



UNIVERSITY OF BUCKINGHAM
LAW SOCIETY

THE
CONSTITUTION
– & –
STANDING
ORDERS

Enacted by the Committee of the Buckingham Law Society:
Wednesday, 24th September 2025

Commencement:
Wednesday, 1st October 2025

Section 1: Name and Objects

1.1 Name

The name of the Society shall be “The University of Buckingham Law Society” (“the Society”), hereinafter referred to as such.

1.2 Objects

The Society is established with the following objects, which shall guide all activities, events, and representations undertaken:

(a) Academic Enrichment

- i. To supplement members’ legal education through lectures, seminars, and workshops on substantive areas of law, legal theory, and practical application.
- ii. To provide revision sessions, study groups, and peer-to-peer support to enhance the academic performance of members.
- iii. To encourage critical engagement with law reform, legal developments, and contemporary issues in the justice system.

(b) Professional Development

- i. To serve as a primary point of contact between members and legal professionals, including solicitors, barristers, academics, and judges.
- ii. To host careers fairs, training contract and pupillage preparation events, and application workshops.
- iii. To create opportunities for members to develop transferable skills (advocacy, negotiation, client interviewing, drafting) through structured programmes.
- iv. To facilitate mentorship links between alumni, practitioners, and current members.

(c) Events and Activities

- i. To organise guest lectures, panel discussions, debates, and conferences featuring distinguished figures from the legal field.
- ii. To arrange social events that strengthen community and collegiality among law students and others with an interest in law.
- iii. To coordinate mooting, mock trial, and debating competitions, both internal and external, and to prepare teams to represent the University of Buckingham nationally and internationally.
- iv. To develop collaborations with other student societies, professional bodies, and legal organisations.

(d) Representation and Advocacy

- i. To represent the collective interests of law students at the University of Buckingham before the Students' Union ("the SU"), the Law School, and relevant University bodies.
- ii. To advocate for improvements in legal education, teaching, facilities, and student welfare.
- iii. To ensure that members' concerns and feedback are heard and acted upon by the SU and University.
- iv. To act as a visible, professional body that promotes the standing of law students within the wider University community.

(e) Diversity, Inclusion, and Equal Opportunities

- i. To promote equal access to legal education and careers for all members regardless of background, race, gender, religion, disability, or sexual orientation.
- ii. To ensure that all events, opportunities, and communications are inclusive and accessible.
- iii. To encourage discussions on equality, social justice, and human rights within the legal system.
- iv. To support widening participation initiatives and provide outreach to prospective students considering legal education.

(f) Community and Public Engagement

- i. To encourage members to contribute to the community through pro bono, volunteering, and outreach activities.
- ii. To foster links with local schools, charities, and legal advice centres to promote legal awareness and access to justice.
- iii. To establish the Society as a source of knowledge, support, and inspiration both within and outside the University.

(g) Sustainability and Growth

- i. To ensure the long-term stability of the Society by maintaining strong relations with the SU and Law School.
- ii. To provide continuity across academic years by preparing future leaders of the Society through mentoring and handovers.
- iii. To promote the Society and increase membership year on year by offering value, opportunity, and inclusivity.

Section 2: Membership

- 2.1 Membership is open to all students of the University of Buckingham, regardless of degree or background, subject to payment of the membership fee.
- 2.2 Membership fees shall be £10 per academic year, payable through the SU website.
- 2.3 Membership shall be managed by the SU, and the Society shall not collect membership fees directly.
- 2.4 The Society's own website shall redirect students to the SU website for membership purchase.
- 2.5 Membership may be revoked by the SU or Society Committee for conduct detrimental to the Society, subject to fair process and the right of appeal.

Section 3: Officers and Committee

3.1 Committee Composition

The Committee shall consist of the following elected Officers:

- (a) President
- (b) Vice President
- (c) Treasurer
- (d) Secretary
- (e) Events Coordinator
- (f) Social Media & Communications Officer

3.2 Duties of Officers

President

- (a) Provides overall leadership and strategic direction for the Society.
- (b) Represents the Society to the Students' Union ("SU"), the University, and external organisations.
- (c) Chairs Committee meetings and the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- (d) Ensures the Society operates in accordance with its Constitution and SU regulations.

Vice President

- (a) Assists the President in all duties and deputises when the President is unavailable.
- (b) Supports the coordination of events, projects, and day-to-day activities.
- (c) Acts as the primary liaison between Officers to ensure smooth collaboration.
- (d) Oversees membership engagement and supports recruitment.

Treasurer

- (a) Works with the SU to ensure proper management of Society funds.
- (b) Keeps accurate financial records in line with SU requirements.
- (c) Submits termly and annual financial reports to the Committee and AGM.
- (d) Ensures all expenses are approved in line with SU financial procedures.

Secretary

- (a) Prepares agendas and records accurate minutes of all meetings.
- (b) Manages correspondence and ensures effective communication within the Committee.
- (c) Maintains up-to-date membership records (with information provided by the SU).
- (d) Oversees documentation, policies, and the Society's official records.

Events Coordinator

- (a) Plans and organises academic, professional, and social events for members.
- (b) Manages logistics such as venues, speakers, and schedules.
- (c) Works with the Treasurer to budget events responsibly.
- (d) Ensures events align with the Society's objectives and are inclusive.

Social Media & Communications Officer

- (a) Manages the Society's social media platforms, website, and digital presence.
- (b) Promotes events, initiatives, and opportunities to members and the wider student body.
- (c) Designs marketing materials and maintains brand consistency.
- (d) Works with the Events Coordinator to maximise outreach and engagement.

3.3 Membership of Committee

All Committee members must be full members of the Society and students of the University of Buckingham.

Section 4: Committee Meetings

- 4.1 Committee meetings shall be held at least twice per term.
- 4.2 Quorum shall consist of at least half the Committee members, including two Executive Officers.
- 4.3 Decisions shall be taken by simple majority, except where otherwise specified.
- 4.4 Minutes shall be circulated to all Committee members within seven days of meetings.

Section 5: General Meetings and Elections

- 5.1 An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held during the final term of the academic year.
- 5.2 The AGM shall:
 - (a) receive reports from the President and Treasurer;
 - (b) elect the incoming Committee;
 - (c) consider constitutional amendments.
- 5.3 Nominations for elections must be open for at least seven days before voting.
- 5.4 Elections shall be conducted in line with the SU's electoral procedures.
- 5.5 Only full members may stand for election or vote.

Section 6: Extraordinary General Meetings (EGMs)

- 6.1 An EGM may be called by:
 - (a) the President;
 - (b) a majority of the Committee; or
 - (c) a petition signed by at least 25 members.
- 6.2 At least seven days' notice must be given.
- 6.3 Quorum shall be 20 members.
- 6.4 An EGM may:
 - (a) Remove Committee members;
 - (b) Fill vacancies;
 - (c) Amend the Constitution.

Section 7: Finance

- 7.1 The Society shall be financially accountable to the SU.
- 7.2 All funds shall be held in the SU's accounts, and no private bank accounts shall be opened.
- 7.3 Expenditure shall only be made with prior approval of the Committee and in accordance with SU financial rules.
- 7.4 The Treasurer shall prepare a financial report for the AGM.

Section 8: Discipline

- 8.1 Members or Committee members whose conduct is considered damaging to the reputation or functioning of the Society may be subject to disciplinary action.
- 8.2 Disciplinary matters shall follow SU policies and procedures.
- 8.3 Sanctions may include removal from office, suspension, or expulsion from the Society.

Section 9: Amendments

- 9.1 This Constitution may only be amended at an AGM or EGM with the approval of two-thirds of members present and voting.
- 9.2 All amendments must be ratified by the Majority before taking effect.

Section 10: Dissolution

- 10.1 The Society may be dissolved by a two-thirds majority vote at an AGM or EGM, subject to SU approval.
- 10.2 Upon dissolution, all assets shall pass to the SU.