



TAKE ACTION WITH FREEDOM

Freedom Student Groups

For university and college students.

One issue. One audience. One clear ask.

KNOW

NOTICE

RESPOND

CHANGE

A campus organising guide for evidence-based action that does not become student-run casework.

Online: freedomcharity.org.uk/contact-us/

Downloaded or printed: hello@freedomcharity.org.uk

START

Build a group that can survive graduation

A Freedom Student Group turns concern about forced marriage, FGM and Dishonour Abuse into informed campus action. It can educate, campaign, fundraise and build links to better support - without becoming a student-run casework service.

- 1 Contact Freedom and agree how the group will use the Freedom name and current resources.
- 2 Follow your institution or students' union rules for societies, events and finance.
- 3 Choose a small committee and one named contact for Freedom.
- 4 Agree how social media, data, speakers and money will be handled.
- 5 Complete the relevant Freedom induction before representing the charity publicly.
- 6 Plan one term at a time.

The Freedom Method

Every Freedom route uses the same four moves. The detail changes by age and setting; the safety line does not.

KNOW	Build accurate knowledge. Separate evidence, law, guidance and opinion.
NOTICE	Recognise warning signs, coercion, unsafe assumptions and gaps in the way people or organisations respond.
RESPOND	Listen, stay within role, use the agreed safeguarding or support route and never investigate or contact family members yourself.
CHANGE	Turn learning into safer practice, better information, campaigning, partnerships or system change - then review what worked.

Three things are enough

A busy calendar can hide weak impact. Start with three deliberate actions.

1. LEARN	Run one strong learning event or discussion.	What do students understand better afterwards?
2. ACT	Choose one current Freedom campaign or campus improvement.	What is the audience and the ask?
3. BUILD	Create one relationship that makes the group stronger.	Students' union, safeguarding, wellbeing, academic department or another relevant society.

Campaign test

One issue. One audience. One clear ask.

If you cannot name all three in one sentence, the campaign is not ready. Then ask: is the evidence current, is the action safe, and how will we know if anything changed?

A student group is not a casework service

- Do not investigate or seek proof.
- Do not contact family members or alleged perpetrators.
- Do not mediate or negotiate.
- Do not promise absolute confidentiality.
- Do not independently make a safety plan for somebody else.
- Do not give legal or medical advice unless separately qualified and acting in that professional role.
- Do not speak to the media as Freedom without approval.

If somebody asks for help

Listen without interrogating. Explain that you cannot promise secrecy. Use the safeguarding or support route you have been given and your institution's procedures where relevant. Do not contact the family. If someone is in immediate danger, call 999.

Fundraising

Fundraising is welcome but optional. Follow Freedom's current route and your institution's rules. Be clear whether the activity is organised by Freedom or is independent fundraising in aid of Freedom. Do not improvise around cash, raffles, alcohol, sponsorship or data.

Leave a group, not a gap

- Bring newer students into planning early.
- Keep a one-page term record: what worked, what failed, contacts and next steps.
- Do not build the group around one personality.
- Record recurring questions and misconceptions for Freedom.
- Pass over passwords, permissions and financial records properly.
- Invite the next committee to review the group's boundaries as well as its ambitions.

Measure something meaningful

- What did people understand afterwards?
- What changed on campus, if anything?
- Was anyone signposted safely?
- What question kept coming up?
- What should Freedom change in its resources?
- What will the next committee need to know?

Start a Freedom Student Group

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Need help?

Taking action with Freedom does not make you a safeguarding professional. If somebody needs help, use the safeguarding or support route you have been given. Do not investigate, contact family members or try to manage a case yourself.

Immediate danger

If someone is in immediate danger, call 999.

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Downloaded or printed: hello@freedomcharity.org.uk

Help: freedomcharity.org.uk/helpline/

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