

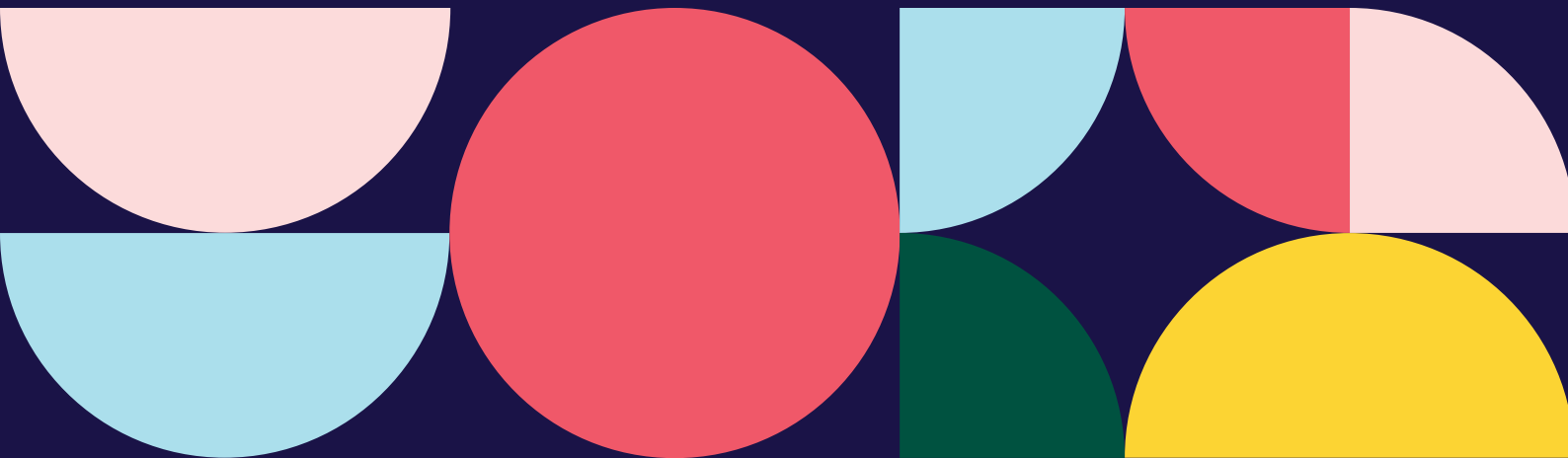
We're Hiring!

Information for Applicants

Merchandise Senior Coordinator



Bristol SU





Welcome

We're really excited that you're interested in coming to work at Bristol Students' Union!

Part business, part charity, part membership body – Bristol SU is a seriously fun place to work. Our professional staff do something extraordinary every day: we support student leaders to give people a voice in their education, help people get the most out of their student experience and make the change they want in the world.

It's an exciting time to join. We are starting the second year of a strategic plan that will see us become a Union for all Bristol Students as a modern and exciting part of the Bristol experience. We will be relevant to all students, making a difference in their lives by offering advice and representation, the chance to make new friends, develop new skills and discover new interests.

We are looking for passionate people that share our values and that can bring their positivity and ideas along with an inclusive and collaborative approach to helping us ensure maximum impact for our members. In return, you'll get to work in one of the UK's most vibrant cities (named as one of the best places to live in the UK by the Sunday Times), and have access to a range of generous benefits, great work-life balance, and excellent opportunities for you to build your skills and develop your career.

If you're excited to help shape the future of a charity that improves the lives of 32,000 members and want to build your career in an award-winning organisation with a supportive, rewarding and inclusive working environment, we'd love to hear from you.



The Bristol SU Director Team



About Us

The University of Bristol Students' Union is a membership organisation democratically led by students, for students. We represent over 32,000 student members and work to make sure that they get the best from their time at university by providing over 350 clubs, societies and networks, offering free support services and academic advice and representing students on the issues that matter to them. Bristol SU is also home to a number of enterprise services such as a lettings and property-management service, a shop and social spaces and venues selling refreshments and hosting brilliant events. We reinvest all of the profits from these services back into Bristol SU to enable us to continue to support a great university experience for Bristol students.

[Our 2025-2028 strategy sets out our destination and areas of focus for the next few years.](#)

Our Destination

A Union for all students - The Community and Voice of Bristol Students

Our Strategic Priorities

Connected Communities

Bringing students together

Financial Accessibility

Inclusive access for all

Empowered Changemakers

A greater force for change

Supported student leaders

Safe and inclusive student groups

Inclusive Engagement

Meeting diverse student needs

90% OF OUR STAFF FEEL WE HAVE STRONG VALUES AND ETHICS!

Foundation: A Strong Students' Union

Smarter Ways of Working

Stronger Customer Service

Sustainable Finance

[Find out more about the SU's impact and the outcomes we've achieved for our members.](#)



Our Values

It's not just what we do that matters, it's how we do it. We will reflect what is most important to our students:



We are loud and proud about **equality, diversity and inclusion**. We are a Union for all students.



We want our students to thrive, so we support the **wellbeing** of our students through the services that we offer and the campaigns that we run.



We believe **community** matters; we create a sense of belonging across the student body through out student groups, networks, events and spaces.



Sustainability underpins all that we do; we want our Union, our University and our planet, to be here for the long term.



We believe opportunities for joy, humour and positivity are important, we want our students to have **fun** whilst at University.



I have been working for Bristol SU a long time and still love it because it is a fun and dynamic place with a great staff team, brilliant students and a leadership team who support and care for staff. No day is ever the same, there are always opportunities to try new things and good learning and development opportunities.

Suzanne Doyle, Governance and Learning & Development Manager





What We Do

Community, activity and opportunity

Bristol SU offers around 350 sports clubs and societies - one of the highest in the country. This means that there is something for everyone to get involved in. Our experienced staff team support Bristol University students to set up and run their clubs and societies, events and volunteering projects. We also run a Volunteering & Fundraising Network which brings together social impact activities at Bristol SU and provides opportunities for students wanting to make a positive impact in the community.

There is always something happening at Bristol SU, including tons of events taking place every day either virtually or in our SU building. Events range from workshops, training sessions and awards evenings to music, comedy and club nights.

Voice, Insight and Advocacy

Democratic decision-making is integral to Bristol SU. Our members elect the people that lead our organisation and represent their voice. Bristol SU is powered by a network of hundreds of student representatives who make sure that student voice is a central factor in shaping the university experience and the decisions affecting their education. Our advice service, Just Ask, enables us to provide support to students with problems they might be experiencing during their time at university, and our experienced team offers information and support for students needing help with academic issues and concerns.

Support and Services

The Students' Union is home to a number of social enterprises that provide services to our student members, reinvesting the profits back into student activity. Our services include our lettings service, which improves the moving experience for students by providing affordable, quality housing solutions. It also includes our shop, 'The Basket', selling a range of accessories, merchandise, gifts, and stationery. We also provide inclusive and vibrant spaces for students to study and connect with others, relax over a meal or a drink, or take part in student-led events.





How We Are Run

Trustee Board and Student Leaders

We're a democratically-run organisation, with student officers elected annually to represent their peers. Our Board of Trustees holds the ultimate responsibility for everything we do.

Our Board of Trustees is made up of 16 members including our full-time officers, student trustees and co-opted (external) trustees. They meet regularly throughout the year, with committees meeting at regular intervals before each Trustee Board.

Every year, students are given the chance to vote for and stand to be one of the seven full-time officers who lead our organisation. They are paid a salary and work full-time for one year. Their post involves representing students, making day-to-day decisions on behalf of the organisation and working with the staff team to deliver our strategy.

Finance and Funding

We receive some funding from the University which is given to us each year in the form of a block grant. We also raise funds through our commercial activity and receive a small amount from donations and other grants.

We are a charity and therefore do not generate a profit - every penny we make is reinvested back into our services for students.



Our Student Leaders

Our full-time officers are elected every March by the student body to take on full-time, paid roles to lead the Students' Union for one year. They represent the voice of students and help improve the student experience at Bristol.

Our current full-time officers are...



Jasper
Equality, Liberation &
Access Officer



Jessie
International Students
Officer



Sharan
Postgraduate Education
Officer



Becky
Sport & Student
Development Officer



Varenia
Union Affairs Officer



Elliot
Student Living Officer



Jordan
Undergraduate Education
Officer

[Find out more about our Officers, their roles and the campaigns that are important to them.](#)



Staff Structure



Want to know more about who you'd be working with?
[Meet the full Bristol SU team.](#)





Working at Bristol SU

About Bristol

Bristol is a vibrant and diverse city that's buzzing with personality. Set in the hills of south-west England, it has a fascinating heritage and incredible creative spirit. It's also a green city, with over 400 beautiful parks and gardens and has been named the kindest and most environmentally friendly city in the UK.

Bristol is easily accessible from London as well as from the north and east of England. If coming to work with us would mean relocating, you can find out more about the city at [visitbristol.co.uk](https://www.visitbristol.co.uk). We're happy to help if you need advice and support in relocating.

Bristol SU is a multi-site organisation. You can find us at:
Senate House, Tyndall Avenue, Bristol, BS8 1TH
The Richmond Building, 105 Queens Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 1LN

Flexible Working

Bristol SU is a great place to achieve work-life balance. We really care about our staff being able to thrive both at work and at home, and so welcome suggestions and requests for flexible working, including part-time working, job shares, condensed hours and homeworking.

Whilst we can't guarantee to accommodate every request, we do promise to carefully consider them all, and work with you to help you work when and where you can be at your best.





Working at Bristol SU

Your Development

As a member of the Bristol SU team, we will provide you with access to a variety of learning opportunities and professional training so that whatever your chosen field of work, with the right mix of challenge and support, you'll gain fantastic experience and room to develop and advance your career.

You'll also have access to excellent career development opportunities. More than 75% of our senior leadership team have promoted from within the organisation and we're committed to helping every single one of our people make real progress towards achieving their career development goals - both during their time at Bristol SU and beyond.

Your Wellbeing

We take your mental and physical health seriously, and have made a real and meaningful commitment to the health and wellbeing of our staff, and to promoting a positive culture of joy and wellbeing.

We host regular wellbeing events and activities and provide line managers with training to ensure that they can provide proactive and tailored support to their team members. Our employees also benefit from access to a free counselling service.

96%

of our people agree that Bristol SU
cares about its employees!





Diversity & Inclusion

"Be yourself, be proud of the work you do and build a career in a place that knows that different is good."

Diversity and Inclusion at Bristol SU

Equality, diversity and inclusion are central to life at Bristol SU. We approach our work with positivity and celebrate our diverse and unique communities. Our people are proud of our values and care about creating diverse and supportive communities that are inclusive of age, disability, gender identity, race, religion, sexual orientation and experience.

Bristol SU strives to have an inclusive culture and an environment for all, underpinned by respect and compassion, where everyone feels welcomed, included, supported, valued and safe. Where there is clear evidence of underrepresentation in our staff team we use Guaranteed Interview schemes to encourage applications. However, all decisions and appointments are made based on the skills, experience and suitability of candidates for the position, regardless of any protected characteristic. Applicants who do not qualify for either guaranteed interview scheme remain fully eligible to be shortlisted, interviewed and appointed. We welcome applications from people of all backgrounds, and successful candidates are selected on merit.

Guaranteed Interview Scheme for People of Colour

We want to attract the best candidates possible and we are committed to ensuring that everyone is treated fairly throughout the recruitment process. We recognise that candidates that are people of colour may face additional barriers throughout their careers and when applying for new roles across the sector. We are committed to taking positive action to expand the diversity of our staff team by offering a guaranteed interview scheme for people of colour.

It is important to note that this scheme guarantees an interview for people of colour who meet the minimum criteria (at least 80% of the 'essential' criteria in the person specification) and tell us that they'd like to be considered under the scheme. The selection decision at interview will be based on the most suitable candidate, regardless of any protected characteristic.

It is important to note that there may be occasions where it is not practicable, or appropriate, to interview all candidates who have selected to be included within a guaranteed interview scheme who meet the minimum criteria for the job. In certain recruitment situations such as high-volume, seasonal and high-peak times, we may limit the overall numbers of interviews offered to all candidates - including those applying within our guaranteed interview schemes. In these circumstances we will select a minimum of two candidates from the scheme who best meet the minimum criteria for the job, rather than all of those that meet the minimum criteria.



Diversity & Inclusion

"Be yourself, be proud of the work you do and build a career in a place that knows that different is good."

Guaranteed Interview Scheme for Disabled People

We want to attract the best candidates possible and we are committed to ensuring that everyone is treated fairly throughout the recruitment process. Bristol SU is proud to be accredited as a Level 1 Disability Confident Employer making a commitment to the recruitment, development and retention of disabled staff. We recognise that disabled candidates may face additional barriers throughout their careers and when applying for new roles across the sector, and we are committed to taking positive action to expand the diversity of our staff team.

It is important to note that this scheme guarantees an interview for disabled people who meet the minimum criteria (at least 80% of the 'essential' criteria in the person specification) and tell us that they'd like to be considered under the scheme. The selection decision at interview will be based on the most suitable candidate, regardless of any protected characteristic.

It is important to note that there may be occasions where it is not practicable, or appropriate, to interview all candidates who have selected to be included within a guaranteed interview scheme who meet the minimum criteria for the job. In certain recruitment situations such as high-volume, seasonal and high-peak times, we may limit the overall numbers of interviews offered to all candidates - including those applying within our guaranteed interview schemes. In these circumstances we will select a minimum of two candidates from the scheme who best meet the minimum criteria for the job, rather than all of those that meet the minimum criteria.

Awards

We have appeared in the Inclusive Companies top 100 list, and have won a number of awards for our commitment to diversity, including best Students' Union.



Benefits & Perks

We offer a range of financial benefits and a variety of opportunities to develop your skills and career. This is in addition to flexible working opportunities, generous family leave policies and holidays, great social opportunities and diverse staff networks.

Annual Leave

Salaried staff at Bristol SU get **25 days** annual leave (calculated on a pro-rata basis for part-time staff and staff on fixed term contracts), plus 8 university closure days and bank holidays - that's at least **40 days!**

Enhanced Pay and Support for New Parents

We provide up to **4 months** enhanced pay for parents taking maternity, adoption or shared parental leave. Bristol SU staff are also part of the University's Work and Family initiative, which provides support for new parents including support when returning to work and beyond.

Enhanced Employer Pension Contributions

By contributing 5% or more of your salary into your pension, we will provide a contribution of up to 10% of your earnings into your pension.

Travel

We offer a cycle-to-work scheme, travel loan options and access to the campus car parking (subject to eligibility) and car share scheme.

Discounts

You get a free NUS Totum card entitling you to discounts at various retail outlets. You also benefit from a **range of other discounts**, including discounted **gym membership** and reduced **childcare** rates at the University of Bristol day nursery.

And Lots More...

Some of our other staff benefits include membership to clubs and societies, University library access, Microsoft Office at home and free access to the Business Lounge at the Engine Shed (next to Temple Meads).



About the Role

Merchandise Senior Co-Ordinator – Role Profile

Job Title	Merchandise Senior Co-Ordinator
Working Hours	21 hours per week (Flexible working hours to be considered) – part-time role (0.6FTE)
Salary Range	The starting salary for this role is £31,465 pro rata
Contract	Permanent
Reports to	Business Development Manager
Direct Reports	Retail Assistant & Student Staff

Purpose of the Role

We're on the lookout for an energetic, outgoing, and motivated Senior Merchandise Coordinator to take the lead in our university apparel shop! If you thrive in a fast-paced environment, love engaging with people, and have a passion for retail and events, this role is for you. Based in our on-campus shop at The Richmond Building, you'll oversee operations across our online store, physical shop as well as leading pop up's at key University events like Welcome Fair and Graduation. We need someone who brings great energy, excellent people skills, and a proactive approach to driving sales and engagement. If you're ready to make an impact and be at the heart of student life, we want to hear from you!

Main Duties and Responsibilities

- Supervise, motivate, and develop a small retail team, fostering a collaborative and high-performing work environment.
- Work closely with the Retail Assistant to ensure the shop is always well-staffed and runs smoothly.
- Oversee and manage student staff, planning shifts to match demand while maintaining excellent customer service.
- Monitor and manage inventory levels using shopify to meet customer demand and prevent stock shortages.
- Implement effective inventory control measures to minimise losses and maximise profitability.
- Track and respond to sales trends, ensuring product selection remains relevant and appealing.
- Research and identify emerging trends in university apparel, curating an attractive and up-to-date product range.
- Work closely with suppliers to negotiate favorable terms and build strong vendor relationships.
- Oversee the online store, ensuring a seamless and user-friendly shopping experience.
- Make use of shopify tools and work closely with the in-house digital team to enhance website functionality and drive online engagement.
- Implement digital marketing strategies to boost online sales and increase brand visibility.
- Lead the day-to-day operations of the physical store, ensuring a smooth and professional shopping experience.
- Ensure merchandising displays are well-organised, engaging, and relevant to current trends.
- Work with the Retail Assistant to develop strategies that enhance the in-store experience and drive foot traffic.
- Ensure the shop is staffed between 9–5 Monday-Friday, providing excellent service to customers.



About the Role

Merchandise Senior Co-Ordinator – Role Profile

Main Duties and Responsibilities (continued)

- Drive the annual trade calendar, maximising opportunities at key university and union events such as Welcome Fair and Graduations.
- Plan and execute effective retail campaigns to increase visibility and sales.
- Support wider university advertising and promotional activities, helping to showcase merchandise and engage students
- Contribute to setting annual and monthly sales, cost, and profit targets for the retail outlets.
- Maintain effective financial controls, ensuring compliance with all legal and accounting requirements.
- Work closely with the finance team to manage POS systems and money-handling processes.
- Establish and maintain relationships with key stakeholders and suppliers, ensuring a profitable and relevant product range.
- Support other areas of the Enterprise Team as needed, including student lettings and promotional campaigns.
- Take personal responsibility for Health & Safety, ensuring a safe working environment for staff and customers.



About You

Merchandise Senior Co-Ordinator – Role Profile

Key

E = Essential criteria

A = Assessed in the application form

D = Desirable criteria

I = Assessed at interview

Priority

Assessed

Knowledge & Experience

1 Experience leading in a retail environment	E	A
2 Experience of providing excellent customer service	E	I
3 Experience of analysing reports and effective decision making	E	I
4 Experience of inventory management, including ordering, ranging and merchandising	E	A
5 Experience of budget planning and managing profit and loss	D	I
6 Experience using the shopify platform	D	I
7 Experience of setting pricing and promotional strategies	D	I

Skills & Abilities

1 Understanding of student priorities and current retail trends for that demographic	D	I
2 Ability to work and thrive in a busy and dynamic setting	E	I
3 Excellenct organisational skillls with the ability to multi task and adapt to new digital systems	E	I
4 Effective time management skills and able to take responsibility for workload and prioritising of tasks.	E	I
5 Ability to build effective relationships with suppliers, stakeholders and customers	E	I
6 Ability to build effective relationships with suppliers, stakeholders and customers	E	I
7 Ability to utilise digital tools within our sales platform to analyse and react and report back on trends	E	I

Values & Behaviours

A demonstrable commitment to our organisation's values	E	I
A commitment to and understanding of equality, diversity and inclusion	E	I
Comfortable working in a democratic, student-led environment with the ability to empower and build effective relationships with elected officers	E	I

If you think you have what it takes to be our next <ROLE>, but aren't sure you meet every point on the person specification, please still get in touch with the recruiting manager. We'd love to have a chat and see if you could help us to achieve great things for our SU and its members.



How to Apply

The closing date for applications is 13 November 4pm

Application Timeline

- Closing Date: 13 November 2026 4pm
- Shortlisting: from the 13 of November 2026
- Interviews: 19 November 2026

Please submit your application via our online recruitment portal.

You will need to provide an up-to-date copy of your CV, and a detailed cover letter setting out how you meet the 'essential' requirements included in the person specification.

Remember that you don't have to have work experience to have the skills or knowledge to do a great job. We are interested in your potential, so encourage you to use examples from outside of work too when answering the questions.

Please note:

- We will contact you to let you know the outcome of your application. This can sometimes take a few weeks so please bear with us.
- You must be able to provide proof of your right to work in the UK before starting work with us.
- We will not be able to sponsor employees requiring a skilled worker visa where the job does not meet the salary threshold. We cannot advise on the visa options that might be available and you should seek independent legal advice.
- Applications received after the above closing date will not be considered.

Informal enquiries:

For an informal chat and to find out more about the role, please contact the recruiting manager:
georgie.gray@bristol.ac.uk

Impostor syndrome

Impostor syndrome is the overwhelming feeling that you don't deserve your success. It can convince us that we are not as intelligent, creative or talented as we may seem. It often strikes when applying for a job, and has long been thought to disproportionately affect women and people from marginalised backgrounds. If you recognise feelings of imposter syndrome during your job search, [you'll find some useful tips to help overcome it here.](#)



