

WHAT IS STUDENT VOICE?

And how can it be used by universities in a non-exploitative way?

"In education, student voice refers to the values, opinions, beliefs, perspectives, and cultural backgrounds of individual students and groups of students in a school, and to instructional approaches and techniques that are based on student choices, interests, passions, and ambitions."

THE GLOSSARY OF
EDUCATIONAL REFORM
WWW.EDGLOSSARY.ORG/STUDENT-VOICE/

STUDENT VOICE IS..

- A noun
- Something to have
- Something to use
- Sometimes political
- Represents lived experiences
- From a group or an individual

Student Union

All student votes, campaigns, officers, elections

Student Feedback

Surveys, SSLC, drop-in sessions

Projects and Communities

Library Associates, WPSAG

Informal Networks

Societies, peer groups

STUDENT VOICE AT WARWICK



Facts and Figures

44.4% STATE-FUNDED
SCHOOLS PROGRESSION
TO HE 2020/21

28.1% FSM
PROGRESSION TO HE
2020/21

23% STUDENTS AT
WARWICK RECIEVE THE
WARWICK UG BURSARY

WIDENING PARTICIPATION IN
HIGHER EDUCATION 2020/21,
GOV.UK

STRATEGIC PLANNING
ANALYTICS, UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK, 2022

WHAT IS WIDENING PARTICIPATION (WP)?

Students from underrepresented groups, including:

- Recipients of Free School Meals
- Care leavers
- Young carers
- Students with a declared disability
- Asylum seekers and refugees
- Mature students

STUDENT VOICE AND WIDENING PARTICIPATION



Cost of living



Imposter
syndrome



Questions and
uncertainties

**IT TAKES INTELLECTUAL
AND EMOTIONAL
LABOUR FOR A
WIDENING
PARTICIPATION
STUDENT TO SHARE
THEIR STUDENT VOICE.**

WHO BENEFITS FROM STUDENT VOICE?



Students get to vent and ask questions.



Issues, especially WP issues, are fixed slowly.



Students with these issues are unlikely to see the changes and improvements they want.



Universities make these improvements which attract positive feedback and more prospective students.

**WHAT REAL
TIME BENEFITS
DO STUDENTS
GET FROM
SHARING THEIR
STUDENT
VOICE?**

Cash incentives

Gift cards, monetary stipends

Work experience

Tangible experiences that impress employers

Transferable skills

Teamwork, public speaking etc

SOCIAL MOBILITY STUDENT RESEARCH HUB (SMSRH)

The SMSRH offers all 3 real-time, tangible benefits for students:

- Monetary stipend
- Opportunity to conduct independent research
- Mentor and workshop programme to support participants

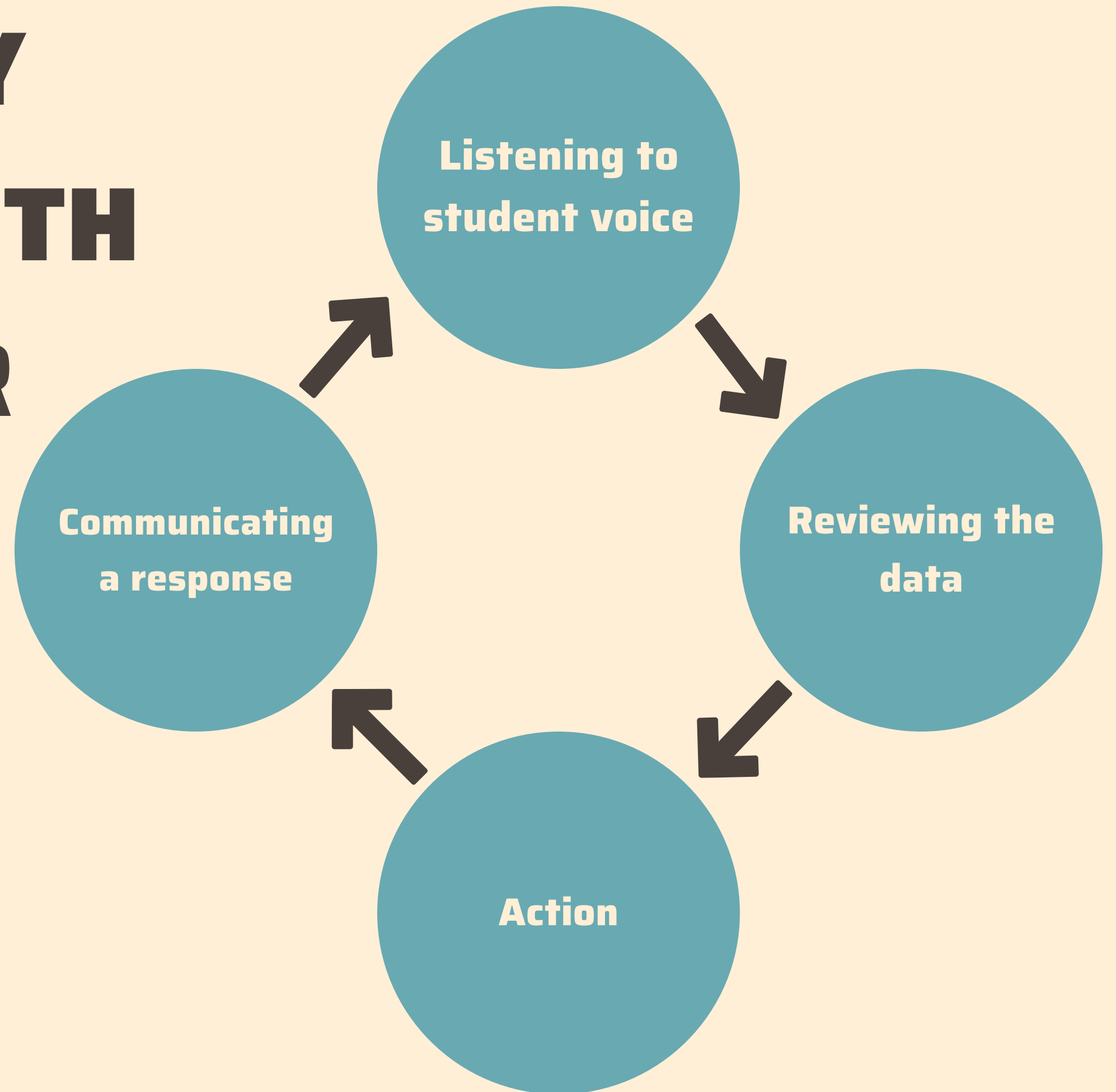
UNIVERSITY MANAGED BLOGS

The university controls and
censors what is shared.

INDEPENDANT STUDENT BLOGS

Students can express their views
uncensored.

UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH ADVICE FOR STAFF



Collings, 2018

University of Plymouth

'Student Voice: A Guide for Staff'

"I feel like it's just something that takes over your life... and makes you lose that motivation that you should have."

BBC
[WWW.BBC.CO.UK/NEWS/
UK-ENGLAND-61760234](http://WWW.BBC.CO.UK/NEWS/UK-ENGLAND-61760234)

COST OF LIVING AND STUDENT VOICE

We live in a transactional society.

More students are working to support themselves during their studies. It is more important than ever that when the university asks for WP students time, that the students get something in return, because their time is valuable.

THE 3 THINGS NEEDED FOR A FAIR EXCHANGE



Monetary
rewards



Transferable
skills



Work
experience