

VONNIE SANDLAN for block of 15



Hi, I'm Vonnie. Last year I was a full time student and President of a college going through merger. This year, I'm a mature full time 2nd year student at the University of the West of Scotland and Community Campaign Convenor on the NUS Scotland Executive Committee where I've been working on widening access, particularly focusing on care leavers. As it stands, a young person in care has more chance of seeing the inside of a prison hall than a university. I'm running for block because I want to change that statistic for other care-experienced young people.

LOOKED-AFTER YOUNG PEOPLE

Care-leavers are more likely to see the inside of a prison than the inside of a university. This should be a scandal that puts every principal to shame. I will work with the Who Cares? Trust and Buttle UK to support students' unions to speak up for care-leavers and secure the protections and provisions they need.

CHILDCARE

Childcare is one of the biggest barriers to education for all student parents, both FE and HE. Finding a place which is accessible, flexible when timetables change or placement comes up, which is affordable and provided by highly trained professionals is a pipe dream for many of us.

Elect me to the Block of 15 and I will hold the NUS full time officers to account, and lobby for childcare to be a priority.

ETHICAL INVESTMENT AND PROCUREMENT

Both individually and collectively, our institutions have massive purchasing and investment power but with great power comes great responsibility. It is imperative that the social conscience of the education sector leads the way in paying a fair wage, ensuring funds are invested in sustainable projects and that fair trade is at the heart of procurement.

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