

## Take or find an image that documents how you experience a particular community in LSE. Is LSE a place where you feel belong?

### ↻ Wednesday Sports Nights!

My most notable experience of an LSE community was as the elected President of the Athletics Union during my final year of studies. I was motivated to run for President after being made to feel at home in LSE's sporting community during my second year. During a time where I was struggling with a major injury, and feeling disillusioned with my academic experience, the AU provided a safe haven of positive energy and heartwarming interactions with some of the many great people that LSE has to offer. The community provided me with respite from some of the inevitable downturns of a university degree. I owe them for turning my overall LSE experience into a happy one :)



Me as a second year undergrad, pictured with my friends at an AU Event.

↻ The hiking society has been an amazing way to meet people from all over LSE and the hikes are a great way to de-stress while chatting with everyone. I also love the wind down Wednesdays hosted by the SU



### ↻ Change of views

I'm a Masters student and felt a strong sense of community when I first got here. Initiatives like the SEP made me feel included and the platforms given to students to express themselves made me feel valued. This changed when I came across the Beaver article on sexual harassment. I'm now horrified that something like this has happened at an institution of international repute and, for me personally, the feelings of community and belonging have lessened. I'm left with a sense that this is the same as everywhere else and when it matters the institution will not voice its support.

March 6, 2024 • No Comments

**Women silenced across ranks:  
LSE's mishandled sexual  
misconduct investigation into  
professor**

⇨ **Common spaces for chatting and eating:** My LSE experience was enriched daily by catching up with students in my Masters cohort before or after classes in the common areas in the main buildings. Whether the 'airport / hotel lobby lounge' feel of Marshall or the plush couches of 'CKK', these catch ups were invaluable to feel part of a cohesive team of people. We always had something to share and laugh about or to share a meal. These spaces are invaluable and LSE is commended to keep them clean and available.

---

⇨ **Halls**

Living in halls with other LSE students gives me a sense of community and helps me to feel less lonely and isolated, as I'm always bumping into someone to chat to. The canteen in catered halls is a great space for social interaction.



⇨ **Time with peers/society gatherings**

What makes me feel like I'm in a community is the shared experiences I go through with my peers, especially in social gatherings or library hang-outs. Also, gathering with the Cypriot society (as a Cypriot) makes me feel like part of the community as it combines a feeling of cultural home with my 'academic' home.



### ⇒ Men's Football Club

During my first few weeks at the LSE, the prospect of making new friends with people who had far different adolescent experiences than myself was a daunting prospect. However, in the Men's football club I found a group of lads who were incredibly welcoming. Given the reputation of male dominated sport societies for testosterone fuelled initiation ceremonies and third years quasi-bullying freshers, the men's FC wasn't necessarily a place I expected to most acutely experience a sense of community at the LSE. However, in the last 18 months or so, I have not encountered any of the aforementioned behaviour, and simply met a group who are open and willing to give advice and support on any matter. I imagine the same cannot be said for rugby...



### ⇒ Department community

My department does not have a lot of money, so they cannot put on bigger events like trips to Cumberland etc like other departments. However, they do try to make department parties in start and end of term, which has been really wholesome! It has also been great to have a specific MSc common room to spend time together. But it has nothing to do with a feeling of broader LSE affiliation.

While I identify with LSE as an institutions and I am very grateful for the opportunities and teaching style, I am not entirely sure of I *feel* part of LSE - or if it just my department.

The international cohort of people with various professional experience in my department makes it feel more like a community, because we *decided* that we had to make it into a community for our own sake

Anthropology Students, Fellows,  
Staff - come celebrate the end  
of term!

Live music and anthropological  
DJs

### ⇒ Cumberland Lodge and Day Trips

Trips with coursemates and new friends have been an essential part of building my community and feeling a sense of belonging at LSE. London has been a new experience for me and it is wonderful to share it with other newbies :)



A stunning pond by Cumberland Lodge!

↩ **LSE Life**

You can talk to other students, do group projects, eat food. Also, get help from teachers,



↩ My dance showcase crew! We've all not known each other for very long at all, but it's funny how even spending a short amount of time while working on a project together can bond people and spark new friendships with people you may have otherwise never gotten the chance to connect with. I'm glad LSE has big events and annual projects like the Dance showcase that facilitates a more vibrant community (which we can share with friends and family when they come to watch and support us!)



↩ I chose this photo because I bring every close LSE friend here – from my course, accommodation, extracurriculars and even LSE 100. It acts as a reminder that despite all the differences between us, we're all curious & want to know more about the world. I feel LSE forms a community on this ground.



## ↪ Sports clubs

My sense of community has always come from sport. So I have played in three different sports clubs at LSE this year, and it has been a great way to meet people. However, it can be difficult as a postgrad to participate in games etc due to clashes with courses. Also there seems to be less of an encouragement of postgrads doing competitive sports by academic staff, as they always seem surprised that I am playing sports (potentially department specific and not the case for other postgrads)



↪ Participating in the MSc Development Management mid-term potluck organized by the International Development Department Student Organisers was an enriching experience that provided me with a unique insight into the vibrant community within the Department. The event, orchestrated by a dedicated group of students, exemplified the spirit of collaboration and camaraderie that defines our academic journey. The diverse array of dishes brought by fellow students mirrored the diversity of perspectives and backgrounds within our cohort, creating a melting pot of flavors and cultures that truly reflected the essence of our program. As we shared meals and stories, engaging in lively conversations about our coursework, research interests, and aspirations, I couldn't help but marvel at the sense of unity that prevailed.



MSc Development Management mid-term potluck

## ↪ The ID Student Organizers

Participating in the MSc Development Management mid-term potluck organized by The ID Student Organizers. A lovely second picture because there was no space for this one and it was such an amazing.



MSc Development Management mid-term potluck

