**Socialist Students programme**

**Introduction**

Socialist Students stands for the building of an almighty student movement to fight against austerity and to kick out the Tory government which implements it. We fight for a socialist alternative to the chaotic system of capitalism, which demands austerity and attacks on students, young people, and the working class in the interests of big business. Here we present the ideas for which we campaign and fight for, by seeking to build a student movement which unites with the working class and the trade unions to kick out the Tories, and replace it with a Corbyn led government with socialist policies. As well as fighting for every reform in Corbyn’s 2017 anti-austerity manifesto, we also want to fight for the fundamental socialist transformation of our society; Tories out – Corbyn in with socialist policies!

**For free education**

* **For the scrapping of university tuition fees** – free education for all university students, including EU and non-EU students.
* **For living grants for all students** – no to student loans and to student debt.
* **Write off all outstanding student debt** – fight against the privatisation of the publicly owned Student Loans Book, and write off the currently outstanding student debts of all students and graduates.
* **For the nationalisation of the banks and financial companies -** under the democratic control and management of working class and young people, as part of our wider programme to resource free and properly funded university education.

**Student housing**

* **For universities to provide decent, safe, and affordable housing for all students, and Students’ Unions to promote and campaign for this** – end the driving of students into the arms of rip off landlords and letting agencies.
* **For immediate rent controls –** councils can and should use their legal powers to implement an immediate programme of rent controls on all locally rented housing.
* **The banning of all agency and contract fees** – don’t allow rip off landlords to profit from our misery.
* **For a mass programme of council house building** – councils should use their resources to launch a mass programme of affordable council house construction.

**Against campus cuts and marketisation**

* **The restoration of funding to student services on campus** – this includes counselling and mental health services. Fight against cuts, downsizing and centralisation of departmental and school services.
* **All services provided on campus to be brought back in house** – end marketisation on campus and fight to reverse all out-sourcing. Scrap all zero hours contracts on campus – for decent jobs on decent pay.
* **No to fat cat Vice Chancellor pay** – cut Vice Chancellor pay, not wages, jobs and services.

**Building a fighting leadership for the student movement**

* **For a fighting leadership of the student movement** - Socialist Students stands for the building of a mass student movement to fight for free education, against austerity, and for a socialist alternative to the havoc wreaked on young people’s lives by capitalism.
* **For a re-founded National Union of Students (NUS) along democratic lines, with democratic and fighting Students Unions at the heart of this process.**
* **The restoration of democracy within all Students Unions.** For the re-establishment of regular, all student general meetings organised by the local students union.
* **For co-ordinated action between students and workers –** Socialist Students fights to establish a student leadership which will publicly campaign for co-ordinated action between the student movement and the Trade Unions. This includes nationally co-ordinated student education strikes and workers strike actions, as well as co-ordinated campaigns, to fight for our programme and against austerity generally. For a student leadership which fights for the repealing of all anti-trade union legislation to this end.

**School and college students**

* **For an end and a reversal to funding cuts to our schools and colleges.** Against the privatisation and academisation of our schools and colleges – for reduced class sizes and free educational resources for all students.
* **Fight to re-open and restore all closed down youth clubs, community centres, libraries and other previously provided council services.** Councillors should set no cuts needs budgets, and launch local campaigns which mobilise students and working class communities against austerity.
* **For the restoration of youth careers services.** For free, easily accessible careers services available to all college and further education students to help students find quality and well paid jobs.
* **For the creation of new grants for college students**. Local councils should use their existing powers to immediately introduce new grants.
* **For decent jobs provided by local councils on at least £10 an hour wage – ban the use of all zero hours contracts by councils.**

**Against racism, sexism, homophobia and transphobia**

* **Fight against sexism and harassment on campuses and in all places of education –** fight against cuts to counselling services, and for fully funded and staffed services on campus for victims of sexual assault.
* **Fight against racist division on campus** – scrap the racist PREVENT legislation. Fight to defend the rights of migrant students and workers.
* **Fight for trans rights –** fight against transphobia and for the right to gender self-identification. Fight to establish adequate facilities and services on campus for trans people.
* **For the building of a mass student and workers’ movement to fight against racism, sexism, homophobia and transphobia –** for an anti-austerity struggle that unites and mobilises students and workers from various backgrounds in a common struggle for public services, decent jobs and pay, housing, education, healthcare for all who require them.
* **For the unity of students of all different backgrounds against capitalism –** capitalism is a systemwhich attempts to sow divisions amongst young and working class people. Fight for a socialist future, an alternative to capitalist society which is free from all oppression and exploitation**.**

**Fight for socialism**

* **Socialist Students fights for a socialist alternative to the chaos wrought on young people and students’ lives by capitalism.**
* **Take the wealth off the 1% -** build a movement which fights to take the wealth off the super-rich 1%, in order to democratically plan society’s resources and wealth in the interests of the many, not the few.
* **Kick out the Tories and fight for a Corbyn led government with socialist policies** – for mass action to fight for and defend a socialist programme under a Corbyn led government.
* **Nationalise the banks and monopolies which dominate the economy and our lives -** under the democratic control and management of workers and students, with compensation paid to shareholders only on the basis of proven need.
* **For a socialist world –** for international solidarity and the socialist transformation of society across the globe!