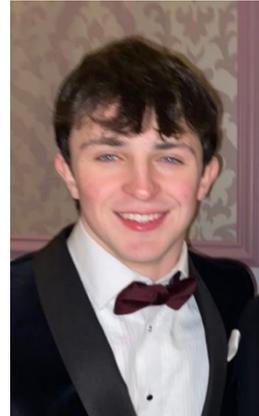


Welfare Officer Manifesto

Hi, my name is Alex Duffy and I'm hoping to be your next Welfare Officer for the JCR Team. I am a first year Pharmacy student who hails from the great County of Galway and I feel like I could contribute a lot to JCR, and the Welfare Team. I think we can all admit it's been a rough few years, but fortunately we made through it and got out the other side. Now we can finally begin to enjoy our college lives, and while it may be desirable to make up for 2 years of isolation over the course of a single night, everyone knows how quickly a night can go wrong when you over-do it. Dublin is a big city, and while some people come from cities two-, three- or four-times bigger, it can still be quite daunting making that walk home from the Luas stop by yourself at 2am. That is why as Welfare Officer I plan to make sure everyone living in Halls next year feels safe on nights out, Halls events, and in their new home.



Experience

Cinnire – Since the age of 16, I have been a Cinnire with Spleodar Gaeltacht each summer. For any non-Irish speakers, I was a camp leader in an Irish Summer Camp out in the Wild Atlantic West of Connemara. These summers were some of my best, where I got to meet people from all over Ireland, some of which I got to reunite with coming up to Trinity. From this experience I am used to being a mentor for younger students, as someone who they can come to and confide in when they would have any problems, be that homesickness, relationship problems at the camp, or even with more serious matters. This role helped me with qualities that I can now assign to the position of Welfare Officer, where I hope students would feel that they could confide in myself and my Welfare Team to quell any worries or issues they may have.

Class Rep – In the first week of October, I was grateful to be voted as Class Rep for JF Pharmacy. While holding this position I have learnt the best way to communicate with my peers and to figure out what the student body needs. I have communicated with lecturers and professors at a management level and have sorted out issues which have arisen. I also organised a Secret Santa for the course before the Christmas holidays, which I want to try and incorporate into next year such as the Valentine's Day Chocolates. I was also tasked with organising nights out, which will help in the planning of Halls events next year with the JCR Officer.

Manifesto

Student Safety at Halls — My number one priority as Welfare Officer is the safety and wellbeing of all the students living in Halls. I plan to hold Office Hours for a couple of hours each week where I'm free if students have an issue that they want to come to me with, but even outside of those hours I will try and be as available as possible to help deal with and solve their problems with empathy. At one point or another, everyone living in Halls has felt homesick for wherever they may have come from, which isn't talked about for as much as it's felt. Alongside the other Officers, for example International and Ents, I plan to have events that will help acclimatise students to Halls and get to know their peers; events such as coffee mornings, guest speakers and House Events.

Sexual Health Workshops — Consent, Sexual Health and Sexual Orientation are all crucial topics that are going to come up during your time in college, and it is important that students are informed about all aspects of this. I plan to host Sexual Health Workshops throughout the year and involve each student in the activities included. Every student would be coming from diverse backgrounds with different understandings on these topics, so I hope to create a shared understanding between all students, in certain subjects such as approaching consent and respect for each's sexual nature and identity. I will also continue to supply condoms, lubricants, and sanitary products to each House, as is being done this year by the current Welfare Officer, as a little always goes a long way.

Non-Drinking Centered Events — During my own time at Trinity, what I have noticed more commonly is the emphasis on social drinking in college. Being a non-drinker myself indefinitely, I have gotten used to nights out without the need for drink, however, for others it may be daunting to go to a pub or especially nightclubs without any alcohol. College is much more than alcohol-themed events, and while I will be assisting the Ents Officer on all Halls club nights in regards to student-wellbeing with the help of the Welfare Team, I do plan to work in conjuncture with different officers to have events with less, if not zero emphasis on drinking, such as games nights, different movie screenings regularly, and social events such as speed-dating, to name a few.

With everything I have mentioned above, I feel confident in my ability to run as your future Welfare Officer and ask you to vote Alex for Welfare!