

Website Cookies Policy for qmsu.org

Everything you need to know about
how we use cookies

Updated: January 2025



Cookies Policy

Queen Mary Students' Union ("we", "our" or "us") use cookies on our website qmsu.org. Our Cookies Policy explains how we use cookies when you visit our website.

We use essential cookies on our sites to facilitate features such as adding products to your shopping basket or logging in. For further information about how we use your data, please view our Privacy Policy.

By using our website and proceeding to browse and access its webpages, you confirm that you accept the cookie policy detailed on this page, and that you consent to our use of cookies on your computer, phone or smart device as set out in this cookie policy.

What are Cookies?

Cookies are small files, typically of letters and numbers, that are downloaded and stored onto a device when you access certain websites. Cookies are then sent back to the originating website on each subsequent visit.

Cookies are useful as they allow our website to recognise your device when you visit. They allow organisations to store certain information about your preferences. Cookies also make it easier for you to maintain your preferences and help us to customise the website to suit your preferences.

Broadly speaking, cookies are either "session-based" or "persistent". The former is deleted when you close your browser. The latter is more likely to collect a greater amount of personal information, such as browsing behaviour if so-configured and is deleted manually or on its expiration date.

How we use Cookies

Whilst we use cookies on all our sites, we do not collect or store personal data via the cookies used on our website. We only use essential cookies on our website.

When you, or someone else visits our website, we collect standard internet information as part of a log. For example, this information helps us understand things like the number of visitors that visit our website and what pages they are accessing the most. We collect this information to help further develop our website and understand our users. This information does not individually identify you.

If, in the future, we decide that we do want to collect personally identifiable information by using cookies, on any of our sites, we will be up front about this and notify you via a notification on our website when you visit, and if a change in policy occurs notify website users via email. In this communication we would make it clear when we will collect such personal information, how we will collect it and what we intend to do with it.

For a more in-depth look at how we use cookies please continue reading below.

How can I stop Cookies

If you want to prevent cookies, that's all good. You can, should you chose to, disable the cookies from your browser and delete all cookies that are currently stored on your computer or smart device. If you're unsure how to do this visit the help and support pages of your browser or contact our Webhelp team on su-webhelp@qmul.ac.uk.

However, a reminder that if you choose to disable cookies whilst using our website, it may mean the website does not function correct and may prevent you from taking full advantage of everything our website has to offer. Some websites may fail to work properly which could affect your use and enjoyment of our sites.

Strictly Necessary Cookies

The following cookies are used as they are necessary for the operation and functionality of our website. You can disable cookies at any time – but please remember this may affect your experience on our website and stop it from functioning correctly.

- Remember that you are logged in to our website and that your session is secure when purchasing memberships, event tickets, online shop items or voting in Elections etc.
- Remember your progress during an order for a membership or event ticket, online shop items or voting in Elections.
- Remember what's in your basket.

Functional and 1st Party Cookies

Google Analytics

We use these cookies to collect non-personal information about how people use our website. This information is used to understand and develop our website, compile reports on usage and to monitor our website performance. These cookies collect information in an anonymous form, including the number of visits and visitors to our website, where visitors have come from / been re-directed from and what pages they visit.

These cookies expire at the end of your session on our website, i.e. when you leave our website to go to another website, or when you close your browser.

Google have developed a plugin for browsers which you can install on your device to help you opt out from web analytics reporting if you do not wish to use it. You can find out more [here](#).

[Google Opt Out Tool](#)

[Google Privacy Policy](#)

Targeting Cookies / 3rd party cookies

We do not use targeting cookies on our website.

Third party cookies are cookies that have been written on to your browser or device by a website that is different from the website you are actually visiting (i.e. by a site other than ours, in this case). We do not use any 3rd party cookies.

Appendix: Cookie types in more depth

Strictly Necessary Cookies

Cookie Type	Information about this cookie	When does it expire?
ASP.NET_SessionID	Stores a temporary unique identifier for your session – no other information is stored. This cookie is removed when you close your browser.	Expires on exit of browser
ASPXAUTH	When you are logged in, this cookie stores a value that identifies you to your site. This value is encrypted and can only be read by the server. If you use the Remember Me function this cookie remains on your computer for 3 months, otherwise it is removed when you log out of the site.	Expires on exit of browser or 3 months (optional)
AntiXsrfToken	Implements a preventative mechanism against Cross-Site Request Forgery attacks (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cross-site_request_forgery for further details)	Expires on exit of browser
NREUM	Used by New Relic (performance monitoring) as a workaround for browsers that do not support the Navigation Timing API .	Expires on exit of browser

Google Analytics Cookies

Cookie Type	Information about this cookie	When does it expire?
_utma	Used by Google Analytics to capture and determine unique visitors and the frequency of views. __utma is written to the browser on your first visit to a site (from the browser being used).	2-year expiry
_utmb	Used by Google Analytics to establish and continue your session on the site. Each time you visit a page it is updated to expire in 30 minutes. It expires if you spend more than 30 minutes on a single page.	30-minute expiry
_utmc	Previously used by Google Analytics javascript to define a session status.	6-month expiry
_utmz	Used by Google Analytics to store the type of referral used to reach the site; e.g. direct, link, web search, etc.	Expires on exit of browser