

Dear New College MCR Freshers of 2021,

I am delighted to welcome you to New College, and the Middle Common Room (MCR) that will be at the heart of your college community. Thank you for allowing me to guide you through the beginning of your exciting adventure, which I promise will be a memorable experience that lasts for a lifetime.

Founded in 1379, New College is one of the oldest colleges in Oxford. It is also undoubtedly one of the most architecturally striking colleges. We have a strong choir tradition, a group of genuine and welcoming friends, and a set of facilities and beautiful grounds that have impressed people for centuries. Our founder, William of Wykeham, endowed us with the first non-Latin motto of any Oxford college: “Manners Makyth Man,” which means that regardless of one's upbringing, attitude is what defines a person. Like our motto has stated, New College has maintained the style of weaving traditions with an open and modern spirit.

The New College MCR is the community of all graduate students at the college as well as a student-run organization headed by the MCR committee. In addition to maintaining and developing the physical MCR facilities, we organize a wide range of events for you throughout the year: bops, formal dinners, bar and movie nights, exchange dinners with other colleges, competitive and recreational sports, artistic and cultural events, and much more. I hope that during your time at the MCR, you will meet interesting and diverse people, widen your intellectual horizons, and make close and lifelong friends like many of us already have experienced during our time here.

The MCR also provides significant resources for the mental, emotional, and academic welfare for you during the ongoing global pandemic. Our welfare representative, peer support team, representatives for various identity groups, and a group of friends and colleagues are here to help you navigate the ups and downs throughout your journey at Oxford. Please don't hesitate to approach any committee member by email or personally if you have any questions.

Regardless of the path that has brought you here, your time at New College will be a unique experience. I hope you have an amazing time, and I am looking forward to seeing you around!

Nico Han

MCR President 2021–2022

mcr.president@new.ox.ac.uk