## **Student Partnership Agreement 2023-26**

### Introduction

The Students’ Union, the University and our student body have a long history of working together to make the student experience even better. This partnership is really important to us all, and everyone in our community puts in effort to keep the relationship strong, to have the greatest impact on our student experience.

### Values and vision

Our partnership is based on some important values, and you can see these values in our new University strategy, which was developed by everyone in our community working together.

Our shared vision is to support our students to learn, build resilience, and to develop life skills, experiences and attitudes that will help them make a difference to the communities where they live and work. In doing so we will foster a strong academic community and invest in a caring, supportive environment. We develop and support our students holistically.

### How this agreement works

The Students' Union and University have come together on behalf of all students to create this overarching agreement. It will be in effect for three years. Activities supported by the agreement will be reviewed annually and may change, depending on the priorities of the Students' Union, University and student body. We’ll look for impact on the student experience, though we know that might not be clear right away.

This agreement also captures the Students’ Union and University plans for working in partnership in the current academic year, to support and improve student experience. These priorities have been developed based on dialogue between the University and the Students’ Union.

### Ongoing collaboration and recent projects

We work together in different ways to make things better for students. Sometimes students lead the way, and other times, the University takes the lead.

We want students to get involved and help make the student experience even better. Students can choose how they want to contribute in a way that works best for them. Here are some recent examples:

This agreement demonstrates the University community’s commitment to working together to improve the student experience.

Signed on behalf of the University of Stirling Signed on behalf of Stirling University Students’ Union

Professor Leigh Sparks Leen Ali

Deputy Principal (Education and Students) Student President

Date: November 2023

### Student partnership priorities for 2023-24

The Students' Union and the University have identified some important areas to focus on together in the current academic year. These are in addition to the work we've already been doing together.

Student representation and active engagement

Students and the University value the academic representative system to help shape student experience. In 2023, the Students' Union looked at the academic representative process. They’ll work with the University to make improvements based on what they've learned.

This year, they'll improve how they train and recruit students to represent their classmates based on what students and staff have suggested. The Students’ Union VP Education and the Faculty Associate Deans for Learning and Teaching will work together to make this happen.

With the Dean for Teaching, Learning and Student Experience, the Students' Union will make sure that Student-Staff Feedback Committees are more effective and that their outcomes are communicated better to all students. We'll also clarify the role of student Faculty Officers to make sure they have a bigger impact.

Learning and teaching

The University is also going to work on improving what and how we teach, focusing on inclusion, well-being, our students’ future, and the skills they'll need. Students will be a big part of this process. The Dean for Learning, Teaching and Student Experience, and the University Learning & Teaching Enhancement team will lead this project and will work with the Students’ Union VP Education to make sure students get actively involved.

Artificial intelligence (AI) tools (like ChatGPT) are becoming more important in education. The Students’ Union and the University will work together to help students understand how to use AI tools ethically and effectively for learning. We'll also highlight the importance of academic integrity.

Developing life and career skills

Being part of student clubs and societies is not just fun – it also helps students learn valuable skills for life and future jobs. This year, the Students’ Union Sports President and University Careers Service will work with clubs and societies to make sure members have more opportunities to develop these skills and know how to talk about them when they're looking for a job.

Mental health and wellbeing

We all care about student mental health and well-being. The Students’ Union sabbatical team are driving delivery in partnership with Student Support Services, embedding initiatives such as the current Mental Health Agreement as well as training for clubs and societies on how to prevent and respond to gender-based violence.