

# Kess Melhuish

for

## Welfare Officer

### Hi, I'm Kess and I'm running for Welfare Officer 2018/19.

The role of the Welfare Officer is to ensure that students are happy and healthy, both in and outside of their studies, listening to any concerns or issues they may have. I feel that I am a good listener and will hopefully be able to offer good advice where needed.

#### Why me?

- I am currently the captain of the Medic's Netball Team, and within this role I have come to appreciate the commitment that is required to work within a committee. It has also helped to improve my organisational skills, having to balance netball commitments, with other extra-curricular activities, and uni work. I have improved my interpersonal skills also, which will be very important in the role of Welfare Officer, with a large amount of the role being talking to students, potentially about sensitive topics.
- As the social sec for the Netball Team last year, I gained experience in organising events, which will be very useful when it comes to organising welfare events- such as the Coffee and Cake sessions that Adam Hurt set up this year.

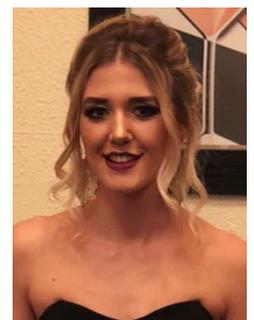


- Work closely with the Academic Officer to ensure that the academic needs of students are met, and that we do whatever we can to address any problems that may arise.
- Keep on with the Welfare Coffee and Cake sessions that have been set up, in which students have the opportunity to bring up any issues they may be having, or be put in touch with people that can offer professional support eg PSU. Or, just come along for some free cake! It would be great to have a session like this after results, alongside the Academic Officer, in order to offer support for those that did not receive the results they wanted, and congratulations to those who did. (I have experience of both so will be able to offer advice!)
- I would like to strengthen LUSUMA's relationship with Medics' Welfare- an organisation that is run by medical students, for medical students. By working together, we will be able to provide more information and offer more support than we ever have before. Joining forces will ensure that we can offer bigger and better welfare events.
- Try and make myself known by the new medical students from the very beginning, to ensure that they are aware that support is available. I feel it would be beneficial to give them a short presentation in Intro Week about how there are students available to chat to about problems, as sometimes going straight to staff can be daunting.

#### What will I do?

- As the Welfare Officer, I will be the first point of contact for students with any problems. I am an approachable and friendly individual and am keen to make people aware that I am there to listen, should any problems arise.
- Having used the pastoral support unit (PSU) myself, I know how important it is to have that kind of support system in place. I am keen to keep up LUSUMA's relationship with PSU, to ensure that students aren't left struggling in silence, as I appreciate how tough med school can get at times.

**Finally...** I admire LUSUMA as a society and appreciate the amount of work they put in to make our experience as medical students as enjoyable as possible, and I would love to be a member of the committee and hopefully make a difference!



If you have any questions, drop me an email: [kxm1@student.le.ac.uk](mailto:kxm1@student.le.ac.uk). Thank you!