not covered by Ofcom guidelines, however, publications should follow best practice by looking to the Ofcom guidelines.

Different social media platforms will also have their own terms and conditions and policies surrounding content which can be posted on their outlets, and publications should familiarise themselves with these rules, so as to avoid content or users being removed.

When sourcing content from social media, publications should still adhere to the rules of copyright and fact-checking. Even if a video has been posted on social media, they should still ask for consent from the person who took the media (which may not be the same as the person who posted it). Publications should also double check with the person who took the media (also known as the original source) where and when it was taken. The website www.firstdraftnews.org also provides free resources on how to check social media content is authentic.

When live-streaming (whether on broadcast or social media), publications should also be aware of additional challenges and dangers – for example guests or the public swearing, safety in changing situations, etc. Publications should take steps to mitigate this by providing training to those involved in live broadcasts, fully prepping guests before their appearance, and putting back-up plans in place.

Publications should also be particularly aware of the dangers of using audio which has not been properly licenced. PRS Music Licensing can be extremely expensive, so it is advised that student TV Stations consider using royalty-free music. For example, www.audionetwork.com and www.bensound.com offer a range of options.

For video and imagery, other good (and free) options include:

- Flickr (creative commons only);
- Wikimedia;
- Unsplash;
- CreateHerStock;
- Videvo;
- Unsplash;
- Pixabay;
- Pexels;
- Women of Colour in Tech.

Student outlets are also in prime position to be creating their own content – which is often much better than stock imagery and more likely to be bespoke to the story.

If content is found, which hasn't been cleared, stations are at risk of paying a fine – which could have to be paid by the SU, due to structures and governances of Student TV Stations.

Live-streaming tips for stations

Does it have to be live?

Before starting to plan a broadcast ask yourself if the programme has to be filmed live. It should meet one of two aims by being filmed live: either to produce the best content or give your station the best experience. Even events don't have to be filmed live. Sometimes filming as live or doing a highlights video edited during the event can be more effective and much easier.

What are the main aims of the production?

You need to decide what you want to achieve with your live broadcast. Are you producing a single standalone programme? A live special? A weekly or monthly live series? Or covering an event? Are you trying to reach a different audience and if so will the timing of the broadcast be suitable for this audience? Or are you trying to extend your stations capabilities and give your members a new and exciting experience?

What are the requirements?

If you are covering an event are there any requirements from the organisers? For example, if it is a Students' Union elections results or hustings are there any regulations on fairness and impartiality you need to stick to? If it is a debate or Question Time style programme have you got plans in place to prevent any controversial or potentially liable content from being broadcast?

Plan everything

A live broadcast doesn't stand much chance of happening if it doesn't exist on paper beforehand. Make sure you conduct site visits for any venues you are unfamiliar with as you'll need to plan your camera and gallery positions, where you can get power and internet access from etc. Identify any potential guests and write down some questions for them.

Communications is vital

There is nothing worse in a live broadcast than a presenter being left on air without anything to say or not knowing how long they have to talk for. Communications is the most important part of an outside broadcast. The director needs to be able to communicate with everyone so they all know when you go live, when you cut to a VT, when the studio is due back on or how long they need to keep filling time for.

Rehearse

If your live broadcast is part of a weekly live series with a regular team then the chances are you won't need to rehearse each individual show in full. However it will be helpful to rehearse any new features or individual links that are different. If you are producing a one off show or event coverage, or have new crew, rehearsals are vital.

Try out your technical setup before the transmission day

Even if you can't access your venue you should setup as much of your equipment as possible anywhere you can find to check that.

Test streaming from the venue

If you are broadcasting from a new venue make sure that you can live stream from the venue. Check your stream using the same network socket that you will use for the right broadcast to make sure you are assigned the right IP address, the socket is on the right VLN and there are no port restrictions or access restrictions that will stop you from connecting to your streaming server.

Choose the right guests and do your research

Make sure that you choose guests who are able to talk about the relevant topic for a long time. This means you can fill any gaps caused by delays or technical problems with conversation rather than having to use up all of your VT or go off air. Do your research and be aware of any topics they may not want to, or may not be allowed to talk about. Brief your guests before going on air where possible.

Relax and enjoy it

Live broadcasting is one of the most stressful things a student TV station can attempt but being stressed and worried about it will only make it harder. Enjoy the experience, learn from your mistakes and make the next show better.

Student Media Agreement

There are a few fundamental things to do to ensure you have the right foundations in place for student media:

Check your SU Constitution and policies to ensure they have procedural structures in place for dealing with issues that could arise through student media. The Constitution should clarify the level of control and dependence between the SU and student media, and should promote independence for student journalists.

We recommend that you have a Student Media Agreement that outlines the expectations of both the students' union and student media. This should be written for the benefit of both parties, and should be agreed by the SU trustee board. It may also be useful to take this to your SU AGM/council, and to make your institution aware of the document. The contents of this will vary, but ideally should include:

Funding

- How much funding does student media receive from the SU?
- What is the money for?
- When will this amount be reviewed?
- Are there any limits or regulations to this funding?
- Are there any limitations on publications securing additional funding through events or advertising?
- Are there limits to the types of advertisers permitted?
- Who is this signed off by?
- Will the SU help with managing advertising?

Editorial control

- How much (if any) editorial control does the SU have over student media?
- Which staff/officers hold this editorial control or is it a panel?
- What is the process for approving articles?
- What relationship does student media have with the university? (They should at least be given right to reply but should not have editorial control)
- How will the SU ensure editorial independence is maintained?

Conduct and behaviour

- What code of conduct and/or ethical standards should student media abide by? (The NUJ Code of Conduct, above, is recommended)
- What other relevant rules or codes should student media abide by?
- What powers do all parties have to hold each other to account?

Complaints

- What is the complaints procedure for individuals or organisations to complain about something produced by student media?
- Who do they complain to?
- How is this managed, escalated, reported and resolved?
- How are clarifications dealt with?

Disputes

- How are disputes between the SU and student media managed?
- Is there any independent body to oversee this or resolution management?

However strong the relationship between the students' union and student media, there is always the potential for disagreements and disputes to arise – in many ways, a level of constructive engagement and debate will be natural, given the different roles they play.

However, it is crucial for both institutions that any disagreements or disputes are able to occur in a way that is constructive, and so that they do not escalate and can be resolved quickly. You should have someone in place (who you have both agreed on in advance) who can help conciliate or arbitrate in the event of any ongoing disagreement. They should be either be an NUJ member, trade union member, lawyer with media experience, or someone from another SU with media experience.

Understanding defamation – what you need to know

Defamation is any intentional false communication, either written or spoken, that harms a person's reputation, decreases the respect, regard, or confidence in which a person is held, or induces disparaging, hostile, or disagreeable opinions or feelings against a person.

The Free Dictionary, Farlex Inc.

Defamation in written form is known as libel and a spoken statement is known as slander. Student journalists need to be aware of libel and defamation so related problems can be avoided.

Student media outlets which are not completely independent of their students' union, in the majority of cases, will be protected under an insurance policy taken out by the students' union. Claims handled under the main insurance scheme in place for students' unions show that student media is not immune to this type of exposure. Check the details and cover you have locally.

Some areas will be of a greater risk than others, for example, some aspects of investigative journalism and current affairs. Beware also of statements being published on your website and adherence to copyright law. Legal tools you can use to gather information for stories include the Freedom of Information Act and subject access requests. There should be appropriate training in place from your publication or students' union so that you are well-informed on the riskier areas.

There are a range of related organisations:

- The BBC academy website has a range of information you can browse: bbc.co.uk/academy/journalism/article/art20130702112133651
- Campaign for Freedom of Information: cfoi.org.uk
- Information Commissioner's Office: ico.org.uk/for-organisations/media

Safe-proof your material

Included within your editorial processes should be a procedure and action plan that student journalists need to follow in circumstances where a piece has been identified as potentially litigious. This should include when material should be referred to lawyers or an independent journalist (who should have at least three years' experience in the industry). An example template is provided on pages 23 and 24.

For any photographs and pictures used in your publications, make sure that all licences and consents are obtained from copyright holders prior to publication and creators of the work are credited.

For all live broadcasts, are the areas for discussion or review discussed in advance to check for potential legal problems?

Do you provide an easily accessible link for users to report issues with content appearing on the site?

Do you have resolution procedures in place? These could include clarifications, retractions or take-down.

Training and experience

How can you ensure that you can identify legal risks when reporting?

The structure of student media groups can vary, with many content writers, but it is important to have editors who have undergone media law training. This is also the case for the editor-in-chief and other members of staff who are involved in final decision making. The NCTJ (National Council for the Training of Journalists) and the Press Association run courses on media law but you may also be able to tap into knowledge and expertise already held at your students' union or institution. Training can be delivered in house by a member of staff who has had media law training or holds relevant qualifications. If your institution has a journalism or media department then it is in a good place to ask for guidance and support.

The important point here is that whoever is made responsible for escalating and checking articles possesses the knowledge required. It is recommended that at least one of these individuals is a permanent member of staff and/or a position which is not continually replaced by a new person every year. As an added measure, you could set up a media panel comprising of trustees, media/communications officer and external professionals within the media industry, who would provide specific guidance on any issues.

Many insurers will not provide indemnity without these types of controls in place. Without the financial protection of insurance, the students' union and individual students working within media outlets are left exposed. It is worth noting that even where student media outlets are confident that none of the material is defamatory and can justify the stance taken on a particular issue, a third party is still entitled to bring a claim and insurance would be there to provide a defence as well as covering the costs subject to the terms and conditions of the policy.

Sample action plan forming part of the Editorial Process of a student media publication

Timings used here are just a guideline. Deadlines come down to what each individual students' union can commit to, taking into account potential reliance on external assistance e.g. solicitor or other expert. For breaking news coming in very close to date of publication, you may want to set in place more urgent timescales, if possible. This process only needs to be followed where a piece has been identified as being potentially defamatory.

Action	Deadline
Highlight articles that are a potential risk and consult experts (or media panel)	No later than a week prior to publication
Final draft of article sent to media panel (or experts) with supporting evidence that backs-up the content	Within 24 hours of article first being highlighted to panel

Cont'd

Week of publication	
Media panel (or experts) decides if legal advice is required	Four days prior to publication – 10 am
Paper to email over alternative article ideas to media panel	Four days prior to publication – 10 am
Media panel seek legal advice (if required)	Four days prior to publication – end of day
Paper to send right of reply requests to parties to allow them to respond/comment on proposed article	Three days prior to publication – midday
Paper to have backup article in place	Three days prior to publication – end of day
Decision made by media panel on whether article can run without amendment, with amendment, or whether backup article should be used	Two days prior to publication – by midday
If final article can run, but with amendments, re-draft sent to media panel	Two days prior to publication – end of day
Final sign-off of article by Media Panel	Day prior to publication



This advice comes from Endsleigh Insurance Services Ltd. Endsleigh is the commercial insurance broker for many students' unions throughout the UK and has over 25 years of experience in this sector. If you have specific questions around the guidance provided above, please speak to the person responsible for insurance at your students' union so these can be directed to their dedicated point of contact at Endsleigh.

Journalism advice and training

There are a range of organisations that can help supply advice, information, assistance and training.

NUS advice and training

NUS and Amnesty International Student Media Summit

Every year, NUS hosts an annual Student Media Summit in partnership with Amnesty International UK. The event gives student journalists a chance to meet high level professionals involved in every journalistic discipline – including comment, sport, investigative, entertainment, overseas and politics. The event involves sessions on television and radio, sub-editing and design, sourcing ethical advertising revenue, and managing a student newsroom in addition to welcoming keynote speakers from the very top of their professions. The event also looks at ways in which students can get into professional journalism.

NUS Student Journalists

Starting in 2013, NUS annually recruits student staff journalists to produce news and comment articles on student life. Each journalist is invited to write articles on one of four themes: students in the community, sustainable students, student lifestyle and student perspectives.

The chosen journalists receive:

- £400 for two monthly pieces over 12 months;
- Student Associate membership with NUJ;
- promotion each piece through NUS social media channels;
- pitch your pieces to relevant media with an accredited byline;
- profiles online all year;
- feedback and guidance on their work to help develop journalism skills.

You can read the pieces from our student journalists [here](#).

Other sources of training

An up-to-date copy of *McNae's Essential Media Law* for journalists is also an invaluable resource for any student newsroom.

You can find out more about the NUJ training opportunities by visiting www.nuj.org.uk/work/training/

National Council for the Training of Journalists: www.nctj.com/

Creative Skillset, the creative industries' sector skills council: www.skillset.org/

Press Association: www.pressassociation.com/



The Press Association (PA) is the national news agency for the UK and Ireland. PA Training is Europe's leading journalism and media training company providing learning programmes to clients across the world.

Journo Resources: www.journoresources.org.uk



Journo Resources is a non-profit, free to use resource which compiles free resources and in-depth advice for students and recent graduates in all areas of journalism and the job hunt. They also run talks and events across the country, including at students' unions and university campuses.

The National Student TV Association (NaSTA): nasta.tv/



NaSTA exists to not only draw new and existing student television stations together from across the United Kingdom, but also to provide the platform upon which stations can ask each other for advice, overcome problems and nurture a like-minded community of students & student television stations from across the country.

NaSTA at its heart is a support network. We are a platform for students and stations all across the country to help each other out and give feedback, exchange ideas and strive to improve which is a good benefit for any new station.

The Student Radio Association (SRA): www.studentradio.org.uk/



The Student Radio Association is the volunteer-run representative body which supports and acts on behalf of the UK student radio community. We represent any radio station that is based at or linked to a place of education (such as a school, college or university), or that has students participating (including youth projects and stations that are run by local councils, communities or charities).

We exist to encourage and facilitate communication between student stations, to assist in their development, and to offer support and advice to new stations.

The Student Publications Association (SPA): www.spajournalism.co.uk



The Student Publication Association (SPA) is free to join and made up of interested student newspapers and news sites, magazines and entertainment publications. It is managed by a committee of five volunteers, who are all current student journalists or recent graduates. It has the purpose of bringing together these student publications so that they can share training, best practice, and recognise the successes across our students. SPA run a yearly national conference, as well as regional events for student publications. These are a mix of training and networking.

Contact details for advice and assistance

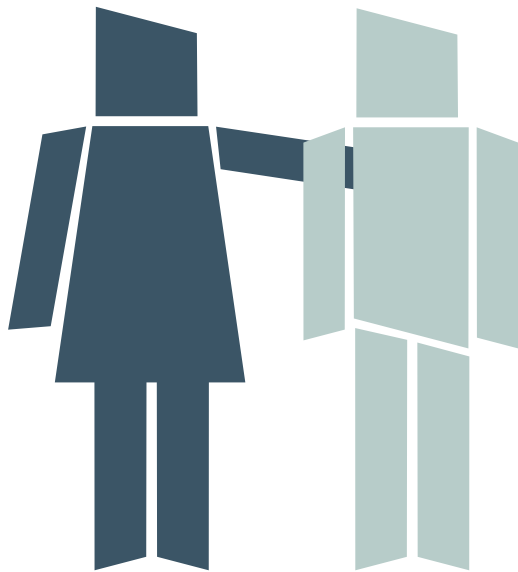
Contact NUS

For any help, advice or assistance, please email pressoffice@nus.org.uk or call 07866 695010. You can follow NUS student media on twitter: [@NUSStudentMedia](https://twitter.com/NUSStudentMedia) or visit the website: www.nus.org.uk

Contact NUJ

NUJ campaigns and communications department
Email: campaigns@nuj.org.uk or visit the website: www.nuj.org.uk

There is a Facebook Workplace community for staff, officers and volunteers in student media: [nus-uk.facebook.com/groups/1342434459193515/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1342434459193515/). Please join and talk to others interested in student media.





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