Freshers’ Guide
2021-22
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Welcome to New College. Congratulations on your results, and we look forward to you becoming a part of our College community in October!

This guide is organised roughly chronologically taking you through the end of the summer, your first day, your first week, and then giving some general advice. We have tried our best to adapt this guide to possible Covid-19 related scenarios, however please check the 'Dean's Handbook' webpage (https://www.new.ox.ac.uk/deans-handbook) for more up to date information. A more detailed section on Covid-19 can be found later in the Preparations section of the guide. However, the majority of this guide is based upon College life as we hope it'll be when things return to normal. It’s worth giving this guide a read because hopefully many of your questions will be answered somewhere within these very pages.

Before you get here
At this point, we hope you’ll be enjoying one of the longest and most work-free summers you’re ever going to get. Enjoy it, and make the most of the time you have at home. You’ll probably have lots of questions about what to do before you get here. You’ll want to know what to expect in terms of work, and the social side of College life, as well as where you’ll be living for the next 3 terms. We hope that this guide answers some of the questions you might have, and gets you excited for all that’s to come on the journey ahead.

The view from the bell tower (Photo: Joe Dobbyn)
Why haven’t I been asked to choose accommodation yet?
First off, don’t worry that you haven’t been sent anything about choosing accommodation. You’ll be assigned a room, so don’t need to sort anything out yourself. First year rooms range from the mediocre to the ridiculously good. You will all be living in New Buildings, which is one of the best, and most sociable, accommodation blocks in Oxford. Get in touch with Issie Richardson (our housing officer) if you want any info about your room at: isobel.richardson@new.ox.ac.uk.

In your room, you will have a bed (most are singles but there are a handful of doubles), bedside table with lamp, a desk with lamp, a fridge, an Ethernet point and chairs. Most people will have an ensuite but if not, you’ll have access to a shared bathroom. College doesn’t provide bedding, so you’ll need to bring this with you, or order it to be sent to College. You’re also able to personalise your room in whatever way you choose (within limits!). Your room will be cleaned each week by a scout. They are very friendly, as long as your room is reasonably tidy when they come round.

You’ll have access to our laundry facilities (including washers, dryers and irons), food in Hall, and IT and printing facilities. You won’t have access to a kitchen, but it’s still possible to make some food in your room.

A blueprint for the sort of room you’ll be living in over the next year....
What To Bring

General living:
- *Bedding* (remember a duvet and pillows) If you need to borrow this, email the housing officer.
- Towels
- Toiletries
- Hand sanitiser and face masks
- Washing powder and stain remover
- Coat-hangers
- Laptop (and charger)
- Clothes drying rack
- Ethernet cable (if you want to get onto the Ethernet rather than Wi-Fi - advisable as Eduroam can be unreliable)
- Extension cable (multiway adaptor)
- Posters and pins
- Doorstop and over the door hooks
- Washing up liquid and bowl
- Noise-cancelling headphones
- Full length mirror

Work stuff:
- Stationery
- Folders
- Dictionary
- Calculator (subject specific, probably don’t need this if you do English)
- Paper and Notebooks
- Any relevant old notes – You might not use these, but they can be reassuring.
- Hole punch / stapler
- Scissors

Clothes:
- Whatever it is that you like to wear, including clothes for the wet and windy Oxford weather, and for the occasional time when the sun makes an appearance.
- Subfusc (This is what we wear for exams and for matriculation)
- Fancy dress stuff for bops
- Black tie (if you have it)
- Sports kit

Food stuff:
- *Kettle*
- Cloths and tea towels
- Washing up liquid
- Mugs, tumblers, wine glasses, shot glasses etc.
- A few plates, bowls and cutlery

Administration:
- Money and bank cards
- ID (passport and/or driver’s license) for opening bank accounts, and for getting into pubs and clubs.
- Passport photos (useful for Union membership, coxing licenses and other extra-curricular activities)
- LEA/ finance information
- Medical details

The kettle - woman, man, or non-binary person’s best friend
Subfusc

This is Oxford’s academic dress which you wear for exams and matriculation.

Subfusc is:
• Dark suit with dark socks and white bow tie or black ribbon
  OR a black skirt with black tights
  OR black trousers with dark socks
• A plain white collared shirt
• Black shoes
• A gown and mortarboard

Included in this pack will be an advertisement for the gown and mortarboard, so you can buy it in advance. Alternatively, there are many shops in Oxford, where you can buy these things once you arrive. They usually come in a package with a black ribbon or white bow tie.

Storage

The JCR and College run an external storage scheme where you can store the things you don’t need to take home every vacation securely at Charles Wood and Sons (our external storage provider).

College funds some free storage for the following groups of people: international students, students from Scotland, Wales, NI or Channel Islands, students who live more than 4 hours away from Oxford and students whose family/friends cannot pick them up at the end of term. Issie, your housing officer, will be in touch with more details about this later in term!

Optional extras:

• Cushions, rugs, teddy bears, plants, books, films, photographs and anything else that will make your room feel more like home.
• Musical instruments.
• A printer. Yes, you can use College printers, you just might find having your own a bit more convenient.
• Bike. Bring one with you, or buy when you get here, there are loads of second-hand bike shops. There are also a few College bikes available to borrow!

Stuff you are NOT allowed:

• Toasters, ovens, microwaves, electric paella pans.
• Pets.
• Cars.
• Candles (decorative or otherwise) and other fire hazards.
• Offensive weapons.
• Blu-tack (It damages the paint on the walls, but you do get a pin board for posters and stuff).
• Mains-powered fairy lights. Battery-powered are fine, though!
Preparation

What work should I do beforehand?

Your tutors should have got in touch to let you know what work they expect you to have done before you start, and you may have a reading list to work through. Don’t worry if you haven’t heard anything from them though; some tutors will not set any holiday work. Your subject rep, will probably have recommendations for books that are really important or suggest places to look for useful resources. You will be able to contact your subject rep through the Academic Affairs Officer, Katie Brooker (see page 33). Don’t be afraid to get in touch and ask them any questions.

Anything else I need to sort out?

Yes. Firstly, you’ll need to fill in some forms that will be sent to you shortly after receiving your exam results, including a passport sized photo for your Bod Card. You’ll have this card for all the years of your degree, so make sure it’s a photo you don’t mind looking at every day. More on the Bod Card in a bit. Unlike a passport photo, you can smile for your Bod Card photo!

Secondly, there is a booklet of information about IT on the website, and it’s a good idea to read this and sort that out all things IT before you arrive. It shouldn’t take too long to set up your Single Sign On account and your access to Eduroam.

Your Single Sign On is a really important username and password combination, that enables you to access, among other things, your online library account (SOLO), Weblearn (Oxford’s virtual learning site), and your emails. It takes the form newcXXXX and the password can be changed to one of your choice. Make sure to write this down as it’s easy to forget things in the hustle and bustle of Freshers' Week. You will also have to set up multi-factor authentification for security purposes, but there is a really handy webpage that explains all of this: https://help.it.ox.ac.uk/mfa. You’ll also be able to access your Oxford email using your Single Sign On. Once set up, you can access it from owa.nexus.ox.ac.uk. Anyone will be able to email you on firstname.surname@new.ox.ac.uk. (If in doubt about other people’s email addresses, you can search for currently active Oxford nexus email users here: http://www.ox.ac.uk/staff).

Eduroam is a Wi-Fi network that you can access from University buildings around Oxford, and at University campuses worldwide. It’s worth bearing in mind that you do need to register your log-on and password for this before you get to Oxford because you can’t do it over College Wi-Fi (although don’t worry if you haven’t, it does work over 3G). Eduroam has a different username and password combination to your Single Sign On.
The log-on takes the form FIRSTNAME.SURNAME@NEW.OX.AC.UK and you set a password of your choice.

I'm an International Student, do I need to do anything differently?

As an international student, you will likely be arriving at College before the UK students, which will give you time to get settled living in the UK with the help of some events put on specifically for you. Dependent on travel guidelines and restrictions, you may have to quarantine in the UK before term begins. Also, a few things are on our packing list that you shouldn’t bring with you, but should instead buy in Oxford. There will be an International Students Guide on the website but if you have any more questions please do get in touch with Sam Moore, the International and Overseas Officer (see page 32), or check out this University website: https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/new/international.

Don’t bring, but buy

- Kettle
- Pillow and duvet (purchase online at www.galilarde.com/oxfordnew and have them sent to the College before you arrive; a small number of rooms have double beds so check with the Accommodation Manager (ellen.baker@new.ox.ac.uk) before you arrive)
- Mugs, glasses, plates, bowls, cutlery, etc.
- Coat hangers
- Bike

Phones in the UK:

Since you probably won’t be in the UK for the full year we recommend getting pay-as-you-go. Giffgaff has a nice offer with unlimited texts, 500 UK minutes and 2GB of mobile data for £8 per month. You can order your sim card online and have it delivered to College so you already have it before you arrive (YOUR NAME, New College, and Oxford, OX1 3BN). For international calls, Skype/Zoom is a good option, or you could get your SIM card from Lebara, which has reasonable per minute prices for international calls.

Think about banking:

You should check whether your bank has a branch in the UK or a cooperation with a UK bank. Otherwise, Oxford SU Freshers' Fair will give you the chance to chat to different UK banks if you’re undecided. You’ll also be able to set up a bank account there and then, if you have the necessary documents (A valid passport or EU identity card) and a student enrolment certificate (you need to get this stamped by College) and can ask the International and Overseas Students officer, Sam Moore email: samuel.moore@new.ox.ac.uk for help with this.

Transferring money:

If you want to pay your battels/tuition fees from a foreign bank at the beginning of term, we recommend using transferwise.com. It will save you the complications that might arise from different currencies and additional fees.
COVID-19 Information

Both the College and the JCR Committee are committed to making sure your student experience is as normal and enjoyable as possible whilst ensuring government guidance on coronavirus is followed. Below is everything we currently know about College life for Michaelmas term, however this remains highly dependent on government restrictions and could be subject to change. We hope all the restrictions will have been lifted by the start of term, but if they’re not we have procedures to support and protect you.

Key things that you may be asked to do are:

- Wear a face covering inside College buildings
- Keep a safe distance when queuing for meals in the food Hall
- Keep a safe distance when sitting in College spaces (the Hall, the Library, the Café…)

You may also be grouped into small households to avoid lots of people having to isolate if someone tests positive.

There will continue to be hand sanitiser stations around College which we really encourage you to use. For more information, please check the University’s and College’s Covid-19 Links on this webpage: https://www.new.ox.ac.uk/deans-handbook

General

We plan to have a normal academic year without COVID restrictions, but will be bound by Government guidance at the start of term. All events, teaching, and socialising will be subject to possible restrictions, and tutorials will likely be a mixture of online and in person depending on what's possible at the time.

Self-Isolation and Household Groups

If you develop symptoms of the virus, you will need to get a test within 48 hours and self-isolate. If you do need to self-isolate, College will provide you with a ‘wraparound’ care package to make sure you have access to everything you need. This will include meals delivered to your room, and other general care. If you’ve been in contact with someone who has had symptoms, you will likely be asked to self-isolate too.

Should the Government require us, the College has divided the site into smaller COVID households. These ‘Household groups’ are groups of students using shared facilities, such as a kitchen or bathroom. They are not related to social groups, and are purely based on accommodation. If someone in your household group has to self-isolate, then everyone in that ‘household’ must self-isolate too. This is the only time household groups will come into play. However, most 1st and 2nd years have ensuite bathrooms and no kitchens. If you have an ensuite bathroom, you will essentially be in a ‘1 person household’ and so will not have to self-isolate if someone else on your staircase or floor has to.
Provided social distancing measures are correctly followed and face coverings are worn, you can socialise with any student in College. International students should contact College for specific enquiries about arrangements for them. You can contact admissions@new.ox.ac.uk.

Dining Hall and the Bar
Formals and dining in hall will depend upon the restrictions at the time. Hopefully, the hall will be open for you to experience, with the usual alternating MCR/JCR guest nights on Friday, formals on Sunday and themed dinners on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There will also be early self-service options each evening. The bar will be open! Depending on Government restrictions, perspex screens on tables and a reduced capacity may remain in the bar/buttery (café) in order to keep everyone safe.

Even if there are changes to this at the start of term, we are hoping to provide some semblance of College life when catering safely which can be built on if need be.

The Junior Common Room/Social Spaces
The JCR will be open this year! Possibly with a reduced capacity, but this again will depend on restrictions closer to the time. If that does happen, more rooms will be available for undergraduate use, namely the Red Room and the Christopher Cox Room. In terms of sports grounds, we will still have access to the Weston Sports grounds and the university gym (dependent on restrictions) so there should be plenty to do!

The Library
The library will be open, with social distancing and protective measures in place dependent on Government restrictions.

Visitors to College
Visitors will be allowed under the usual rules (which can be found in the Dean’s Handbook linked on page 10)! But this is subject to any COVID restrictions that may be in place at the time.

Freshers’ Week
We have been working hard to plan lots of fun events for you, to replicate a normal New College Freshers’ Week. Right now, it looks like a relatively normal Freshers' Week can go ahead, but this is completely dependent on Government restrictions. Whatever happens, we have several back up plans for all the events we have planned so that we are prepared for whatever the Government restrictions may be.
Freshers’ Week

WHEN YOU GET HERE
The following page entails the provisional plan for your arrival. If anything important changes we will let you know. You can also check the New College Offer Holders webpage (https://www.new.ox.ac.uk/offer-holders) for more up to date information.

When do I arrive?
You’ll be arriving early if you’re an international student. Everyone else should arrive at College between 10am and 4pm on Monday in 0th week (04/10/21).

What do I do when I get here?

Parking
You’ll be able to park on Holywell Street. There will be a team of people in committee sweatshirts to help you (they are the JCR committee and Freshers’ Week team). They will get you a parking permit from the porters, so you’ll be able to leave the car on the street for 20 minutes or so.

Collecting your keys
Head to the Porters’ Lodge, where you can collect your room key. The porters will tell you where your room is, and the person who is helping you out will be able to take you there.

Registering
The person helping you will take you to either Lecture Room 6 or 4. There, you’ll need to enroll, and pick up your Bod Card (University card). You will have your photo taken for the Who’s Who as well, a document to help you get to know everyone in your year as soon as possible.

Unpacking
Unloading everything from the car into your room shouldn’t take too long, and 2nd years will be on hand to help in anyway they can. If your room is at the top of several flights of stairs, don’t be afraid to ask for help!

Freshers’ Marquee
Once you’ve got all your stuff up to your room, you can head down to the Freshers’ Marquee in Garden Quad. It will be clearly signposted so don’t worry about getting lost.
The Bod Card
It’s simultaneously a debit card, ID, discount card, library card, and a key into various university departments, and to the rooms of New College itself. It’s yours for your whole degree. It’s called the Bodleian Card for long. You use it to buy food and drink in College.

A sample of what a Bod Card looks like. Worth using a good photo as it’s pretty much fixed for all your time here - remember that, unlike in a passport photo, you *are* allowed to smile! (Photo - Bodleian Library blog)

There will be committee members and other Freshers all milling about in the marquee. The second years will be running frequent tours of College in groups so you can get acclimatised to the layout of College pretty quickly.

THE MAIN PROGRAMME KICKS OFF
At around 5pm, once everyone has arrived, you will have a talk where the JCR Officers will introduce themselves and the plan for the week. You will then have team building activities followed by pizza with the other people in your staircase and a party in the big Marquee!

Your first week
After the mad rush of your first day, you can settle down and look forward to a week full of fun and frolics, with a couple of necessary tasks thrown in too. You’ll be able to see all this looking at your Freshers’ Week timetable. We will put this on the website ahead of Freshers’ Week.

During the day

Necessaries:
You may face a bit of an information overload, since you’ll be getting a fire safety talk and several library inductions. We’d advise you to sort out all the IT stuff as soon as possible, as it will make things easier later on if you aren’t struggling to get on the Wi-Fi. You’ll also get to meet your tutors properly for the first time since they interviewed you. Most people end up getting on really well with their tutors so don’t be scared by this.
Fun stuff:
When you have time between your compulsory information sessions and sorting out admin bits and bobs, there will be loads of activities going on within College.

There will be MADD (Music, Arts, Dance and Drama) and Sports events going on to show you what life is like outside the library. The New College Freshers’ Fair will have a number of stalls by different sports teams and societies within College, so you’ll get a good idea of what’s going to be on offer throughout the year.

This year (due to Covid-19) the Oxford University Freshers’ Fair will take place either in person or virtually where you’ll no doubt sign up for a hundred clubs you never knew existed, and will spend the next few terms trying to remove yourself from the mailing list of that club you never once went to. However, you’ll find something that suits you perfectly - there is truly something for everyone, from the Cocktails Society to the Historical Re-enactment society, a cacophony of choirs and orchestras, and every sports team imaginable.

At night
You can look forward to some great entertainment throughout the week co-ordinated by our brilliant Freshers Team, Anya and Finn, and our Entz Reps, Tabby and Tim. Subject to Covid restrictions, there’ll be a silent disco, you’ll get to experience the LEGENDARY New College Toga Party, and enjoy your first of many awesome bops! (Bop: noun - A party in College organised by students, with a fancy dress theme. Each College has two or three of these per term. The quality varies widely, although we think New College’s are undeniably the best). The first bop theme of the term will be Prince(sse)s and Frogs. Make sure you have a good costume!
Congratulations if you manage to party every night of Freshers’ Week! But you’re certainly not expected to; we’ve got loads of other events planned. Expect a staircase pizza, trips to G and Ds (legendary ice cream parlour), and more. There are some really exciting things in the pipeline so look out for the announcements of what’s going on!

If Covid restrictions allow it, over the course of the week you can look forward to a sports day, open mic night, a bop at the end of the week of course, and loads more! We will also be running lots of exciting non-drinking events such as games nights and open air film screenings in the beautiful New College gardens.

**So many new people and new things! I feel a bit overloaded.**

If you feel lost or disoriented during the week, don’t worry, it’s perfectly normal and happens to everyone. You could also track down your College parents who will be happy to chat to you, show you around and answer any questions. Freshers’ Week is great fun, but it can also be overwhelming; don’t worry if it doesn’t live up to the hype and isn’t the *best week of your life ever*; you’ve got so many more great experiences to look forward to in the next 9+ terms of Oxford, and it’s perfectly normal to take a bit of time to adjust to new things.

Throughout the week, the Welfare Reps will also be running chilled out, arts and crafts-style events with free food and drinks. **Harriet** and **Gareth** are lovely, smiley people, and will always be there to help you out if you are feeling overwhelmed or anxious.

*The Cloisters covered in snow (Photo: Joe Dobbyn)*
There’s no denying that work is a big part of life at Oxford! You’ll note that it’s a bit different from school! Firstly, and most importantly, you will have tutorials (‘tutes’) a few times a week. These happen with your tutor, either individually or as part of a small group, and will hopefully take place in person. It’s an amazing way to learn from others and gives you the chance to develop and defend your own opinions rather than just getting a few comments in red ink at the bottom of your essay.

For each tutorial, you’ll be set work, probably the week before either an essay or a problem sheet. Usually this work will form the basis of the discussion.

For science subjects it’s often a good idea to hand in any rough work for questions that you haven’t managed to complete fully, as then the tutor may be able to see where you’re going wrong.

Another big change will be lectures. For many undergraduate courses, some or many lectures are essential, for some other courses, they will be optional. If you are in any doubt about which lectures you should be attending, please speak to your tutors in the first instance. You will get a lecture list for each term; most departments will put this on their websites or on WebLearn as well. First term lectures will take place online and information with regards to the other terms will be released later on in the year.

You’ll notice pretty quickly that you get loads of freedom at university. There won’t be anyone reminding you to work, which means you have to motivate yourself and find a pattern that suits you. This is something you’ll probably figure out after your first late-night essay crisis. Many people find it easier to concentrate if they work somewhere other than their room;
the College and University libraries (especially the fabulous Bodleian), the café area, and even coffee shops around the city may be good options.

At the start of most terms (except first term), you’ll have Collections, which are exams on the previous term’s work. Your first Collections will probably be in January 2022 (although this depends on your subject).

If you do have a problem with work, however trivial it may seem (even struggling with procrastination can be something it’s helpful to get advice about), don’t hesitate to contact someone. Your tutor, or one of the second years doing your subject can be a good starting point. Another option is the Academic Affairs Officer, Katie Brooker, who is always available to chat about work worries. Everyone here at New College wants to help you enjoy your subject so that you can achieve your full potential!

PRACTICALITIES

FINANCES
Before you arrive at Oxford it can be hard to estimate how much money you will need, or what to budget for. To make this easier, we have tried to give you an idea of what you’ll need to pay for during your time at Oxford.

Battels
Battels are the charge you have to pay to College at the beginning of each term. They include the cost of accommodation and evening meals every night. Each evening meal costs £7.61. You can sign off from paying some of this charge if you don’t plan to eat in College, as explained below. Your Battels statement when you arrive in October will be £1859.40 for a term (60 nights), which breaks down to £456.60 for evening meals, and £1402.80 for accommodation rent (including insurance). As you are arriving on Monday (amounting to 61 nights) you will be charged 1 extra nights meal and accommodation on your Michaelmas Term Battels.

Battels need to be paid by mid-day on the Friday of 1st week of each term. Your battels statement will be emailed to you at the beginning of 0th week of each term (this is the week preceding the first Sunday of term, so Freshers’ Week is 0th week). Your first battels will be due by Friday 15th October. There are two ways to pay, either hand in a cheque at the College bursary, or pay by debit card or credit card online. You pay online through the meal booking website, food.new.ox.ac.uk. Log on with your Oxford credentials and click ‘Fees and Charges’, then ‘Pay Battels’. This is also where you can find all your Battels statements throughout your time at Oxford.

As well as accommodation and meals, many events in College and things like sports team photos, charity calendars and all wine purchased from the JCR Wine Cellar will be paid for through Battels. This means that your name will be noted and you will pay these charges on top of your standard Battels bill at the start of the next term. It
is easy to let the hidden costs build up by not keeping track of your Battels spend-
ing. It’s a good idea to keep an eye in how much you’ve spent, which you can do by
keeping a note for yourself whenever you charge something to Battels, or by emailing
student.finance@new.ox.ac.uk.

For UK students with a student loan, tuition fees are automatically paid to College by
the Student Loans Company. However, if you are paying fees yourself or are an inter-
national student, then these fees also appear on your Michaelmas Battels statement
and can be paid using the same method.

Cost of living
On top of paying your Battels, you will need money to keep you going on a day-to-day
basis. This will cover breakfast, lunch, evenings out, toiletries and other spontaneous
shopping, etc. You’ll pay for food and drink purchased from Hall or the College Bar on
your tills account (find out more about this in the food section below).

Students often spend more in their first term, particularly if you decide to buy your
own books (although most people don’t do this) or to join many societies. Most so-
cieties cost around £10-30 to join, but some offer more expensive life memberships,
whilst others charge you termly fees, known as subs. It is advisable to plan for extra
spending because of this. Information on society fees can often be found on their
websites, or will be provided at the Freshers’ Fairs. Here are some examples of the vari-
ation:

- History Society Membership: £15 (£12 during first week), talks free and socials £2 for
  members (£1 and £5 respectively for non-members).

- Oxford Union Life Membership: £257.50 during welcome period at the start of Mich-
aelmas (£286.34 otherwise). Lower membership fee available (£169.95) for those with
  a full government maintenance loan.

There is no real average for what people spend per term, as your lifestyle will dictate
how much you spend. For example, not drinking alcohol can make things a lot cheap-
er, or choosing to buy lunch from less expensive alternatives.

Having said that, here are some general weekly costs to give you an idea:

- Sandwich at the ATS: £3 - 4 (N.B. they have a £5 card limit so remember to take cash!)
- Pint at the Turf Tavern: £4.50 - 5.50
- Drink in the College bar: £2 - 3 (variable depending on the alcohol)
- Lunch in Hall: £3 - 5 (Hall lunch and dinner prices vary depending on how much food
  you get)
· Breakfast in Hall: £0.50 - 3
· Cereal and milk from Tesco: £0.75+£0.89 = £1.54
· Tesco meal deal: £3
· Society membership: variable as above
· Trip home: depends on where you live
· Ball tickets: £40-250, depending on the ball

Some other spending tips for once we’re back to normal post-corona times:

· The general price of a night out in Oxford is about: £5-10 for club entry, £8 for pre-drinks + drinks out = £13+

Some tips for making nights out less expensive:
· Buy club tickets in advance on Fixr or from the College Entz reps as this will be cheaper than on the door
· Buying drinks at clubs will be more expensive than having drinks from the College bar/Tesco before you leave, but clubs will often have deals on specific drinks (eg. VKs, Jaegerbombs) so keep an eye out for those
· If you can, avoid taking a coat or jacket so you don’t have to pay for the cloakroom and take a jumper to tie around your waist

Example expenditure per term:
This person budgets around £85 a week. Not everyone lives like this and you may well find even if your budget is similar, it breaks down completely differently. Also, it is just an example and it is very possible to spend less (or significantly more) than this amount.

· Standard Battels = £1859.40
· Food £35/week (e.g. Alternative Tuck Shop sandwich for lunch, cereal, brunch in hall, plus snacks) = £280
· Club nights 12 times a term, at ~£13 a time = £156
· Society memberships e.g. History society £12, £6 for a social x2 = £24
· Laundry (8 sets of washes and dries) = £24 (make this cheaper and more eco-friendly by bringing a clothes horse to skip using the dryer!)
· Drinks in the bar (4 pints a week) £2.68 x 4 x 8 = £85.76
· Crew date (£15 curry plus £5 club entry, £5 bottle of wine, £5 of drinks) x 2 = £60
· Guest night (£20 ticket + £10 wine) x2 = £60
· Makeup/toiletries = £40
· Vacation storage = Free if you meet certain criteria, otherwise £5 per box (see elsewhere in the guide for more information)

Bear in mind that this doesn’t include one-off costs, like clothes shopping, buying
stash or ball tickets, or anything paid for on Battels! Also, remember when setting a budget that you have an extra week in Fresher’s Week which can also be quite expensive if you’re drinking, so include some extra money for that outside of your weekly budget.

If you want any more information about specific costs living in Oxford, feel free to contact the JCR VP for Operations and Finance *Amberley Odysseas* (see JCR committee profiles below!).

**JCR Levies**

Around halfway through Michaelmas, you will receive an email from the JCR VP for Operations and Finance, giving you the option to opt out of paying JCR levies. These levies are charged to your Battels at the start of Hilary, Trinity and in the middle of the Summer vac for the previous term, so you won’t have to pay for the Michaelmas levies if you opt out. The levies (per term) are as follows:

- Refugee Scholarship Levy - £5.
- Offset CO2 Printing Levy - £1.
- Reach Oxford Levy - £6
- Computer Levy - £1
- Charities Levy - £7.50 (automatic amount, can be changed and gets split between three charities that the JCR votes for)
- Art Levy - £2
- Hardship Levy - £5
- Sports Levy - £4
- Punts usage Levy - £6 (only applies in Trinity Term)
- Staff Gratuity Levy - £2
- New College Society membership - £22-50 (single payment only made once in your first year).

You can opt out of all of these except for the Computer levy. More information will be provided in the email giving you the option to opt out.

There are also occasional other Battels charges through the year – through your till card (for breakfast, lunch or the College café/bar), and some Arts and Charity events.

**Living out**

While New College provides accommodation for the first two years of your degree, you’ll probably need to live out in third year (unless your degree includes a year abroad). There are very few third-year rooms in College, not enough for everyone. Whilst you probably won’t need to be thinking about this until second year, it can be useful to have an idea of what to expect. We estimate that rents are usually £380-470+ per month. Then bills are £30-40 a month, TV licenses are £36 annually, and food costs £20-40 per week.
On top of this, other costs like going out, playing sport, books etc. will also apply. You also have to pay housing costs year-round, rather than just during term times as you do in first and second year.

Financial support
Oxford is one of the most generous universities in the country bursary-wise. The University bursary scheme gives money to all students whose household income is less than circa £42,875. As long as you ticked the box, “I’m happy to share this information with universities” on your Student Finance Application, this is all sorted out automatically. It’s also worth looking at the Oxford Uni Fees and Funding page (https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/fees-and-funding) to see the full range of bursaries available, and find out if you are eligible for any extra financial support. On top of this, you should have received information about potential Scholarship awards, which should also be detailed in the link above.

There is also a university-wide hardship fund, the University Hardship Fund (https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding/assistance/hardship/ohf). More information about who this is available to can be found in the link above, but it is for students already at Oxford and work through an application process.

If you wish to apply for a study grant you can contact Bursar’s PA (4OB1 - first floor, right). You can make an appointment with the College Bursar, David Palfreyman, through his secretary (4OB1) at bursar@new.ox.ac.uk; he is welcoming to any student with financial difficulty. If you do get into financial difficulty, for example, if your circumstances change, contact the Bursary as soon as possible. College are usually prepared to work out financial arrangements on an individual basis and are always very happy to help if they can. Don’t be put off asking until the situation becomes an emergency!

If you need any more information about Battels, general advice about finance from the Bursar, or more information about loans and grants, visit www.new.ox.ac.uk/finance.

There’s a great document which gives you information on all of the New College bursaries as well as

On right: The Hall, where you will eat your meals (Photo: Ayna Taira)
financial advice to be found at https://www.new.ox.ac.uk/freshers-information. The student finance officer (student.finance@new.ox.ac.uk) can answer any of your questions about batters and student loans.

**FOOD**

Most people don’t have access to kitchens in their first year, leaving the Hall kitchens as your main source of affordable cooked meals. Eating in Hall gives you the chance to catch up with friends in a friendly relaxed environment. Hall serves three meals a day, all to a high standard and accommodating all dietary requirements and allergies.

**Typical Meal times**

**Breakfast:** 8-9am weekdays
A selection of cereals, continental and cooked options are available at breakfast (although many people just have cereal in their rooms).

**Lunch:** 12-1:30pm weekdays
Lunch is available every weekday, and again offers hot and cold options. At weekends, breakfast and lunch are combined into one, as you’ll see below...

**Brunch:** 11am-1pm Saturdays and Sunday
Brunch is one of the best meals of the week!

**Dinner (informal):** 5:45-7:15pm (except on formal days when it finishes at 6:30pm).

**Dinner (formal):** seated for 7:15 Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays

*Cafe during the day on the left (Photo: Ayna Taira) and a bar at night on the right (Photo: Ellie Wilkins)!*
Formal is slightly more fancy than informal Hall; you have to wear your gown, and there is waiter service (but you don’t have to get dressed up - wearing your gown over trackies is totally acceptable). You can also bring your own wine. Whether formal or informal, dinner consists of a 3-course meal.

Formals will be happening in Michaelmas term, but this again depends on Government guidance.

**Café/Bar**
Alongside the three meals served in Hall, the bar is open from 11am-11pm, offering sandwiches, wraps and paninis, as well as a variety of snacks and hot drinks at reasonable prices. This means you can still purchase food even if you miss a mealtime. Then, in the evening the bar itself is open to serve alcohol from 6pm.

**Paying for meals**
Evening meals are included on battels, and you pay for any other food bought within College using your till account. All students make a pre-payment at the start of term. This covers all your evening meals. This is £7.61 per meal. You can sign out of dinner if you don’t plan to go that day, up until 10am, and you will be reimbursed the cost of the meal, getting £5.14 back on battels at the start of the next term. Formal and informal cost the same.

Your **till account** is used to pay for drinks and snacks in the bar and café, and breakfast and lunch through the Buttery.

You need to keep this topped up, and again can do this through the intranet (food.new.ox.ac.uk) or at the Bursary in cash during office hours. In the Buttery, you can run into debt up to a threshold of £15, but you can’t run up a deficit in the bar or café. Any debt left on your account at the end of term is automatically added to the next term’s battels. There are fines if you exceed the debt limit.

You pay for all food using your Bod Card, which is scanned in the Buttery. In the bar you can pay by debit or credit card, as well as your Bod Card.

**Meal booking website**
The same website (food.new.ox.ac.uk) is also used to book yourself into and out of meals. Login using your bod card number. You’ll be automatically signed into informal dinner each day (if you are living in catered accommodation). Make sure to sign out when you want to and to sign on for formals if you want to go. For example, your College parent may suggest that you all go to family formal. Make sure to click cancel next to your early hall booking, and then book the sitting you want.

You can also change your preferences so you are automatically booked in for vegetari-
an, vegan etc. meals. Speak to Brian Cole, the catering manager (in 40B or email brian.cole@new.ox.ac.uk) to discuss any specific dietary requirements that you have.

Guest Night
Every two weeks the JCR has a Guest Night on a Friday evening (alternating with MCR Guest Night). Our guest nights fall on even weeks. Guest Night food is particularly good, so it is a fantastic opportunity to get friends or family over, and it’s always well attended. The dress code is suits and ties or cocktail dresses, and no gowns. You can get wine from the JCR wine cellar or bring your own.

You sign up for Guest Night through the intranet system; be warned, tickets get snapped up very quickly. Guest Night costs £18-70 for New College Students and £24-36 for non-Oxford University guests.

FACILITIES
Laundry
The College provides us with laundry facilities, located in the basement of Staircase 2 in New Buildings (2NB). You need to take your Bod Card in order to get into the staircase. There are washing machines, tumble dryers, irons, and drying racks. You’ll need to provide your own laundry powder though. You’ll need a credit or debit card to pay down at the laundry room. A wash costs £2 and a dry £1.

The Library
The Library is the building resembling a nuclear bunker at the end of Holywell Quad. It’s open from 8am until 2am, and houses most of the books you will need for your work. It also has a good selection of DVDs (non-academic) which you can borrow whenever you like. If the Library doesn’t have a book you need, there are forms in the foyer that you can use to request for the librarians order it. The Library has ample space to sit down and work, including nice quiet study rooms. You will be shown how to use it, and also the library's amazing online services during Freshers' Week. Once again, it’s the Bod Card that gets you in and allows you to take out books and access your library account. You can email the library at library@new.ox.ac.uk.
**The JCR**
First off, note that the JCR means two things. It stands for the *Junior Common Room*; the community of undergrads that you’ll be joining in October. There’s also an MCR for postgrad students, and the SCR, which consists of College academic staff (like the governing body, fellows and tutors). You’ll find out more about the JCR, its politics, and how to get involved later on.

Secondly, it’s an actual room in College which has recently been renovated. It’s got a 65" 4K TV with Sky+, PS4, Wii, Netflix, big comfy sofas, a kitchenette with free tea, coffee, milk and biscuits, a vending machine, a pool table and table tennis. A great social space, it's available for your use at any time for procrastinating and socialising.

**IT AND COMPUTING**
If you don’t have your own computer, there is a computer suite in 2NB. There are printers in the computer suite, library and JCR, which costs 7p/sheet to print, and a free scanning service. The computer suite is open 24/7. If you ever have any problems with IT, you can drop in to the IT office, in 12OB2 between 2 and 4 each weekday afternoon. Outside these hours, you can email the details of your problem to *it-support@new.ox.ac.uk*.

**Username and password combinations:**
A useful reference

- **Single sign on (SSO):** Nexus email, Weblearn, the library system (SOLO), Reports (OxCort) etc:
  - Username: newcXXXX
  - Password: Initially given by College but you can change this
- **Meal Booking System:** Booking in and out of dinner and paying batters and tuition fees to College
  - Same as SSO

**POST**
Everybody has their own *pigeonhole* (‘pidge’) which can be found in the small room next to the Porter’s Lodge. Here you’ll receive any post sent to you from both inside and outside the University. For those wanting to send you stuff from outside, your address is ‘New College, Oxford, OX1 3BN’.

Anything that won’t fit in your pidge will be put in another room, and the porters will leave you a laminated card. You can then take this to them and swap it for your parcel. If you want to send something to anyone within the University, interCollege post is free. Simply label an envelope with the name and the College (or Department) of the person and hand it to the porters. For the ordinary post (unfortunately not free), there is a postbox just after the glass bit where the porters are, as you come into Holywell Quad through the lodge.
University and College Life

When you get to Oxford, you’ll be inundated with offers of things to get involved with. There are societies, clubs and teams at both College and University level. Within College a huge variety of interests are catered for and within Oxford as a whole there’s a society for just about everything. So there’s no reason to think you’ll be spending all your time in the library!

If you’re reading this over the summer, you might want to start thinking about the sort of extra-curricular activities you’re interested in taking part in, whether it be continuing with an existing passion, or something brand new. If you just want to look forward to the nights out to come, that’s fine too!

Entz

New College is undoubtedly among the best at having fun in Oxford; there’s always an amazing event coming up! Our bops happen three times per term and they are pretty legendary. A bop is a College-held fancy dress themed party in an Oxford nightclub; they’re great fun, and a fab way to de-stress with your friends. In terms of the theme, most people dress up to match at our bop, and lots of people go all out - go get some body paint, capes, sparkles and wigs, top that off with a little originality and dress to impress! There are also exciting opportunities for student DJs at bops so all you talented musicians can get involved. Outside of in-College entz, the clubs in Oxford cater for a variety of tastes. Despite what you may have heard, there are in fact plenty of places around offering everything from drum and bass events (the Bully) to the downright cheesy (Atik) and everything in between. The Entz Officers, Tim and Tabby, have organised loads to do in Freshers’ Week, and throughout the year will be putting on fun events like club nights, quiz nights and silent discos. Other things to look forward to include the famous New College Boat Party, inter-year crew dates, and the New College Garden Party in the summer.

All this should mean that your first year is one that you’ll never forget!
On top of all this there’s the Varsity Trip: the annual Oxford and Cambridge ski trip. It’s been running since 1922 (even before the Winter Olympics) and is the oldest and largest trip of its kind! The trip takes thousands of beginner to advanced skiers to the Alps every year, and provides packages for transport, clothing and equipment to make the week as smooth as possible. There is always a big New College turn out, and many students will go multiple years - there’s often a group of freshers going, so don’t stress about finding people to go with. For any more information or if you have questions, talk to the College Varsity Rep, Toscanie Hulett.

STUFF YOU CAN DO IN College

Sport

The boys in brown playing a Cuppers match on the Weston Grounds (Photo: Ellie Wilkins)

Sport is a huge part of life at New College, and whether you’re the starring striker for the Blues, or just fancy an afternoon game of croquet, the opportunities to get involved are endless. We have a fantastic sports ground just 5 minutes’ walk away from College. It has football and rugby pitches in Michaelmas and Hilary terms, and lawn tennis courts and a cricket pitch in Trinity term. There is also a squash court, and a hard court for tennis, netball, and basketball. We have a lovely pavilion with changing rooms, which is perfect for watching a relaxing afternoon’s cricket in the summer. If that’s not enough we have our own set of punts which you can sign out at your leisure in Trinity term. New College Boat Club also has its own boathouse located on the Isis river, equipped with bar and balcony. As a New College student, you’ll also get free access to the Iffley Gym, about 20 mins walk from College.
At the moment, New College runs badminton, cricket, croquet, dance, darts, football, hockey, lacrosse, netball, pool, rounders, rowing, rugby, squash, table tennis, tennis, touch rugby and yoga. If you’re keen to set up something that is not on this list, notice that something has lapsed or want to organise a team, email the Sports Officers, Alex Albright and Joanna Smith. A large number of our teams compete in the annual inter-collegiate competition called Cuppers, and New College generally does very well. If you want to get involved, contact the captain of the team, or the Sports Rep, or alternatively, most teams should have a stall at the New College Freshers' Fair. Don’t be put off if it seems too competitive for you - you can get involved at any level. For those who wish to progress further with their sport, you can represent the University in high level teams - just get in contact with the Sports Rep or the current University players to find out more.

**Arts at New College**

New College is a fantastic place either to try something new or to take something with which you have experience to a new level. The first major event on New College’s arts calendar, especially for freshers is the OUDS (Oxford University Drama Society) drama cuppers, the inter-collegiate competition open exclusively to first year graduates and undergraduates. It’s a great opportunity to become closer to your fellow freshers and with no experience necessary, a brilliant way to get a feel for what an Oxford production entails!

The arts community at New College is vast - ranging from solo musicians, jazz groups, beat poets, comedians, ballroom dancers and everything in between! Chat to our Arts Officer, Char Mitchell, for all things arts related. This year, we are expanding the scope of arts to include music, art, dance, drama, film, photography and literature, and will be introducing new writing workshops for you to get involved in. Char is also the person to contact if you want to get involved in New College Music Society, attend some of the various workshops and classes we offer (e.g. taster sessions for different types of dance), or when you want to take art out of New College’s termly Art Store (the various art you can borrow from College to decorate your room). Michaelmas term also brings with it the New College Pantomime, written and directed by Char and performed by first years mainly.

**New College Music Society**

The New College Music Society (NCMS) is one of Oxford's leading College music societies. They offer a myriad of events and socials, and provide a wide range of activities to musicians of all abilities. They hold frequent concerts with their in-house and external ensembles, and hold free recitals every Wednesday during term-time. They also
Left: People practicing on the grand piano in the Clore Music Rooms (New College’s very own, private, AMAZING music studios, just a 4 min walk away from College).
Right: group picture of the 2019 (winning!) drama cuppers cast from New College (Photos: Ayna Taira)

encourage College and University students to join their ensembles; their non-auditioning ones include the New College Chamber Orchestra and the Holywell Singers, while their auditioned groups include the Wykeham Consort.

As well as their wide range of concerts and musical activities, NCMS provide many social events, including open mic and Jazz nights. Follow their Facebook page to keep up-to-date with their many events and socials, and if you are interested in joining the music making, drop them an email on newCollegemuscociety@gmail.com. It’s also easy to get involved in music more informally - we’re proud to have our very own Band Room (get in touch with the Band Room Officer, Heidi Nicholas, if you’re interested).

GETTING INVOLVED
This section covers three areas that are incredibly important to life at New College: charities, outreach, and environment & ethics.

Charities and Environment
Within College, we raise thousands of pounds each year for charity, voting on the charities this money goes to in the JCR each term. There is an optional battel levy, which contributes to this fund. There are also various College events such as charity formal hall that help raise money (and are often themed... think Harry Potter for example), as well as fundraisers in College, for example, the Oxford Half Marathon in October. We create a New College Naked Calendar each year, and are always looking for new ideas to raise money. We are particularly excited to get charity events up and running after a long year of Covid ruining plans, so if you are interested in running an event contact the Charities Officer, Lia Keane.
New College is great at getting involved in the wider community and there will be plenty of opportunities to take part in charitable activities. There are loads of volunteering opportunities, so here are just a few examples on the next page:

**Curry Runners:** homelessness charity at New College that distributes food twice weekly

**Turl Street Homeless Action:** volunteers distribute food daily to homeless people in Oxford

**Solidaritee:** sells T-shirts to raise awareness of and money for the refugee crisis

**Jacari:** encourages students to teach English to children of refugee and asylum seeking background

**Schools Plus:** aims to address educational inequality by providing Oxford student tutors

**What’s a Pound?:** encourages university balls and other large scale events to add a pound to ticket prices which is then donated to charity

**Tingewick:** run by medical students, raises money for local hospitals and for grief

For more, speak to the Charities Officer **Lia Keane**; she'll be emailing out volunteering opportunities throughout the year, and will also be able to match you up to more specific opportunities in Oxford that fit you.

You can also get involved with helping with environment and ethics. This year we will be holding an **EnE (Environment and Ethics) Discussion Group**, led by **Peps Haydn Taylor**, which is a great thing to get involved in if you are interested in these sorts of questions. We also have our very own College eco guide, filled with tips for being as eco-friendly a student as you can! Please give it a read! In addition to this, you can get involved with all the environmental action in Oxford at a University Level, for example through the **Oxford Climate Society**. We are always looking for new ideas for how to improve the College, so contact **Peps Haydn Taylor** if you're interested in making New College more environmentally friendly!
**Outreach**

Outreach is really important to us at New College. By getting involved, you can make a real difference to prospective students who might, inspired by you, decide to apply to Oxford when they may not have done so otherwise. It’s all about encouraging everyone to apply, irrespective of their backgrounds. The main way that we do this is through visiting state schools or having them visit us. This relies on student volunteers and the Access and Outreach Officer, **Nina Drury**, will be in touch to recruit willing tour guides each week. In addition, there is an ambassador scheme, where volunteers are trained and are involved in access work on a more consistent basis. Besides visits, we have our Instagram [@newCollegejcr](https://www.instagram.com/newCollegejcr), where we share stories and testimonials from New College students, as well as College tours and guides to applying, so follow and get liking!

Typically, volunteering means giving a tour of College, having some (free) lunch and giving a Q and A session about Oxford. It’s encouraged for everyone to get involved in access events, no matter what background you’ve come from - remember that the entire point of access is that your school shouldn’t matter.

One of the most well-known University-wide schemes is called **Target Schools**, which encourage Oxford students to visit state schools in their local areas. If this is something you wish to get involved in you can get training and support. They also run a programme in which prospective students “shadow” a current student in a subject they’re interested in, attending lectures and seminars for a day. New College also runs a great program called **Step Up**, which you can learn more about by heading to our website.

**Inreach**

This year, for the first time, as well as our Access and Outreach Officer, we have a newly elected Inreach Officer, **Inés Momodu-Herrero**. The role of the Inreach Officer is to ensure that all our students who identify as coming from a "non-traditional" Oxford background feel happy, comfortable, and welcome here at New College and in Oxford. We think it is really important that the support that comes with outreach doesn’t just stop once you get an offer, but continues throughout your time at College. **Inés** will be running social events for those who identify as coming from "non-traditional" Oxford backgrounds, including smaller events like inreach teas & drinks and termly access family events (sign up for access families will go out in September on the JCR Facebook page!), as well as larger events like formal dinners for Crankstart scholars & students from under-represented regions of the UK (like Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales, and the North East).
STUFF OUTSIDE OF College
There are so many societies in Oxford that to start a list would be impossible. You’ll find out about all these at the Oxford SU’s Freshers’ Fair. This takes place in Freshers’ Week and will be virtual this year, with stands representing everything from skiing to Amnesty International, from the Biochemistry Society to J.R.R. Tolkien Appreciation. One important organisation at a University level is Raise and Give (RAG), which gives you the opportunity to do anything from bungee jumping to hitchhiking all in the name of charity. They also organise infamous club nights and other social events. Look for them at the virtual Freshers’ Fair and their own RAG Freshers’ Fair.

Oxford SU
Oxford SU is the Oxford University Student Union. Because of the College system, it isn’t a social hub like at some other universities but it still does important work. Oxford SU Council is every two weeks and New College is invited to send three representatives to vote on issues like endorsing NUS regulations or SU Policy. We send the Vice President for Communications, Welfare and Equality and the President, but there is one space up for grabs, so you could make a difference just by turning up. The Freshers’ Fair is run by Oxford SU too.

Oxford as a City
From cosy cafés to funky bars, Oxford has lots of great places to discover! Here’s a few:

**Insiders’ Guide to Oxford**

**Cafés:**
- Society Café
- The Jericho Café
- Opera Café
- The Missing Bean
- The Art Café
- Vaults & Garden Café

**Bars:**
- Kazbar
- Freud
- Raoul’s
- The Varsity Club
- The Mad Hatter
- The Jam Factory
- All Bar One

**Where to eat:**
- Gloucester Green
- ATS
- The Handlebar Café
- Alpha Bar
- Aleppo’s Falafel
- Edamame
- Najar’s

**Pubs:**
- The White Rabbit
- Turf Tavern
- The Bear
- The Old Bookbinders
- The Half Moon
- The Crown
- The Anchor

**Where to go:**
- Christ Church Meadows
- University Parks (Good for swimming too!)
- Port Meadow
- The Covered Market
- The Ashmolean
- Botanic Garden
- Binsey Lake

**Clubs:**
- Bridge
- Parkend (Atik to the locals)
- Plush
- The O2
- The Bullingdon

*The Radcliffe Camera seen through the gate of the Bodleian (Photo: Agata Gwincinska)*
The JCR
If you’ve read everything so far, firstly well done on sticking with it! Secondly, you might have noticed mentions of people like the Entz Officers, or the Sports or Arts Officers, and you might be wondering who they are.

Each Trinity term the JCR elects a committee (led by the President, Alice Childs dos Santos) which works to run various important things around College, and to allocate JCR funding.

Absolutely everyone has a say in the running of the JCR – through JCR meetings and motions anyone can put forward a proposal for how to spend our budget, or a policy the JCR should adopt, or a new idea we should explore - all of which is voted on.

JCR money is spent on the likes of sports kit, arts, big College socials, bagatelle boards, pizza, and any other items that get JCR approval. The VP for Finance and Operations, Amberley Odysseas, ensures that we remain within budget. To get your hands on this cash, simply put in a motion to the Vice President for Communications, Welfare and Equality, Kim Anh Nguyen, and turn up to the JCR meeting to make your case.

JCR meetings are your fortnightly dose of democracy, with large quantities of pizza on the side. At these meetings, we decide our spending as well as our affiliations. However, New College is not the most political of Colleges so we don’t make as many big political statements as some other Colleges. There will be a taster session for JCR meetings Sunday afternoon, where you’ll see how JCR meetings run.

The newly elected exec committee
(above)
Less than a quarter of the Rad Cam
(Photo: Joe Dobbyn)
The JCR Committee - Elected

President - Alice Childs dos Santos
Email: alice.childsdossantos@new.ox.ac.uk
Pronouns: She/Her
Bio: Hi everyone! I’m Alice, a second year Law student, and your President for this year. The JCR Committee and I will be there through your first year, working to make College an inclusive, fun and welcoming place. The committee and I absolutely love New College, and we’re really looking forward to meeting you all in October! We are a community above all else, and making sure you all are happy in and out of studying is our priority. I’ll be the main point of contact between you all, the College and the Uni, representing the interests of the Junior Common Room so that you all can have a say.

I remember turning up to New College feeling both very excited and very overwhelmed. Although we’re a big College, we have a really strong community, and you’ll soon feel at home. We’ve organised some really fun events during Freshers’ Week and throughout term so that you can meet different types of people and really make the most of your time in Oxford. Although moving to university and being in a new place can be intimidating at times, everyone’s in the same boat in 1st year, and the 2nd years are here to help you guys out. If you want to have a chat about it, or even just say hi before, send me an email, or message me on Facebook (just send me a friend request). Looking forward to meeting you all in person!

Vice-President for Communications, Welfare and Equality - Kim Anh Nguyen
Email: kim.nguyen@new.ox.ac.uk
Pronouns: She/Her
Bio: Hey everyone! I’m Kim Anh, a second year Law with Law Studies in Europe student and your Vice President for Communications, Welfare & Equality for this year. As well as making sure that JCR meetings run smoothly & emailing you all pretty consistently, I will be responsible for representing our College at the SU and coordinating the CWE team to ensure that you are all happy and well-integrated into College life. It’s my job to work alongside the committee to make sure that your views are heard within College and as a College. As well as this, I will be ensuring that you are all aware (and take advantage) of all of the fantastic support available for you to access since this transition period can be a tumultuous, overwhelming time. This has been a crazy past few years but I am so excited to meet you all and help you all settle into College life! If anyone has any issues or questions at all (no matter how small), my email inbox & Facebook DMs are always open. Feel free to stop me at any time if you need help and see me running around College- I’ll always be happy to have a chat! I’ll see you all soon & hope that you’re all enjoying the rest of your summer (despite any prep work you might have!).
**Vice President for Operations and Finance – Amberley Odysseas**  
**Email:** amberley.odysseas@new.ox.ac.uk  
**Pronouns:** She/Her  
**Bio:** Hi! I’m Amberley, a second year studying Computer Science, and I’m your Vice President for Operations and Finance, part of the JCR executive team. I work with the Operations side of the committee to manage freshers and refreshers, charities, food and our bar, event (entertainment), arts, environment + ethics, sports, academic affairs, housing and our JCR (the actual room). You’ll get an introduction to the reps for each later in the document. We’re a great group and have a huge range of events and activities planned over the year, but we’re also around to ensure your time in College runs as smoothly as possible. In my role I also manage our JCR finances as Treasurer, whether that’s budgeting for College societies, events and welfare, facilitating student projects and travel grants, or donating to the charities we vote for. Our JCR community is incredibly vibrant, and we all look forward to welcoming you in October.

Please don’t hesitate to email me with questions, concerns or queries at any time, and I’ll see you in Oxford very soon!

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**The JCR Committee - Communications, Welfare and Equality**

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**Welfare Officer (Women and Transfeminine) - Harriet Nokes**  
**Email:** harriet.nokes@new.ox.ac.uk  
**Pronouns:** She/Her  
**Bio:** Hi everyone! My name’s Harriet (I also go by Harri!), I’m a second year History student, and I cannot wait to be one of your welfare reps this year alongside the brilliant Gareth. My job is to provide welfare teas, food, open spaces to relax and lend a supportive ear during what can be a big adjustment.

We can’t wait to meet everyone in October, please don’t hesitate to say hello! As welfare representatives, we provide free cookies to anyone who requests them, and confidential advice and referrals once we complete our Peer Support training next term. In the meantime, please feel free to get in touch about any questions you may have for next year!
Welfare Officer (Male, Transmasculine and Minority gender) - Gareth McAuley

Email: gareth.mcauley@new.ox.ac.uk
Pronouns: He/Him

Bio: Hi all! I’m Gareth, a second year Physicist, and Welfare Rep this year for you alongside the brilliant Harriet. We’ll be here to help you enjoy your time at New College; from organizing JCR teas and various fun activities, to simply being there when you have problems you want to talk about – or when you just want to chat anyway, that’s grand! Don’t hesitate to say hi if you see me around College or shoot me an email if you have any questions before or during the year. I look forward to meeting everyone in Michaelmas!

LGBTQ+ Officer - Pearl Young

Email: pearl.young@new.ox.ac.uk
Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: I’m a second-year Experimental Psychology student and, most importantly, your LGBTQ+ officer for the coming year. After spending a lot of time confused, I’ve come to identify as bisexual, and I’ve found the New College LGBTQ+ community such a welcoming and friendly place for all LGBTQ+ people, whether or not they’re entirely certain of their identity. As your LGBTQ+ officer, I’m looking forward to putting on events in Freshers’ Week, like a picnic and pronoun-pin making, and throughout the year, like weekly gay drinks, and occasional bigger events like an LGBTQ+ formal and film nights. I’ll also keep you guys updated as to the many events put on by other Colleges, such as Wadham’s Queerfest, and events put on by the Oxford LGBTQ+ Society. I also hope to emphasise the importance of mental and physical well-being within the LGBTQ+ community, and will raise awareness of many resources available for those within the community, while also being available to talk to for anyone struggling with their own identity/mental health issues. I hope you all feel welcomed by the wonderful LGBTQ+ community at New College, whether you’re out, not, or still uncertain.

Access and Outreach Officer - Nina Drury

Email: nina.drury@new.ox.ac.uk
Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi I’m Nina (on the left), a second year French and Beginner’s German Student, and I’ll be your Access and Outreach Officer this year! My job is to help ensure that everyone here, regardless of background or identity, feels welcome and included in the New College community. I want to encourage diversity within the College, through a range of access initiatives. You’ll get emails from me throughout the year encouraging you to get involved in these schemes and help out with walking tours and Q&As which College holds for prospective applicants. Please do get involved with everything you can, it makes a massive difference, and I am always here to answer any questions! I want to continue to use our access Instagram to reach out to the wider community (potential, prospective and current students), and we always need volunteers to do things like access takeovers (this is a great way of getting involved and is very low commitment!). I hope (alongside Inés our inreach officer) I can help to create a space where everyone is comfortable. Coming to Oxford is a daunting prospect for everyone, and the fears of ‘fitting in’, and sense of ‘imposter’ syndrome are often intensified if you are coming from a non-traditional background. Please feel free to drop me a message or email if this is something you are worrying about, or if you have any questions, I probably had a lot of the same worries this time last year!
**Inreach Officer - Inês Momodu-Herrero**

**Email:** ines.momodu-herrero@new.ox.ac.uk  
**Pronouns:** She/Her

**Bio:** Hi! I’m Inês, I’m a second year biochemist and your Inreach Officer this year. This is a brand new role on our JCR committee, and I'll be working to make sure that everyone here feels comfortable, happy, and welcome at New College and in Oxford, no matter their background. I truly love being at New College and want to make sure everyone else feels the same way! I’ll be organising social events for students from self-identifying “non-traditional” Oxford backgrounds, as well as organising advice on finances (i.e. budgeting, scholarships, hardship funds etc) for all students. Soon, I’ll be organising the access parenting scheme, which runs in addition to the College family system, in which second years are paired with freshers to form a “family”, and termly access family events will be planned - so make sure to sign up once the form goes out on the Facebook page!

I'm available to discuss anything and listen to any concerns related to being from a “non-traditional” Oxford background (including but not limited to: state school educated, working class, low income households, single parent households, estrangement, care leaver, young carer) & as well as related to money - please feel free to message me on Facebook (Ines Herrero Riesco) or email me! Once you're here in Oxford, I'll also always be up for a chat over biscuits or walking around our beautiful gardens. I can’t wait to meet you all in October! <3

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**Womxn's Officer - Maia Hamilton**

**Email:** maia.hamilton@new.ox.ac.uk  
**Pronouns:** She/Her

**Bio:** Hi, I'm Maia, I'm a second year chemist and I’ll be your Womxn's Officer this year! My job is to represent all self-identifying women in New College. I'll be sending out weekly emails to let you know about uni-wide and College events, with opportunities to get involved in. I’ll also be organising events in College, like discussion groups, guest speakers, and a big in-person celebration for International Women's Day. Feel free to send me a message or email, I look forward to meeting you all in October!

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**Faith and Ethnic Minorities Officer - Mufaro Mutsatsa**

**Email:** mufaro.mutsatsa@new.ox.ac.uk  
**Pronouns:** He/Him

**Bio:** Hi, my name is Mufaro. I am a second-year law student, and I will be your Faith and Ethnic Minorities Officer for the coming year. My role is to represent the voices and concerns of the various ethnic and faith groups that belong to our College. Please come to me if you need advice about adjusting and integrating into the College atmosphere, or if you have any concerns to raise about things happening in College. During this period of uncertainty, I want to capitalise on drawing faith and ethnic minority students closer to each other and to the College, by holding plenty of gatherings in College – hopefully in-person – and spreading information about important university-wide events, groups and societies that may be of interest, or any other resources that could help. Until then, enjoy your summer. We are so excited to see you in October!
Disabilities Officer - Meera Patel
Email: meera.patel@new.ox.ac.uk
Pronouns: She/Her
Bio: Hi there! I’m Meera, just a person :) and a music student here at New College who is delighted to be your Disabilities Rep. I understand that there’s lots of work to be done to raise awareness on this topic in society at large, and of course in College, where I hope we can set a strong, positive and progressive example in the right direction. Having a disability may or may not be visible to others, and can mean so many different things – that is why I believe it so important for College to be as inclusive and open-minded in catering for your needs as possible, and hope to point you in the right direction for advice and information, whatever your queries. I also am aware that the Covid situation may exacerbate difficulties that you may already have and want to do my best in ensuring that things are in place to lessen this impact, and to make things accessible so that you can really thrive here. If anyone has any questions before arriving, or throughout the year, feel free to contact me via email or facebook. I’m looking forward to meeting you all!

International and Overseas Officer - Sam Moore
Emails: samuel.moore@new.ox.ac.uk
Pronouns: He/Him
Bio: Hello International Students! I’m Sam, a second-year English student from Canada. I’ll be representing you as International and Overseas Officer this year. I hope to make sure that all international students are able to settle smoothly into university life. I understand that coming to a new country is very daunting, particularly with the added difficulties posed by Covid-19 (if it is still around) – so please contact me if you have any concerns, however small. Throughout the year, I plan to organize many events including foreign film nights and international themed formals to promote culture and diversity. I will also host smaller social events like weekly international tea and pub crawls so that we can get to know each other better. Before Freshers’ Week, I will organize some events, including an online Zoom Q&A session. There will also be a section of the Freshers’ Guide dedicated to tips for international students on packing, transportation, banking, and other matters. Please check this out, and if you have any unanswered queries, do not hesitate to get in touch with me. I am planning to return to Oxford on the first day of October. Once I’m here I’d be thrilled to grab coffee or lunch. I’m looking forward to meeting and getting to know you all. See you at New College.
Academic Affairs Officer - Katie Brooker

Email: kathryn.brooker@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hey, I'm Katie, the Academic Affairs Officer. I'm in my second year of Philosophy, Politics & Economics, and enjoy rowing and tennis in my free time.

A large part of my role as ACAF officer is to organise the logistics for the interview period in December, as well as the College open days in September & July. This involves arranging a team of student helpers for each!

On a day-to-day basis, I'm here for you to raise any academic concerns about life in Oxford, and to direct you towards support. There's various forms of this available within College to ensure that any problems you encounter are addressed. This includes talking to your tutors, the Cox & Salvesen Fellows or even your College parents.

Please drop me an email if you have any concerns, no matter how small you think they may be (I promise you, all questions are important). I can't wait to meet you all, and, most importantly, enjoy your summer!

Arts Officer - Charlotte Mitchell

Email: charlotte.mitchell@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi! I'm Char, a second year French and Beginners' Italian student, and I will be your Arts Officer this year! The arts at New College now contains the extended list of music, art, dance, drama, literature, photography and film, and my job is to create and promote opportunities for New College to get involved in such a rich range of artistic fields. New College's annual art events include the Oxmas panto, Arts Week and pottery brunches, but look out for other arts-related events I will be running this year, such as open mic nights, art exhibitions and informal dance classes! Feel free to drop me a message anytime to suggest any ideas for art-related events, and to get involved. I'm so excited to meet you in October and to showcase everyone's artistic talent!

Entz Officers - Tabby Priestley and Tim Sullivan

Emails: tabitha.priestley@new.ox.ac.uk/timothy.sullivan@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her (Tabby) and He/Him (Tim)

Bio: Hi, we're Tim and Tabby and we will be your Entz reps this year! This basically means we are responsible for making your first year as fun as possible! We will be helping out organising an event filled Freshers Week for you, including checking out the Oxford city and nightlife as well as getting to know College. There will also be loads of non-drinking events throughout the week so everyone can get involved! For the rest of the year we will be organising loads of great events like themed BOPS and bigger events in the Summer such as the New College Boat Party and the garden party! We're really looking forward to meeting you all. Feel free to drop us a message if you have any questions about College.
Sports Officers - Alex Albright and Joanna Smith

Email: alexander.brown@new.ox.ac.uk / joanna.smith@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: He/Him (Alex) and She/Her (Jo)

Bio: Hi, we’re Alex, a second year chemist, and Jo, a second year E&M student, and we are excited to be your Sports Reps for this year. We are determined to catch up on almost a year’s worth of missed sport by putting on a wide range of sporting activities throughout the year. We will be organising competitive events such as Cuppers, as well as relaxed social events and we encourage participation from all abilities. College sport is a great way to make friends and it allows a healthy balance to life at Oxford and so we are keen to get as many students involved as possible. We will also be in close contact with the Entz Reps to put on social events for sports teams, such as crewdates, and we will organise viewings for key sporting events. We are looking forward to meeting you all in October and hope that you get involved with sport at New College!

Housing and Facilities Officer - Issie Richardson

Email: isobel.richardson@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi I’m Issie, your incoming Housing and Facilities Officer. I study Spanish and Czech and I’m in my second year. My role in College encompasses anything related to the housing (accommodation) and facilities in New College, including running the housing ballot in Hilary, helping with vacation storage, as well as any other domestic facilities (e.g. laundry). I am available to answer any questions you may have regarding your accommodation or living in College so feel free to drop me an email with your query and I’ll help you out. See you in Michaelmas!

Charities Officer - Lia Keane

Email: lia.keane@new.ox.ac.uk

Pronouns: She/Her

Bio: Hi everyone! I’m Lia, a second year French and Linguistics student and I will be your Charities Officer for the coming year. My role involves organising loads of fun events in College like charity formals and bops (which we are hoping to be able to do again this year) as well as ensuring the College community engages with local Oxford charities as much as possible. Essentially I will be your first port of call for any volunteering, fundraising or general charity information around College. Please feel free to drop me an email if you have any questions about anything charity related or just College life in general. Can’t wait to meet you!
Environment and Ethics Officer - Peps Haydn Taylor
Email: perpetua.haydntaylor@new.ox.ac.uk
Pronouns: She/Her
Bio: Hi everyone, I'm Peps. I'm a second year French and Italian student and I'm so excited to be your E&E rep next year! This year I'm really determined to improve our food waste situation in College, especially in hall, and to make sustainability much more of a focus on day-to-day College life. Feel free to email me with any questions or suggestions and I'm looking forward to meeting you all in October!

Food and Bar Officer - Heather Carter
Email: heather.carter@new.ox.ac.uk
Pronouns: She/Her
Bio: Hello humans! I'm Heather, a second year Fine Art student from Liverpool and most importantly, your food and bar rep for this year. I'm really hoping we can have the bar open all year round this year as 2020-2021 we were able to enjoy it for about 4 days total. I'm planning quizzes, bingo nights and much much more! The choice of food at College and its environmental impact is a really big thing for me so I also can't wait to get some new fun n fresh veggie & vegan options on the hall menu. If you have any ideas or questions my email is always open!

JCR Officer - Will Pittams
Email: william.pittams@new.ox.ac.uk
Pronouns: He/Him
Bio: Hi everyone! I'm Will, a second year Historian, and I'll be your JCR Officer this year! The JCR is the common room for all undergraduates and it'll be my job to keep it fully stocked, work with the other reps to host events in it, and listen to any of your suggestions for improving the JCR. The JCR is a great place to meet people during Freshers' Week, especially during the day if you don't want to attend events with drinking, and it will host many events in Freshers' Week and beyond. I'll be focusing my attention on the furniture and the kitchenette in the JCR, where I will be making available more cooking equipment and microwaves (which will seem much more important after a term where most of you won't have access to a kitchen). If you have any questions about the JCR over the summer or suggestions once term starts, feel free to message or email me, or use the submissions box I'll be putting into the JCR. I look forward to meeting you all in October!
The JCR Committee - Appointed

Freshers' Rep - Anya Davies
Email: anya.davies@new.ox.ac.uk
Pronouns: She/Her
Bio: Hi! My name is Anya, I study French and Russian, and I’m your Freshers’ Rep for this coming year! As rep, it is my job to look out for you all and make sure you settle into College life as best you can. I will be around before, during, and after Freshers’ Week to be someone that you can come to about anything. No concern is too big or small! Then, alongside your Freshers’ Week Events Coordinator (Finn), we will be making sure that there are loads and loads of really fun events during the week itself to get everyone mixing and socialising, both in drinking and non-drinking settings. Once the week is over, I’ll still be there throughout the year to help you as you are adjusting to a whole new phase of your lives. New College is such a great place to be, and I can’t wait for you to get to know it, and for us to get to know you!

Freshers' Events Coordinator - Finn Gavin
Email: finnian.gavin@new.ox.ac.uk
Pronouns: He/Him
Bio: Hi, I'm Finn - I read medicine and I'm your Freshers' Events Coordinator for this year (aka Anya's number 2). My job is to make Freshers' Week fun for everyone and make sure you all settle into Oxford comfortably. We have so much great stuff planned for you all for the week, we really hope you can see what a great place College can be. Please feel free to add my Facebook and send a message if you have any questions, worries, or concerns; promise I don't bite! Hope to meet you all soon :))

Picture from New College Commeration Ball 2019 (held every 3 years) by Lafayette Photography
Wine Stewards

Bio: New College is home to the only student-run wine cellar in Oxford! We aim to provide good quality wines at all price points, from Old World classics from France, Italy and Spain as well as more unusual offerings from around the globe for you to try. The cellar is underneath the JCR and is open before every formal. If you’re planning an event or just really like wine, we also do special orders. Each year we have two wine stewards, and this year’s wine stewards will be appointed at the beginning of term next year. They will be hosting wine related events, starting with the classic ‘wine and cheese’ night in fifth week of Michaelmas. If you ever want a wine recommendation, these are the people to ask!

Tortoise Custodians - Frances Gawne and Isabel Samuel
Email: frances.gawne@new.ox.ac.uk/isabel.samuel@new.ox.ac.uk
Pronouns: They/Them (Frances) and She/Her (Isabel)
Bio: Hi! We're Frances and Isabel (Sab to some, Belle to others) and we are your second ever generation of tortoise custodians! We'll be working to take care of our College tortoise Tessa, run her personal Instagram account and hopefully prep her for the annual tortoise race. You'll all have the opportunity throughout the year to help out with feeding Tessa and look after her. We can’t wait to meet all of you!!

IT Officer - Matt Lewis
Email: matthew.lewis@new.ox.ac.uk
Pronouns: He/Him
Bio: Hi! My name is Matt and I’m a second year Biologist and your IT officer for this year! As IT officer I run the JCR website as well as helping anyone with IT related problems. All you need to do is send me an email with your problem and I’ll either be able to help you directly or point you towards someone who can help.

Bike Rep - Joe Dobbyn
Email: joseph.dobbyn@new.ox.ac.uk
Pronouns: He/Him
Bio: Hello I’m Joe, I’m a second-year French and German student and I’ll be looking after the JCR bikes this year. The JCR owns three bikes which are easy to borrow and free for you all to use. They are a wonderful way to whizz to lectures, explore the city or get to Oxford’s hottest location: the Oxfam superstore. The JCR completes the ensemble with helmets, locks and tools. If you’ve got any questions about the bikes or are interested in learning to cycle for the first time when you come to Oxford then please do let me know!
**Mint Julep Quarterperson – Maud Tregear**

**Email:** maud.tregear@new.ox.ac.uk  
**Pronouns:** She/Her  
**Bio:** Hi! My name is Maud and I’m a second year Chemist and the Mint-Julep Quarterperson this year. This fun role is only present in the New College JCR, and was created as part of the College’s history; in 1845, the wealthy businessman William Trapier from Charleston SC visited New College. Whilst staying at the College he asked for the Mint Julep cocktail, consisting of bourbon whisky, mint and sugar, and was shocked that this popular American cocktail was unheard of here. Consequently, he made one for himself, and left his recipe, his own cup and enough money for the College to provide Mint Juleps to every New College student on the 1st June every year. My role is to ensure that every student is provided with a Mint Julep (or non-alcoholic alternative!) to enjoy on this day to keep this tradition going. This day is definitely a highlight of Trinity Term!

**The humble Mint Julep**

**Stash Rep - Menaka Santhakumar**

**Email:** menaka.santhakumar@new.ox.ac.uk  
**Pronouns:** She/Her  
**Bio:** Hi, I’m Menaka, a third year medic (old I know) and I am your stash rep for this year! Stash, if you don’t know, is clothing with the NC logo - you’ve probably already seen the puffers. I’ll be working on getting stash to you ASAP, keep an eye on the JCR facebook page.

**Band Room Officer – Heidi Nicholas**

**Email:** heidi.nicholas@new.ox.ac.uk  
**Pronouns:** She/Her  
**Bio:** Hey everyone! I’m a second-year lawyer, and your Band Room Officer (BRO) for this year. It is my job to ensure that people make the most out of the band room in the basement of 7OB. It’s a more informal music room compared to the other music facilities in New College; it hosts a variety of equipment such as keyboards, a drum kit, mics, amps, etc. The room was closed for most of the year due to COVID but is now open for students to use. The room can be booked on the ‘Music Practice Facilities’ page on the New College website, and the equipment can be borrowed if you message me. Feel free to get in touch with me if you have any queries, and I will do my best to answer them!
Other Aspects of College Life

Welfare

Whilst we don’t want to scare you, and suggest that you’ve got any reason to panic, moving to university is a huge change. Adjusting to living by yourself, perhaps for the first time, to being more independent, or having a larger workload can sometimes be hard.

You might find it reassuring to know that for many people Freshers’ Week is by no means the best week of their Oxford experience, or even close, and many people take some time to get used to it. If you do find yourself needing some support, in Freshers’ Week or beyond, there are loads of places you can go and people you can talk to.

We have a welfare system that is fantastically run by the Welfare Officers, Harri Nokes and Gareth McAuley. Speak to any of the JCR welfare team (which includes the Welfare Reps, the LGBTQ+ Rep, the Inreach and Outreach Officers, the Faith and Ethnic Minorities Officer, the Disabilities Officer and the Peer Supporters), who are always willing to have a chat if anything is bothering you; they’re trained in how to do this. Alternatively, there are services such as Oxford Nightline or the Oxford University Counselling service that you can get in contact with.

We also have the great resource of the Cox and Salvesen Fellows. They live in College, and are there to help with students’ welfare. They are the people to contact if you have concerns before you get to College, for example, existing health conditions. More about them later in the section on College staff and other important people.

Another great resource is the Headspace app, which as a member of New College you will hopefully be getting a free subscription to.

Some useful welfare contacts are:
University Welfare (information on services available as well as useful advice and tips): www.admin.ox.ac.uk/shw/
Oxford SU have a similar website: www.oxfordsu.org/wellbeing

The ingredients of a JCR welfare tea, regularly held by the Welfare Reps
Faith at New College

University is a time for discovering new things. This can include further exploring your own religion, learning about other ones and meeting new people in religious communities (both inside and outside of College). It goes without saying that Oxford aims to be welcoming to everyone, regardless of faith, and that one of the most exciting things about going to university is being in such a diverse environment.

New College has people of many different faiths, and even our very own Faith and Ethnic Minorities Officer, Mufaro Mutsatsa, who are more than willing to talk to you if you have questions or need support. Some of them are involved in University-wide societies of faith, all of which are friendly, welcoming communities. A few examples include Oxford Inter-Collegiate Christian Union (OICCU), Islamic society (ISOC), Jewish Society (Oxford JSOC), Hindu society (HUM) among many others.

Often, communities of faith can take on a welfare role and act as support networks, giving many people a place where they feel they belong. Getting involved can also lead to unexpected discoveries by giving you a chance to explore something you may have taken for granted. The above societies will put on events throughout the year, with a particular focus in Freshers' Week to help ease the transition into life in Oxford!

In terms of religious communities within College there is a Christian Union, run by Sainbayar Erdenebulgan. The CU holds weekly meetings and Bible studies which are open to everyone within College, whether you would consider yourself a Christian or not. There are also many university-wide CU events, including lunchtime talks, the relaxed discussion group ‘The Search’, and pub socials. You can find out more about these at www.oiccu.org. Oxford has many, many amazing churches, so feel free to get in touch if you have questions about finding a church here, or if you would like a friend to go along with - we will do our best to help! You can also sign up for Freshaway (the university-wide pre-Freshers’ CU residential) 23rd-25th September - this is an amazing opportunity to make friends before term starts (www.oiccu.org/freshaway). Send the CU an email at christian.union@new.ox.ac.uk if you have any questions at all!

At New College we have a Muslim prayer room in College which students can gain access to by asking the Porters for a key. On top of this there is the central University of Oxford prayer room by the Museum of Natural History. Hall will also be serving Halal food at least 3 days every week.

The Chapel also plays an important role at New College, being a place of reflection, worship and regular services sung by our world-renowned choir. Evensong is at 6.15pm everyday apart from Wednesday; Eucharist on Thursday.

Our Chaplain, Reverend Dr Erica Longfellow (erica.longfellow@new.ox.ac.uk) is very friendly and approachable, and organises morning prayer (plus free breakfast), discussions
over lunch every week ("Soul Food"), Christmas tree decorating… amongst many other things. See the chapel termcard or contact the chaplain for details. The Chaplain is very happy to support the welfare of students and always willing to see members of College on any issue, or simply for a chat, whatever their belief or faith background.

The Chaplain and the Assistant Chaplain, Rev Susan Bridge (susan.bridge@new.ox.ac.uk) are both based in 30B6. Some useful links and contacts:

**OICCU:** http://www.oiccu.org/
**OUISOC:** http://ouisoc.org/
**Oxford JSOC:** http://www.oxfordjsoc.co.uk/jsoc/
**Hindu society:** http://www.oxfordhumsoc.com/

A far more comprehensive list is available on the University of Oxford website, under ‘Religion and Belief’ at: https://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/religionandbelief/faithsocietiesgroupsorreligiouscentres/#d.en.31129

**LGBTQ+**

New College is known for its accepting, jovial atmosphere. As such, it is an awesome place to feel comfortable identifying as LGBTQ+. The JCR’s LGBTQ+ Officer, **Pearl Young**, has the responsibility as part of the welfare team to make sure everyone feels welcome and happy at New College, particularly those who identify as LGBTQ+, and ensure that everyone in the JCR is fairly represented in College. The LGBTQ+ Officer is also responsible for organising events such as drinks, crew dates and dinners in Hall to raise money for LGBTQ+ focussed charities. If you have any concerns even remotely related to being LGBTQ+ in College you can chat to **Pearl**. There are also Rainbow Peers across the University, who are trained Peer Supporters there to offer support to LGBTQ+ students across all Colleges and throughout the wider University. (For more information, email rainbowpeers@admin.ox.ac.uk.)

In Oxford, tolerance is the norm. There are thousands of supportive members of the wider Oxford student body. The LGBTQ+ scene is well established and as such, there are a few places for a great night out. Every Tuesday evening the uni-wide LGBTQ+ society hosts LGBTQ+ drinks at a different College bar. After a couple of hours there, those who fancy staying out a bit longer inevitably end up at Plush to keep the night going. Plush is Oxford’s gay nightclub, and is also good on Saturday nights.

Some useful contacts:

For more information about the **LGBTQ+ society** in Oxford, visit www.oulgbtsoc.org.uk. **Stonewall** is a lesbian, gay and bisexual charity, which has a hotline for anyone needing support: 08000 502020.
Ethnic Minorities
New College boasts an amazingly accepting and diverse body of undergraduates. We come from all walks of life, and some of us celebrate a different heritage from the majority. The JCR’s Faith and Ethnic Minorities Officer, Mufaro Mutsatsa, has the responsibility of making sure that students who self-identify from an ethnic minority background are fairly represented in College as well voicing any concerns that these students may have. Alongside this, he will also organise various social events like crewdates, games nights and dinners.

New College, and Oxford in general, is a very friendly city with acceptance being the expected norm. The BLM movement has reminded us all of the solidarity that Oxford students can show, and the voice we have when we stand together. We are proud of the diversity and affection we show towards one another as part of the New College family. If you have any questions or concerns whatsoever you can chat to Mufaro. You can also talk to one of our Peers of Colour in College who are Peer Supporters with an extra focus of issues that ethnic minorities may face. If you prefer to talk to someone outside of College, peersofcolour@admin.ox.ac.uk is a good place to start.

New College’s Fireworks for Diwali 2020 (Photo: Ayna Taira)

There are many, many societies in the University that you can get involved in which are more focused than the general Faith and Ethnic Minority label.

Some useful contacts include:
The newly formed Oxford Westernised Asians Society (OxWas)
Oxford Asia Pacific Society (Asia Pacific (https://ouaps.uk/)
Oxford Africa Society (https://o9xforduniversityafricasociety.com/)
And there are many more which can be found at https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/life/clubs/list
New College Chapel and the Cloisters both offer peaceful spaces for contemplation

(top photo: Nathaniel Hunt)
These are the people you really want to keep happy. It’s especially worth getting to know the **scouts**, **porters** and **catering staff**, who are the key to the College. You will find that they are lovely people and you won’t find it difficult to stay on the right side of them!

**Miles Young, Warden.**
The Warden is the head of the College and the most senior figure of authority. You’ll meet him at various points throughout the year such as lunch in his lodgings and going through your tutor reports.

Photo - © John Cairns

**Prof Michael Burden, Dean**
The Dean is in charge of discipline in College. You can arrange to see him through his secretary, Jacqui Julier (jacqui.julier@new.ox.ac.uk) but otherwise you’ll only bump into him if you’ve committed a serious misdemeanour. See here for more: https://www.new.ox.ac.uk/deans-handbook

Photo - © John Cairns

**Rev Dr Erica Longfellow, Chaplain**
Erica is a Church of England Priest and is responsible for services in the Chapel. She is available to listen to any member of College regardless of spiritual background.

Photo - © John Cairns

**Mr Gez Wells, Home Bursar**
Gez is in charge of most of the non-academic operational sides of College life - accommodation, domestic, catering, security etc. He is also in charge of Covid regulations within College. You can call for a chat with him if you have any questions!

Photo - © John Cairns

**Dr William Poole, Senior tutor**
Will has overall responsibility for undergraduate teaching and academic matters in the College.
Mr David Palfreyman, Bursar

David is the man with the money. Should you ever come into financial difficulty, or need to talk about grants and loans, arrange an appointment through his secretary in 4OB1.

Annabella Massey, Salvesen Fellow and Andrew Ramos, Cox Fellow

Hello, I’m Annabella, the Salvesen Fellow and I work alongside Andrew Ramos, the Cox Fellow. Together, we’re senior members of the College and part of the Welfare Team. We live on site and we are available to meet with students about any aspect of life and study in College and in Oxford. To arrange a meeting with us, just pop an email to welfare@new.ox.ac.uk. We can also be contacted in emergencies via the lodge. Part of our job is building bridges between the JCR and the SCR, so you’ll find that we host regular events, including some of the introductory sessions during Freshers’ Week, and an event for new students during Michaelmas Term.

The Cox Fellow, Andrew, also lives in College and is available to meet students in the same way as the Salvesen Fellow.

Freyja Madsen, Academic Registrar

Freyja is the first point of contact for any student with queries about Academic Life. She is also a member of the Welfare Team, the College’s Disability Support Co-ordinator, and one of the College’s Harassment Officers. If you’re not sure who you need to speak to, email/phone/pop in to see Freyja!
Tel: 01865 279596 Email: tuition@new.ox.ac.uk Office: 4OB5

Scouts

These lovely people are in charge of cleaning the rooms of the inevitably hungover/messy/still asleep undergrads. They’ll come in once a week, which means you’ll have to get out of bed before noon at least once a week if you want your room cleaned (probably a good idea). They are generally chirpy and very nice.

Scouts and some other New College staff receiving certificates in the Warden’s Lodgings
Porters

These people are the engine room of College. They staff the Porters Lodge at the Holywell entrance and know everything that’s going on in College. They’ll be the ones who shut down raucous parties but they’re also incredibly helpful, and we’re lucky to have such a good-humoured and friendly bunch. They’ll be there 24 hours a day so if you ever need to know anything about College or get your key, pop into the Lodge. There is also a Porters’ Who’s Who which will be circulated in Freshers’ Week so you can get to know the Porters’ names better!

From right to left, porters Corrie, Chris (Head Porter) and Stewart

Maintenance

Despite testing fire alarms at 9am, the maintenance team are there to be helpful! If you ever need something fixing (broken showers, electricity gone, etc.) you can put in a maintenance request. Google New College maintenance request, and once you’ve proved you’re not a robot they’ll be able to send someone to fix your leaky shower orbroken drawer handles.

Michael Collett, Clerk of Works
**Kitchen Staff**
These wonderful people prepare and serve the meals you enjoy in Hall. As mentioned earlier, remember to speak to **Brian Cole** if you have any dietary requirements as our catering staff are proud to cater for a wide range of needs.

*Brian Cole, Catering Manager*

**4 Old Buildings.**
4 OB is the administrative hub of College, and where you’ll find most of the administrative staff. It compromises the Bursary, Home Bursary, and Academic administration, as well as the Catering Manager and the Dean’s Secretary.

*Emily Meeson, PA to the Home Bursar*

*The Buttery team*
FAQs

People keep using abbreviations for rooms. What do they mean?
College is divided into buildings. Each building is divided into staircases and each staircase is divided into rooms. The staircase number comes first, then the building, then the room. So 9OB3 is room 3 on staircase 9 of Old Buildings.

The different building abbreviations are as follows:
- NB: New Buildings (In Holywell Quad, and your home this year)
- HW: Holywell Cottages (at the far end of New Buildings)
- OB: Old Buildings (where many tutors have teaching rooms)
- H: Hall (Above the Hall)
- LW: Houses on Longwall Street
- NCL: Houses on New College Lane
- BH: Bodicote House (Grey building on Longwall Street)
- SH: Saville House
- SB: Sacher Building (hidden behind the gardens)
- WB: Weston Buildings (postgraduates, houses at the sports grounds).

I have locked myself out of my room, what do I do?
This happens to everyone more than once. Go and speak to the porters who will sign you out with a spare key.

Can I smoke in College?
There are three places in College where you can smoke and vape. The first is at the bottom of the Mound out in the gardens - not within 5 metres of the buildings [i.e. Old Buildings]; according to College regulations. The second is the slype, which is the place where the bins and recycling are. The third is the ‘smoking pole’, found in one of the alcoves in the College gardens. Otherwise, College is a no smoking zone, although you can smoke outside College; just outside the Porters’ Lodge on the wall is a popular spot.

Which famous people went to New College?
Probably the most famous alumni are Hugh Grant, Tony Benn, Angus Deayton, Kate Beckinsale, Gyles Brandreth, Hugh Gaitskell, Rachel Johnson, Sally Phillips, Kate Mosse, Rick Stein and even the last Duke of Wellington. Richard Dawkins is an emeritus fellow and can often be spotted at dinner.

We were founded in 1379. Why is it called New College, and always ‘New College’; never ‘New’?
Being one of the oldest Colleges, New College does seem a bit of a misnomer. The rea-
son behind the absurdity is that the College is officially called: “The Warden and Scholars of the College of St Mary of Winchester in Oxford”.

But another College (which we commonly call Oriel), was already named after St. Mary, so our College was the “New College of St. Mary”. However, it was generally just called “New College”, a name which has stuck for the last 642 years.

**Do we have any rival Colleges?**

Not really. Our extremely friendly, welcoming and somewhat apathetic nature has stopped us having any real rivalries. Since the 1912 Olympics in Stockholm, rowers have historically disliked Magdalen (see NCBC website for the story...) but otherwise we like pretty much everyone.

**Who do I speak to if I have a problem with my room?**

If you need bin bags or extra toilet paper, your scout should be able to help. If you have a problem with your room, you can contact Ellen Baker, the Accommodation Manager (In 4NB or ellen.baker@new.ox.ac.uk). If something is broken in your room, you can contact maintenance.

**How do I book an event?**

To book events in College (this includes any occasion with more than ten people present) you need to get permission. Permission forms for events can be downloaded from the Dean’s pages on the College website and you need to submit these to the Assistant Dean, Gideon Elford. (http://new.ox.ac.uk/deans-hand-book). To make an appointment with him contact the Dean’s Secretary, Jacqui Julier (jacqui.julier@new.ox.ac.uk).

**How do I book a room?**

If you need to book a room in College, for a meeting, or a tutorial, or if you want to book a guest room for having relatives to stay, then contact Emily Meeson by emailing rooms@new.ox.ac.uk).

**Can I stay later than the end of term?**

At the end of Michaelmas term, you can’t usually stay on in College, because all of the rooms are needed for interviews (the only exception is if you are helping out with interviews yourself). You have to be out by Saturday morning at the end of 8th week. International students should bear this in mind when booking flights home.

At the start and end of other terms, there is often more flexibility. If you need vacation residence, contact Emily Meeson (emily.meeson@new.ox.ac.uk)

**Do I need to bring a bike?**

Not necessarily. The JCR has some bikes which can be borrowed by speaking the Bike Rep, Joe Dobbyn (joseph.dobbyn@new.ox.ac.uk, see page 43) and Oxford is a small enough city that you might find walking suits you just fine. Plus, even if you do find that you want a bike once you’re here there are loads of places to get second hand bikes, so it’s not necessary to try to fit one in the car!
Extra Info

Useful Contacts:
- Porters Lodge 01865 279500
- Weston Lodge 01865 281081
- 28 Beaumont Street GP 01865 311811 (or 0845 345 8995 after hours)
- NHS 111 service 111
- Thames Valley police 01865841148
- Citizen’s Advice Bureau 0844 111444
- Oxford City Housing association 08702 200608
- Oxford City Council 01865 249811
- University Counselling Service 01865 270300
- Oxford Nightline 01865 270270
- Domino’s Pizza 01865 200222 (say you’re from New College and you might get a discount)

Useful websites:
**New College**: Official website with lots of useful information including staff contacts. www.new.ox.ac.uk

**New College JCR Instagram**: Updates on what’s going on in College, updates on events committee activity and more.
@newCollegejcr

**New College JCR Facebook page**: Facebook is an integral part of University life at Oxford, so we really recommend you get it! Join us on our JCR’s page.

**NCBC**: Everything you want to know about our Boat Club including the 1912 Olympics story.
https://jcrweb.new.ox.ac.uk/
(NCBC also has a twitter account: www.twitter.com/NewCollegeBC)

**Oxford University**: The University homepage, with links to vast amounts of all sorts of useful information. www.ox.ac.uk

**Oxford SU**: Student Union websites with links to many services such as welfare and the alternative prospectus. www.ousu.org
**Cherwell:** Oxford’s independent student newspaper.
www.cherwell.org

**The Oxford Student:** A weekly student newspaper.
www.oxfordstudent.com/

**Oxford Tube:** 24-hour coach service from Oxford to London, up to every 10 minutes. Fares from £15 return. Look out for discount vouchers at the Freshers' Fair.
www.oxfordtube.com

**Daily Info:** A great website with reviews of restaurants plays and events in Oxford.
www.dailyinfo.co.uk

**Oxford Hub:** Home of student volunteering and social action in Oxford.
www.oxfordhub.org

*New College by night (photos: Nathaniel Hunt)*
Hopefully this tick list will condense the 50 pages of information in this guide to a single page of everything you need to do before you come to New College in October!

1. Complete and return any forms sent to you in the post
2. Make sure you have all the items in the what to bring section (Page 6)
3. Make sure you have the shoes, socks, shirt and skirt/trousers/suit for subfusc (black is probably best). Don’t worry about the ribbon/bow tie, gown and mortarboard so much, most people get them in a deal from the local shops once they have arrived.
4. Get your IT sorted (Page 8) especially your Single Sign On and Oxford Email
5. If you're an international student revisit Page 9 and contact Sam Moore, the International Rep, if you have any questions
6. Browse the societies you may want to be involved with at https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/life/clubs. This is particularly important if you want to play University level sports as you may want to come early for preseason training (contact Alex Albright and Jo Smith, the Sports Reps, for more info)
7. Plan how you are going to travel to Oxford (and back again if you are super organised)
8. Try and complete any holiday preparation work set by your tutors - you will not have time to do this when you are in Oxford!
9. Get in touch with the second years doing your subject - they were in your position only a year ago and are therefore the best people to answer most of your Oxford related questions. You should get a letter from your College Parent, otherwise Katie Brooker, the Academic Affairs Officer, will be able to put you in touch with your subject rep.
10. Prepare yourself mentally - life in Oxford can be quite intense, especially during your first term when you are settling in to uni life. Therefore, it can be invaluable to take some time to get to know yourself better and find what things help you stay mentally healthy. This is could be anything from getting more sleep or exercising to eating healthily or spending time with friends. Many students find mindfulness a life changing practice so it is well worth experimenting with apps like Headspace or Calm (which both have free trials) to see if this works for you.
11. Make the most of your summer! You have earned this break after getting such great results so have some fun and we will look forward to seeing you completely refreshed in October!