

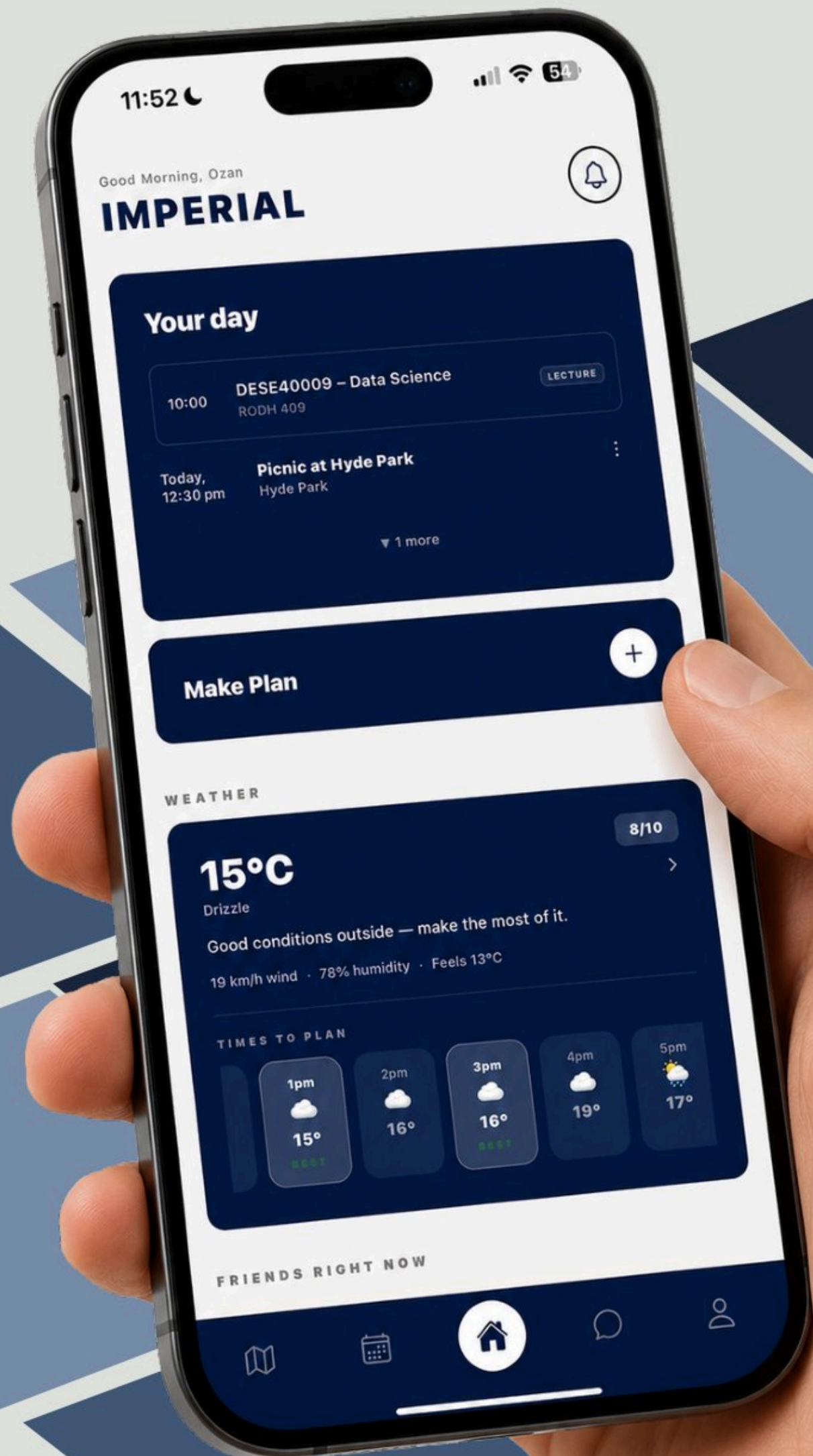
Cooped Up

by 4sD

HCDE 2026

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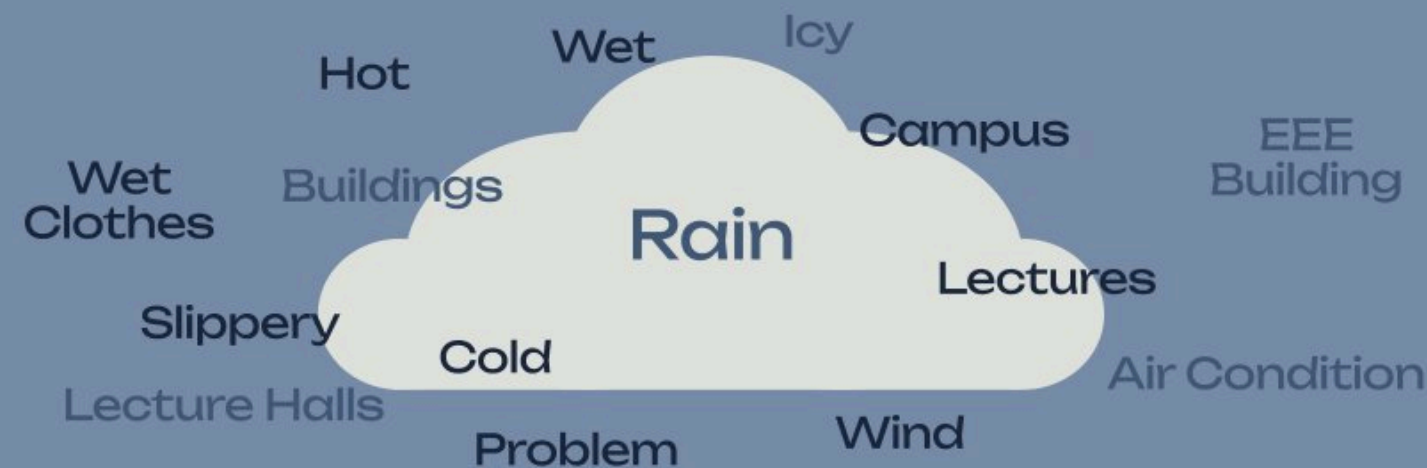
Submitted 04/06/2026



Design Challenge

Weather

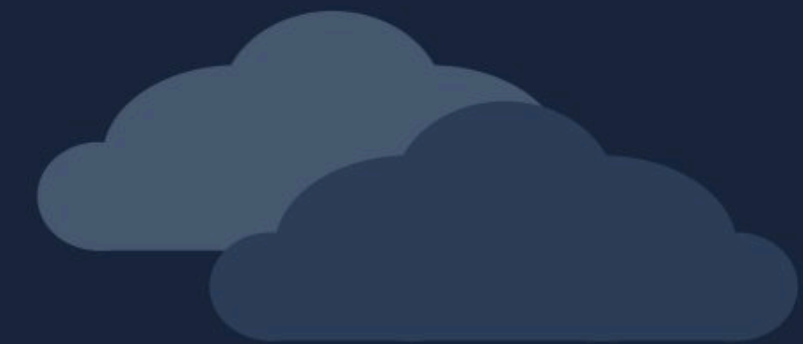
How does weather affect the day to day lives of **Imperial students**?



Insights

When the weather is changeable, **students don't make the effort to move outside**

Long periods of bad weather **restrict student's social life**, keeping them in their rooms



HMW?

How might we prevent weather from limiting students' social life to improve their wellbeing?

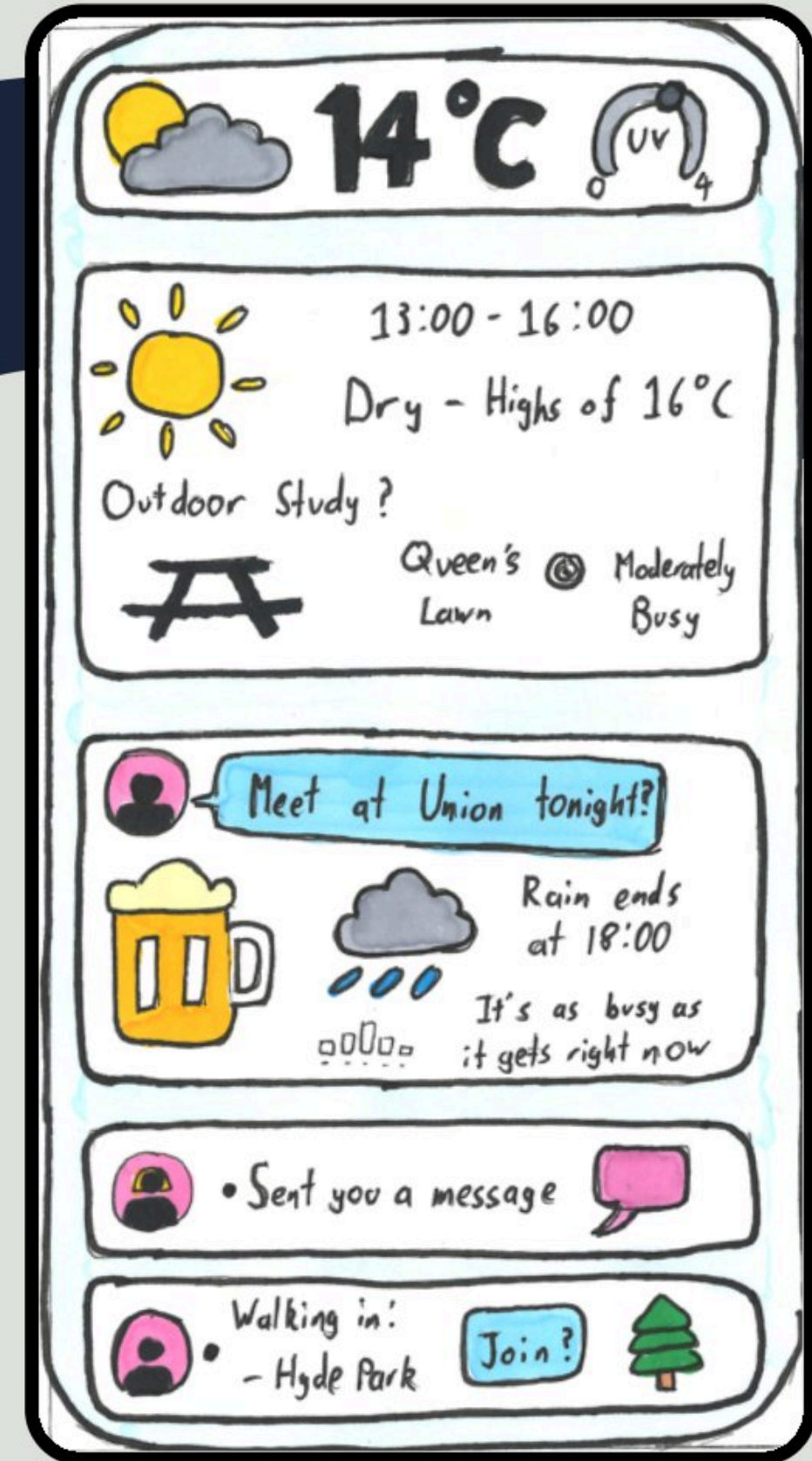
Process

**Encourage
social
interaction**

**Ease
planning**

I am getting
tired of just studying
and not seeing my
friends

I wish I could
spend more time
outside hanging out
with friends or
studying



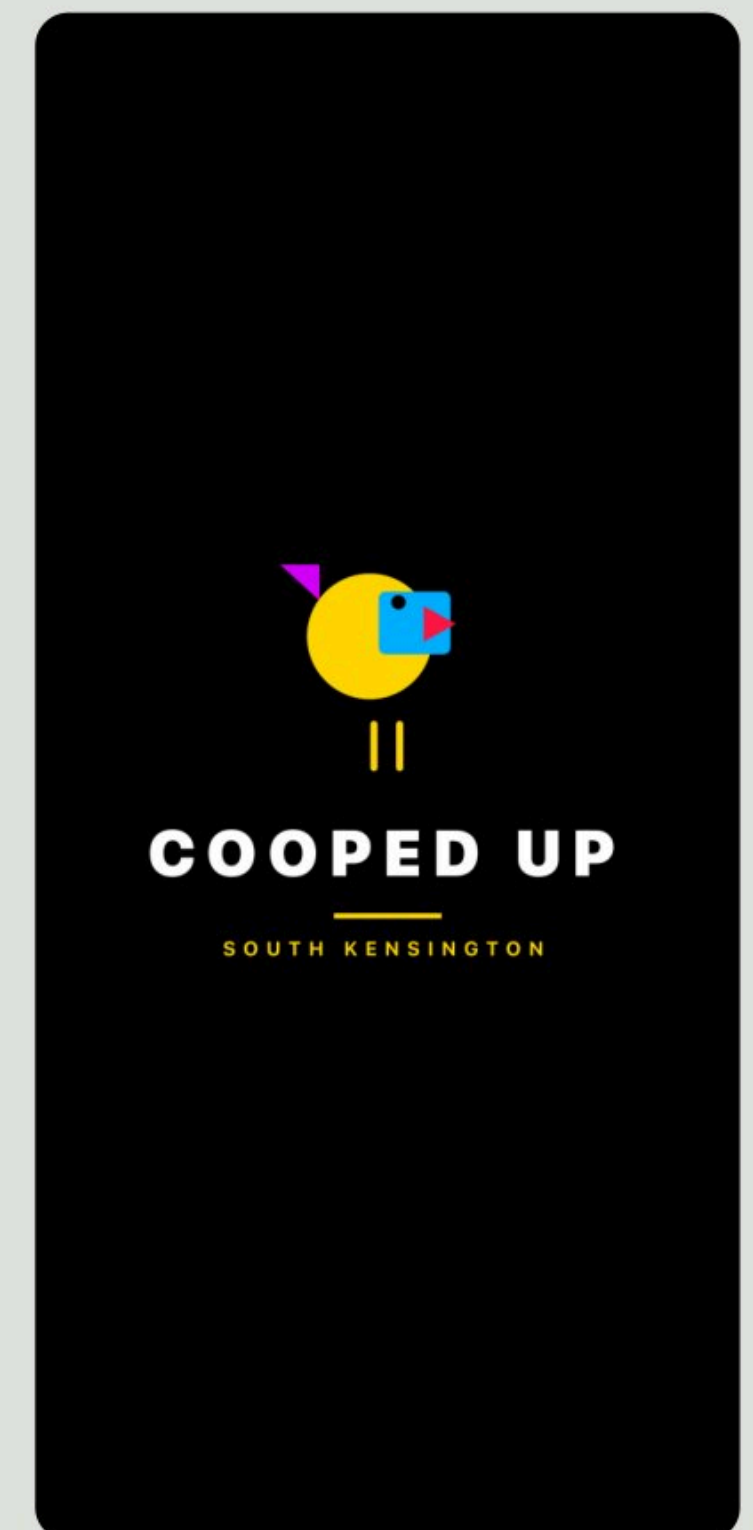
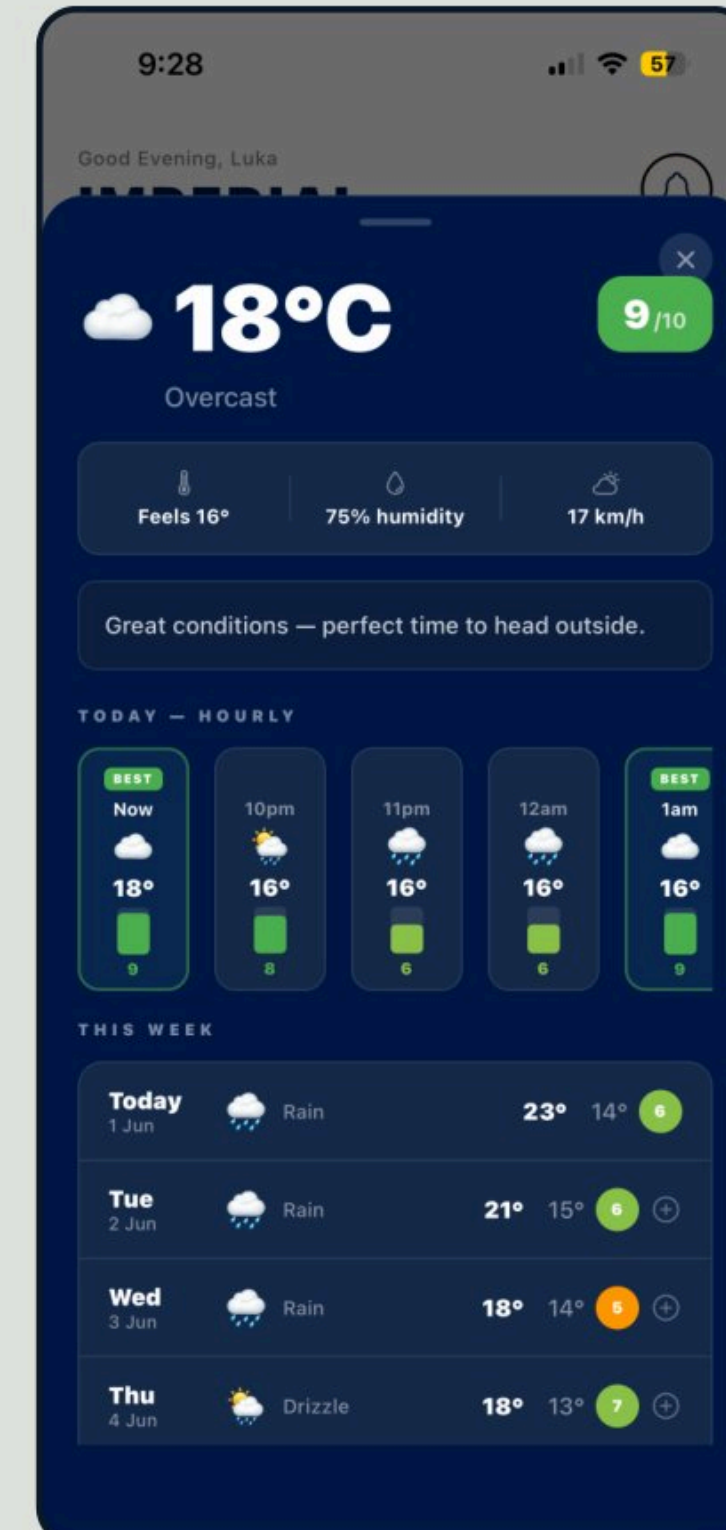
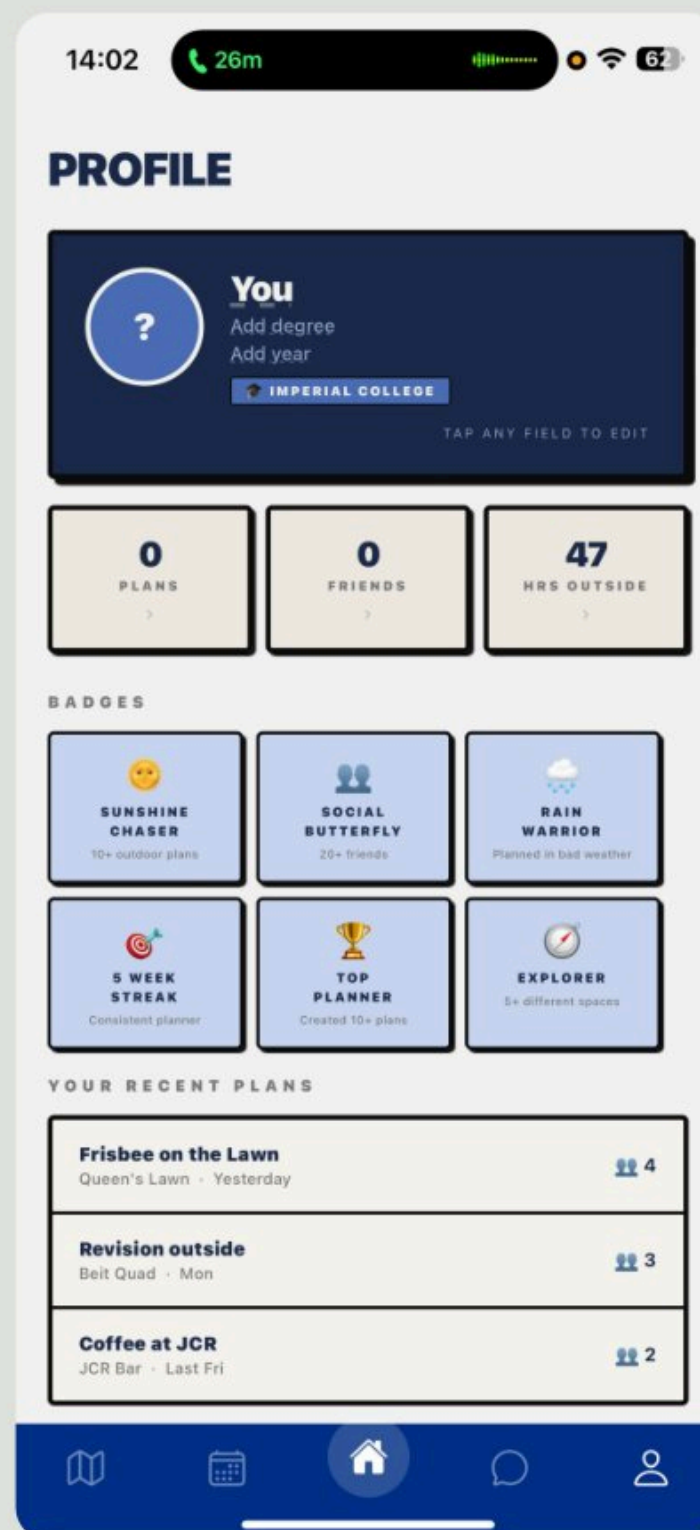
User testing

Interactive activities



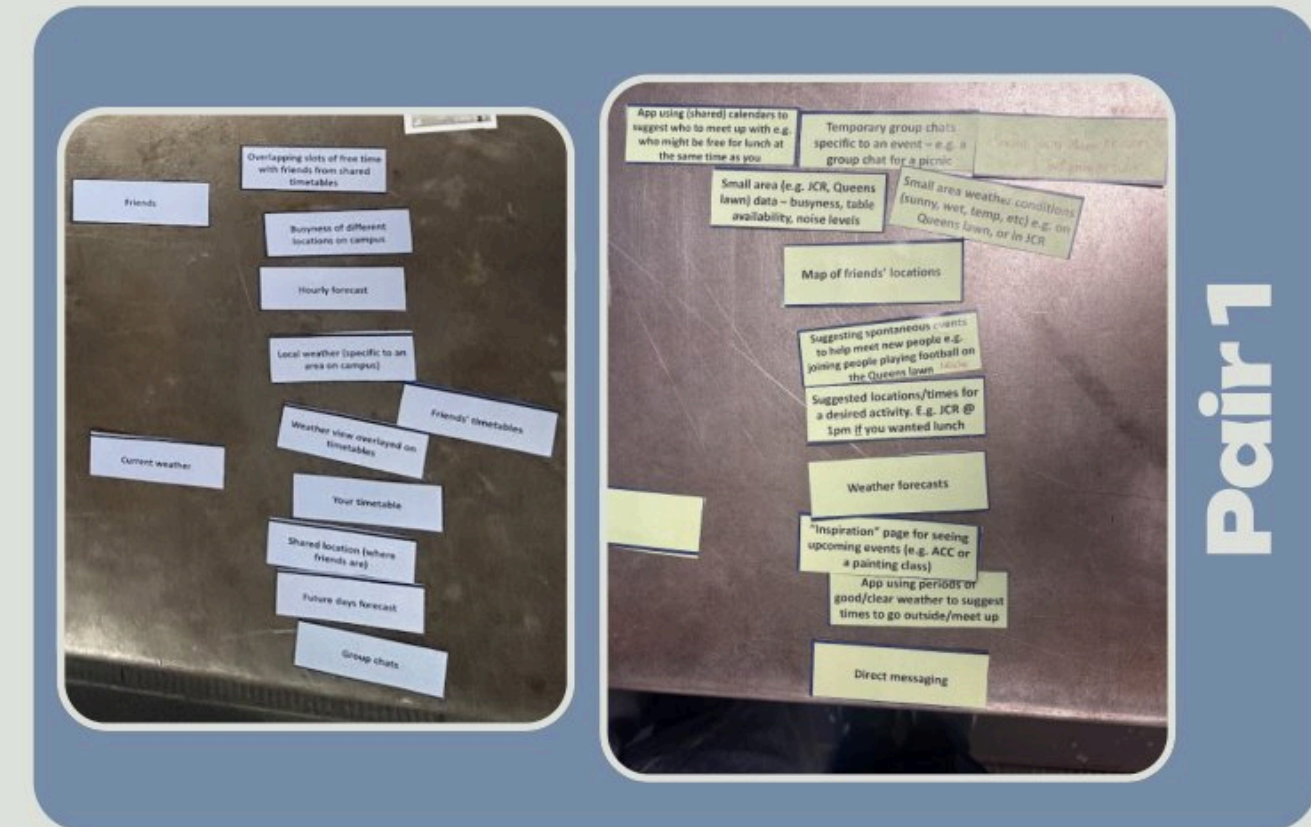
Hands on approach

Functional prototypes

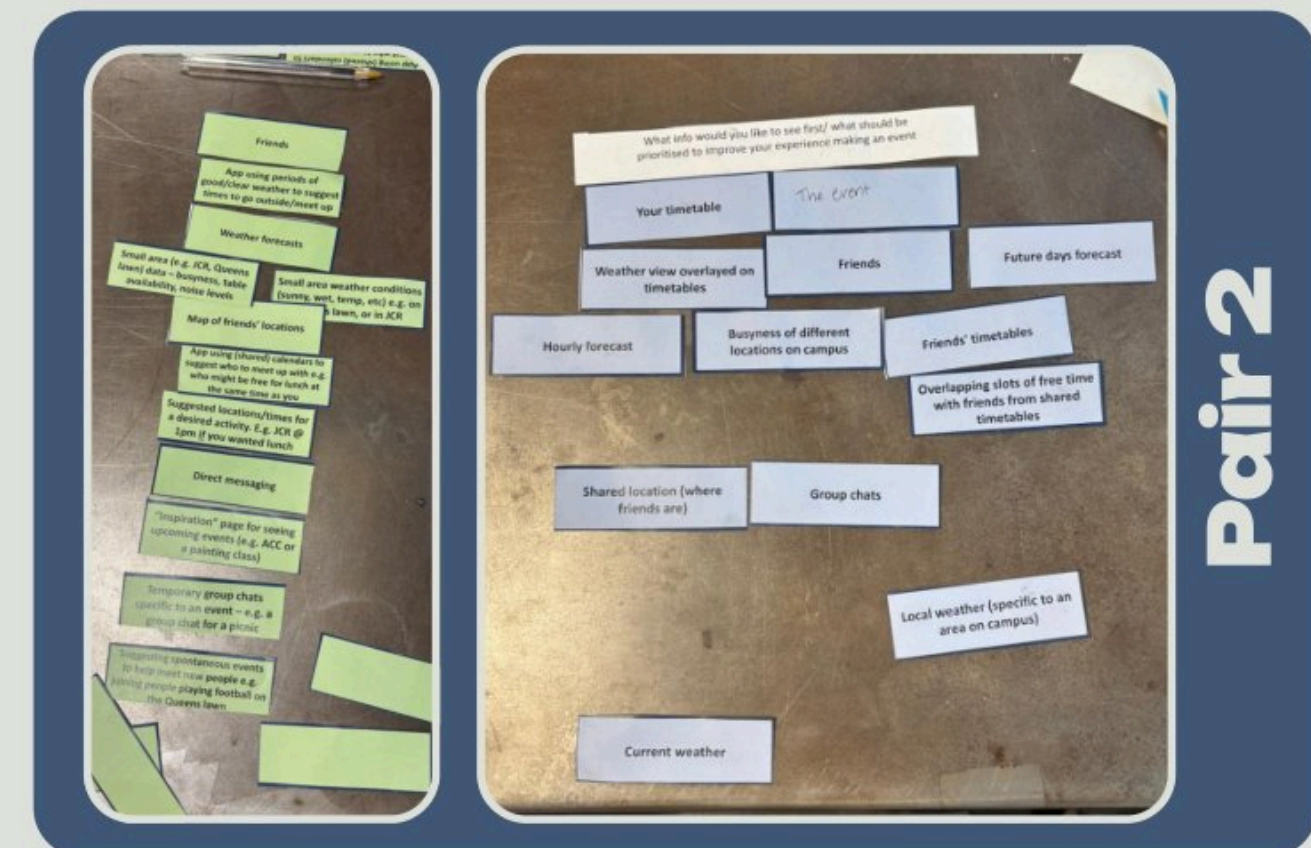


Card ranking

Prioritising features and information



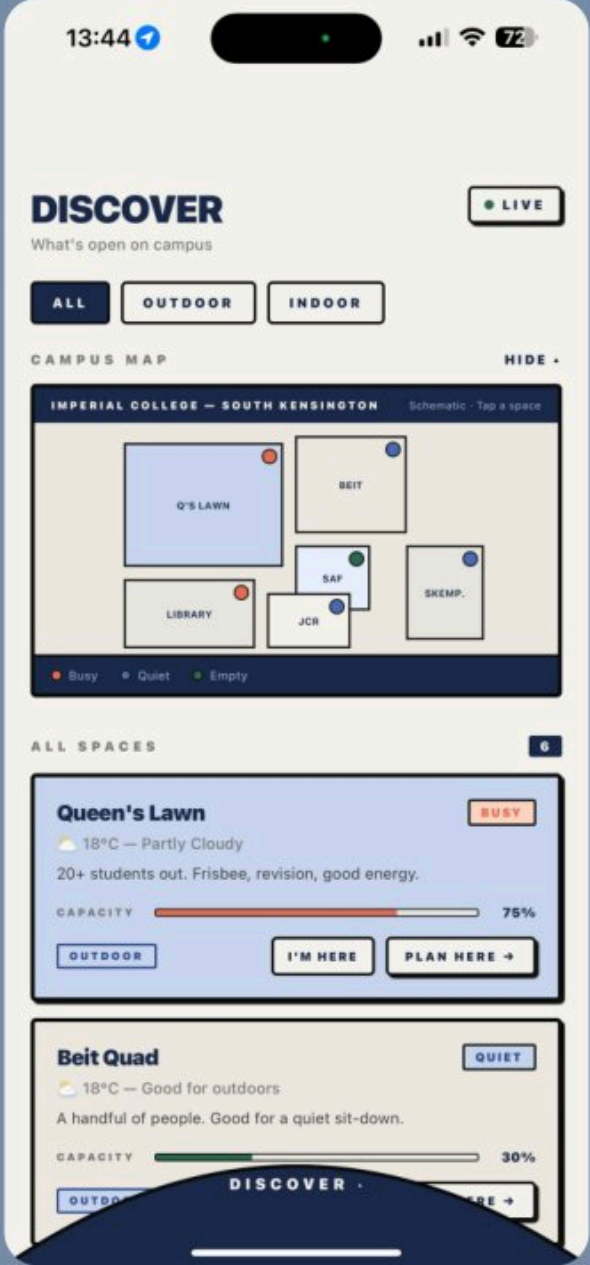
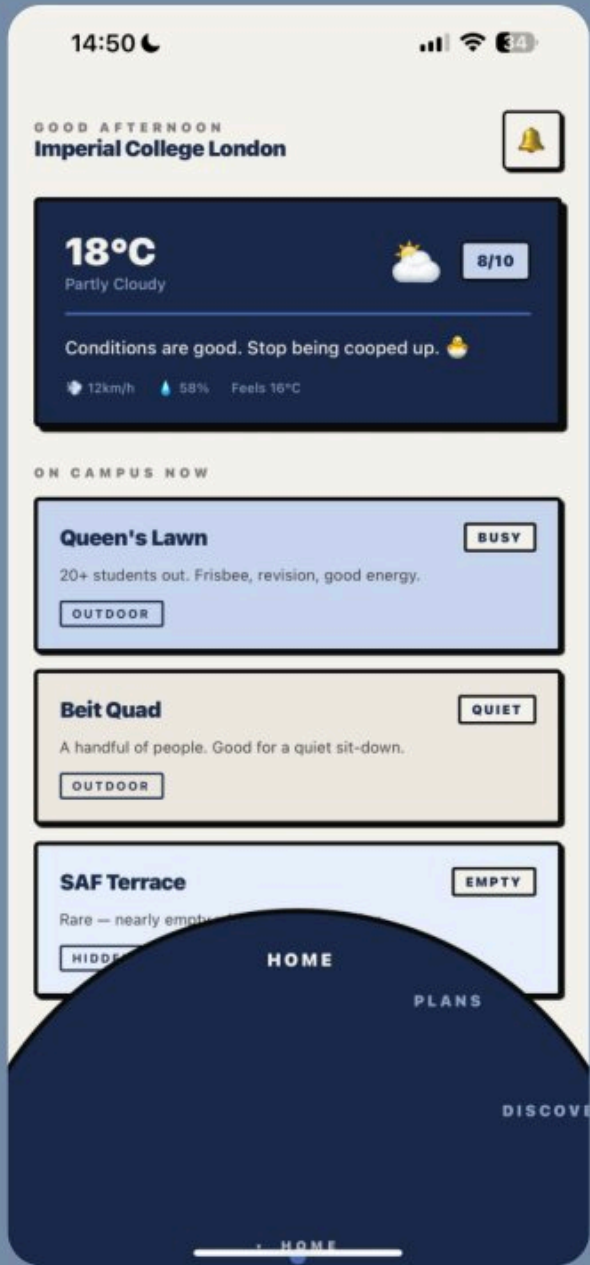
Pair 1



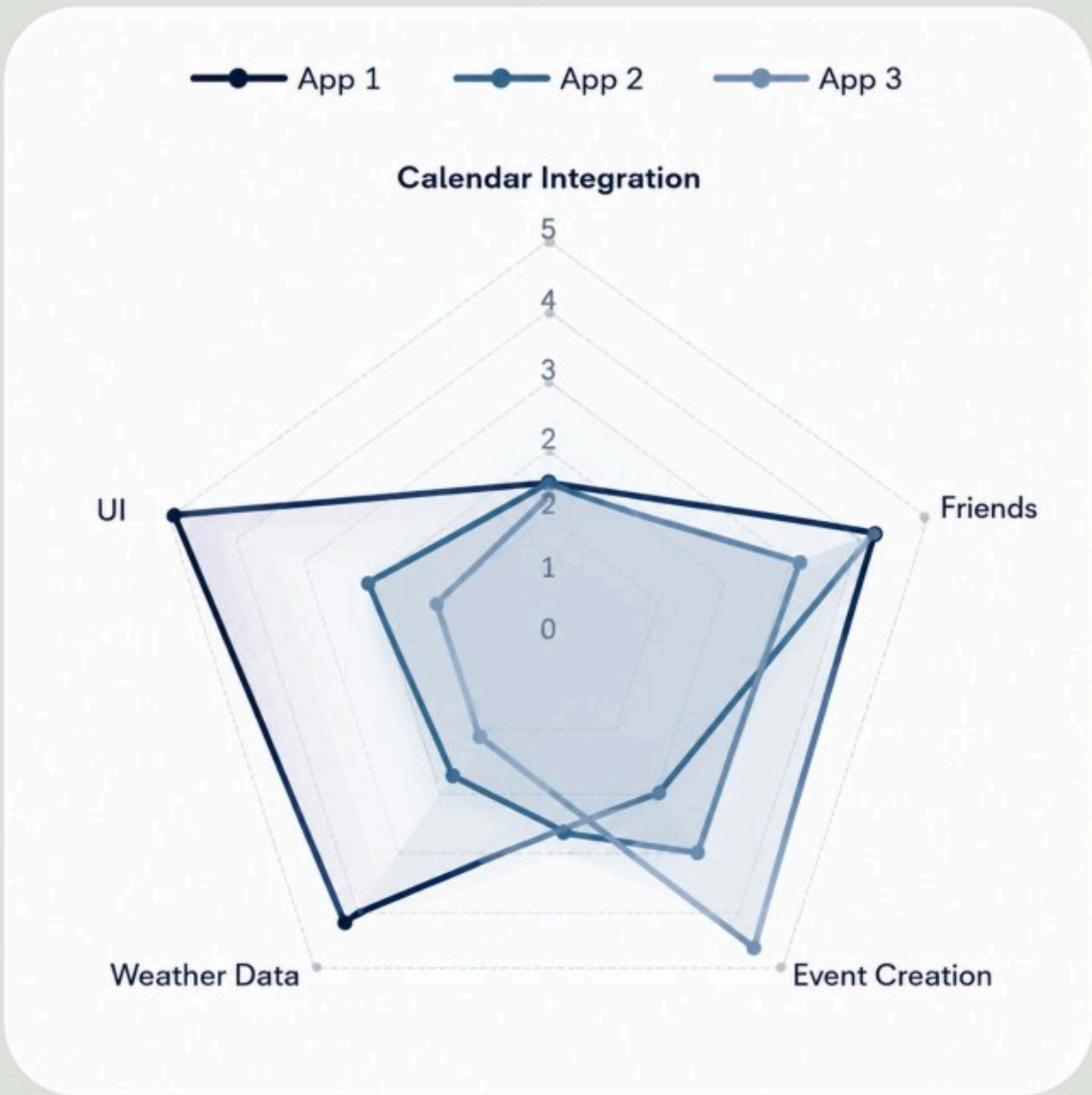
Pair 2

Morphological Prototyping

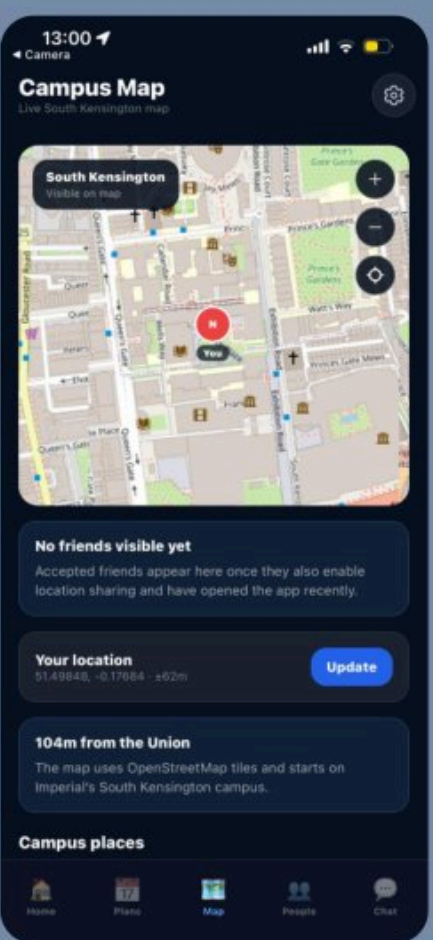
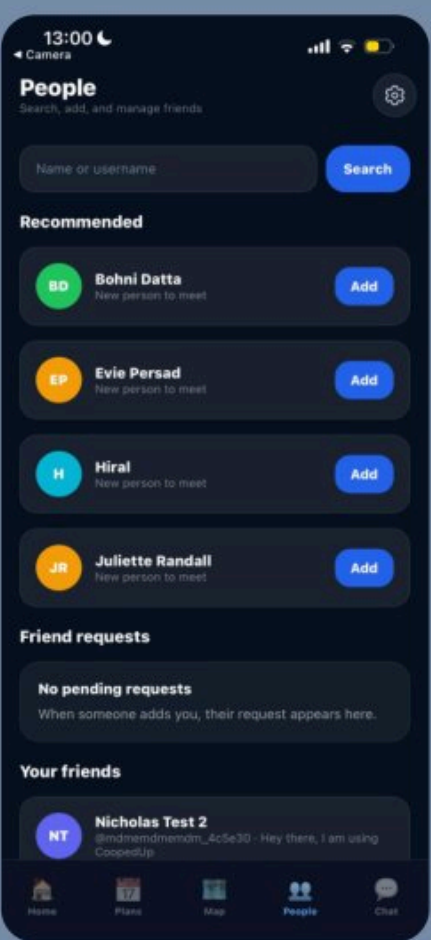
App 1 - Imperial Theme



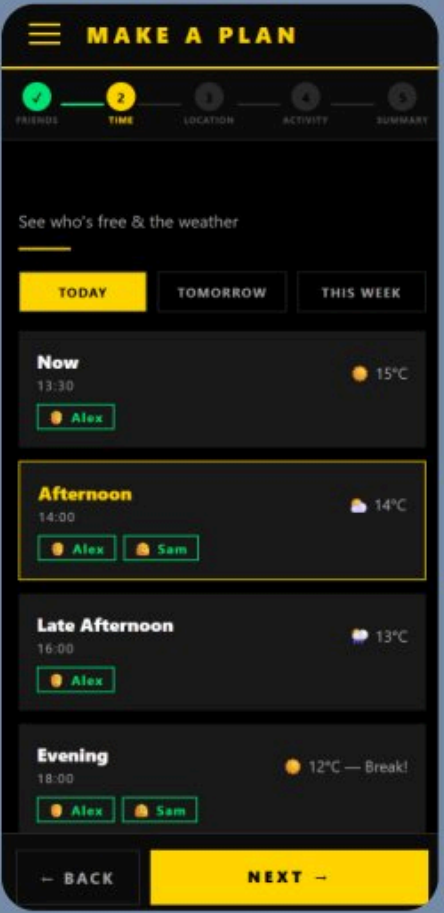
App feature ranking



App 2 - Modern Minimalist

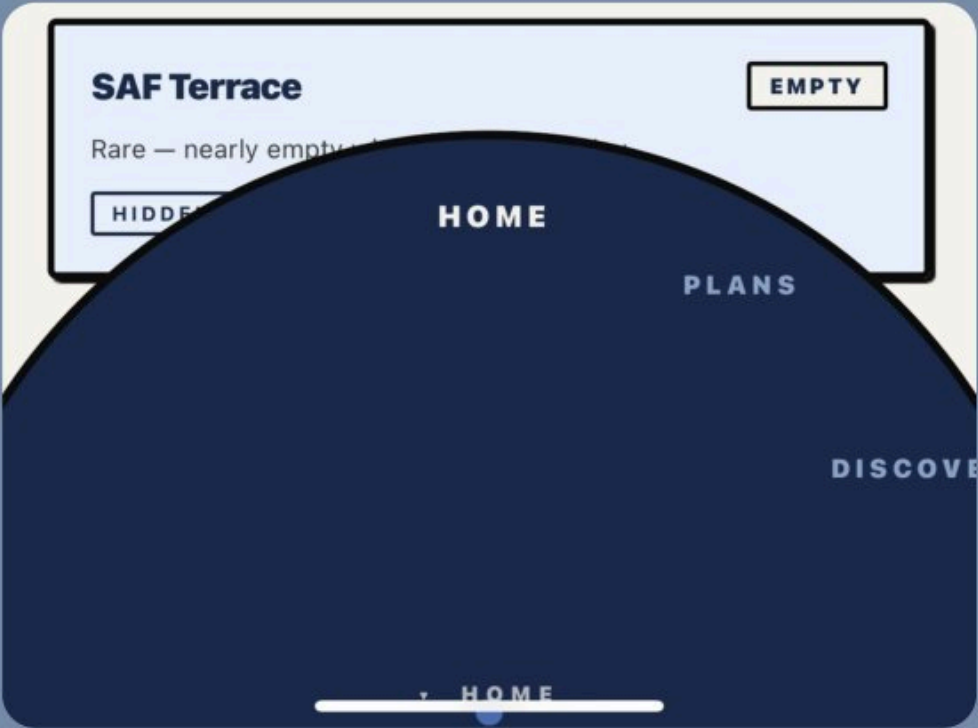


App 3 - Neon Bauhaus



Morphological Prototyping

App 1 dial tab selector



Initially:

“Big fan of the dial”

After a while:

“it’s slow and annoying”

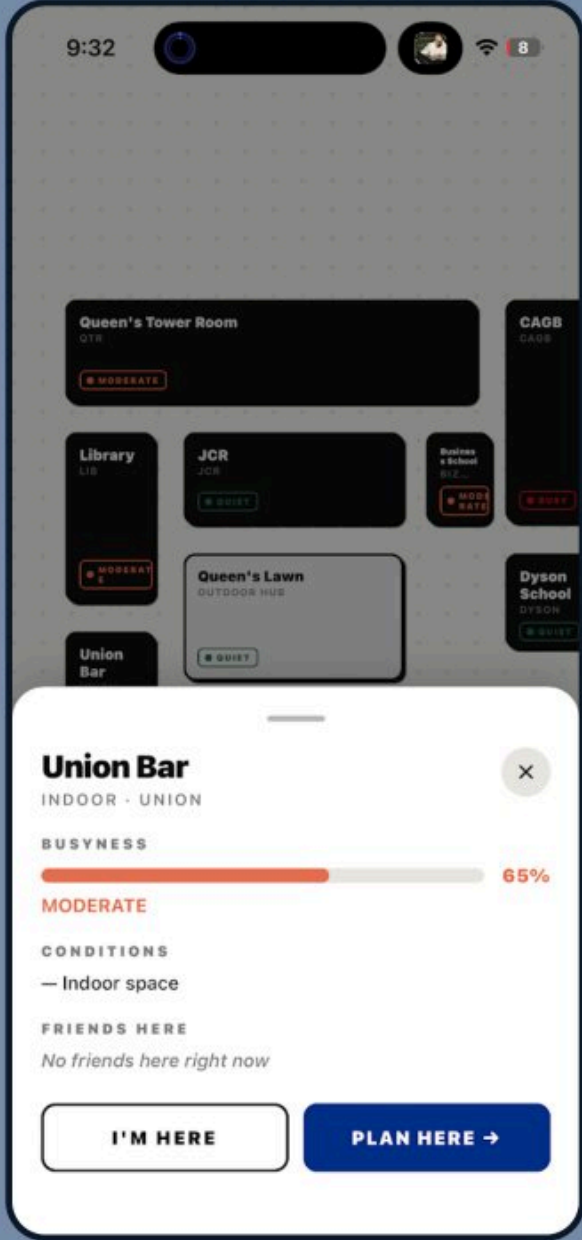
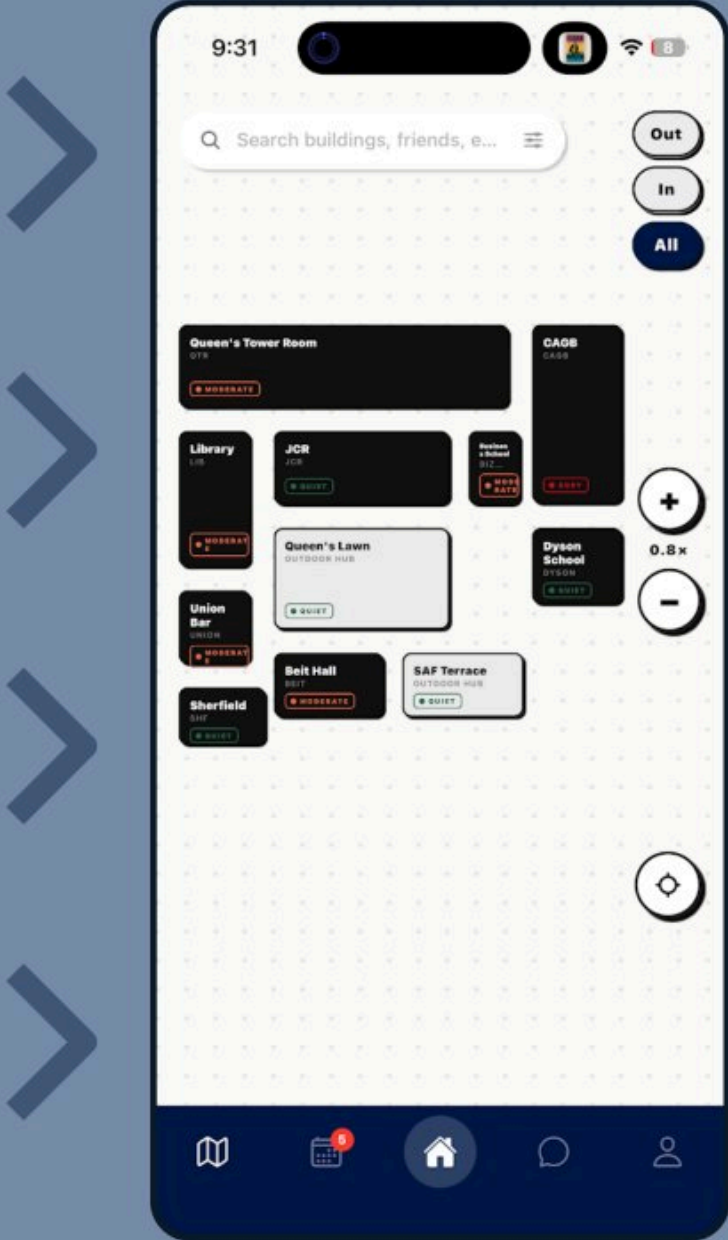
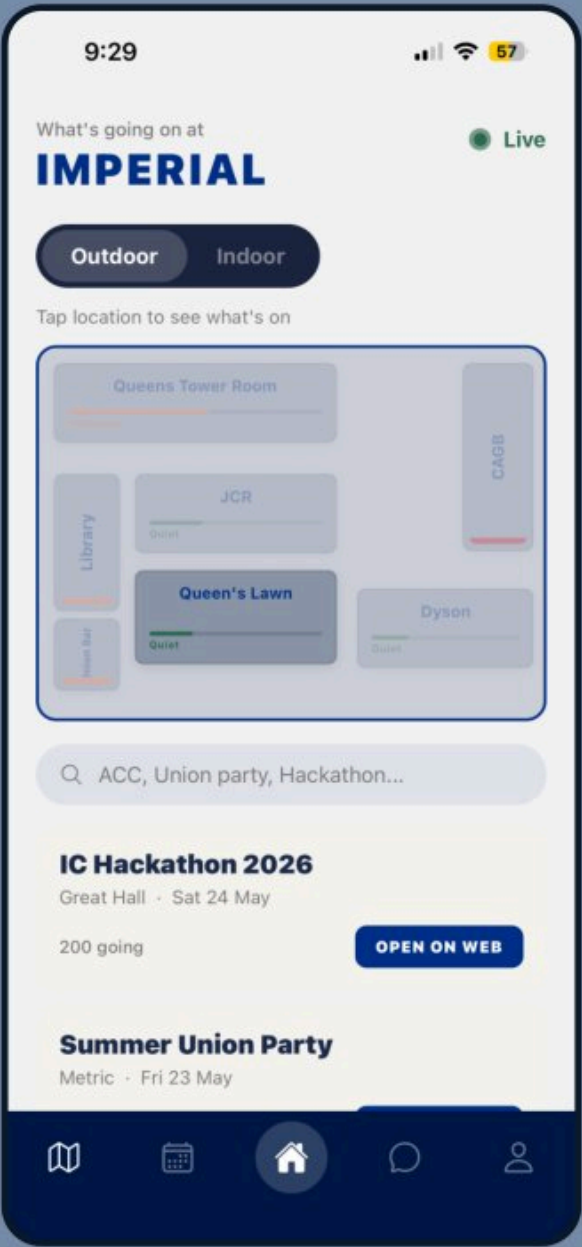


Live testing backend tracking data

total_users	total_plans	total_messages	total_friendships	total_plan_joins	map_interactions
10	14	38	27	31	0

0 map interactions recorded

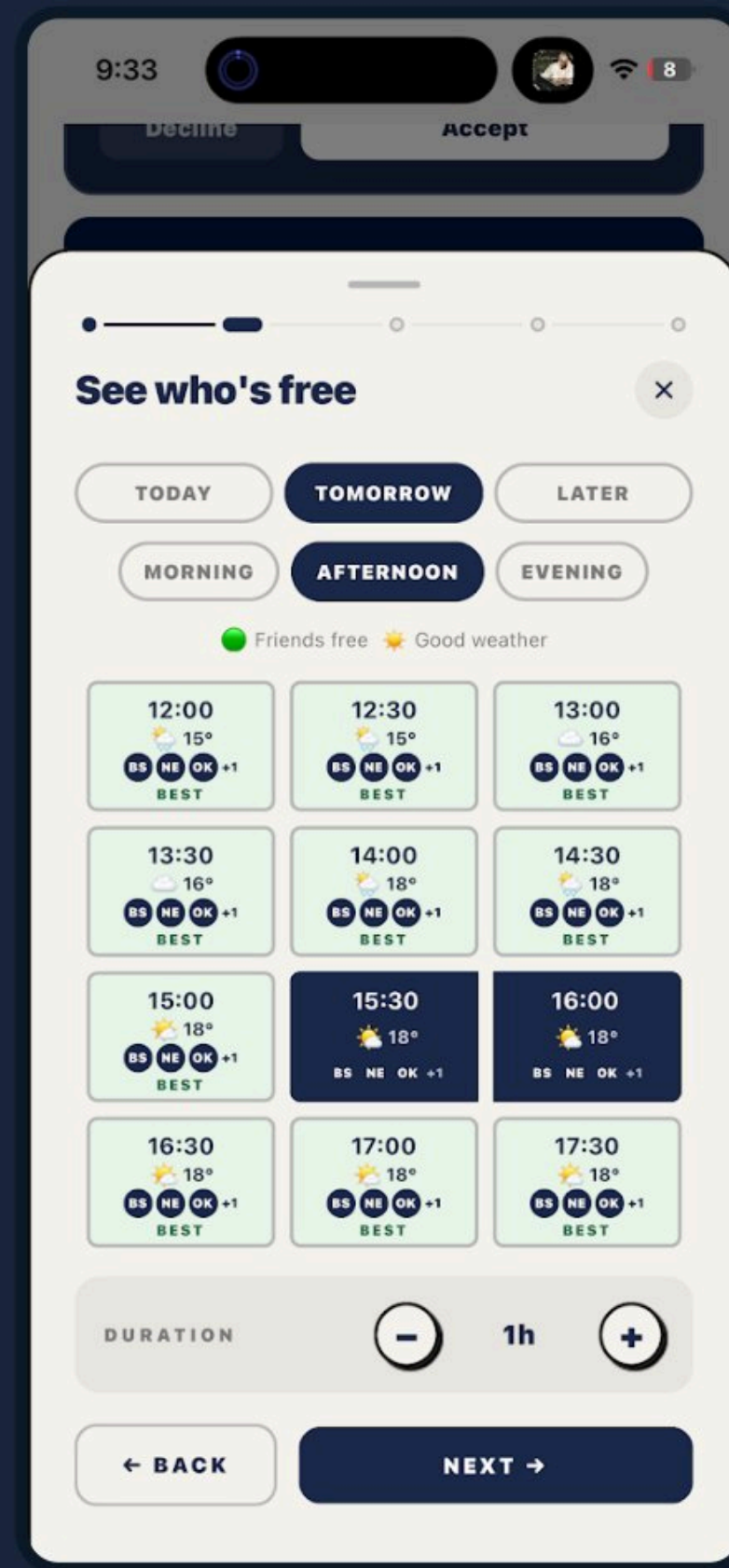
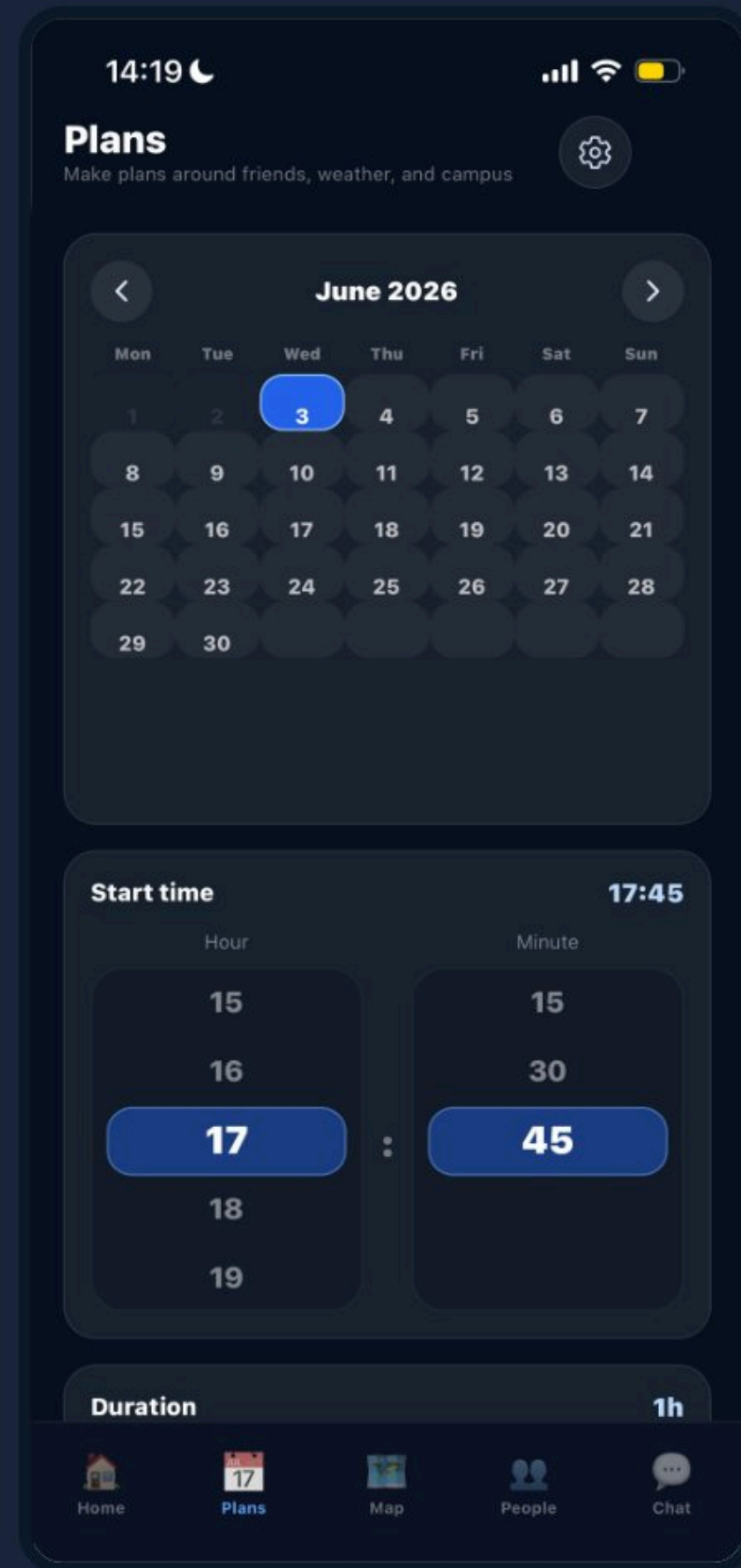
Old



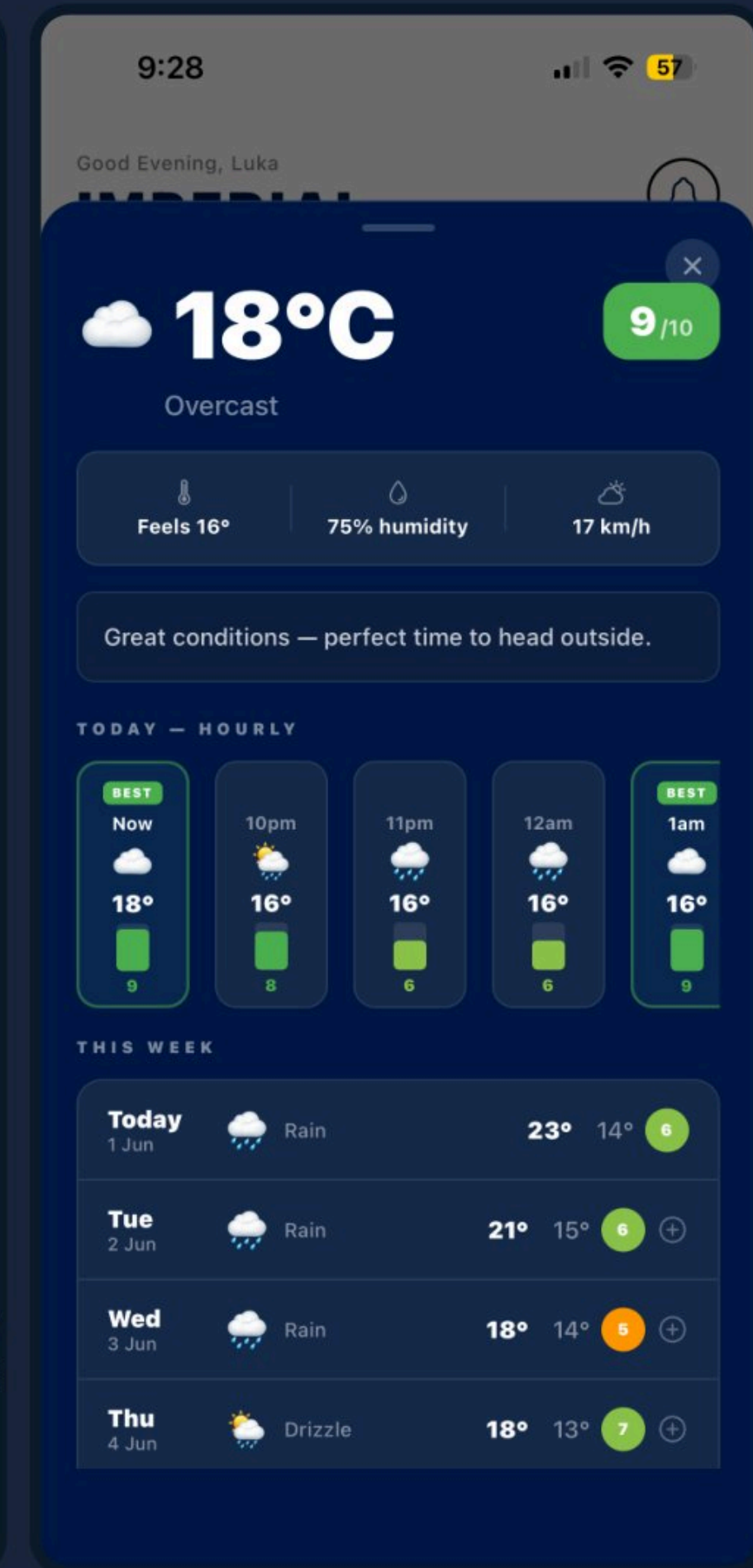
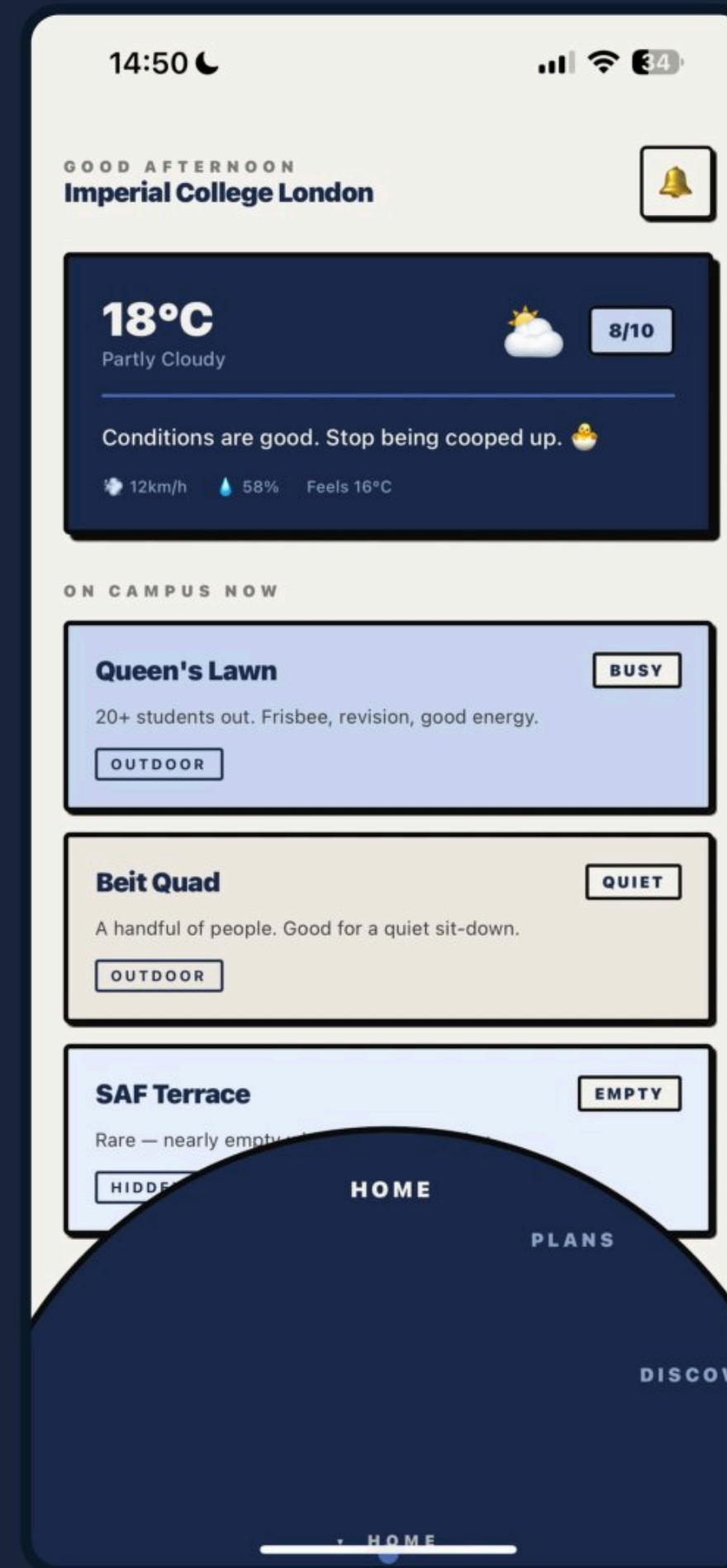
New

Design Iteration

Plan making



Weather integration and planning



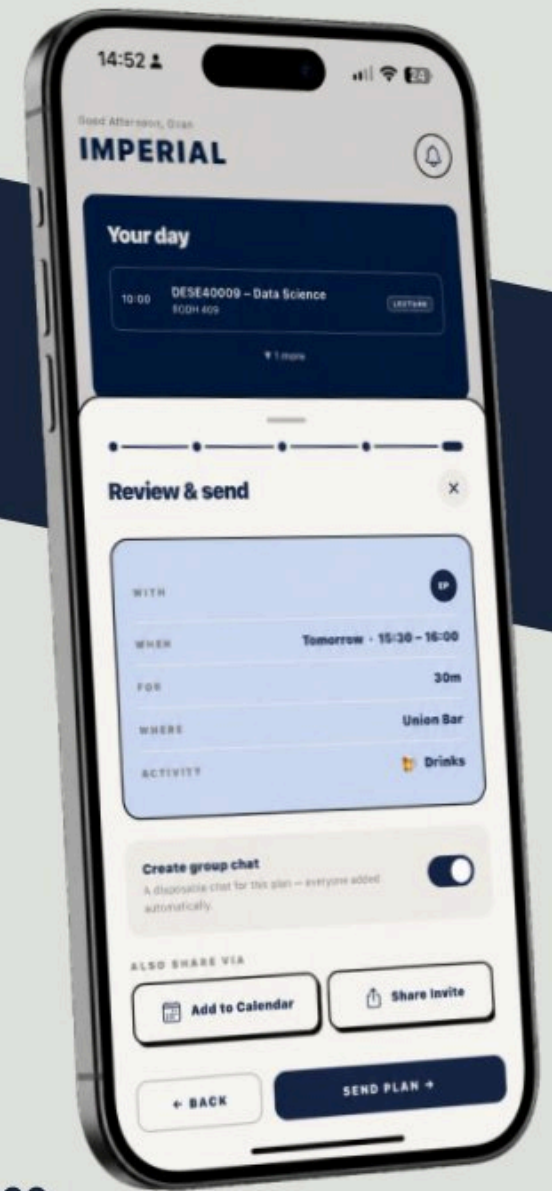
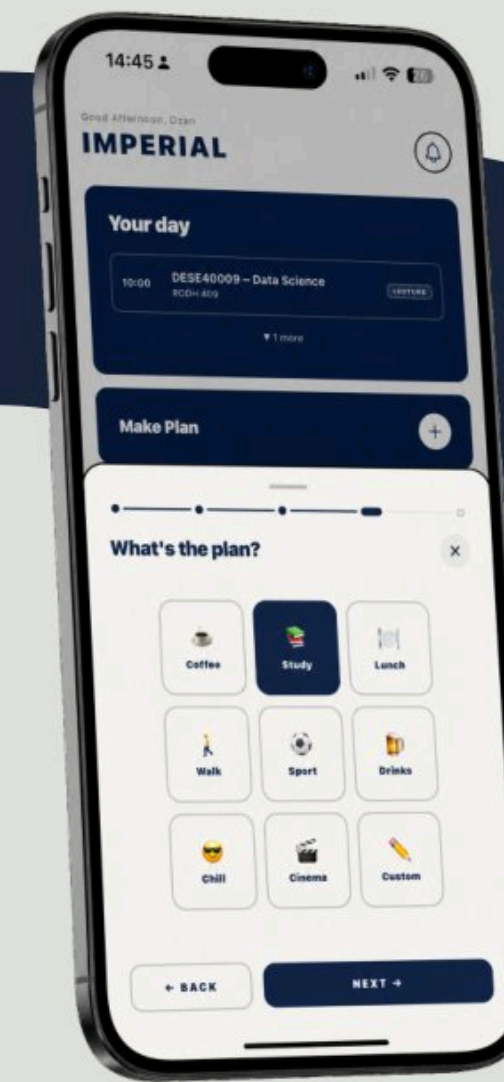
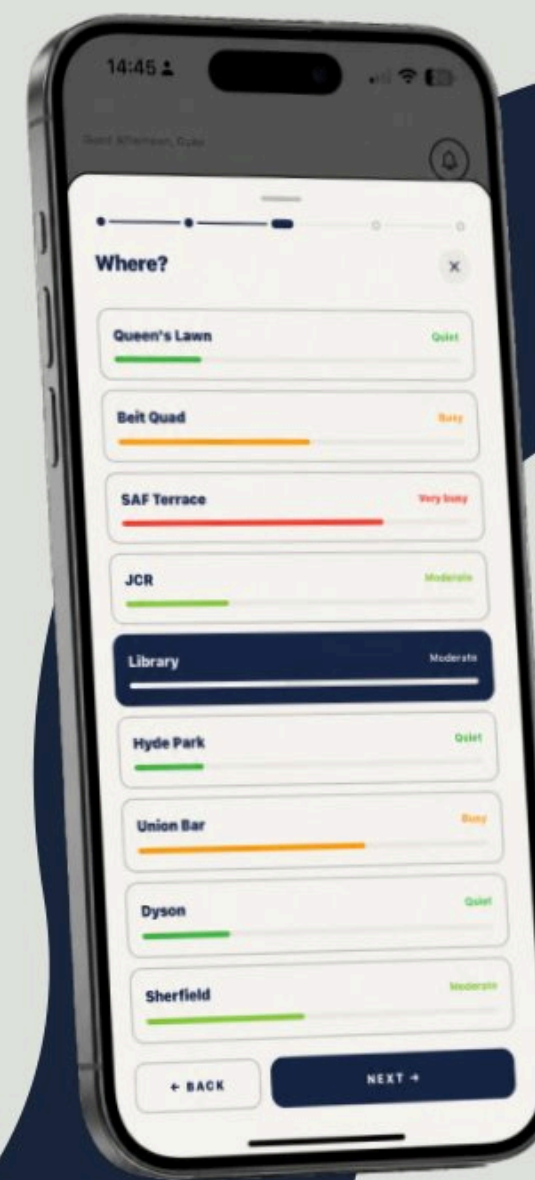
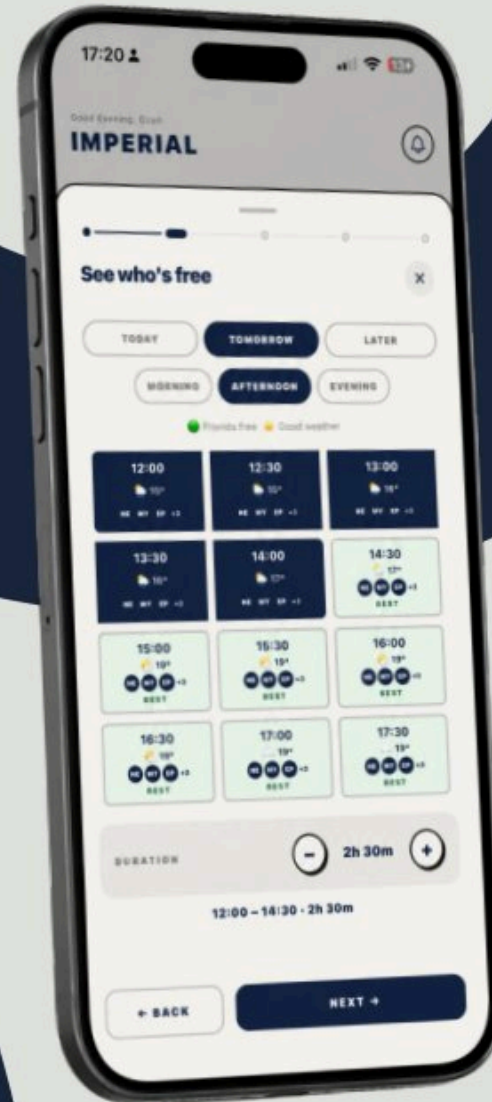
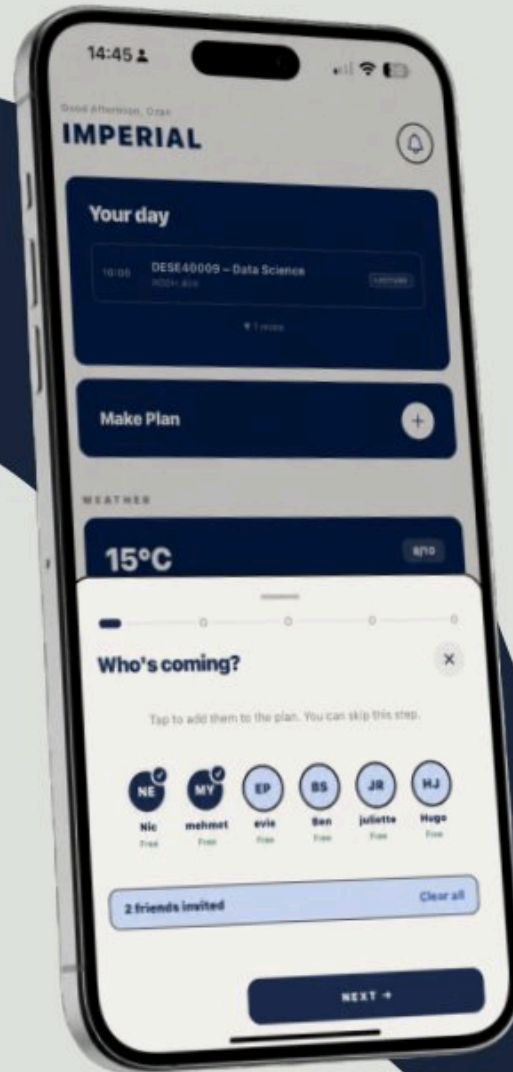
Final design

See who's
free and
when the
weather is
good

And send the invite...

Pick a time
and a place

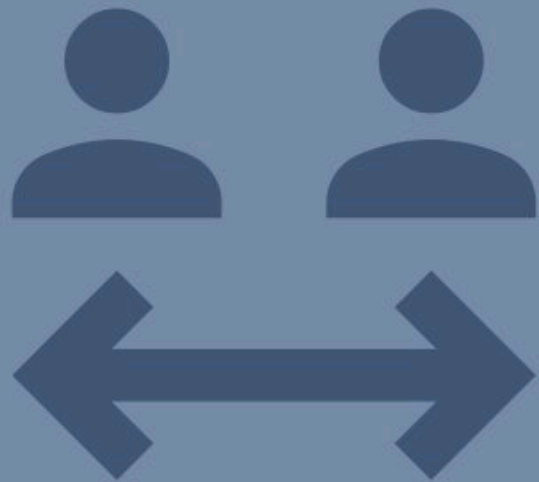
Cooped Up encourages
social interaction for
students, addressing the
restrictions placed on them by
**timetabling and
weather.**



Closing Remarks

Why does it matter?

Weather acts as a **barrier** to the social life of students.



Cooped Up combines **weather forecasts, schedules, availability,** and campus information

Cooped Up helps students maximise their social lives through the use of weather and schedule data

Cooped Up

