Cookie Policy

What are cookies, and how do we use them?

Cookies are small text files that are sent to and stored on your web browser, smartphone or other device to allow you to store specific information that can be used to improve the user experience on a website. They can remember your preferences by gathering and storing information.

Further information about cookies (including how to disable them) can be found on www.allaboutcookies.org. York St John Students' Union uses cookies on our site to improve the user experience, and to gather general statistics about the users of our services (not user specific). Among other things, cookies allow you to log on to our service. This Cookie Policy gives a background of what cookies are, how we use them and how they benefit you.

What types of cookies are there?

You will encounter the following cookies;

- **First party cookies:** First party cookies are set by the website you are visiting and they can only be read by that site.

- **Third party cookies:** Third party cookies are set by a different organisation to the owner of the website you are visiting. For example, the website might use a third party analytics company who will set their own cookie to perform this service. The website you are visiting may also contain content embedded from, for example YouTube or Flickr, and these sites may set their own cookies.

- **Session cookies:** Session Cookies are stored only temporarily during a browsing session and are deleted from the user's device when the browser is closed. We use these to allow you to login to the website.

- **Persistent cookies:** This type of cookie is saved on your computer for a fixed period (usually a year or longer) and is not deleted when the browser is closed. Persistent cookies are used where we need to know who you are for more than one browsing session. For example, we use this type of cookie to store your preferences, so that they are remembered for the next visit

What cookies do we use?

The table over the page details the name of the cookies that we use along with information about the actions the cookie performs and what classification it is.

Name of cookie	What does it do?	Type
PHPSESSID	This is a session cookie that allows you to login to the website, you need this enabled to use our services	Session Cookie
_utmc _utmz _utma _utmb	This is a 3rd party tracking cookie for google analytics that allows us to obtain overall website usage statistics	3rd Party Cookie
SmartMaxUser	This is a tracking cookie that allows us to identify your previous live chat history when you have interacted with us	Persistent Cookie
SmartMaxSession	This is a session cookie that allows you to use the sightmax live operator service, this needs to be enabled to use this service	Session Cookie

How you can manage your cookies

Please review the following site for advice on how to manage cookies on your browser: www.allaboutcookies.org