



Leeds Futures - Politics 2024 – Student Application Guidelines

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What is Leeds Futures – Politics?

Our outreach programme, Leeds Futures – Politics, is designed to inspire Year 12 students who are interested in studying Politics, International Development and International Relations at university and to support them in gaining a place at the University of Leeds.

On the programme, students will develop their subject knowledge through a series of academic taster workshops, giving them the opportunity to experience teaching from academics in the Schools of Politics and International Studies (POLIS). The programme also includes activities that support students’ skills development, insight into life as an undergraduate student and support students’ university applications.

After taking part in the programme, [eligible](#) students could receive a guaranteed contextual offer from the University of Leeds if they apply for the BA Politics, BA International Development or BA International Relations courses in the School of POLIS. The guaranteed offer could be up to two grades lower than our standard offer. For example if the standard entry requirement for the course is AAB at A Level, the offer could be BBB.

What does the Leeds Futures – Politics programme include?

The programme, running from March in Year 12 to December in Year 13, comprises a series of online sessions, as well as two in-person visits to the University of Leeds campus. Students taking part in the programme will also be supported to write and submit a university-style assessment.

The information below gives you a general idea of the activities, and some of the dates, involved.

Year 12

- Launch event, providing you with more information about the programme and the assessment, as well as the conditions of the guaranteed offer. An opportunity to meet the other participants on the programme as well as staff and students in the School of Politics and International Studies
- A visit to the University of Leeds on **Thursday 4th April 2024**, giving you the opportunity to experience life as an undergraduate student, taking part in taster lectures and seminars
- Online subject taster sessions, helping you develop your insight into the courses taught in the School of POLIS
- Progression to Higher Education workshops such as 'Student Finance' to ensure you have the information you need as you prepare your university applications
- Support sessions to ensure you feel prepared to write your university assessment during the summer holidays

Year 13

- Workshops to support your university applications and transition to university
- Study skills sessions, helping you develop your revision skills and providing you with tools to manage your exam anxiety
- A visit to the University of Leeds on **Thursday 17th October 2024**, which centres around the extra-curricular opportunities available at the University, and is led by our Student Ambassadors
- An opportunity to receive feedback on a draft of your assessment before our submission deadline
- A Futures Graduation – an online celebration of your achievements throughout the programme and information on how we will continue to support you as you transition to university

Our online sessions will take place on Thursday evenings after school, in the hope that the programme has minimal impact on your current studies.

Am I eligible for Leeds Futures – Politics?

To be eligible for Leeds Futures - Politics, you must:

- live permanently in the UK and eligible to pay UK student tuition fees
- Be studying the required Level 3 qualifications (A-Levels, BTECs or equivalent) for the course you will apply to within POLIS. Of their 3 A-Levels (or equivalent), applicants must be studying two 'traditional' academic subjects, and applicants should refer to the [accepted subjects document](#) for more information. Please [check your course requirements on our Course Search](#).

- Have the potential to achieve the A Level (or equivalent) grades to meet the guaranteed contextual offer (BBB for BA International Relations and BA Politics, BBC for International Development)
- Leeds Futures - Politics is not available for applicants who already hold an undergraduate degree, or those taking a foundation qualification.
- Applicants must meet the University's GCSE matriculation standard, find out further details [here](#).
- Students must be either Participation of Local Areas (POLAR4) Quintile 1 or 2, or Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Quintile 1 or 2. We determine which geographical areas have a low level of progression onto higher education using the applicant's permanent home postcode and measuring this against data provided by the government. The data we use to judge eligibility is provided by the Office for National Statistics and Office for Students (OfS). Please note that we are unable to assess applicants living outside of the UK or those from the Channel Islands or Isle of Man. You can use our postcode checker [here](#), but <https://www.leeds.ac.uk/undergraduate-applying/doc/postcode-search> eligibility can only be confirmed once your application has been fully assessed by the Social Sciences outreach team.

Leeds Futures - Politics has limited capacity, therefore, applying for a place on the programme, even if you meet the eligibility criteria, does *not* guarantee you a place. If there are more applications than places, we will prioritise students in the following order, based on the above, and some additional criteria:

- **Care Experienced:** If an applicant has lived or spent time in public or kinship care at any point growing up, or is currently in care. Find out more about other support for care experience students that you might be eligible for
- Home postcode in IMD Quintile 1
- Home postcode in POLAR 4 Quintile 1
- Home postcode in IMD Quintile 2
- Home postcode in POLAR 4 Quintile 2
- **Free School Meals:** If an applicant has been eligible for Free School Meals

What do I need to do to receive the guaranteed offer from the University?

To be eligible for the guaranteed offer made as part of taking part in Leeds Futures - Politics, you must:

- Apply via UCAS to one of the following full-time undergraduate courses within POLIS at University of Leeds by the UCAS Equal Consideration Deadline:
 - [BA Politics](#)
 - [BA International Development](#)
 - [BA International Relations](#)
- If, at any point during the admissions process, we find that you don't meet these requirements – for example, if your fees status is confirmed as international not UK – you will no longer be eligible to receive the guaranteed offer.
- Have completed the Leeds Futures - Politics programme: Students will have had to have attended at least 60% of all online sessions as well as BOTH in person campus

days. Mitigating circumstances for absences may be taken into account as confirmed by a parent/carer/teacher reference.

- Have completed the assessment, an opinion piece based on one of the academic workshops, roughly 700 words, by the deadline in November 2024 (Date TBC). This will be supported and assessed by academic colleagues in POLIS, and further details will be provided to students during the Leeds Futures - Politics programme.

Who can I contact if I have any questions about the programme?

If you have read our Application Guidance and still have questions, please get in touch with the Social Sciences Outreach Team at socialscience@leeds.ac.uk and a member of the team will be happy to answer your query.