

2022

BRASENOSE COLLEGE

FRESHERS' GUIDE



WELCOME TO BRASENOSE!

Hello **FRESHERS...**

Firstly, a massive congratulations on your confirmed place, and a very warm welcome to Brasenose College!

We are Niamh and Erin, and we are lucky enough to be tasked with planning your freshers' week, with the help of a lovely team of helpers.

The aim of this guide is to introduce ourselves, the JCR (more on this later!), and give you an overview of life at Brasenose.

We hope this guide will answer lots of questions and help you feel prepared and relaxed heading into freshers week. Please feel free to email us with any question, big or small, and we will get back to you ASAP!

We look forward to seeing you very soon!

Niamh and Erin xxx

Freshers' reps



@brasenosejcr



Brasenose JCR 2022-23



@brasenosenews @brasenosejcr



@jcr-freshers@bnc.ox.ac.uk @niamh.gallagher@bnc.ox.ac.uk



CONTENTS

- President's Welcome
- Essential To-Do list
- Meet the JCR Comittee
- Meet the Freshers' Committee
- **Life at Brasenose**
 - Academic life
 - Food and drink
 - Facilities
 - Batels and finance
 - Discipline and the 'blue book'
 - Clubs and societies
 - Welfare
 - Heath
 - Safety
 - Diversities and equalities
 - What to wear
 - Oxord life
- **Freshers' week**
 - Your first day
 - Information for International Students
 - Matriculation
 - Packing checklist
- Oxford and BNC Glossary



To-Do List



Before you arrive, please make sure that you have filled in all of the forms that the College Office will have sent to you about residency etc. Doing this straightaway helps the College Administrators organise things and means you will have a much smoother arrival in October.

These to-dos are all listed with more information on the website under the link 'UG next steps' - <https://freshers.bnc.ox.ac.uk/ug-next-steps/>



1. **College Contract and Freshers' Dinner** - print this out, sign it and return it to college via the submissions portal



2. **University Card Form** - print this out, sign it and attach a passport photo. This should also be returned via the submissions portal. Top tip - make sure this isn't a photo you hate, as this will be with you for your entire course at Oxford!



3. **Medical information** - complete the medical registration form linked in the letter from the College Doctors so that you can be registered with Dr Leaver and Partners before you come to Oxford.



4. **Students with Disabilities or Health Concerns** - If you have declared any form of disability or medical condition (including dyslexia and dyspraxia) when you submitted your UCAS application, the Disability Advisory Service will have been in touch with you. PLEASE ensure that you reply to them quickly to make sure you can get any adjustments you need. If you did not declare anything on your application, but would now like to make the College Officers aware, then please email DAS immediately. Email - disability@admin.ox.ac.uk



5. **Online IT Induction and Student Registration** - please complete the set up of your account and enrol online. This is **very** important and you need it before you can study!



6. **Download Facebook** - If, like most of us, you have never used Facebook before, it is most definitely worth downloading before arriving at Oxford. Facebook helps us to keep be up to date with events and things going on in Oxford and Brasenose.

After downloading, please be sure to join 'Brasenose Freshers' 2022'. This page will be updated very regularly throughout the first couple of weeks of term. We aim to utilise this as a virtual space for freshers to ask any question, as well as receive daily timetable updates of fresher events!

Whilst you're there, remember to join 'Brasenose JCR 2022-23'. This group is updated constantly throughout the year with loads of info on upcoming events etc. and is a great space for all Brasenose students



WELCOME FROM THE JCR PRESIDENT

Phew, the wait is over... You did it! You made it! You're coming to Brasenose College, Oxford in October! Sounds pretty cool, doesn't it? Time to stop worrying about grades and start worrying about how many pairs of pants you need to bring, and how you're gonna wash them when it isn't enough...



(Me with a statue that really reminded me of a certain unicorn in college).

Hi everybody!

I'm Jackson, here to say congratulations(!!!) and welcome to your new home! You are all amazing and we can't wait to meet you. Some of you have visited before, but lots of you may have never been within a hundred miles, either way it's time to get very excited about moving in in October. That's what this pack is for, a little intro to the best college in Oxford, put together by Niamh, Erin and the rest of the incredible Freshers team. These guys will be emailing you constantly about freshers' week and will introduce themselves in due course. In the meantime though, they've recruited me to give a little overview to life here at BNC. Brasenose is an amazing place, renowned as the university's happiest college and that's all down to the people in it. That's you now, so no pressure...

I should probably start with a little bit about me I'm a third-year medic, a proud Cornishman, I spend a lot of time underwater, and I've got quite silly hair. I'm also lucky enough to be our JCR president this year. The JCR is a few different things. The junior common room is (unsurprisingly) a room in college. It's got a pool table, a PlayStation, some really comfy chairs- great to nap on- and is the home of undergraduates in Brasenose. It is also the name we use for the collective (about 400 of us now, I think?) undergraduate students. We have a facebook group through which we organise literally everything in our lives and a committee that helps make our little community stay happy and healthy throughout our stay here.

I'm one small part of this committee, trying to help with anything and everything the students need, acting as a go between with us and college, and supporting everyone else with their far more important jobs on committee. Please please please reach out to me if you need anything. I'll never be too busy to try and help. This pack will introduce the rest of that team later on in more detail, but, as briefly as I am able (and as quite a nice intro to all the many facets of college life) this is our 2022 JCR committee: Esme and Alex are our VPs, taking charge of our democracy and our domestic situation respectively and really holding everything together. Ollie is the money man, making the most of our budget. This isn't like the school council, we're given a big sum of money to make all of our lives better with no strings attached... just as long as Ollie can keep me from spending it all. Yas is our secretary, keeping us all organised and in the loop and when you come to a JCR meeting you'll realise that she's really in charge. You've already heard from Niamh, our Freshers' rep. You'll get to know her and her team pretty well in the first week. Most of you will message Anushka at least once in the first couple of weeks to try and fix your wifi. Our Entz reps, Ezra and Jess, are responsible for keeping our reputation as a JCR that works hard and plays hard. They'll put on a load of events to get the whole college together throughout the term. *Spoiler alert*, the first BOP theme will probably be BNC, so if you happen to have a bee costume lying around, I'd chuck that in the suitcase.

Lots of you will be desperate to work with Maya, not just because she's so lovely but because she's in charge of outreach (and don't get me started on Joe Organ, a legend of the nose). We have loads of chances through the year (often paid!!) to encourage kids to get the opportunity we've been given. Issy and Pippa make sure we take responsibility for our privilege, ensuring our commitment to both the environment and to charity. This year saw the return of Brasenose arts week, a celebration of our talent in art, music, acting and basically everything else Liv could cram into the schedule. Sport is also a big deal for the black and gold. Whilst we may be far from the best in most sports, Josh makes sure everyone is involved in as much of it as possible, and what we lack in quality on the pitch we make up for in enthusiasm the sidelines. Finally, and most importantly, are the people who give their time to make sure we are all ok. Olivia is our Women's officer, fighting for and supporting anyone in gender-related issues. Ish makes sure everybody feels represented within college. Obviously, this wouldn't be possible for any one person, so they head up a sub-committee that strives to make everyone feel welcome in Oxford. Then we have Billie and Freddie, our welfare reps, who make it their personal mission for each and every one of us to be looked after. No one is going to pretend that life at Oxford is easy 100% of the time, it wouldn't be the place it is if it was, but these guys make sure we are ready to face it every day, and they are always there if you need to reach out.

That was, of course, just a few of our students. You'll have your college parents too, and all the friends you'll make. Something I'd really recommend when you get here is saying hello to as many people as you can. In my experience, there are some pretty amazing people here, both staff and students, and I've spent hours wrapped in brilliant conversation just from bumping into people on the quad. The porters (the guys who work in the lodge and make sure we're safe 24/7) will give you your room key when you get here and are a great place to start.

It might feel like a lifetime of waiting over the final few summer weeks, as everyone back home starts to drift back into normal life while you wait for Oxford's quirky start of term date to come around, but I promise it'll come around much quicker than you think. You're the future of BNC and in no time at all these old limestone walls will be yours. I'm really excited to see what you get up to. I just hope that, when one of you is sat here writing this introduction in 2 years time, that you can look back and say you had as much fun as I did.

At the moment though, if you're anything like I was, you'll be a little nervous. For me it was all a bit surreal; one of the greatest things I'd ever achieved wrapped up in my fear of leaving home and being thrown into the lion's den with a bunch of super geniuses. Please just remember you really do deserve every bit of this, and we are so excited to have you join us. There are so many great things in Oxford, and you'll meet some of the most interesting and lovely people you ever will. Make sure to enjoy it. After all, your degree is only one tiny part of your new life here.

I know I said this already, but I just want to reiterate that if you're ever unsure about anything, or if you have any questions at all, then reach out to one of us. Especially if you think it seems stupid or unimportant. I'd bet someone else is worrying about it too. My email is at the bottom of this, and you can find me on FB (there aren't too many "Jackson Spry"s that come up...) so feel free to message and I'll do my best to help.

Most important now, however, is that you celebrate, have a rest (trust me, you'll be grateful for the extra sleep), and get packing. I can't wait to meet you.

All my love, in black and gold,
Jackson



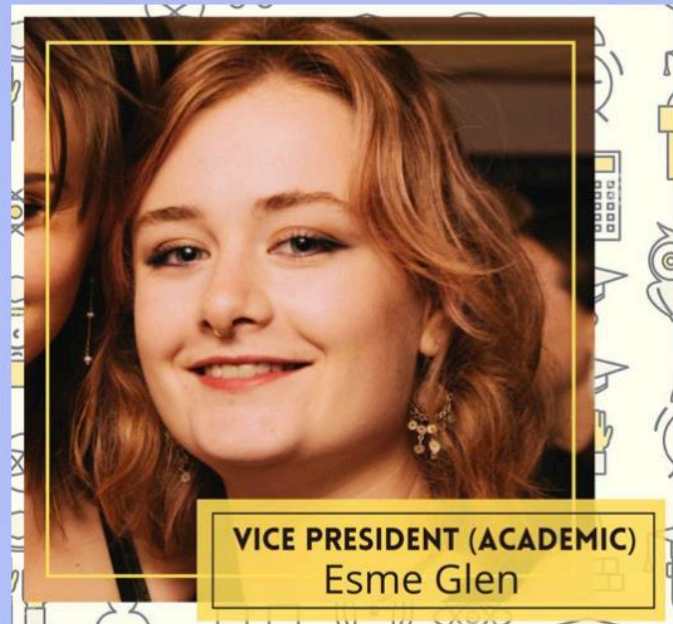
jcr-president@bnc.ox.ac.uk

MEET THE JCR COMMITTEE

The "JCR", or "Junior Common Room", is a term with two meanings. The first meaning refers to the body of undergraduate members of the college, including everyone from finalists to first years (you!). The second is the physical room in college reserved for use by those members – our common room is a welcoming, comfortable space, hosting our meetings, welfare teas and much more. The JCR has a committee made up of students, who are all here to help you out!

Let's get to know them....

Hi! I'm Esme (she/her) and I'm really excited to be your Vice-President Academic and Careers (or VPA to avoid that mouthful.) I'll be responsible for supporting careers events and academic life in college generally, so you can talk to me about anything related to that. I also run JCR elections – if I can work out how to use the SU website. You can often find me bothering my friends when they (and I) should be working, or stress walking around Christchurch meadows to avoid essays! I'm really looking forward to supporting you all over the next few terms.



Hi everyone!! I'm Alex (he/him), a 3rd year Physics and Philosophy student from north Wiltshire, and the new JCR Vice President (Domestic)! That mostly means I'm in charge of accommodation, food and storage stuff – all the things that are part of domestic life while at Brasenose. Like you, I want Brasenose to be an even better place to call home, so please don't hesitate to get in touch with any problems, issues for me to raise with college, or questions. I'm only in for two terms but I'm really looking forward to getting started on keeping up Brasenose's homely vibes! I'll also try not to propose calling any potential college pets "Lampshade" as I accidentally said (/threatened?) in my hustling!!

A portrait of Alex Roberts, a young man with short dark hair, smiling. He is wearing a dark blue sweater. The photo is framed by a yellow border. Below the photo is a yellow box with the text "VICE PRESIDENT (DOMESTIC) Alex Roberts". The background of the slide features a pattern of small, stylized line drawings of houses and trees.

VICE PRESIDENT (DOMESTIC)
Alex Roberts

Hi everyone, I'm Yasmin (she/her), I'm a third year history student and I can't wait to get stuck into my new role as JCR secretary! I'm really looking forward to working with such wonderful people - this year's committee honestly couldn't be better!!! Hopefully I'll be able to make the running of JCR as organised and efficient as possible, without bombarding everyone with too many emails.

This vac I've got back into doing hand embroidery - as secretary I'm in charge of the physical common room so perhaps my next project could be some swanky black and gold furnishings for the JCR?!??

I've absolutely loved my time at Brasenose so far - Hilary can't come sooner!! All the love💖💛



JCR SECRETARY
Yasmin Malik



Treasurer - Oliver Christie

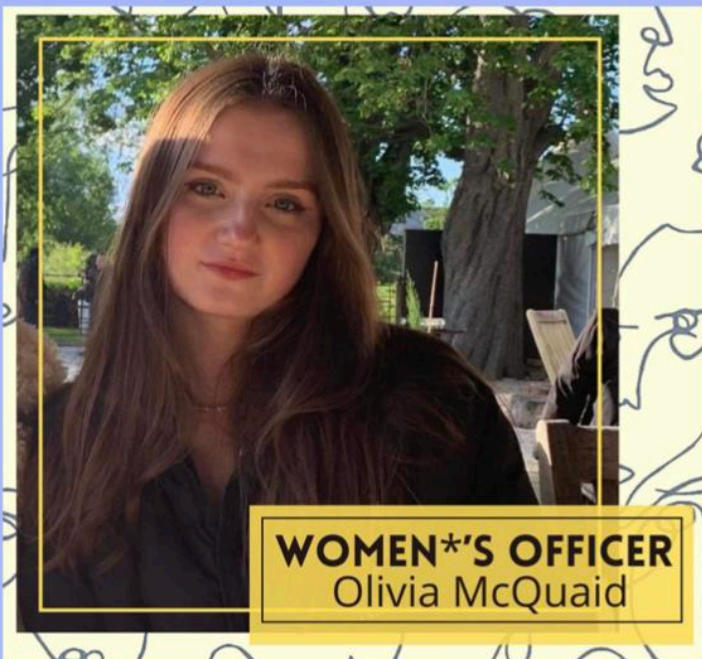
Hey everyone! I'm Ollie (he/him), a third year Chemist from Teesside. This year I'll be taking over as JCR Treasurer so I'll be in charge of handling all of the JCR's finances. If you ever need any help with things like levies or batels, just drop me a message and I'll be happy to help. I'm really looking forward to working with the new JCR committee to enrich the Brasenose community. I love a reason to procrastinate from my degree so if you see me around feel free to say hi and I'll talk your ear off with whatever has recently taken my interest :))

Hey everyone! I'm Ish (they/them), a third-year PPEist and your new Diversity and Equality rep! My role is to represent and advocate for the interests minority students at Brasenose, and I'm super excited to work with everyone on the D&E committee to put on lots of funky social events and to provide resources and support for students of colour, for LGBTQ+, religious, disabled, first-gen, and international students, and for students from state schools (basically, anyone at BNC who identifies as a minority). Brasenose is a wonderful community and we want to make sure that College is as inclusive and welcoming as possible, so please don't hesitate to get in touch if you'd like any advice or support or if you have any suggestions for myself or any of the other D&E reps 💖💛💜💚💙💗💜💙💚💜

When I'm not PPEing or D&Eing you'll find me pretending I know how to dance or rhapsodising about my Scottish roots (and how disgusting English water is). Also, hey - now that you've read this far, you may as well go follow @bncdiversityfor all the latest details on D&E at BNC!



DIVERSITY & EQUALITY REP
Ish Duncan



Hi! I'm Olivia (she/her) and I'm a third year doing classics and english from London, and I'm your women's officer this year!! my role is to represent the interests of all the women and feminine identifying people in college and promote gender equality within the brasenose community, so we can empower and celebrate everyone who makes this college so fab! my dms are always open if you need anything or have any concerns (or honestly if you just want a chat because I really could talk for england...)

I'm really looking forward to the year ahead! lots of love!!! xx

ps. follow @bnc_femsoc 🥰

Hi! I'm Billie (she/her), a third year biochemist and I'm one of your welfare reps this year! I'll be working with the lovely Freddie to support you through whatever life throws at you! Both us and our network of peer supporters are here to chat (confidentially) about anything and everything, serious or not – feel free to come say hi! We'll also be running various college events to get our wonderful BNC family together, which will usually involve snacking on free food!

Welfare love,
Billie



Hi everyone! I'm Freddie (he/him), I'm a 3rd year biologist, and I'm one of the welfare reps for this year. Alongside the wonderful @billiedelpino we're here to help and support you through any rough times oxford life (or life in general) may throw at you. We're also here to help organise various events to bring the bnc family together for good vibes all round!

If you need to have a chat about anything, whether serious or not, please do get in touch – we'd be more than willing to have a chat or answer any questions!

Hope you've all had a lovely holiday, and I can't wait to get stuck in!

Freddie x



Hi everyone, my name's Pippa (she/her) and I'm your new charities rep!! I'm a third year geographer from stratford upon avon and I'm looking forward to begging you all to nominate charities for our termly elections. If you have any ideas or suggestions you can find me colouring in maps in the library or standing in the tortilla queue :))



CHARITIES REP
Pippa Chapman



INTERNAL ENTZ REP
Kate Leadbetter

Hey everyone! I'm Kate (she/her) and I'm a third year English and German student from very, very South East London (basically Kent). I am super excited to be your internal entz rep for the coming year and hope to give you some really fun bops and events.

Thank you for trusting me with this role and I hope to provide lots of fun times for all of you BNC cuties.

I'm Ezra (he/him), a third year geographer, and I'll be your external entz rep for the coming year. This is going to be a super exciting year to be an entz rep, partly because we now have 2 years of students who have experienced covid university, so no one really has any solid idea of what the Brasenose events are normally like. Im praying this means the expectations are low, and I will be all the more embarrassed if I disappoint. It also means I can hopefully get super creative with events coming over the next year, with no status quo to strictly follow. I can't wait to get people from turning pages in the library to cutting some serious shapes on the dance floor. I know we are all going to spend a great 2022 alongside each other, and keep brasenose as the warm, fun, and exciting place it has come to be.



EXTERNAL ENTZ REP
Ezra Sharpe



hi I'm Liv, a third year archaeologist and your arts rep this year! I'm really looking forward to bringing arts back as much as we can this year and looking forward to a super exciting arts week in trinity of this year (hopefully)!!

I'll be your go-to for anything arts/music/drama/crafts etc related - follow @brasenosearts for updates!!

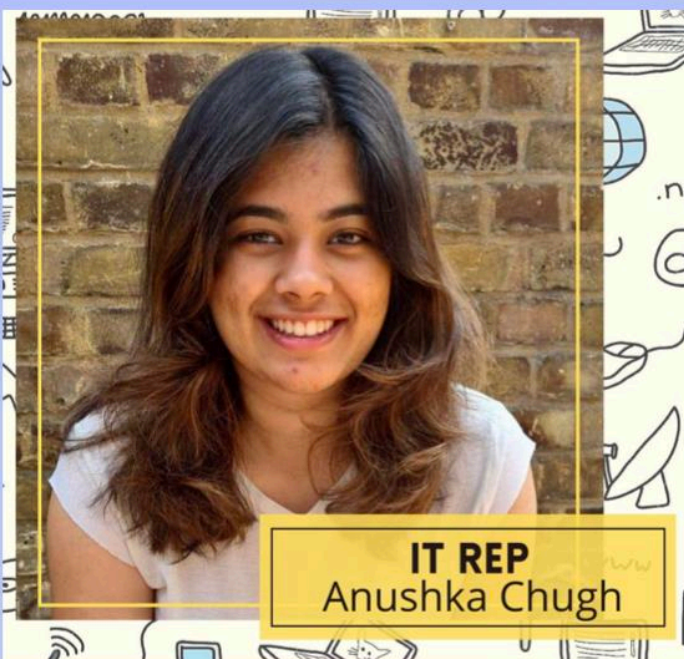
Hey everyone, I'm Issy (she/her), a 3rd year Geography student & your new E&E rep! My job is to help get everyone informed & involved in all things environmental, & essentially to make BNC as sustainable & moral a place as possible. I'm hoping to create an E&E committee & am always open to chat about any ideas you may have, so please don't hesitate to get involved any way you fancy! I'm excited to begin & can't wait to see you all soon!!

follow @bnc.environment to keep up with the environmentally friendly fun!



Hi! I'm Anushka (she/her), a third year maths student and I'm your IT rep this year! I will mainly be responsible for helping sort any IT-related problems in the JCR and keeping the JCR website up-to-date.

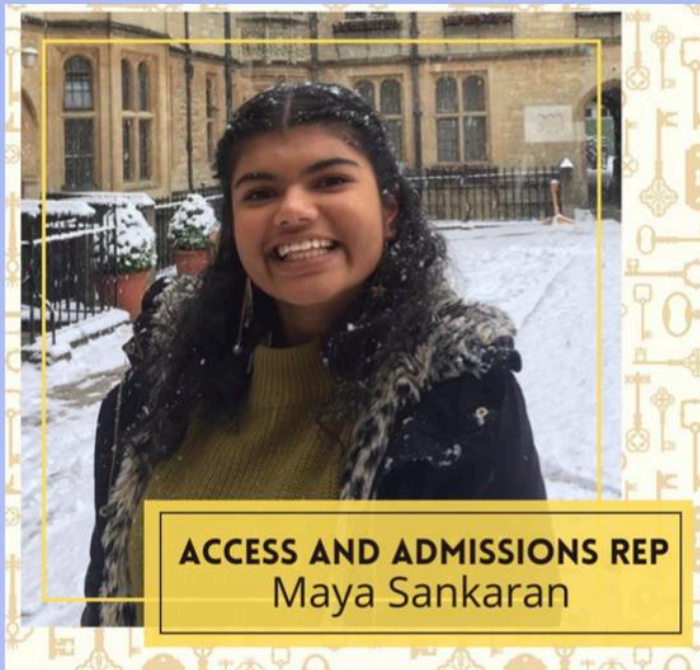
If you've got any technological issues, no matter how big or small, feel free to drop me message and I'll be happy to help 😊



Hi, I'm Josh (he/him), a third year lawyer, and this year's sports rep!

I honestly think that college sport is one of the best things about the Oxford experience, as it gives you the chance to play in a relaxed, friendly environment. Everyone, from absolute beginners to uni-level, can get involved. We have teams/clubs for most sports, with regular matches/training during term time. Post-match hydration at The White House is also very popular.

If you want to find out more about BNC sport, you can follow @brasenose_sport



Hi everybody! I'm Maya (she/her), a third-year geographer who is very excited to be your new access rep! As well as running the JCR social media accounts, I work with Joe, our Schools Officer, with events like school tours, interviews and Open Days.

I'm really looking forward to working with lots of lovely bnc people on access events over the year ahead so please get involved! If you need anything at all, drop me a message! Much love xx

hey everyone! I'm Niamh (she/her), a second year geographer and I'm so excited to be your freshers rep!! it was so lovely to meet so many of you on offer holder day... i hope you enjoyed as much as we did! i'll be working with Erin to oversee all things freshers related including prep leading up to uni, and of course freshers week itself. essentially, my role is to ensure everyone is happy, welcome, safe, and of course having lots of fun!! i really look forward to getting to know all the freshers and welcoming you to the bnc family!! see you all soon :)) xxxx





Freshers' Rep - Erin Bridgewater

hi everyone!! I'm Erin (she/her), 2nd year historian, and I'm organising your freshers' week alongside Niamh - the dream team ;) . I've had so much fun putting together the week for you all and have tried my best to make sure that your transition to Oxford and settling into Brasenose is as smooth (and fun!!) as possible. I had the pleasure of meeting most of you on the offer holder day and can't wait to see your faces around college in October - you really are a lovely bunch! I'm here for anything and everything you need when you get to Oxford to make sure you're happy, safe and know what you're doing and where, so do not hesitate to ask me any questions at all. Enjoy the rest of your summers, congratulations for securing your places and I can't wait to see you all again! Lots of love xxx

Hi, I'm Jess (she/her), a second-year geographer from Liverpool and I can't wait to be your internal entz rep for this year! I love a good party so I'm hoping to organise bops and other events with wacky themes and good vibes. I want entz to be good fun for the whole college and I will try my best to make sure you all have a great time. I'm so excited to get started and I hope you're all ready to let loose and bust some moves. X



Jessica Hazlewood - Internal Entz



Varsity Rep - Yorke Christy-Parker

Hi everyone! I'm Yorke, and I will be the BNC college rep for the Varsity Ski trip! This basically means that I am your point of contact for all things Varsity, so if you're interested in coming or have any questions feel free to ask me. Remember to join 'BNC Varsity Trip 2022'!

My favourite place in Oxford has to be the top of the Sheldonian (would recommend for great views!)

ACADEMIC LIFE



Studying at Oxford can be a very rewarding experience! While it isn't the *only* thing we do here (contrary to a myth I heard before arriving), it is what you applied for and so is very important!

This section is intended to ease any worries you may have about the workload in Oxford – it can seem overwhelming, but you can get through it! Hopefully this will help you to understand the aspects of academic life that will make up your time as a student here. Listed below are the main educational components of Oxford's routine that you are guaranteed to experience during your time here. The amount of each of these can vary from subject to subject and it is also worth noting that scientists also have labs. It can be worthwhile speaking to your tutors or college parents if you are unsure!



*The beautiful Brasenose library....
open 24/7!*



TUTORIALS

Tutorials form the central part of your academic life at Oxford. These are weekly sessions with your tutor and typically last at least one hour. Tutorials are usually conducted in small groups or as a 1:1 session and involve going through the week's essay or problem sheet with the aim of furthering your understanding of a given topic. You may be asked to hand in work via email/ pigeon hole up to a day or so before the tutorial.

LECTURES

One of the main differences between arts/humanities/social science courses and STEM courses is that STEM courses tend to be the more structured of the two. Teaching for science courses is based far more on lectures, whereas other subjects tend to stress more the importance of taking a personal direction from reading lists, which are normally provided each week. Nevertheless, regardless of course, lectures are an invaluable source of learning and should not be avoided. Tutors will let you know which lectures you ought to be attending.

COLLECTIONS

At the beginning of every term (except your first term, and any term where you will have sat official exams at the end of the previous term) your tutor might set you a small test based upon the previous term's learning. This is called a "collection". They take place in college and are completely informal; unlike your University examinations, gowns do not need to be worn. Tutors and college do take your marks fairly seriously though, despite the informality. Your first set of collections will take place at the beginning of Hilary term (the second term of the academic year).

Don't worry too much about the academic issues for now. During Freshers' Week, you will have the opportunity to have a meeting with your Tutors, dinner with your college parents and the chance to meet students in the years above you. Each of these gives you an opportunity to have any worries alleviated and be able to ask questions. Tutors will be reassuring and will be very understanding in the first few weeks.

They all know that Oxford life takes a bit of getting used to.

just relax _____

**GOOD
VIBES**

Rest assured, your tutors have chosen you because they think that you will be able to handle the life of an Oxford student. No matter what you got in your pre-university qualifications, you are definitely meant to be here and you are more than capable of doing well.

A FEW TIPS...



1. Try to plan your work and make sure that you ensure there is some time to relax and have fun.
2. Make sure you are prepared for tutorials. These are a really key piece of learning at Oxford, and pretty unique to Oxbridge. Think of it as you are getting to spend an hour a week with an *expert* in your chosen area of study – take advantage of it!
3. Ask for help when you need it. Whether that means asking your college parents (or referring to this guide) exactly what a black tie event is, or something serious like bereavement or health issues, don't feel that you have to suffer in silence. Ask as soon as you recognise you need help – you can look at our welfare section to find out more about avenues of support.



FOOD AND DRINK



Most importantly - food and drink in college!

When eating in hall, food is paid for using the University Card ('Bod Card' - this is why it is so important to get those card forms in!) and you top this up online with the UPay app. There are no kitchens in college so eating in hall is a popular option! Most staircases will have a little kitchenette with a fridge, microwave, kettle and toaster.

Breakfast	Monday-Friday 8:15-9:00	Cooked and continental breakfast available. Tea and coffee provided!
Brunch	Saturday and Sunday 11:00-12:15	Breakfast but bigger and better. Brunch is a fantastic social occasion at weekends. Timed to allow for a lie in, brunch is a time for catching up on the night before
Lunch	Monday - Friday 12:30-13:15	Usually a selection of several main meals, soup, salad, rolls and pudding. (£2.50-£4.50) Take-away sandwich options also available
Dinner (informal hall)	Tuesday and Friday 17:45-18:15 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday 18:15-19:00	Usually a selection of main meals, soup, salad, rolls and pudding (£2.50 - £4.50)



The infamous Brasenose brunch



Brasenose hall at Christmas!

FORMAL HALL

Tuesday & Friday (7:15pm) and Sunday (7:30pm)

"Formal" is a three course dinner, with service, that is open to students at a cost of about £7. Wine/other drinks are not included in the price, but can be purchased from the Bar before formal begins.

Tickets are purchased via Upay up to one week before. Students can book up to three tickets for a formal so you can invite friends/family! You are able to list any dietary requirements. Tickets can be cancelled up to 24 hours before, and there is also a Facebook group for ticket selling – get your college parents to add you!

In terms of the formality, gowns are usually worn – more on this later, but aside from this the dress code is not too strict but most people tend to opt for smart casual. There is also a 'high table' at formal – you stand when the high table walk in, someone will say something in Latin (ask a Classicist what they're saying maybe!) and then you sit down. When they leave, you follow them out. It isn't as complicated as it sounds. Just follow everyone else's lead!

Occasionally, there may be a themed formal such as recent Women's formal or Chinese New Year, there is also a Freshers' formal in your first week where you have the opportunity to get to know your peers and tutors over dinner!



Brasenose Ball Formal



Chinese New Year Formal



Women's Formal



Brasenose Hall

BRASENOSE BAR

The college bar is a great place to socialise in the evenings. It serves a variety of drinks on tap, as well as bottled beers, lagers, ciders, stouts, wine, soft drinks, crisps and chocolate. We also have music, a TV, table football and a variety of boardgames and darts boards to provide some extra fun. Students are able to work down the bar ('dtb') too!

Brasenose bar is a fantastic place to catch up with friends before a 'BOP' (big organised party) as well as release some competitive energy in the fortnightly student-run bar quiz!



'dtb' for a Halloween BOP



Very quiet giggling in the library

BRASENOSE LIBRARY

During your first week here, you will be shown around your faculty library and also the Brasenose libraries. You will be shown how to check out books and how to use SOLO, the University's online library. If you can't find the books you need, ask a library rep or our lovely librarians.

The main College Library requires your fob to enter and is open 24/7. Books can be taken out for a term (unless you're a lawyer, then it is a week) by scanning the barcode on your Bod Card and the barcode in the book.

The college library can get very busy so it can sometimes be difficult to get a seat, especially around the exam seasons. You are also able to use your faculty library and other libraries around Oxford.

Throughout the Covid-19 situation, it has been necessary to book slots in the library - this may be maintained in some areas across the university so make sure you are aware of how this needs to be done! This information will be shared with you in Freshers week



IT AT BRASENOSE



You will receive your own personal email address in the form ***name.surname@bnc.ox.ac.uk***. Email is the main form of communication with College tutors and JCR members, so be sure to check it regularly – a few times a day, or get the emails on push notifications. You can set emails up through Apple Mail, for example, but I can vouch for downloading the Outlook app, which I found much easier!

The IT guide will give you some more information on this and you will also be led through this by the IT Team in college in your inductions.



LAUNDRY FACILITIES



The Laundry room in college is at the bottom of Staircase 13 (to the left of the archway towards the back gate, if you're coming from New Quad) and there are a few washing machines and dryers. Both machines accept contactless with a wash costing about £2.20 and a dry costing £1.10

OUR LOVELY PORTERS

At Brasenose we are lucky to have the most amazing Porters that always provide a friendly face and big welcome.

Andy Talbot, our head porter, and his team do their best to remember everyone's names and chat to students as they come in and out of college. There is always someone in the lodge, so it is a great go-to if you're confused or need something and you're not sure where to find it! There is always a first aid trained porter on call, with the porters being the first point of contact for any emergencies you may have.

Everyone also has a pigeon hole ('pidge') where post can be placed and that is where your letters and packages will be. There is also a slot for "parcel chits" – parcels too big to go in your pidge – which you hand to a porter to get your parcel.



Andy Talbot - Head Porter



BATELS AND FINANCE

“Batels” is the name given to your termly bill. This will be sent to you at the beginning of each term by email, and should be paid within two weeks. Payment can be made by bank transfer, cheque or debit/credit card. Batels include things like

- College and University fees (if you are self-funded)
- The rent charged for your room (including a ‘fixed facility’ charge for electricity and heating)
- The costs of any events which you have opted in to, such as Arts Week or the JCR Punting Scheme
- Additional charges such as key insurance or printing costs.



FINANCIAL HELP

Oxford is a very expensive city – one of the most expensive places to live in the UK. This can mean that students might face some financial struggles. However, Oxford and Brasenose offers some of the best student finance support in the UK. These include the Oxford Crankstart bursary or the Oxford bursary and a huge range of hardship funding and bursaries. You might be contacted about a bursary or scholarship from the university before you arrive if you are eligible.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please make sure that you contact the Bursary to discuss as soon as you can. Several different funds and grants do exist – Brasenose’s Annual Fund is probably one of the most well known – for those who need it, and the College Accountant can help advise students when applying for these. You are able to find different funds and grants on the university website.

It is also worth noting that Oxford as a city is expensive, but college life is not. Rent is considerably lower than that you would have to pay if you were to ‘live out’ and Hall and the bar are heavily subsidised. You are also able to work for the university – University Ambassador roles are often paid, and there is also the opportunity to undertake paid internships or roles such as running the Telethon outside of term time to make up some money. Furthermore, you can work for the student run bar and earn some money around your studies which is also a great social opportunity!





DISCIPLINE AND THE BLUE BOOK

All those coming up to Brasenose are strongly advised to read the Student Handbook – the Blue Book of College. It details college rules and regulations and is useful to refer back to if you ever need to. It includes important information such as information about exams or suspending studies, and the College goes to considerable lengths to make sure it is comprehensive and understandable.

The Dean is responsible for discipline in College. The Dean also has a welfare role – you can read about the welfare team later on, and in the welfare booklet.

Penalties for misconduct (eg. Serious drunken behaviour, vandalism, smoking on site etc) include:

Fines

Exclusion from College – apart from the attendance of tutorials

Rustication – expulsion for a set period

Sending down – permanent expulsion

Any member of the College has the right of appeal to the Governing Body against any serious penalty imposed by the Dean (ie, an incident that incurs being sent down or rustication for a period of a term or more)

However, it is important to note that harsh punishment is unusual, the vast majority of students never incur any fines, and breaking the rules is easily avoidable.



Brasenose in Bloom

