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|  | **Fees / maintenance** | **Research** | **International** | **Other** |
| **Conservatives**  **A picture containing queen, text, clipart  Description automatically generated** | ‘We will look at the interest rates on loan repayments with a view to reducing the burden of debt on students.’  ‘50,000 more nurses, with students receiving a £5,000-£8,000 annual maintenance grant every year during their course to help with their cost of living’ | ‘the fastest ever increase in domestic public R&D spending, including in basic science research to meet our target of 2.4 per cent of GDP being spent on R&D across the economy. Some of this new spending will go to a new agency for high-risk, high-payoff research, at arm’s length from government.’ | ‘Our student visa will help universities attract talented young people and allow those students to stay on to apply for work here after they graduate.’  ‘We will continue to collaborate internationally and with the EU on scientific research, including Horizon.’ | ‘explore ways to tackle the problem of grade inflation and low quality courses, and improve the application and offer system’  ‘strengthen academic freedom and free speech in universities’  ‘strengthen universities and colleges’ civic role’  ‘invest in local adult education’ |
| **Labour**  **A picture containing clipart  Description automatically generated** | ‘Labour will end the failed free-market experiment in higher education, abolish tuition fees and bring back maintenance grants.’  ‘We will introduce a training bursary for nurses, midwives and allied health professionals. We will remove the obstacles to ethical international recruitment.’ | ‘Labour will create an innovation nation, setting a target for 3% of GDP to be spent on research and development (R&D) by 2030. We will achieve this target by increasing direct support for R&D and reforming the innovation ecosystem to better  “crowd in” private investment.’ | ‘If we remain in the EU, freedom of movement would continue. If we leave, it will be subject to negotiations, but we recognise the social and economic benefits that free movement has brought both in terms of EU citizens here and UK citizens abroad – and we will seek to protect those rights.’ | ‘a new funding formula for higher education that: Ensures all public HE institutions have adequate funding for teaching and research. Widens access to higher education and reverses the decline of part-time learning. Ends the casualisation of staff.’  ‘post-qualification admissions’ |
| **Lib Dems**  **A picture containing clipart  Description automatically generated** | ‘Reinstate maintenance grants for the poorest students’  ‘Establish a review of higher education finance in the next parliament to consider any necessary reforms in the light of the latest evidence of the impact of the existing financing system on access, participation and quality’  ‘no more retrospective raising of rates or selling-off of loans to private companies.’ | ‘Increase national spending on research and development to three per cent of GDP.’  ‘publish a roadmap to achieve this ambition … via an interim target of 2.4 per cent of GDP by no later than 2027.’  ‘Increase the Strength in Places Fund, to boost research and development outside the “golden triangle” of Oxford-Cambridge-London.’ | ‘Reverse the damage to universities posed by Brexit and related uncertainty by stopping Brexit and keeping the UK at the heart of the EU.’  ‘Move policymaking on work permits and student visas out of the Home Office and into the Departments for Business and Education respectively’  ‘Create a new two-year visa for students to work after graduation.’ | ‘Raise standards in universities by strengthening the Office for Students’  ‘Require universities to make mental health services accessible to their students, and introduce a Student Mental Health Charter through legislation.’  ‘Ensure that all universities work to widen participation by disadvantaged and underrepresented groups’ |