

## Media Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### University of Liverpool making life better for students with epilepsy

The University of Liverpool has been accredited the Epilepsy Friendly status by national charity Young Epilepsy due to their ongoing improvements with supporting students living with the condition.

Staff at the University of Liverpool have taken it upon themselves to learn more about the effects that life in higher education can have on young people with epilepsy. They have done so by enrolling in Young Epilepsy's 'Epilepsy Friendly' scheme which provides free epilepsy training and resources for colleges and universities across the UK.

Epilepsy can have devastating effects on young people in higher education; Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy has a high occurrence in this age range. Stress, alcohol, tiredness, lack of sleep, dehydration, forgetting to take medication can all be contributing factors.

**Vicki Kennedy, Director of Fundraising and External Relations at Young Epilepsy, said,** "Epilepsy is a misunderstood condition that can have serious impacts for young people in higher education. They may need extra support and we want all universities across the UK to be ready and able to do just that."

#### **INSERT QUOTE FROM UNIVERSITY**

Young Epilepsy is the national charity working exclusively on behalf of children and young people with epilepsy. They are a leading provider of specialist health and education services and offer support, information resources, training for professionals and also campaign to improve access to, and quality of, health and education services.

For information around becoming Epilepsy Friendly, please visit

[youngepilepsy.org.uk/EFM](http://youngepilepsy.org.uk/EFM) or alternatively email [wgilbert@youngepilepsy.org.uk](mailto:wgilbert@youngepilepsy.org.uk)

**ENDS**

**For media enquiries at Young Epilepsy, please contact:**

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**Notes to Editors:**

Young Epilepsy is the national charity working exclusively on behalf of children and young people with epilepsy. With over 100 years of experience we are a leading provider of specialist health and education services. The charity offers support, information, training for health, social care and education professionals and campaigns to improve access to, and quality of, health and education services.

**Facts and stats**

- Epilepsy is the most common serious childhood neurological condition. There are 60,000 children and young people aged 18 and under, and 112,000 aged 25 and under, living with epilepsy in the UK.
- On average there is a child with epilepsy in every primary school and five in every secondary school.
- There are around 600,000 people in the UK diagnosed with epilepsy. That's about one in every 131 people. There are around 50 million people with epilepsy in the world. Around 75 people are diagnosed with epilepsy every day.

**About epilepsy:**

- Epilepsy is a neurological condition - which means it affects the brain.
- Epilepsy is described as the tendency to have seizures. Epilepsy is only diagnosed after the person has had more than one seizure.
- Seizures are sometimes called 'fits' or 'attacks'. Seizures happen when there is a sudden interruption in the way the brain normally works.