

Amplify is a youth-led participatory arts programme for exploring issues relating to faith, belief, identity, community and social justice in an interconnected and globalised world.



Amplify is powered by the Faith and Belief Forum. This manifesto was created by students from UOB School.

**We are tired of the way in which the media is dehumanising the most vulnerable in society with their reductive headlines. We are calling a stop. This is our manifesto for change.**

# WE ARE MORE THAN YOUR HEADLINES

## **We want to see more local and national communally-owned media**

Because the stories of local communities are not properly covered in current media. We don't want the image and stories of people to be told from one narrative.

## **We demand that the media outlets are representative of the people that they are writing stories about**

Because whilst people have stories written about them false stereotypes and labels will continue until people are allowed to tell their own stories.

## **We want to see more positive stories about marginalised people in the media**

Because people are more than the labels set by the media. The current media illustrates marginalised people in a very negative manner, leading towards a culture of hate and dislike.

## **Media should have clear guidelines which ensure the truth is told, they should not set agendas**

Otherwise biases are promoted, society is manipulated and individual agendas allowed to gain influence.

## **We demand more meaningful spaces in school to make sense of the world, and discuss the things that matter to us**

Because we are the future and need safe open spaces to form our identity. Otherwise people lack fundamental skills to think, form opinions and the ability to have open discussions on sensitive topics.

## **Whilst the media fails to amplify unheard voices and deliberately constructs narratives to suit political agendas, schools should be a space in which there is always space for critical thinking**

So we can grow up informed about people beyond their labels, their struggles and their successes otherwise people are likely to be unaware of what is happening or has happened in the world.

## **We demand that journalism should be held to higher ethical standards**

Because people's stories should not be told at the expense of someone else's gain.

## **We demand an end to headlines that use stereotypes to perpetuate prejudice**

Because in today's world of mass information, people are likely to base their opinions on those headlines.

## **We demand that people read articles before sharing**

To avoid the spread of misinformation.

## **We want more opportunities for young peoples voices to be meaningfully amplified, and actually listened to**

Because we care. Because we are not the problem, we are the solution. Because we are the present. Because we are the future. Because we live in the youngest city in Europe, our services have been decimated.

You can view our manifesto video at [faithbeliefforum.org](https://faithbeliefforum.org). Please support us by sharing across social media platforms with the **#WeAreMoreThanYourHeadlines**

