



# LGBTQIA+ Student Guide

**The purpose of this guide is to help LGBTQIA+ students navigate their time at Coventry providing information on services, places, and tips centred around the community.**



# What's Inside?

## LGBTQIA+

### Your Students' Union

- Key contacts, university and SU support
- Local LGBTQIA+ organisations, groups, and safe spaces
- Mental health and wellbeing resources
- Ways to get involved and lead community activities
- City-wide hubs, nightlife, creative spaces, and safety scheme
- Recommended books, films, podcasts, and creators
- Optional glossary and trans-specific guidance





# Key Contacts & Support Services

## University Support Contacts

- Wellbeing-  
[https://livecoventryac.sharepoint.com/sites/students-healthandwellbeing/SitePages/Welfare-and-counselling\(1\).aspx](https://livecoventryac.sharepoint.com/sites/students-healthandwellbeing/SitePages/Welfare-and-counselling(1).aspx)

## Students' Union Support

- LGBTQIA+ Community Engagement Lead
- Activity Officer
- The Advice Service

## Medical Centre

- Coventry University Medical Centre-  
<https://www.covunigp.co.uk/>

## Emergency Contacts & Helplines

- Switchboard- <https://switchboard.lgbt/>

## External Organisations

- It Gets Better-  
<https://www.itgetsbetter.org.uk/>

## Financial Support

- Gender Expression Fund (SU)





# Community Events & Involvement

## Annual Awareness Events

- LGBT History Month- February
- Pride Month- June

## Community-specific societies or groups

- LGBTQIA+ Society
- LGBTQIA+ Student Community (campaigns & peer-led events)



# Student Voice and Representation

## How you can make your voice heard

### Submit an activity request

- You can request activities through our activity request found here: [https://forms.zohopublic.eu/yourstudentsunion/form/StudentLedActivityRequest/formperma/4LnIqYno7dHMIVCLOerOZii\\_vKcO7Obh\\_zkX7y5OPNY](https://forms.zohopublic.eu/yourstudentsunion/form/StudentLedActivityRequest/formperma/4LnIqYno7dHMIVCLOerOZii_vKcO7Obh_zkX7y5OPNY)

### Give feedback

- How to give feedback or raise concerns
- Harassment reporting portal- <https://livecoventryac.sharepoint.com/sites/students-healthandwellbeing/SitePages/Zero-tolerance.aspx>
- You can provide feedback using our feedback platform found here: [Give Your Feedback](#)





# Student Voice and Representation

## Submit an idea (criteria)

- You can submit an idea to us, found here: Your Ideas – <https://www.yoursu.org/representation/ideas/>
- For an idea to be considered, it needs to fall under one of the following criteria:
  - To improve the delivery of one the SU's services, this could be more face-to-face appointments for a particular service, or a new feedback mechanism you'd like us to explore.
  - Something you would like our Officers to collaborate on with the university to improve the student experience. Examples of ideas in this area could be quiet spaces in The Hub or more water filling stations across campus.
  - Topics you would like the SU to make a stand on, where examples could be something happening in world news that you think the SU should have a public position on.



# Opportunities

## What roles can you take on

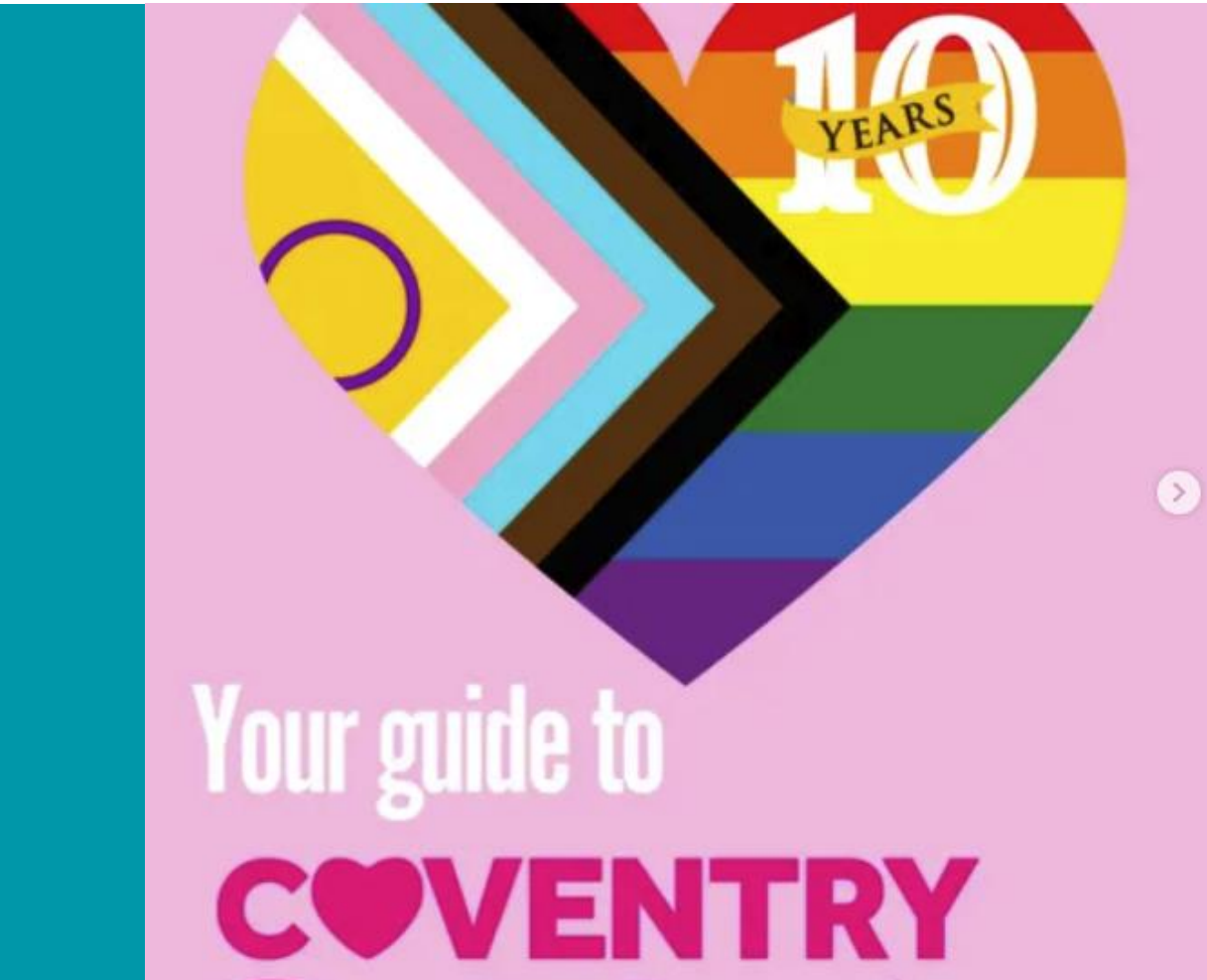
- LGBTQIA+ Community Engagement Lead- yearly hired and paid position
- LGBTQIA+ Student Community- students can lead their own events and campaigns with help from the community
- LGBTQIA+ Society committee



# Navigating Coventry

**Local LGBTQIA+ organisations**





# Coventry Pride

- Coventry Pride is a registered charity dedicated to promoting equality, diversity, and inclusion for the LGBTQ+ community in Coventry.
- Through year-round events, campaigns, and media outreach, it raises awareness of LGBTQ+ issues and celebrates queer lives and history. The organisation provides safe spaces, supports other LGBTQ+ charities, and fosters visibility and social justice.
- Its annual Pride celebration is a vibrant, empowering event that brings thousands together in solidarity and celebration.



# Coventry Trans Pride

- Coventry Trans Pride runs events for and by the trans community in Coventry and the surrounding areas



# Out in Cov

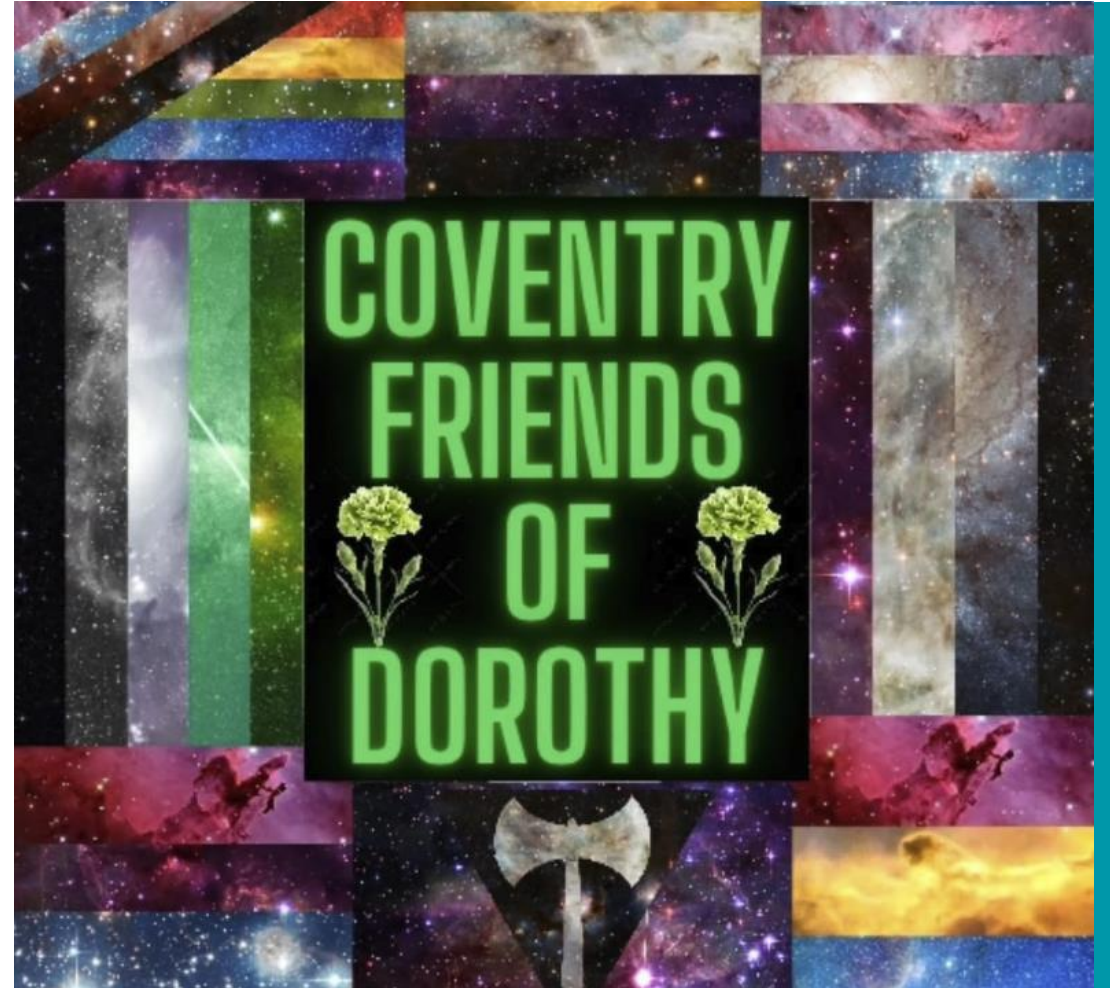
- Out in Cov is a grassroots organisation supporting LGBTQ+ asylum seekers and refugees in Coventry.
- Formerly known as Out in the UK, it provides a safe and welcoming space for individuals facing persecution due to their sexuality. The group offers regular meetups, workshops focused on mental, physical, and social well-being, and guidance on navigating the asylum process.
- By fostering connection and empowerment, Out in Cov helps members overcome isolation and build supportive communities





# Coventry Friends of Dorothy

- Every Saturday, they host a hot/cold drinks, chat and homemade cake for Queer people





# Cov Queer Writers

- A monthly group for queer writers in Coventry funded by Arts Council England.



# Survivor Sanctuary Plus

- A safe space for the Trans and Queer community in Coventry Survivor Sanctuary + offers support for survivors of all types of abuse. (Domestic Abuse, Sexual Violence, Honour-Based Violence, Hate Crime)
- Survivor Sanctuary+ is a strand of their work that exists alongside other work at The Sanctuary Collective.
- Due to a lack of support and specialist services for the Trans and Queer community in Coventry, they decided to open up their support beyond the binary.







# Unity in Coventry

- Unity in Coventry is a Community Interest Company dedicated to creating inclusive, supportive spaces for the LGBTQIA+ community.
- Founded by locals passionate about diversity and connection, Unity hosts events, offers support services, and builds partnerships to combat isolation and marginalisation.
- Their work centres on listening to the community's needs and fostering unity through celebration, empowerment, and safe spaces.



# Grapevine

- Grapevine Coventry and Warwickshire is a community-focused organisation that helps people facing isolation, disadvantage, and marginalisation— including members of the LGBTQ+ community—build connections and lead change.
- Through initiatives like Connecting for Good, Grapevine empowers local citizens to take action on issues they care about, fostering inclusive movements and supporting wellbeing through creative and social activities.







# Coventry Trans Solidarity

- Coventry Trans Solidarity is a grassroots initiative that supports the trans and non-binary community in Coventry through visibility, advocacy, and safe spaces.
- The group organises events such as the T For Tea Social, a relaxed and welcoming meet-up for trans individuals to connect and build community. They also observe important dates like Trans Day of Remembrance, honouring those lost to transphobic violence and fostering collective resilience.
- Coventry Trans Solidarity plays a vital role in creating affirming spaces and raising awareness of trans issues across the city.



# Prism Coventry

- Prism Coventry is a vibrant LGBTQ+ youth organisation supporting individuals aged 13–18 in Coventry and surrounding areas. It offers a safe, inclusive space for young people to connect, socialise, and access tailored support.
- Through weekly meetups, workshops, and events, Prism promotes self-acceptance, resilience, and community awareness. Activities include sessions on sexual health, dealing with hate crime, and excursions to Pride festivals, all aimed at empowering young people and reducing isolation







# Coventry City Council

- Coventry City Council actively supports the LGBTQ+ community through inclusive policies and development programmes.
- One of its key initiatives is the Amplify: Be the Change Talent Development Programme, designed to empower LGBTQ+ employees by building leadership skills, promoting inclusion, and driving sustainable change within the organisation.
- The Council also supports LGBTQ+ fostering and works with partners to ensure services are welcoming and accessible to all.



# Coventry and Warwickshire MIND

- Coventry and Warwickshire MIND provides dedicated mental health support for the LGBTQIA+ community through inclusive drop-in sessions and peer support groups.
- Their monthly wellbeing sessions offer one-to-one guidance, social connection, and themed workshops in a safe and welcoming environment.
- They also collaborate with organisations like Out in Cov to support LGBTQ+ asylum seekers and migrants through the Out in Mind project, helping individuals overcome isolation and access vital mental health resources





**LGBTQ mental health service**

## MindOut

- MindOut is a UK-based mental health charity run by and for LGBTQ+ people. It offers a range of services including peer support groups, advocacy, and an online live chat helpline, all designed to improve mental wellbeing and reduce isolation.
- MindOut is inclusive of diverse identities within the LGBTQ+ spectrum and provides safe, nonjudgemental support from people who understand the unique challenges faced by the community.





# Navigating Coventry

**Local LGBTQIA+ entertainment and nightlife**



# The Yard

- The Yard Coventry is one of the city's largest LGBTQIA+ nightclubs by night and a great place for lunch and coffee in the day! It's a LGBTQ+ venue that plays a central role in supporting the queer community in the city.
- With over 50 awards recognising its commitment to inclusivity, The Yard offers a safe and welcoming space for people of all identities to connect and celebrate. It hosts regular events, including free coffee mornings, and collaborates with local organisations like Coventry Pride and Prism to support LGBTQ+ youth and community initiatives.
- The venue is also involved in fundraising efforts for local charities, reinforcing its role as a hub for both entertainment and social impact



# Glamorous

- Glamorous Coventry is a LGBTQIA+ nightclub offering a vibrant and inclusive space for the community. Known for its drag performances, themed nights, and welcoming atmosphere, Glamorous plays a key role in Coventry's queer nightlife.
- The venue also collaborates with local organisations like Unity in Coventry to host events and support services that uplift and connect LGBTQ+ individuals across the city.
- By providing both entertainment and community engagement, Glamorous helps foster visibility, pride, and solidarity





# Fargo Village



- FarGo Village in Coventry is a creative hub that champions diversity and inclusion, including strong support for the LGBTQ+ community.
- It regularly hosts LGBTQ+-friendly events such as Pride celebrations, inclusive workshops, and community gatherings. FarGo's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policy reflects its commitment to creating a space where everyone—regardless of identity—feels respected, celebrated, and empowered.
- It also serves as the venue for Coventry Pride, reinforcing its role as a welcoming and vibrant space for LGBTQ+ visibility and celebration.



# Navigating Coventry

**Local LGBTQIA+ arts, culture and libraries**

# The Belgrade Theatre

- Belgrade Theatre Coventry actively supports the LGBTQ+ community through inclusive programming and community engagement.
- It hosts events like the Queer Café, in partnership with Coventry Pride, offering a relaxed space for LGBTQIA+ individuals to connect through creative discussions and games. The theatre also collaborates with Unity in Coventry to host LGBTQ+ coffee mornings, fostering safe and welcoming environments for conversation and community building.
- Through its Community and Education Company, Belgrade Theatre runs arts activities that reflect and celebrate Coventry's diverse communities.





# Coventry Libraries

- Coventry Libraries play a supportive role in promoting inclusion and diversity, including for the LGBTQ+ community.
- While not a dedicated LGBTQ+ organisation, they often host inclusive events, provide access to LGBTQ+ literature and resources, and collaborate with local groups to celebrate Pride and other awareness initiatives.
- Their spaces are designed to be welcoming and accessible to all, helping foster community engagement and education around equality and identity



# The Herbert Gallery

- Herbert Art Gallery & Museum in Coventry actively supports the LGBTQ+ community through inclusive events and community engagement.
- It has hosted Coventry Pride, featuring performances, stalls, and creative activities that celebrate LGBTQ+ history and identity.



# Mental Health and Wellbeing

There are a number of services available to students

## LGBTQ+ friendly services

- **Mind, LGBTQIA+ Mental Health-** <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/tips-for-everyday-living/lgbtqiaplus-mental-health/#:~:text=Some%20of%20us%20identify%20as,experience%20a%20mental%20health%20problem>
- **Coventry and Warwickshire Sexual Health Hub-** <https://digital.thesexualhealthhub.co.uk/coventry-and-warwickshire>
- **MindOut-** MindOut | Mental Health Charity for LGBTQ community - <https://mindout.org.uk/>

## Requesting Reasonable Adjustments

- Individual exam arrangements- [https://livecoventryac.sharepoint.com/sites/students-healthandwellbeing/SitePages/Individual-Exam-Arrangements-\(IEA\).aspx](https://livecoventryac.sharepoint.com/sites/students-healthandwellbeing/SitePages/Individual-Exam-Arrangements-(IEA).aspx)



# Mental Health and Wellbeing

## Reporting Discrimination or Hate Crime

- Harassment reporting portal- <https://livecoventryac.sharepoint.com/sites/students-healthandwellbeing/SitePages/Zero-tolerance.aspx>

## Peer & Community Support

- Health and wellbeing- [https://livecoventryac.sharepoint.com/sites/students-healthandwellbeing/SitePages/Welfare-and-counselling\(1\).aspx](https://livecoventryac.sharepoint.com/sites/students-healthandwellbeing/SitePages/Welfare-and-counselling(1).aspx)
- LGBTQIA+ Society- not direct/ trained support, but it is a community of people who have gone through similar experiences and is good to talk to and get lived experiences and advice.

# Recommended Resources

## Books (fiction & non-fiction)

- <https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/the-read-down/the-ultimate-book-list-for-pride-month/>

## Podcasts

- <https://www.qmul.ac.uk/lgbtqaplus-history-month/past-events/lgbtqaplus-history-month2022/lgbtqa-podcast-recommendations-/>

## Films/TV shows

- <https://editorial.rottentomatoes.com/guide/best-lgbt-movies-of-all-time/>

## Creators & Organisations

- Student Minds, Life as a Trans+ Student- <https://studentspace.org.uk/wellbeing/life-as-a-trans-student>
- <https://fightingtalk.uk/thoughts/lgbtqia-content-creators-you-should-follow>



# Names, Pronouns and University Processes

## **Student Trans Equality policy-**

- <https://livecoventryac.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/students-portal/Shared%20Documents/2023-24/Student-Trans-Equality-Policy-24.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=nlfe2t>

## **Non-legal name change process-**

- <https://livecoventryac.sharepoint.com/sites/students-healthandwellbeing/SitePages/Consent-and-Request-to-Change-Details.aspx>

## **LGBTQIA+ Student Support Page-**

- <https://livecoventryac.sharepoint.com/sites/students-healthandwellbeing/SitePages/LGBTQIA+-Students.aspx>

## **Trans+ support resources**

- TransActual- <https://transactual.org.uk/>