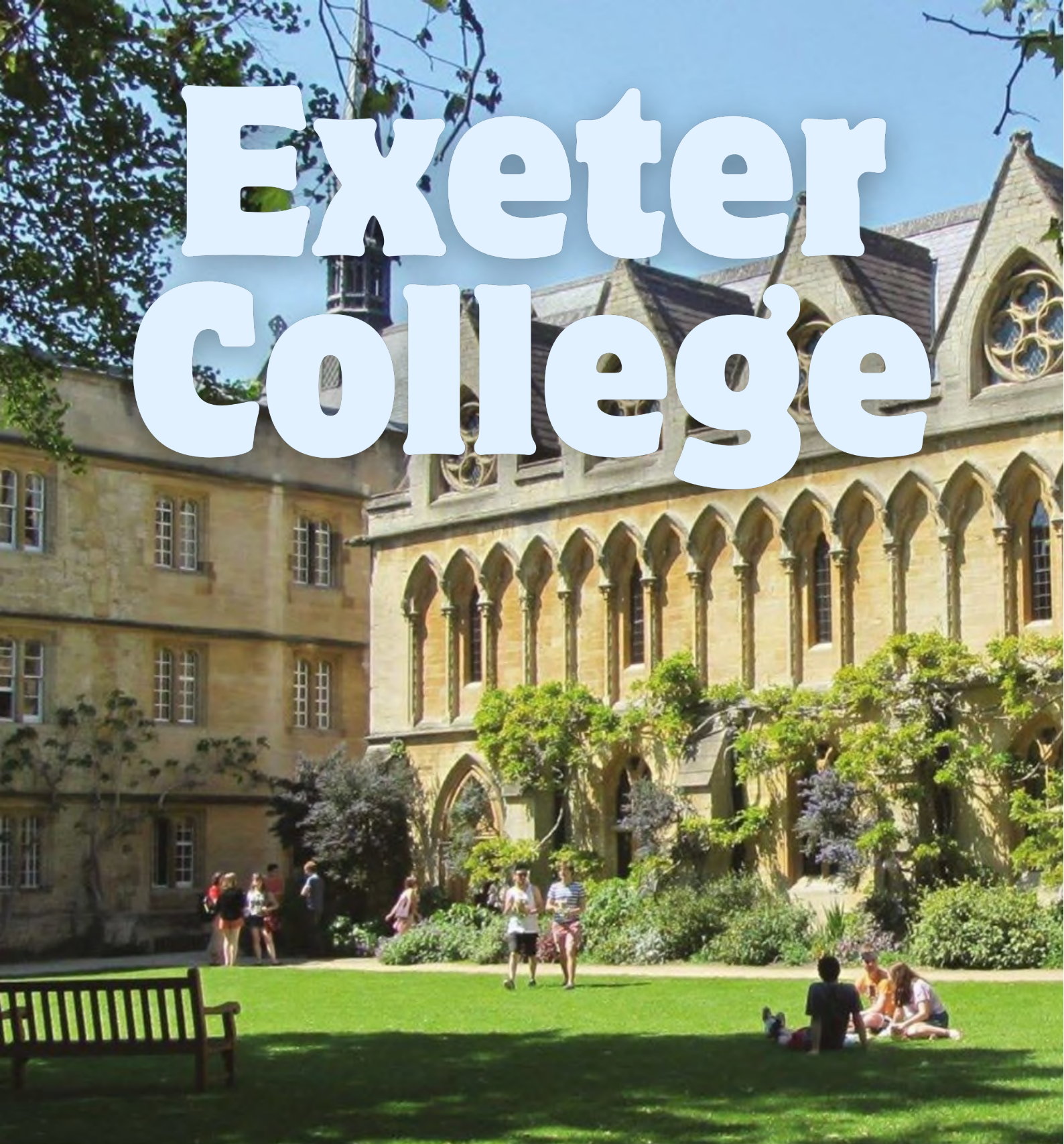


A photograph of Exeter College, showing a large, historic stone building with Gothic architecture, including a series of pointed arches and a large rose window. The building is surrounded by a green lawn and trees. Several people are visible in the courtyard, some standing and some sitting on the grass. A wooden bench is in the foreground on the left.

Exeter College

The Blue Book
an informal introduction



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GINNY
DINMEAD
JCR PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Hello everyone,

CONGRATULATIONS

on achieving your exam results!
Welcome to Exeter - I hope you've all had a restful summer, and are looking forward to the new adventure ahead of you. I'm Ginny, a third-year English student and President of the JCR (Junior Common Room).

Every Oxford college has its own JCR, though the term 'JCR' has two meanings. First it refers to the physical 'JCR', located in the centre of College between Staircases 5 and 6. Our JCR has sofas, a TV and Xbox, a kitchen, vending machines, and plenty of space to relax. It's a space where students gather for a study break, to watch sports matches, or to simply catch up with friends over one of the vending machines 30p hot chocolates. The JCR also refers to the undergrad student body, led by the JCR Committee that organises much of student life in College. The Committee runs everything from Bops (Big Organised Parties!) to welfare events, while also representing students' views to College staff on issues that matter most. Led by the Executive Committee (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and VP Events), the Committee includes 'Officers' covering many aspects of College life, from Welfare, Catering, and Sport, to LGBTQ+, Mental Health and Disabilities, and Faith. Every fortnight we hold a General Meeting, where any student can voice concerns or propose motions that shape life at Exeter. It's also where students can request funding for projects such as new societies, drama productions, charities, or other initiatives. As an added bonus, every meeting provides Ben's Cookies!

This Blue Book reflects that same spirit. It has been written by students, for students, so the advice is up-to-date and will hopefully help you settle in to College life. It is completely normal to feel nervous before arriving - I think the anticipation beforehand is often the hardest part! Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or worries, no matter how big or small.

Exeter is often known as the 'friendliest college'. As one of the smaller colleges, we have a close-knit community that brings together people from a wide range of backgrounds, interests, and experiences. Throughout the year we hold all types of events, and you'll quickly find that there's always someone to chat to in the JCR, Fellows' Garden, or Front Quad. We're also right in the heart of Oxford, just a short walk from the Rad Cam, the Bodleian, Knoop's, Tesco, and Sainsbury's.

As I head into my final year, I can honestly say that Exeter and Oxford have given me opportunities I never imagined when I first arrived. I've had the privilege of leading the JCR, volunteering with our charity ExVac, rowing with the College Boat Club, and even starting a College running club with two of my best friends. There is funding to support all of your interests, and people to collaborate with on all your ideas! You're also likely to find interests you haven't even imagined yet!

All of us on the JCR Committee are looking forward to meeting you in October. Freshers' Week is exciting, busy, and sometimes a little overwhelming, but you have an incredible team of Freshers' Reps looking after you. Beyond them, your college Parents, the JCR Welfare Team, and the rest of the Committee will be there to support you throughout this week, year, and beyond. Please feel free to contact me over the summer if there's anything at all you'd like to ask. Otherwise, enjoy the rest of your holiday. We're looking forward to welcoming you very soon!



INTRODUCTION



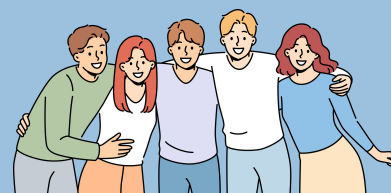
This guide is known as the **Blue Book**, a student-produced publication which contains valuable information on College life, from practical details like welfare provisions, how best to study in Oxford, and the names of College staff, through to fun bits like sports, club nights, and where to get the best food in the city. If you're an international student, there is also an **International Freshers' Guide** in here, designed to help you by including information about documentation, UK culture, and more. The Blue Book works alongside the [Red Book](#) (Exeter College's official rulebook) and the [Green Guide](#) (the College's Student Handbook).



FREPS

Your 'Frops' (short for Freshers' Representatives) are a group of second-year students who have been elected to make your transition to university as smooth and supported as possible. We are responsible for the organisation and running of Freshers' Week and we will be the first people to greet you upon your arrival. We are happy to help with any concerns you may have, whether these are before you make it to Oxford, or during Freshers' Week itself. Our contact details can be found on the following pages.

THE JCR



When someone refers to the JCR (or the Junior Common Room), they can mean one of two things: the physical common room for students (located just off of the Front Quad), or what is officially known as the Stapledon Society. This Society is one of the constituent parts of the College, with the others being the MCR (the Middle Common Room, for postgraduates) and the SCR (the Senior Common Room, for tutors, Fellows, etc.). Basically, JCR is used as shorthand for the undergraduate body at Exeter, which you are about to join. Although you can opt out of this membership, you do automatically become a member when you become a student. While there is a wider Student Union that serves the whole University, the JCR/Stapledon Society is essentially a mini Student Union just for Exeter College students.



As a JCR, we'll meet regularly during term-time in the JCR room. The agendas for these meetings are determined by the students; any JCR member (i.e. any current undergraduate student) can raise issues, have their say, and vote on motions (proposed projects that we might implement, like hanging a pride flag or buying Xbox remotes for the common room). The topics tend to relate to the wellbeing of the JCR as a student body; we care about what goes on around us and how we can create positive change for all of our members.



The JCR is run and represented by the JCR Committee who are elected by us (the student body). It is their job to represent your views to the College as well as to the Oxford SU (Oxford Student Union). Our JCR is structured into sub-committees, some of which have a Vice President (VP) to chair their meetings. The JCR representatives also sit on various College committees, with the aim of getting undergraduate voices heard in discussions about the way College is run.



During your first term, there will be elections for a number of Committee spots, one of which has to be filled by a first year. Being part of the JCR Committee is a great chance to get involved in College life outside of academic work, so do consider it! If you don't want to be directly involved, but still want to play a part in this democracy, come along to a JCR meeting (where you will get free cookies), get in touch with the relevant JCR Committee member, or see the JCR President, Ginny.



Throughout this guide, you will be introduced to many of our JCR Committee members, especially those who you might wish to contact about any questions or concerns you might have now or down-the-line. Please go to the relevant section of the guide to find these details.

MEET THE FREPS

Head Frep

Rosa McGeachie
PPE (Second-Year)

Poppy Queenan
Spanish (Second-Year)

Jess Shaw
Maths (Second-Year)

Favourite part of Freshers' Week 2025:

The Freshers' BOP!
Keep an eye out on the Fresher Insta page for this year's theme!!

Favourite part of Freshers' Week 2025:

Dressing up for my first ever formal dinner where I met my classmates and tutor!

Favourite part of Freshers' Week 2025:

Exploring the Oxford nightlife with some of my now best friends!

Top tip for getting ready to start uni:

Go to as many society taster sessions in the first few weeks of term as you can - I met some of my best friends here and still go every week!!

Top tip for getting ready to start uni:

Bring lots of pictures and other items to decorate your room - it's nice to feel at home especially during the gloomy first term weather!

Top tip for getting ready to start uni:

Look at the Oxford societies list online and try at least one new thing - you'll probably love it! It's a great way to meet people outside of College.



MEET THE FREPS

Emily Hamblin
Chemistry (Second-Year)

Favourite part of Freshers' Week 2025:

The Exeter Boat Club
BBQ!!

Top tip for getting ready to start uni:

Say yes to everything!



INTERNATIONAL FREP

Philipp Heine
*Economics & Management
(Second-Year)*

Favourite part of Freshers' Week 2025:

Going clubbing in Oxford
(it's a unique experience
and not unusual to see
people out in black tie!)

Top tip for getting ready to start uni:

Don't bring too much stuff
- you'll have to move
everything out after first
term and future you will
thank you for it!!



Vik Bakrania-Smith
*Physics
(Second-Year)*

Favourite part of Freshers' Week 2025:

The karaoke event - it
helped everyone get to
know each other better!

Top tip for getting ready to start uni:

Go in with an open mind.
Oxford will be so different
to anything you've
experienced before so sign
up for things you've never
tried before!



INTRODUCTION TO THE COLLEGE

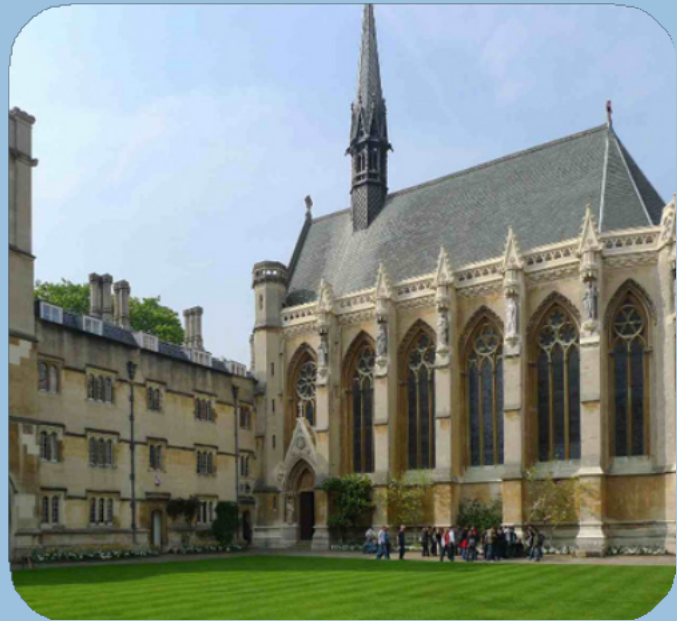
FIND US ON INSTAGRAM



@exeterjcr



@exeterCollegeox



COLLEGE STAFF:



Dr Andrew Roe
Rector

rector@exeter.ox.ac.uk



Now beginning his third year at Exeter, Dr Andrew Roe CB is our College Rector. Before taking up this position, Dr Roe served as a senior Defence Official under the title of Chief Executive and Commandant of the Defence Academy of the United Kingdom. Dr Roe holds a doctorate from King's College, London, and is the author of two books and a number of articles. He will give a speech welcoming you all to Exeter and you will personally meet him in Freshers' Week when you sign the College Register.

**Dr Barnaby
Taylor**
Sub-Rector

subrector@exeter.ox.ac.uk



Dr Barnaby Taylor is in charge of discipline at Exeter, in addition to being a tutor in Classics. You'll see him in and around College (hopefully not for the wrong reasons!).



Dr Chris Ballinger
Senior Tutor

senior.tutor@exeter.ox.ac.uk



Dr Chris Ballinger oversees all academic matters in College. If you don't meet him beforehand, you will certainly talk to him at your Rector's Collections (see glossary), where he will be part of a discussion about your academic performance. If you have an academic question which you don't want to ask your tutor about, he is your first port-of-call.

COLLEGE STAFF:



Andrew Allen

Welfare Lead and Chaplain andrew.allen@exeter.ox.ac.uk



Andrew Allen is the College's Welfare Lead and Chaplain; his main work is to help with the pastoral welfare of the College as well as to oversee the worship and religious life of the College. In Freshers' Week he'll give you an introduction on how to access support in College. Everyone is welcome to come and chat to him – please do not think you have to be religious or of any particular faith to meet up with him! His room is 9.8 (Staircase 9, Room 8), and you can just pop in or send him an e-mail if you want to see him.

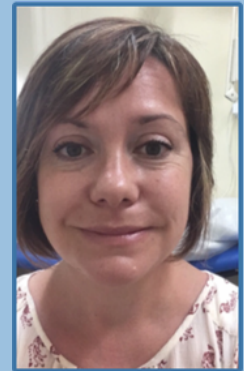
Helen Thornton

College Nurse and Welfare Officer

welfare@exeter.ox.ac.uk or
exeternurse@nhs.net



Helen Thornton is both our Welfare Officer and College Nurse. She has an office in Staircase 9 and can be found in College on several weekday mornings (the Lodge has a list of her working hours and how to reach her).



JUNIOR DEANS:

The Junior Deans are older (graduate) students who live on College sites and deal with undergraduate discipline and welfare. They are friendly, welcoming, and always on-hand if you need to discuss any personal or academic problems, especially at night or at weekends. You should call the Porters' Lodge and they will put you in touch with the on-call Junior Dean. If the issue is less urgent, you can e-mail directly instead.

Porter's Lodge



01865 279600



Brittany Johnson

Junior Dean, Turl Street

juniordean.turl@exeter.ox.ac.uk



Emma Semaan

Junior Dean, Cohen Quad

juniordean.cohen@exeter.ox.ac.uk



Ananya Balaji

Junior Dean, Iffley Road

juniordean.iffley@exeter.ox.ac.uk



COLLEGE STAFF:



Tutors

Your tutors are the people who teach you. They set your work, have tutorials with you, and generally oversee your academic journey from the beginning to the end of your degree. You'll meet them in Freshers' Week and have classes and/or tutorials with them for the rest of term.

Undergraduate Adviser Panel

A panel of tutors (specifically, Teaching Fellows) in the College who do not (necessarily) teach you but to whom you can speak if anything is worrying you - academically or personally. The panel consists of up to six advisers whose names and e-mails are in the Green Guide (and on the College website).

Hall Staff

The people who serve the food in hall, set up for hall formals, and clear the tables. They work incredibly hard to make sure College is well-fed, so be sure to be polite when you pick up your food!

Scouts

They empty your bins once every weekday and clean your room once a week, where they wash the sink and Hoover the floor. Be nice and polite to your scouts, and make sure to buy them a gift at the end of term - you'll see them most days for the whole year, so it's worth being friendly! It is not their job to tidy up after you; you will be expected to keep your floor clear so they can clean it once a week.

Porters

These friendly faces can usually be found in the Porters' Lodge and they're some of the first people you will meet when you arrive. They're always happy to point you in the right direction and answer College-based questions. Keep on their good side just in case you need them to open the door for you at 3AM!

Walter

@walter_the_exeter_cat 

Walter was a lockdown kitten, born on 23 March 2020. He came to Exeter at 10 weeks old from a family that couldn't keep him any longer and grew up in Staircase 5 until he was big enough to start exploring the rest of College. He now lives in the Porters' Lodge. After the solitude of lockdown, he was a little surprised to find 600 students sharing his home in Michaelmas 2021, but seems to have taken it in his stride, and is looking forward to meeting the new freshers. He is still a little shy but is becoming increasingly confident and will often come up to students on the quad for a belly rub.



ACCOMMODATION

FIRST-YEAR BASIC INFO:

Rooms

All first-years are guaranteed a room on the Turl Street site, so you'll be living alongside your year group in the centre of College life. Rooms are arranged in staircases 1-15 (with Staircases 1 and 4 reserved for Fellows). Many freshers are housed on staircase 9. You'll find out your exact room and staircase on arrival, when you collect your key from the porter. Don't worry if students at other colleges already know their room numbers — every College does it differently.

Battels (Accommodation Bills)

NB: this section applies solely to UK-domiciled students, and NOT to international or visiting students.

Your first Battels bill will arrive via e-mail when you get to Oxford. You'll receive one each term, covering rent and amenities. Payment is due on the Thursday of 1st week, after UK student loan payments have been made. If your student loan is delayed, contact the Accounts Department — they're very understanding.

Insurance

The College provides (for free) personal effects insurance to all students living in College accommodation. This insurance, provided by Howden Insurance, covers up to £10,000 of personal effects, including up to £2,000 for computer equipment (e.g. desktops, laptops, tablets etc.) and £500 for bicycles.

Further insurance details, other benefits (e.g. discounts with certain retailers), and how to make a claim can all be found on the Howden for Students App. You will first need to confirm your coverage and create an account before downloading the [app](#).

Facilities

All rooms include basic furniture:

- Bed, desk & chair
- Chest of drawers
- Wardrobe
- Mini Fridge
- Sink

Some rooms also include extras, like a coffee table or additional chairs

Rooms vary in size and facilities:

- Ensuite rooms are rare for first-years and usually reserved for finalists

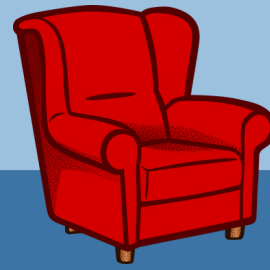
Rooms are allocated by type and

- price band (A-E):

A = most expensive, E = least expensive



TYPES OF ACCOMMODATION:



Study Bedroom

A standard bedroom, one big room with a desk and a bed.

Single Sets

These are rooms for one person, but they are split into multiple parts: a desk area and a bedroom area. Some may also be ensuite, and these tend to be the highest grade (A).

Double Sets

These rooms are designed for two people, and consist of two small bedrooms connected to a communal living area and an ensuite bathroom shared between the two of you. These rooms are normally not for freshers as it is usually final year students who wish to live with a friend who reside here!

The housing ballot takes place at the end of Michaelmas term each year, which starts the ball rolling on the room allocation process for the following academic year. Second-years are split across a number of sites:

Turl Street

The main College site where most of you will have lived in your first year. Each year, a few lucky second years end up back here, but mostly Turl Street is for freshers and finalists.

Cohen Quad

College's third quadrangle, located on Walton Street next to Worcester College in Jericho, meaning that it's within walking distance from the Turl Street site. It's a beautiful new building equipped with a common room (with a ping pong table!), a café serving breakfast and lunch at reduced student prices, several tutors' rooms and meeting rooms (you may have tutorials/classes here) as well as student bedrooms. Definitely go check it out, even if you don't choose to live there!



College-Owned Friendship Houses

Iffley Road (220, 222, 224, 226) and Abingdon Road (100, 102) house up to 8 or 9 students, depending on the house. These houses are equipped with a kitchen and living area, a few bathrooms, and a room for each student. Some of the houses even share a communal garden between them. They are really fun, social spaces in which to live, and tend to be occupied by College second years. These are usually organised in 6th Week of Michaelmas, so you have to plan out your arrangements early!

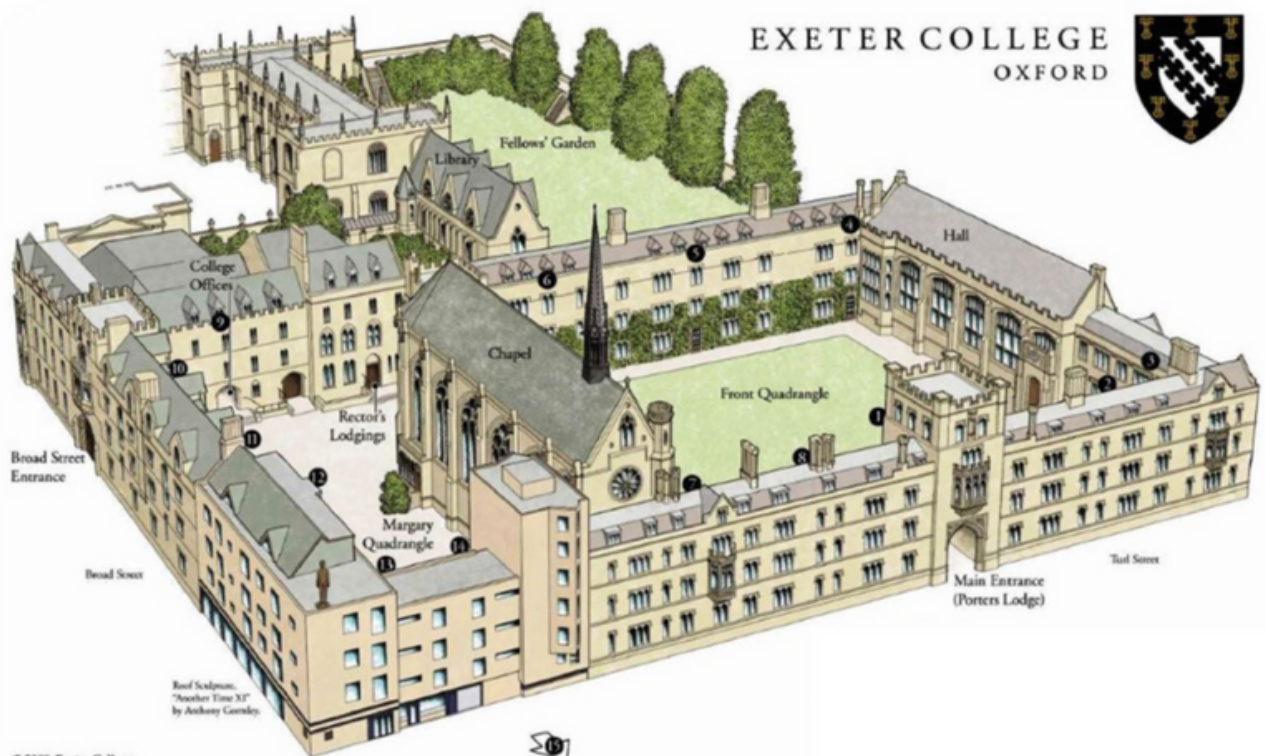


Exeter House

On Iffley Road, Exeter House is College-owned accommodation that contains its own common room and sense of community. Whilst it's principally residential accommodation for postgraduate students, there is sometimes space for second- or third-year undergrads as well.



COLLEGE MAP:



© 2009, Exeter College
Drawn by Jeremy Boys, www.art-work-shop.co.uk

COLLEGE FACILITIES:



Bar

Officially known as the Undercroft Bar (UCB), the Turl Street-site bar has much better prices than pubs in Oxford. It was renovated seven years ago and has been decorated since, so it's a nice place to hang out and chill, and you can play board games and (free!) pool if you want. It has two TV screens, a pool table, and a darts board, and is also the place where bops are held. After formal dinners, it's very common to go to the bar for a drink!



Bike Racks

College provides bike racks (in the Bike Quad) where you can leave bikes both in and out of term-time. If you fail to park your bike in the racks, it will be removed and impounded, so get into good habits from the start. You will also need to register your bike at the Lodge; in return they will put a College-crested sticker on your frame (a must-have). Don't worry about doing this on day one, but get it done at some point during your first week. Most importantly, invest in the best lock you can to avoid the expense - and inconvenience - of bicycle theft, as bike thieves operate in the city!

Boat House

Through Christ Church Meadow (next to the river) the one with the shiny red door. Useful for circuits, erg training, and rowing. Also boasts a lovely balcony where most of the College turns out to watch the regattas and boat races. Come and try out rowing in Freshers' Week here, especially if you've never tried it before!



Chapel

You can't miss the Chapel when you are in the Front Quad. It's the College's third edition of the Chapel and was built in 1859. There are services most days during Full Term (you'll get a term card in 0th week) and everyone is welcome - no matter your faith, including if you have none at all. The choir is one of the best in Oxford, so do come and listen sometime. The Chapel relies on members of the College to help run it, so if you'd like to have a go at reading or playing with fire (in the form of a thurible full of incense), please get in touch with the chaplain, Andrew Allen.

College Pitches

Exeter has football, cricket and rugby pitches in Uni Parks, about a 10-minute cycle from College. They are regularly flooded (and thus out of use) in winter terms, so check with the porters before heading out. For sports games, you'll often be playing at other college's sports pitches which can be a fun way to explore the outer parts of the city!



FACILITIES:



Computers

There is WiFi available across the College so that you can access everything you need from your room. There is also a computer room (the Balsdon Room) down the stairs at the foot of Staircase 9, with multiple computers and a printer. You are given £7.50 of printer credit per term and if you spend more it is added on to your Battels. There will be more instructions regarding WiFi, printers, and other IT-related information in Freshers' Week, so don't worry too much about it now.

Electricity and Heat

Fees for the above are included in your Battels (bills that you pay for rent each term). Rooms generally seem warm enough with the radiators, but you should still remember to bring warm clothing for the cold weather and inevitable night-time fire alarm (yes, that does happen!).

E-mail

Everyone at Exeter College will be given an e-mail address following the structure `firstname.surname@exeter.ox.ac.uk`. It is a College rule that you must check your e-mail daily - you'll miss something important otherwise! Your tutors, the University, and College will communicate with you via e-mail and so checking it regularly is thus vital for arranging meeting times and academic work.

Fellows' Garden

A beautiful haven, complete with benches. The best view in Oxford, with a view over the Radcliffe Square and the Rad Cam (Radcliffe Camera Library)! Home to croquet, sunbathing, and picnics in the summer months. It is open to students from 6AM-8PM (and until 9PM in Trinity Term). Afternoons of Trinity term are decidedly dreamy here...



GCR - General Common Room

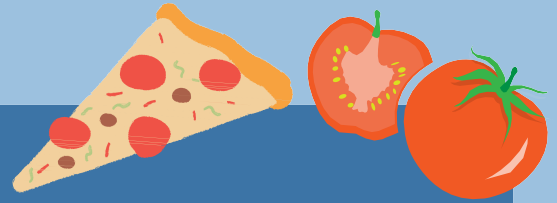
This room is next to the JCR and has 4 computers as well as a printer.



Gym

Furnished with weights and other gym equipment, located at the bottom of staircase 11. You can only get the key from the porter if you attend one of the induction sessions during Michaelmas term. Exeter students are also entitled to use the University Gym (Iffley Road Sports Centre) on Iffley Road, which contains much more gym equipment and has a swimming pool on-site.

FACILITIES:



Hall

Hall is where most of the food is. Highlights include weekend brunch, where you can get a full English or Continental breakfast. On weekdays, breakfast opens at 8AM, offering a good range of bacon/sausage/egg baps, cereal, pastries, and hot drinks. Lunch can be had either in Hall (hot dishes from 12:30PM, including soup, pasta, and a meat and vegetarian main course) or in Cohen Quad (usually a meat and a veggie option, plus soup and paninis). Dinner (from 5:30-6:45PM in Hall, not served in Cohen) is always a popular option. Second hall, known as formals (Wednesdays 7:30PM and Sundays 7:30PM) have to be booked in advance online via an electronic booking and payment system known as Upay. The Fellows eat at High Table, so be on your best behaviour! You pay for your normal meals on a pay-as-you-eat basis, using your Bod card, which can be topped up online (via Upay).

JCR - Junior Common Room

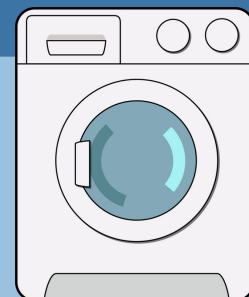
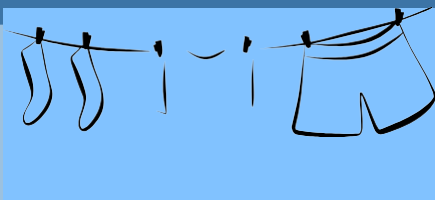
The undergraduate College lounge - the beating heart of Exeter. Impossible to sit here without seeing twenty people you know walk through the doors. Home to daily papers, temperamental vending machines, an Xbox, a TV with Sky, and a DVD player. Important to keep it tidy. The scene of much fun and welfare tea (and 30p hot chocolates!!).

Kitchen

Just off the JCR, quite small but nonetheless useful. Features ovens, an electric hob, microwave, toaster, fridge and freezer, a sink, and a few counters. It can be opened by scanning your Bod card. You'll most likely find that you use it less than you expect, so there's no need to bring too much kitchen equipment to College, especially as it does have some general-use stuff, though some students do use it every day - it's up to you! Make sure to wash up after yourself - it gets messy otherwise, and everyone on the Turl Street site has to share it. The JCR kitchen is locked at 10PM.

Laundry

The College laundry room is in the basement of Staircase 10. The cost in 2025 was £2.30 per wash, while the dryers can be used for £1.20. This works with contactless payment! You need to buy or bring your own laundry detergent. College provides irons and ironing boards, which are useful for any formal events you might attend, but be warned, it can be tricky to get a perfect crease-free iron with them!



FACILITIES:

Porters' Lodge

At the bottom of Staircase 2 you'll find your own personal pigeonhole, in which your post is always placed. To "pidge" work to your tutor or someone at another college, you can hand it in to the porter at the Porters' Lodge (which you'll walk past as soon as you enter College) and they'll do the rest of the work for you. There is a porter in the Lodge 24H a day, with a first aid box, spare room keys, and the boathouse key - they're lifesavers, essentially. There are notice boards in the Lodge detailing sports activities as well as upcoming drama and music events, and if you have questions or don't know where to go - ask the porters!



Music Room

A practice room down the stairs between the bike racks and staircase 14. The porter holds the key, and you need to book ahead for a slot. Alternatively, go to the Music Room in Cohen Quad or the Music Faculty in the Schwarzman Centre and use one of their free practice rooms, if you want somewhere with natural light and a nice acoustic! You can ask our MAD (Music, Arts, Drama) rep for more music advice.

Library

Newly refurbished a couple of years ago, this beautiful space full of books now has more seating, more natural light, and more reliable charging ports. You'll soon become well-acquainted with it!



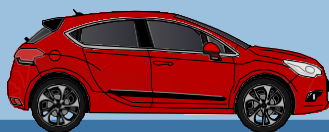
ARRIVAL

mihaela.groza@exeter.ox.ac.uk



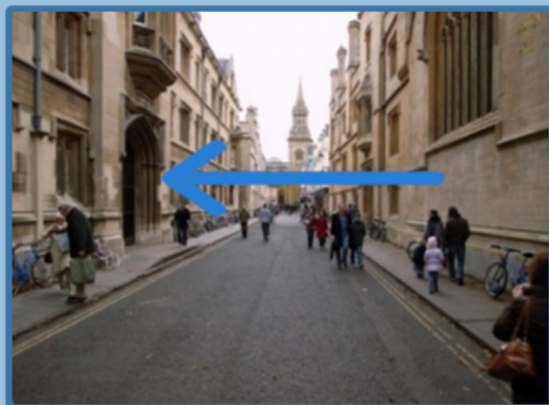
If you need to move in early, drop Mihaela an e-mail in advance to enquire if that might be possible. If your vacation residence is approved, you will be charged at the daily rate of your allocated room.

BY CAR:



The postcode OX1 3DP should take you to Turl Street, where you'll see two sets of big wooden doors facing each other: ours is the more appealing one. The other belongs to a much inferior College (Jesus) who are our rivals.

You'll park and unload on Turl Street when you arrive. The parking wardens are quite strict, so as soon as you arrive, go straight to the Porters' Lodge and ask for a parking permit, then display it in your car. If the wooden doors are closed, use the intercom on the left of the doors to speak to the porter on duty. There is no College parking for students and it's far easier to walk or cycle around the city, so we advise you not to bother keeping a car here.



The arrow points to Exeter College
Turl Street Gates

BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT:



Oxford is easily accessible by coach and train. The bus station at Gloucester Green is about a 10 minute walk away, while the railway station is a 15 minute walk. If you have heavy luggage you may prefer to taxi from those stations instead. The main taxi providers in Oxford are Royal Cars and 001 Taxis, which you can book via their mobile apps or by calling their respective phone numbers, which can be found on their websites. Uber is also now available in Oxford, which can be booked via the mobile app.

For International Students arriving via London airports, there are regular coach services to Oxford. The Airline from Heathrow only takes around 90 minutes and leaves up to every 20 minutes. You can get off at Queen's Lane (High Street) to save time, but don't worry if you miss the stop - all of these coaches terminate at the Gloucester Green bus station anyway.

If you're coming from London, there is also the Oxford Tube, which offers student fares that you can purchase onboard. It runs around every 20 minutes and has multiple stops along the way. For Exeter College, hop off on the Queen's Lane stop.

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU GET HERE:



Once you've arrived at Exeter College, go to the **Porters' Lodge**, which is directly on the right once you've entered through the wooden doors. Here you will collect and sign for your **room key** (and also get a parking permit if you arrived by car). If you are a 'home' student and not in receipt of a visa, then you will also be given your **Bod Card (Student ID Card)**. Those with visas will need to collect their Bod cards from the **Academic Office** during Freshers' Week. The Freshers' Reps and other helpers will be waiting at the Lodge to show you to your room.



Look out for the people in your staircase and/or corridor - it's a perfect opportunity to meet the people you'll be living next to for the rest of the year! Remember that you're all in the same position, faced with many new people and surroundings, so try not to be afraid of introducing yourself. It can be helpful to have a few questions in mind ready to go.

You'll have some time to unpack, and then we recommend heading down to the **Freshers' Welcome Tea** (details will be on your timetable on the Freshers' Hub) to meet your fellow freshers. Don't hesitate to ask anyone for directions (everyone in College is super helpful) or to call one of the Freshers' Reps if you get lost!

WELCOME

WHAT SHOULD I PACK?

CLOTHING:

Formal clothes:

Fancy dress

- All bops (College parties; see glossary) are fancy dress so you may want to bring along that bright blue wig or Halloween costume, just in case. You really will use it!! See below.

Really fancy dress

Dinner jacket for black tie or a couple of evening dresses (your prom outfit would work, or, if you don't have one, charity shops are a great place to pick one up relatively cheap)

Sub Fusc:

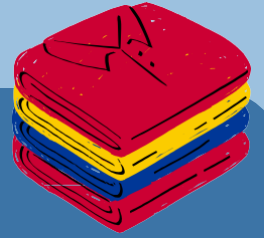
For certain formal events like exams, you will be required to wear sub fusc, while other occasions - like when meeting the Rector - you will need to don a gown.

Sub fusc consists of a white shirt, black skirt or trousers, a black ribbon or tie, and formal black shoes. Your gown is the strange cross between a robe and a jacket that you may have seen in pictures of Oxford; it is not technically part of sub fusc but often worn with it. To save money, it's a good idea to check online/in charity shops for second-hand gear, and Class Act (an equality project run by the Student Union) often runs giveaways of donated gowns to people from low-income backgrounds.

You will need to own a gown, a hat (mortarboard or soft cap), and sub fusc attire throughout your time here. But don't worry about getting hold of this before arriving in Oxford, as there are several shops that specialise in sub fusc across the city.



Everyday clothes:



A varied wardrobe

- Uni is a place to discover/express your style, but since term finishes in December, you will also need warm clothes (including scarf, hat, and gloves), a good waterproof coat, shoes that won't dissolve in a puddle, and quite possibly an umbrella!

Sports gear

- Tracksuits, thermals, workout clothes, trainers, and if you already plan on playing a sport which requires equipment (e.g. a gum shield or a racket), bring that with you too

Flip-flops

- Very useful for the bathrooms - not many people get an ensuite, so this is good for the shower!

A dressing gown

Brace yourself for midnight fire alarms



FOR YOUR ROOM:

You will NEED:

Two sets of bedding

- ♦ Most people also bring mattress toppers for a comfier sleep!

We recommend:

Kettle

Basic crockery and utensils

Toaster and metal tray

Speakers and headphones

Alarm clock

Hangers

Posters, photos, plants, and other decorations - the pinboards are big in College so bring lots of decoration!



FOR YOUR LIFE:

Study equipment:

Laptop, stationery, planner, calendar, etc.

Utilities

Phone charger, toiletries, washing-up liquid, towels and tea-towels, laundry basket, laundry detergent, etc.

Extras:

Bike, lights (front and back), lock, a helmet (essential, #bikeability rules)

Musical instrument, art supplies, books

Ensure you check your tenancy agreement to make sure you are permitted to play your instrument in your room, as there may be a noise curfew.

DON'T BOTHER WITH:

Unnecessary Electrical Appliances

- ♦ Plug-in fairy lights, diffusers, electric blankets, irons, and a long list of items that will be on the Freshers' Hub aren't allowed for fire safety reasons, so don't bother bringing them!

Cooking Appliances

Any cooking appliances that aren't a toaster or a kettle - College is really strict about this, and no one wants to be stood out in the cold after someone has falsely triggered the fire alarm!

Too much stuff!!!

You'll soon learn from moving out thrice a year!

Regarding Fridges:

- You will have a mini fridge in your room and access to larger fridges/freezers in the JCR Kitchen if you need to store more or want to cook!



INFORMATION FOR



INTERNATIONAL FRESHERS

The Basics



- A good place to start is the University's page for international freshers, which can be found [here](#). By the time you're reading this you are most likely to have already sorted out your visas, but just in case things get delayed, you can always go onto the [University's visa webpage](#) and the [government official website](#) for visa information.
- NB: A word of advice to people who have not applied for visas yet and are from countries that require TB screening certificates for their visas, the appointments take quite a while to be scheduled, so try and book yours ahead of time, and take care to do it from the registered centres only! Check the [government health page](#) for the relevant information.
- In order to collect your Freshers' pack (including your Bod Card), you may need to show your e-Visa and present your share-code to the Academic Office upon arrival.

Banking

- You can use digital banks like Revolut and Monzo – they're quick to set up (usually with just your passport and proof of address), easy to manage from your phone, and great for international transfers and everyday spending. Many international students use them in the first few weeks or even long-term.
- If you want to open a traditional UK bank account, you can set up the initial registration for one up online (Lloyds, Barclays, Santander, Nationwide, HSBC, NatWest are some of the common ones and all have branches very close to the main College site).



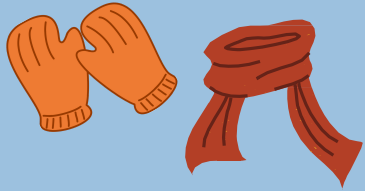
Checklist for International Students to Open a Bank Account:

You will need:

- Your passport
- Evidence of your UK address (the enrolment certificate you can get from the University through Student Self-Service should work for this; it may need to be signed and stamped by the Academic Office)
- You may need to show evidence of your immigration documents - like your eVisa
- For most banks you can start an account online - but if you're unsure you can visit the physical bank branch in Oxford for help. Going in-person can really speed up the process!
- We would highly recommend that you have easy access to enough funds to last you for at least a couple weeks, since it can take time to set up your bank account - this can be in the form of cash or through travel cards



Check your bank website carefully for what documentation they require when setting up an account



Climate and Clothing



As an international student, you'll need to pack wisely — suitcase space is limited, and unlike UK students, you probably can't easily bring things from home later on. Plus, rooms must be emptied at the end of each term, so you won't want to overpack either.

The UK is going to be wet and quite cold throughout Michaelmas and Hilary terms, and so make sure you pack the warmest clothes you can find (a good warm coat, gloves, and some sweaters are essential). Extra blankets and thermal-wear may be particularly handy during the winter months. That being said, summer clothing will be useful in Trinity term, when the sun finally comes out and things warm up. It's worth bringing a few lighter layers, sunglasses, and swimming gear for the occasional dip in the river - this is a fun celebration after exams, as long as you do so safely!

While you can always buy things in Oxford, having the essentials packed in advance makes settling in much easier.



Health

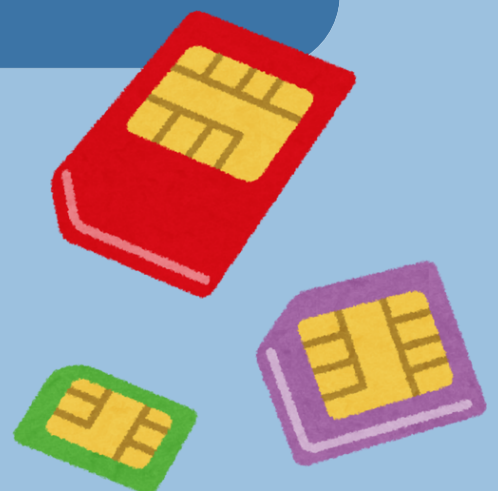
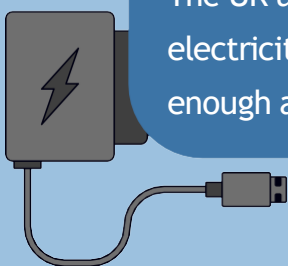


If you are not vaccinated against meningitis and some other diseases listed [here](#), you should either try to get it in your home country before you arrive, or if it is not available there, get in touch with your local GP or the College nurse to schedule an appointment for vaccinations as soon as possible after arriving. If you have any effective cold, headache, etc. remedies from your home country, it is worth bringing them along. Multivitamins are also quite a good thing to have on-hand and may be cheaper in your home country than in the UK.

Tech and Plug Info

Buying a UK SIM card for your phone can be very useful, and they're straightforward to set up. Many students either order one online before arriving or pick one up once they're in Oxford. There are plenty of providers who offer flexible plans that work well for students, including options for pay-as-you-go or monthly deals. These, however, are not essential if you're happy using the University's Wi-Fi along with your existing international plan.

The UK uses Type G plugs (three rectangular pins) and runs on 230V electricity. If your devices aren't compatible, make sure to bring enough adapters to be able to charge them!





Voting

As a student resident in the UK, you may (depending on where you are from) be eligible to vote in local or national elections or referendums. You can check your eligibility to vote in elections [here](#).



Taxes

You may be asked to fill in a form when you set up your bank account concerning your tax address. As you will be living in the UK for at least six months of every year, you are a tax resident in the UK. Do remember this to avoid confusion!

Culture

First and foremost, don't be intimidated by either British culture or Oxford traditions. Oxford is a strange and ancient place, even for Home Students, and an outsider's perspective makes it all the more exciting to explore!

Secondly, do not hesitate to call anyone out on anything that you find insulting or insensitive. Most members in College will be glad to know if something has made you feel uncomfortable and will be willing to help solve any problems that might arise. Be slow to take offence; things that seem dissonant may simply be misunderstandings that happen when an international community melds together, and miscommunications can occur in all directions. However, we are always here to help if you find yourself in a situation that seems more than a simple miscommunication. You can confidentially talk to any of the welfare reps, peer supporters, or the Academic Office about any issues you encounter at any time.

Lastly, there are lots of small things that can help make your transition smoother – bringing along a few items from home like snacks (double check UK food-importing regulations - they can be strict!), photos, or decorations can really help your room feel more personal and comforting. You'll also find plenty of cultural and international societies in Oxford where you can meet people with shared experiences and feel part of a community right from the start. Philipp, our International Frep, was in your position last year, so feel free to talk to him if you have any concerns/worries! You can e-mail him at philipp.heine@exeter.ox.ac.uk

STUDYING IN OXFORD

Exeter has built a strong support system to help you through your workload, whenever you're in need. If it's getting to be too much, **don't be afraid to talk to your tutors.** They understand that this is all new to you. If you're struggling, they'll be more than happy to discuss the possibility of an extension, tricky assignments, and any other worries you may have. Do not be afraid to ask for help when you need it.

If you don't want to go straight to your tutor, Exeter is full of people who are always happy to help.

Welfare Officers:

- - Shaun Shalli (Male Welfare Rep) - male.welfare@exeterjcr.org
- - Tamara Lodges (Female Welfare Rep) - female.welfare@jcr.org
- - Philipp Heine (Vice President for Welfare) - vpwelf@exeterjcr.org
- **Turl St Junior Dean:** Brittany Johnson
- - (juniordean.turl@exeter.co.uk)
- Your College Parents
- Your Subject Reps (see more on this below!)



Check out the **Welfare** section of this book for more useful contacts that can support you with your studies here at Exeter.

Teaching

Tutorials

These are weekly meetings with your tutor where you discuss the work that you've prepared for that week, e.g., an essay, a problem sheet, etc. These can be one-to-one with your tutor, or you may have one or more tutorial partners. It can be nerve-racking at first to interact so closely with your tutor, but please don't worry. Tutorials aren't tests; they're discussions. Tutors expect your engagement and cooperation - not for you to have all the right answers!

Classes

These are usually taught in College by your tutor, when your cohort is all together. Sometimes tutors create joint classes with students from another college, so you'll meet and work with lots of people across your subject. Classes may involve discussions or mini lectures by your tutor and are usually taught in preparation for the work you must complete for your tutorial.

Lectures



These are given by world experts on your subject. You are more than welcome to stay behind afterwards and ask your lecturer questions. Attendance may not always be mandatory (ask your tutor), although it is strongly recommended.

Labs - for STEM students

Those reading for a science degree will have timetabled teaching in labs. Hours will vary depending on which scientific subject you study. You will usually work with a partner/in groups and will be supported by your tutor in the process.



What's the work like?



Essays

If you are a Humanities student, you'll have to write one to two essays per week, usually 1500-2000 words. They usually require both primary and secondary readings, so ensure that you plan in advance and start reading early in the week. Plagiarism is strictly prohibited, so make sure you're not copy-pasting from the internet or using AI to generate your answers.

Problem Sheets

If you are a STEM student, you'll usually have weekly problem sheets to complete for tutorials. Don't panic if they're tricky - you can always discuss them with subject colleagues or College Parents. If you're really stuck, speak with your tutor - it's always best to ask for help rather than to resort to cheating.



What are exams like?

Collections

You will have exams set by your tutors at the beginning of each term (except your first ever term here at Oxford!). They are not the be-all and end-all - they simply confirm to your tutor that you're on the right path and that you've been working during the breaks in term. No need to unduly stress about them, but it's a good idea to revise and aim to do well. These are called 'collections' and are similar to mock exams during A-Levels!

Prelims/Mods

These are your first Public Examinations at university. Lawyers do them at the end of their second term, and Classicists do them in the second term of their second year. Everyone else does them at the end of the third term in your first year. They seem scary, but you will be well-prepared by the time you get there. For most subjects, they don't count towards your final grade - you simply need to pass. However, if you do exceptionally well, you may earn a College prize, or even a University-wide one!





How should I prepare?

Tackling reading lists:



Some subjects are set a reading list to complete over the vacation. You may or may not have received this from your tutor already - don't panic if you haven't. Reading lists can be daunting, but there are a few ways you can get through them efficiently:

- Break the reading into digestible chunks
- Make a reading schedule and get into a routine
- Set yourself reasonable deadlines

If it's looking too hefty:

- Prioritise the texts you'll be studying first (if you know the schedule)
- Ask your College parents and/or subject reps for advice on how to get through it, what to prioritise, and what helped them the most
- Consider singling out the most important sections/chapters and focusing on them instead of the whole book

How to make it fun:

- Watch film/TV series adaptations of the novel (but don't forget to read it too!)
- Make use of audiobooks if you want a break from the page (or follow along with a physical copy to avoid distractions)
- Listen to podcasts or watch video essays on the text (but be aware of the quality of the content!)
- Take regular breaks (don't burn yourself out before you even begin)

If it's hard to understand:

- Read book reviews, synopses, and summaries
- Engage with secondary material on the book
- Engage with translations, simplified versions, or online explanations
- Discuss your queries with College Parents



Make it Worthwhile:

- Annotate the text - remember to always read critically!
- Highlight the important bits
- Take useful notes and keep them safe (**you'll need them when classes start**)
- Read up on the author, the theory or the context



Do what you can, but don't stress if you haven't completed it all before you arrive - it is possible to catch up during term-time. However, we recommend getting through as much as possible to make your first weeks at Oxford smoother. Learning to manage your time effectively and figuring out how best to motivate yourself while studying are some of the most important tools you can learn while at College!

FRESHERS' WEEK

What Will Freshers' Week involve?

Terms in Oxford are made up of eight weeks, each of which starts on a Sunday. You will arrive a week early for your first term to allow for Freshers' Week - this is known as 0th week. At Exeter, Freshers' Week runs from Sunday to Sunday, so you will be among the first students to arrive in Oxford!

The purpose of Freshers' Week is primarily to help you meet new people and get settled into your new home and your new degree course. We have planned a number of events for you throughout the week which should cater to everyone's interests. You'll receive a comprehensive timetable of events before you arrive, but in the meantime this section will include some highlights to look forward to.

NB: you will likely have some work to do in Freshers' Week, but this is completely normal and manageable - read the information about studying at the end of this section for more.

Staircase Pizza

To help you settle in on the first night, after the mayhem of unpacking and waving off anyone who has come with you to Oxford, we'll be running a pizza night where you will be sat next to those in your staircase, so that you can meet your new neighbours.



Freshers' Ball

We're planning to host a Freshers' Ball during the week, where you will have a chance to dress up and dance the night away. It's usually one of the most memorable nights in an Exeter freshers' Week!



Freshers' Dinner



This is a free-of-charge formal dinner in Hall where you will sit with your tutors and your fellow freshers in your subject groups. This will be your first formal in Oxford, and most certainly not the last! A formal is a three-course dinner where you wear your academic gown and a suit/formal dress (unless previously directed otherwise).

Philipp will be running a Welfare Event for all International Freshers. It promises to be a relaxed event to help you all settle in - check the Freshers' Week schedule for more info!





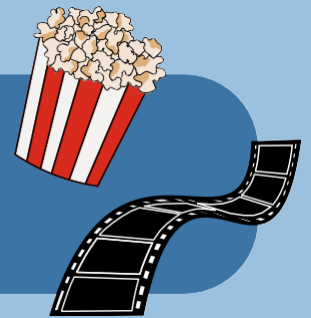
Club Nights and Bops



We've booked three club nights across the week which you can buy tickets for nearer the time (different options will be available for however many of the three nights you want to attend). these nights will help you get to know the different clubs around Oxford. There will also be your very first bop (fancy dress disco) in the College bar - keep an eye out for the theme and prepare your costume accordingly!

Evenings In

Freshers' Week at Exeter is by no means all about the full-on nights out. We're also planning a host of different events which cater to everyone: film nights, ice skating and dinner with your College family are a couple such evenings.



Workshops

During Freshers' Week, you will have some College-organised activities which are **compulsory**. These mainly consist of short workshops and presentations about College life, rules, academic work, general health, sexual consent, as well as elective sessions run by our own JCR equalities reps. They are all important for you and your fellow students, so you must attend them; a lot of time and thought has been put into making your transition to life at Exeter as smooth and easy as possible, and these sessions will go a long way to achieving that! These will take place at both Turl Street and Cohen Quad, our second (more modern) site.



Freshers' Fairs

There will be a College Freshers' Fair in our Hall, where each student-run sport or society will have a stall with information and sign-up sheets available. We encourage you to talk to all of our ambassadors and see what might be the best fit for you - you can always change your mind later on!

There will also be a University-wide Freshers' Fair for the more than 400 clubs and societies that the University has to offer. Whatever your interest, experience, or background, there is a club or society for you - whether it's music, sports, literature, politics, performing arts, media, faiths, national and cultural groups, volunteering, or something else. If, during your time here, you think something is missing, you can always set up your own society (starting in Exeter).

Other Things in the Pipeline...

This is by no means an exhaustive list of activities in Freshers' Week - on almost every morning and afternoon we will be running an event for you. There is, of course, no need to attend all of them, but we encourage you to do as much as you feel comfortable doing and meet as many new people as possible!

Studying in Freshers' Week



You can expect also to have meetings with your tutors and/or talks from your Department/Faculty (alongside library inductions) this week. These are **compulsory** and take precedence over all other activities in Freshers' Week, but fortunately there are usually only a few of these, and they will be brief! Make sure you've set up your University e-mail account (College will send you instructions on how to do this) and check your inbox regularly. You will also have an opportunity to chat to your Subject Rep over the course of the week. All of these meetings are designed to help you settle in and give you an idea of what your first year will look like academically; they are also a chance for you to ask any questions you might have about studying here.

You will almost certainly have work set in Freshers' Week, and will likely have been set pre-reading before you arrive (consult the section on pre-reading for tips and guidance on how to tackle it). Although this is probably different from all your other friends' universities, it is manageable - you'll find that you get into the rhythm of studying fairly quickly! Don't panic if it seems overwhelming and stressful; it sounds like a cliché, but everyone genuinely does find the first few weeks hard because they are meant to challenge you. Try not to worry too much, as your tutors don't expect world-changing pieces of work from you in your first year, let alone your first week! If you're having any problems or concerns, don't hesitate to contact a Freshers' Rep, your College Parents, your Subject Rep, or a Welfare Rep for advice.

While it is necessary that you get this work done, do try your best to take part in Freshers' Week at the same time - if you find yourself trapped in the library all day every day, something is wrong! By all means take a morning or afternoon to get some work done, but remember that meeting new people and settling in is just as important. Keep in mind that the Saturday and Sunday at the end of the week should be a little quieter and are good times to get some work done.

A Final Note on Freshers' Week

We have organised the week so that there is something for everyone. Some people enjoy getting involved in every activity, while others prefer to just relax in the JCR or Fellows' Garden - both are equally fine! So please don't feel worried or pressured if you think you might not want to go to certain social events organised by the JCR. The academic and College-organised appointments are the only events you are obliged to attend: the rest is up to you. Freshers' Week will provide you with a fantastic opportunity to meet everyone in College and familiarise yourself with your surroundings before term begins in earnest. Our advice is to start the week by getting involved in as much as possible - it's a great way to make new friends - but also to prioritise your welfare and rest as needed, because there will always be other opportunities to meet people and socialise.

Finally, it is important to realise that, although it is a brilliant introduction to Exeter College, Freshers' Week will not determine the rest of your time here. Sure, you'll get to know a new city and lots of new people, but don't feel like you have to make it 'the best week of your life!' If something goes a bit wrong, please don't worry. This week is just the first of many weeks ahead of you at Oxford. Don't panic about finding a best friend during it. Even though some people will be best mates from day one, closer friendships usually develop and change over the course of the term and year. One of the best things about Exeter is its size; you will find that you quickly get to know everyone in your year rather than just a small handful of people. Exeter is such a friendly place - you're likely to mingle with everyone during your time here.



WELFARE



Welfare is an integral part of life at Exeter, and the College offers some staple events each week centring around it. This section is only a summary of the most important points on welfare - please keep an eye out for this year's **Welfare Handbook**, which should be ready for your arrival. Lots of welfare events are posted on the Exeter JCR Facebook Page, and you can also find information on the Exeter Welfare Instagram page (@exeterjcrwelfare)



The JCR Welfare Committee

They are members of College responsible for promoting welfare for everyone in the JCR!

The committee meets several times a term and the ideas brought forward at these meetings may be raised with both the College Welfare Team, and, via the JCR President, with senior members of College.

Philipp Heine VP Welfare



Philipp.heine@exeter.ox.ac.uk

Hi I'm Philipp, a first year Economics and Management student and your VP for Welfare. My role is to oversee the JCR welfare system. I'm always around to listen to any problems you might have and any ideas for improving Exeter's welfare provision!

Tamara Loges Female Welfare

Tamara.loges@exeter.ox.ac.uk

Hi!! I'm Tamara, a second year Biomed student and your female Welfare Rep! I'm always around if you need help or want to talk through any issues, or if you've got a snack request for welfare tea. Feel free to reach out or find us at any point during Freshers' Week and term time!!



Shaun Shalli Male Welfare

Shaun.shalli@exeter.ox.ac.uk

Hey I'm Shaun, a second-year Med student! If you ever find yourself stuck in a difficult situation or want some general advice, feel free to reach out!! You can always find me at welfare tea or somewhere around college.



Events

Welfare Tea

Welfare Tea will soon become a key event in your week, held each Wednesday in the JCR (or the Fellows' Garden if it's sunny and warm!) with snacks, hot drinks, and friendly faces. The Welfare Reps confirm the time on the JCR Facebook page the Tuesday beforehand, so keep an eye out and come along!



Welfare Week

Welfare Week happens during the 5th week of each term to combat your 5th week blues! There are loads of activities that you can attend and get involved in, such as meeting our welfare dogs, joint-Mega Welfare Teas with other colleges, and movie nights. You also might find a gift in your pidge during Welfare Week, so there's plenty to look forward to mid-way through term.

Peer Support Events

Peer Supporters run events in College and have training from the Oxford University Counselling Service to help listen to your welfare needs without judgement. Everyone is welcome at these events, which are held with the aim of speaking to fellow students and peer supporters alike about anything you might need, and you can also contact Phoebe Lambard, a peer supporter in the JCR, directly via e-mail (phoebe.lambard@exeter.ox.ac.uk) or one of the other peer supporters: for Caitlin, caitlin.pears@exeter.ox.ac.uk, for Nithya, Nithya.srinivasan@exeter.ox.ac.uk, and for Anda-Raluca, anda-raluca.epure@exeter.ox.ac.uk.

College Parents

College Parents are second-year students who volunteer to mentor first-years. Usually studying the same or a similar subject, they're there to offer advice, share tips, and help you settle in as members of your College family. They should be in touch with you via your college e-mail before term starts! They'll arrange to meet you during Freshers' Week for a meal and are happy to answer any questions you have. They're a friendly, experienced guide through your first year—alongside your Freps, who are also there to support you. If you haven't heard anything from your College Parent by the start of Freshers' Week, let one of the Freps know and we can sort it for you!

Getting 'College Married'

A 'College spouse' is just a friend whom you partner up with to raise your 'College children' when you get to be a second-year! The idea is that your 'college husband/wife' studies a different subject to you, so that you can meet others in different year groups whom you might not know well otherwise.

Many people 'propose' on Matriculation Day and throughout Michaelmas to their friends with plastic (or Haribo!) rings.



Welfare Team Contact Information

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VP Welfare - Philipp

Heine(philipp.heine@exeter.ox.ac.uk)

Female Welfare - Tamara Loges

(tamara.loges@exeter.ox.ac.uk)

Male Welfare - Shaun Shalli

(shaun.shalli@exeter.ox.ac.uk)

Junior Dean - Turl Street - Brittany Johnson

Junior Dean - Cohen Quad - Emma Semaan

Junior Dean - Iffley Road - Ananya Balaji

E-mail = juniordean.turl@exeter.ox.ac.uk/
juniordean.cohen@exeter.ox.ac.uk/
juniordean.iffley@exeter.ox.ac.uk

Peer Supporter - Phoebe Lambard

Welfare Lead - Andrew Allen

(andrew.allen@exeter.ox.ac.uk) or just pop into his room at Staircase 9, Room 8. He is also the College Chaplain.

College Nurse and Welfare Officer - Helen Thornton

(helen.thornton@exeter.ox.ac.uk)

Seeking Welfare Support

Knowing who to talk to in College about welfare can be daunting, but it's important to note that the Welfare Team in Exeter can signpost you to the most appropriate form of support, so no matter who you approach first for help, you will always reach the right person in the end. There's a handy table of contacts listed above so you can come back and seek the right type of support whenever you need.

You might feel most comfortable talking first to a familiar face; in this case, speaking to one of the Male or Female Welfare Reps (in or out of Welfare Tea!), the VP Welfare, a Peer Supporter, or even a Junior Dean might be the way forward for you. They might then signpost you to another form of support. If that doesn't feel right, then you can directly contact the College Nurse, Helen, or the Welfare Lead, Andrew.

University Counselling Service

The University Counselling Service offers free, short-term counselling to all Oxford students (typically around three sessions, with more available if needed). They also provide helpful podcasts and workshops on topics like anxiety and procrastination. More information can be found [here](#).



Welfare Supplies

The College's welfare budget allows the Welfare Team to buy supplies which you can use free of charge! Free condoms and dental dams can be found outside the JCR toilets down Staircase 6, as well as dental dams.

You can also find period products in the same place as well as in the Cohen Common Room and main bathrooms in Cohen Quad, supplied by the Women's Rep Molly Finch (molly.finch@exeter.ox.ac.uk). The Women's Rep can also reimburse you for the provision or reimbursement of pregnancy tests and emergency contraception in complete confidentiality. For reimbursement, please take a photo or screenshot of your receipt for the product and e-mail it to women@exeterjcr.org or to Molly's e-mail address directly.

Disability Advisory Service and Mental Health and Disabilities Reps



The Disability Advisory Service (DAS) offers support and advice for students with disabilities. Their free service includes learning support, mental health advice, support for those with sensory or mobility impairments, health conditions, and autistic spectrum conditions, and can help to assess mental and physical health disabilities. You can also make an appointment with DAS to request alternative exam arrangements for physical or mental health disabilities. Additionally, DAS can help you apply for funding, for example, for covering the costs of specialist equipment. You can contact DAS via e-mail (disability@admin.ox.ac.uk) or phone (01865 280459), and more information can be found on their website.

On a JCR level, Exeter's Mental Health and Disabilities Rep is Caitlin Pears (she/her). You can contact her by e-mail (caitlin.pears@exeter.ox.ac.uk) with suggestions about how to improve College facilities in terms of disability and inclusivity, to ask for advice about mental health, or for any other help that you might need, from paperwork to e-mail-sending.

On a College level, our Disability Lead is Professor Christina de Bellaigue (who can be reached at christina.debellaigue@exeter.ox.ac.uk), while our Disability Coordinator is Josie Cobb (who can be reached at academic.registrar@exeter.ox.ac.uk).



EQUALITY



College is an inclusive environment, and the JCR has a number of officers representing people of different races, financial/class backgrounds, faiths, genders, and sexualities, who organise events and function as a point of contact throughout your degree. We promote a culture of free expression to help you feel secure, regardless of your identity or beliefs. You will receive some training about this in Freshers' Week, and everyone should be aware that bullying and discrimination in any form will **not** be tolerated by College staff or students.

Events

The JCR Equalities Officers run events throughout the year, especially in Freshers' Week and Welfare Week; these are aimed at helping you meet other people at Exeter of similar backgrounds and experiences. In the past, this has included BAME potluck dinners, the Class Act Formal (costing just £5), movie and pizza nights, journaling, and welfare study sessions.

You may also be invited to join a programme like Opportunity Oxford (OppOx). Such programmes help you get settled in to College life early and start meeting people, with lots of students making some of their closest friends through these programmes! Our advice is not to worry about whether or not you are invited to attend. If you are on a programme, then embrace as much of it as it has to offer (and there will be a lot!), but remember to have fun and don't stress, since it won't count towards your academics long-term. If you're not on a programme, then it's important to remember that you're not behind on making friends! Most people haven't been on one of these programmes, and you'll get to know the people that did attend them in no time.

Equalities Committee

The following is a list of the Equalities Officers, including their e-mail addresses; you can contact them if you need to talk about anything relating to the groups they represent, whether it be concerns and worries, or just to chat!

In addition to the Welfare and Womxn's budget outlined in the Welfare section, the JCR also has a Gender Expression Fund to reimburse students for products that help express your gender, such as binders, packers, haircuts, or makeup. Please contact the LGBTQ+ Officer, Emma Downton, to find out more!

LGBTQ+ Officer - Emma Downtown -
emma.downtown@exeter.ox.ac.uk

Women's Officer - Molly Finch. Contact Molly about emergency contraception, pregnancy test reimbursement and period products, and any other women's issues at molly.finch@exeter.ox.ac.uk

Class Officer - Poppy Queenan. Representative for students from a state school, low-income, or other background affected by class issues
poppy.queenan@exeter.ox.ac.uk

Mental Health and Disabilities Officer - Caitlin Pears. Contact Caitlin at caitlin.pears@exeter.ox.ac.uk for any concerns to do with mental health or access inquiries.

Access and Admissions Officer - Reyhan Ucar. Contact Reyhan at reyhan.ucar@exeter.ox.ac.uk for questions about admissions and other issues about starting at Oxford, particularly from an underrepresented background!

Faith Officer - Carmen de Zuniga. Carmen (maria.dezunigamasojc@exeter.ox.ac.uk) is the representative for all students, regardless of faith!

EXTRACURRICULARS

Entertainment (Entz)

College holds lots of great events over the course of the year: bops, open mic nights, themed second halls, Christmas dinner, and end-of-term drinks, to name but a few. The Entz team also organise club nights (known as Megabops) and black tie events throughout the year. There are also lots of chill/alcohol free events so you can socialise without the need to go to parties or clubs if they aren't your scene!

Entz Committee

VP Events: Max Teh

Entz reps:

- Rosa McGeachie
- Rishi Aanand
- Pranay Rao
- Rob Miller



Bops

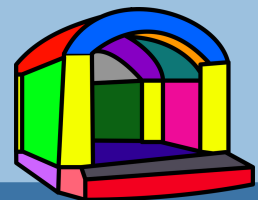
A bop is a fancy-dress party which takes place every few weeks throughout the year. Dressing up makes bops a lot more fun, so please go all out on the costumes! Exonians of all years descend on the College Bar, which will have been transformed into a party venue with bop juice on tap. Themes are announced a few days in advance, giving you some time to shop for fun outfits and/or accessories. The music is provided by aspiring College DJs, so if you want to have a go behind the decks, look no further. Bops end at 11PM or midnight, so many of us combine them with a club night afterwards! With the bop juice, great music, ridiculous outfits, and a blissfully short stagger to your room in College, bops always turn out great!

Balls

Oxford is famous for its lavish balls, and at Exeter we are particularly fortunate to have one every year! Everyone dresses up (definitely bring your best black-tie with you!) and enjoys a selection of food stalls, fairground rides, silent discos, and more. Last year's theme was 'Into Middle Earth' and saw beautiful decorations light up the dark grounds - so we're all very excited for the unveiling of this year's theme! Unlike most other events in this section, the ball is not organised by our lovely Entz reps, but by a special Ball Committee (listed in the JCR Elective).



Exeter College Annual Celebration (ExCAC)



This annual celebration is reminiscent of summer fêtes, largely consisting of stalls providing snacks and drinks, opportunities to take part in crafts and face painting, and, of course, a massive bouncy castle. It takes place late in Trinity term, towards the end of the academic year, and therefore provides an opportunity to let off steam and celebrate the year gone by. This year we used the event to raise money for our college charity, ExVac.



Sport

Sport is a key part of the Exeter community. We have a wide variety of teams, so we encourage everyone to have a go (there will be some taster sessions in your Freshers' Week timetable). If you don't see your favourite sport on this list, don't lose hope! Students are encouraged to start new teams. For example, the 'T-Rexeters' basketball team was founded two years ago and has proven a success! Please contact our Amalgas Officer (Sports Officer) Alina Turchyn for any general queries about sport at Exeter: alina.turchyn@exeter.ox.ac.uk

Please note: the below is by no means an exhaustive list of sport at Exeter - every active team will have a stand at the Exeter Freshers' Fair, so if you can't spot your favourite sport here, have a look there!

Iffley Road Gym

In 2013, the JCR voted to affiliate with the Iffley Road Sports Centre. This means that with the £7.50 charge on your Battels, you have access to the gym and swimming pool all year round! The Iffley Road Sports Complex is the central focus for Oxford University Sport, and the Pulse Gym is equipped with a range of cardiovascular, resistance, and free weight equipment. It also puts on various exercise classes throughout the year, including aerobics and circuit training.

The Iffley Road Sports Complex is about five minutes from Exeter College by bike. Go down the High Street and when you get to The Plain roundabout (just after Magdalen Bridge), go down Iffley Road (third exit) and it will be on your right after about 200 metres. You can find the latest updates on the official university website.

Men's Football

Our ECAFC 1st team plays at a great standard - it is one of the most successful Exeter sports teams, but definitely don't let that put you off! We want freshers to get involved, and there will always be a chance for you to show us what you're made of, whether this be in the 1st or 2nd team.

Games are played throughout the week, so there's lots of chances to play footy around your work. The club also has a great social scene, with 'bevs' in the bar every Thursday. We can't wait to meet you all!

Club instagram: [@ecaafc_official](https://www.instagram.com/ecaafc_official)



Women's Football: Sexville

We have a combined women's team with Somerville College, which creates our wonderful name 'Sexville'. Footballers of every ability are welcome, even if you've never kicked a ball before. We have weekly training, along with plenty of friendlies and tournament games. Most importantly, we love our socials (big things are coming for the new season...).

Contact Eve (Exeter Captain) with any queries: eve.ogbornnash@exeter.ox.ac.uk
And check out our club instagram for updates and information! [@sexville.afc](https://www.instagram.com/sexville.afc)



Rowing



Rowing is one of Oxford's biggest sports and ECBC (Exeter College Boat Club) offers anyone in College the chance to get involved. The main rowing events of the year, Summer Vllls in Trinity Term and Torpids in Hilary Term, bring thousands of supporters down to the riverbanks to watch the Colleges battle it out in 'bumps' racing.

The majority of people who row for ECBC have never rowed before coming to Oxford, and so it's a great opportunity to start a new sport. We have boats for all levels, whether you want to race for the first boat or just row socially to make some new friends. The 2025-6 season was record breaking for ECBC, with the men achieving the highest blades on the river for a second year running and the women reaching the highest they have ever placed in Summer Vllls. There's never been a better time to join the club!



If physical exertion isn't your thing, then you could cox for ECBC instead! Coxes are responsible for steering the boat, issuing instructions, and providing much-needed morale boosts; it's often said that the cox is the most important person in a boat. Coxes are very popular across the uni, since they're always in high demand, so if you become a cox, you'll likely be offered a range of bribes including free drinks and breakfasts in an attempt to get you to cox an outing.

Please contact the Captain of Coxes, Georgia (georgia.stondage@exeter.ox.ac.uk), if you're interested in giving coxing a go!



We have a great social side at the club, including regular crewdates with other colleges, BBQs, pizza nights, and termly black-tie boat club dinners to celebrate the term of rowing.

We'll be there at your College Freshers' Fair and get you onto our Facebook page and group chats if you're keen. We're also running a Freshers' BBQ at the boathouse, and we will hopefully run some taster sessions here so come along for that! From there we will start doing regular novice outings in preparation for the Novice Regatta later in term, which is great fun and no pressure! Please drop us a message with any questions in the meantime.

President: Daniel Sexton
(daniel.sexton@exeter.ox.ac.uk)

Women's Captain: Emily Hamblin (one of the Freps!)

Open Captain: Matt Stone

Club Instagram: @exeterCollegebc



Exeter College Boat Club

158	1,432	111
posts	followers	following

Official Instagram feed for Exeter College Boat Club, University of Oxford

Exeter College, Oxford, Oxfordshire

ecbc.web.ox.ac.uk/home

Basketball

The 'T-Rexeters' is Exeter's mixed basketball team. We play a very mixed level of basketball, so everyone is welcome to join us regardless of ability, and feel free to bring friends from other colleges too! We usually meet on weekends in the late morning, or early afternoon at the Grandpont Rec court off Abingdon Road. Our sessions are casual, and we generally play a couple of pickup games, rain or shine. If you're interested, come find us at the Fresher's Fair!

Bouldering

Exeter's bouldering society is a beginner-friendly community open to everyone! We climb at Gallery Bouldering on Marston Road in East Oxford, and we usually meet on weekends during off-peak hours. The environment itself is very welcoming, with routes for all levels, a top rope wall, a small gym, and even a café! The mountaineering club and bouldering societies from other colleges (Brasenose, Somerville) also climb here, so look out for socials with them! Bouldering can be an expensive sport, but we have subsidies from the college to cover shoe rental and the session. We hope to see you soon!
Instagram: @exeterbouldersoc

Men's Rugby

ECRFC (Exeter College Rugby Football Club) is an integral part of College life for its members, both on and off the pitch. For those of you who are unsure if you want to play College rugby or anxious if you have the ability to play College rugby, rest assured that the club plays an accessible brand of the game and welcomes all newcomers with open arms. With weekly social events, ECRFC provides a great platform to meet like-minded people from all years in College and creates great camaraderie amongst the team. We hope to see you soon!

Lacrosse

If you're looking to try out a new sport and have a laugh, look no further than our very own mixed lacrosse team (ECLC). The basic requirement is no more than enthusiasm: we are almost exclusively a team of complete beginners and it is very low commitment. Join us to help crush our C*mbidge rivals, Emmanuel College, on our joint Sports Day!

Rounders

Rounders is one of Exeter's strongest assets, with every team member bringing either skill or chat to the table (both equally important). A fun and chill sport in Trinity term, come and join us next year. Guaranteed laughs and great fun!

Badminton

Exeter College Badminton welcomes players of all abilities. We are hoping to run regular social sessions throughout the year (given that we secure more funding!) making it easy to get involved. Also we are in Cuppers towards the end of Hilary Term and we'd love to have a men's, women's and mixed team this year to maximise our chances of winning. Whether you're playing for fun or looking to compete, we'd love to see you on the court!

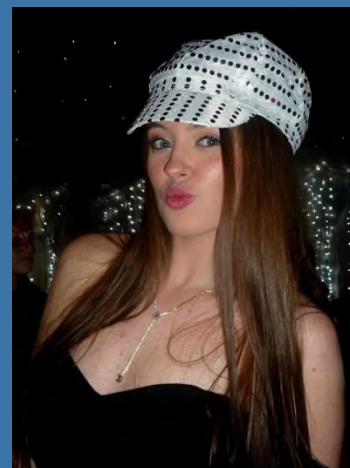
(sithara.gani@exeter.ox.ac.uk)

MAD (MuSic, ArtS, & Drama)

Hi everyone! I'm Esther, and I am really excited to be your MAD rep this year! As a Music student I think that the arts are so important and I really want to make sure that any creative activity that you want is available for you in college. I am really looking forward to fostering an open and joyful atmosphere around music, art and drama at Exeter.

This year I want to expand music and arts within College. Whilst there are Uni-wide bands as well as the University Music Society (OUMS) and Drama Society (OUDS) that you can be involved in, I really want to create a space in College for casual music making and that fosters a real community within Exeter. This year I plan to create a music society with fun social events that will allow everyone who is musical (even if that means you just enjoy listening to music) to be included. I want to continue with karaoke nights, have open mic nights and keep bringing you great music for your bops of course! In terms of drama, I'm hoping to hear lots of pitches for the 'Cuppers Drama' - freshers have three weeks to create and perform a 30-minute play in the BT theatre in Michaelmas. Please email me if you have any ideas for this, and let me know if you want to be involved.

I am also very interested in making sure that what you want is available and so if you have any suggestions for improving music, arts and drama within College then please feel free to email me (esther.grimsdale@exeter.ox.ac.uk).



MUSIC

- The Exeter College Choir provides you with the opportunity to sing in a mixed-voice choir within the stunning setting of the College Chapel (this is audition based)
- Live music nights
- Collabs with Entz to bring you karaoke and open deck nights in the College Bar
- Turl Street Orchestra - a non-auditioning orchestra, offering an informal environment to rehearse and perform. They rehearse in the College Chapel on Friday evenings starting at 7.30 PM.
- There is a music practice room in College which can be booked via the Porters' Lodge and accessed via the steps next to Staircase 14. I am planning on getting new equipment for College that will be found in here so that there is access to amps, drum kit, and a keyboard for College members to use.
- The College Chapel and the practice room at Cohen Quad house grand pianos, which can be used if you obtain College permission.
- There are also University-wide societies such as the Oxford University Music Society which organizes ensembles and boasts two large symphony orchestras. Auditions for these groups are usually held at the end of Freshers' Week.
- A College house band, the Ex Pistols, have collaborated with Jesus and other colleges performing at lots of live music and live band karaoke nights.



Arts



- Drink and draw - unleash your secret talent within the relaxed setting of drink-and-draw night (with the promise of alcoholic/non-alcoholic beverages obviously...)
- Drink-and-draw night may also potentially be extended to include other similar events, such as 'wine and crafts'
- Landscape drawing in the Fellows' Garden - a great opportunity to forget about academics for a while, whilst appreciating the beauty of College!
- JCR artwork - the JCR has an art store from which you can borrow art to spice up your room during the year
- The Ashmolean Museum puts on free after-hours events, as well as hosting lectures, workshops, and exhibitions of artwork from the last century and beyond
- The Ruskin School of Art offers life drawing classes, exhibitions of current students' work, and collaborative art events throughout the year
- Lots of Oxford Uni magazines (for example, the Turl and the Isis) run arts and crafts events to fundraise their publications, so check out their Instagrams/stalls at the Freshers' Fair (they also need art to go in the magazine; a chance to get published if that's your scene)



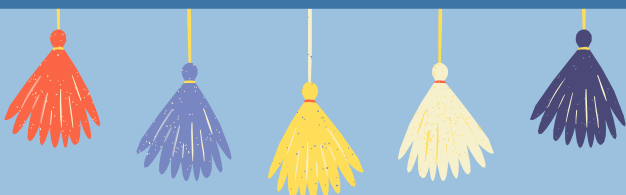
Drama

- Drama Cuppers - freshers have three weeks to create and perform a 30-minute play in the Burton Taylor Studio in Michaelmas. Cuppers is such an amazing way to get to know fellow like-minded freshers whilst maintaining some healthy competition with other colleges
- Sign up to the mailing lists for OUDS (Oxford University Dramatic Society) at the Freshers' Fair to hear more about the drama-related opportunities available to you across the University
- The JCR loves to support student projects so there is a chance for you to put on your own production!



TSAF (Turl Street Arts Festival):

In Hilary Term, the Turl Street colleges (Exeter, Jesus and Lincoln) come together to put on an Arts Festival. Events vary from year to year, but have been known to include craft workshops, life drawing and a Jazz Ball! There's something for everyone, and it is an absolutely amazing way to get to know other people outside of College. We are lucky enough to be hosting the festival this year and would love for lots of our College members to be involved!



Exeter College Choir



The Exeter College Chapel Choir consists of about 20 singers drawn from Exeter and the wider University. The weekly schedule consists of services every Tuesday, Friday, and Sunday evenings throughout term, and a general Saturday rehearsal. Singers receive a stipend, individual singing lessons throughout term, and dinners following every service (formal hall on Sundays, informal on weekdays - always yummy and great vibes!): a total of c.£1000 of benefits per academic year.

Exeter Choir is student-led, which makes us one of the friendliest and most supportive communities of all the Oxford College choirs, while maintaining a high musical standard. Highlights from last year include the release of our new CD, a tour to Malta, and performing our annual Bach Cantata with historical instruments in Trinity Term.

If this sounds like something you'd be interested in, and you have some degree of singing experience, please e-mail the organ scholar, Tom, at thomas.mclean@exeter.ox.ac.uk.

Charities

Hey! I'm Dom - I'm the Charities Officer for this year. The JCR has a budget allocated to charities, meaning that anyone in the JCR can submit a motion to help their chosen charity. Some charities that we have donated to in the past include Turl Street Homeless Action, OxUnboxed, and the UNRWA. We also have our very own charity, ExVac, that you can get involved with! I think that the JCR's role as a charitable organisation fosters a sense of cohesion, as we work to help the wider community. My role involves making people aware of opportunities that they can participate in, as well as putting on fundraisers and events to raise money outside of the allocated budget. Looking forward to meeting many of you soon!

Contact: dominic.monnet@exeter.ox.ac.uk



ExVac

Hi, I'm Zoe, this year's ExVac president. Being involved in ExVac has been one of the most rewarding parts of my time at Oxford - it's a lot of fun, and an excellent way to be part of a really meaningful aspect of College life. If you're keen to make a difference in the local community - with the added bonus of free theme park and laser tag trips - we'd love for you to apply!



ExVac is Exeter's student-run charity which aims to take disadvantaged children from the Oxford area on a week-long holiday over the Easter vacation (hence the name!). We run two identical holidays over the course of the vacation, entirely organised and run by our student leaders, giving about thirty children the break they truly deserve. The children we take with us don't always get a chance to go on holidays with their families, and often have a lot of challenges to deal with at home. ExVac hopes to give these kids a care-free experience where they get the chance to behave like children for a while: playing outside, making new friends, and trying fun activities.

ExVac is able to continue running holidays every year thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers from all walks of student life at Exeter. As well as looking to external sources, our fundraisers organise lots of events throughout the year within College itself - from bake sales, Valentine's Day roses, and cocktails at Welfare Karaoke, to Pimm's bars at College sports events, and the infamous 'Promise Auction'. No matter what you're interested in, there will be an ExVac event to suit you, so please do consider getting involved in our team. The charity plays a huge role in College social life.

We're always looking for people to get involved with our events, help us fundraise, and, most importantly get involved with the holidays themselves. There will be a stall at the Freshers' Fair where you can hear more about what ExVac does, and applications for Holiday Leaders will open later in Michaelmas, so please look out for those! It's an incredibly rewarding experience, and it's amazing to form bonds with these children and watch them come out of their shells!



Turl Street Homeless Action

Turl Street Homeless Action (TSHA) is a Uni-wide organisation that goes out on nightly shifts to provide food to the homeless. Giving out the food partly acts as a conversation starter, and TSHA volunteers enjoy getting to know the friendly and interesting people in our community who are so often ignored. We go out in groups of 2-4 people, typically meeting at Exeter College at 7PM to make hot drinks and then take them around the city centre for an hour or two.

There is absolutely no set commitment needed: simply sign up on the online rota for an evening that suits you and give it a go. Look out for the stalls at the Exeter and Student Union Freshers' Fairs!

Instagram: @tshaoxford



tshaoxford

Follow

Message



15 posts

510 followers

335 following

Turl Street Homeless Action

A student-led outreach organisation supporting the homeless in Oxford. Message us to be added to the chat, or add your name to the schedule below! 📅

🔗 linktr.ee/turlstreethomelessaction

LIVING IN OXFORD

Supermarkets

Although Hall keeps you well fed, it's always a good idea to keep a supply of food and snacks in your room. The closest supermarkets are Tesco and Sainsbury's on Magdalen Street (just walk West down Broad Street, and when you reach the junction, you'll see them to your right).

The first thing you should do is get a Clubcard for Tesco. The amount of money (usually on Meal Deals) that you'll save is life changing.

Shopping



You will be less than a minute away from the Covered Market, a very popular attraction in Oxford. All sorts of food can be found here, from the delights of Ben's Cookies (fun fact: this is the original store!) to the small independent shops where you can find great presents for friends, family, or yourself.

For the essentials: Boots on Cornmarket Street, Rymans on Queen Street.

For clothes, there are plenty of charity shops around, or the Westgate shopping centre (10 minute walk from College) if you have some cash to splash!



Green Spaces

University Parks



Only a 10-minute walk from College (go right into Broad Street, then turn off onto the aptly named Parks Road). Boasts several lovely walks and pretty bridges. Also, the site of Parkrun (a 5K held there every Saturday morning).

Christ Church Meadow

There are cows! Also, a gift shop (Christ Church is one of the fancier Colleges), and loads of tourists in the summer. Here you will find the boathouses and also a lot of nice walks by the river. Every time you go, you can expect to see at least one person studying or having a picnic - even in the dead of winter.



Port Meadow



Further out, but more countryside vibes because of it. Like Christ Church Meadow, it is home to a big stretch of river, which is popular for swimming in the summer term - just make sure you're aware of the potential risks!

Oxford Botanic Garden

With free entry for students and stunning plants, this is a must-visit! Also famously harbours the bench where Lyra and Will (from Philip Pullman's *His Dark Materials*) agree to meet once a year. A 10-minute walk from College, just off Rose Lane before you reach Magdalen College.



Theatre

Oxford is brilliant for theatre. There are numerous venues offering traditional and more original productions. They're always well-advertised, so all you have to do is to keep an open mind! New Theatre Oxford and the Oxford Playhouse hold mainly professional productions, like touring shows and comedy. The Burton Taylor Studio is smaller and home to more unusual plays, such as Drama Cuppers every Michaelmas and student productions throughout the year. The Old Fire Station hosts surprising productions throughout the year too!

Cinema

There are a number of cinemas in Oxford. The Phoenix (part of the Picturehouse chain) is in Jericho and worth the walk: it's a two-screen joint, often has more unusual films playing (including old and foreign language movies), and has a lovely bar.



There's also the Ultimate Picture Palace on Jeune Street (just off the Cowley Road), which is Oxford's only independent cinema. Closer to College you can find the quaint Oxford Cinema and Café on Magdalen St West. Finally, there's the Curzon in Westgate, which is big and impressive, with lots of special options for those with disabilities (wheelchair-friendly seating, screenings for those who are hard of hearing, etc.). Whichever cinema you go to, remember to bring your student card for discounts!

Food & Drink

Top tip: being a student means DISCOUNTS! It's always worth asking whether a place has them or not. It's also worth checking out the app "TooGoodtoGo," which helps combat food waste; select restaurants in Oxford sell their leftover food at closing time at a much lower price, so it's a kind of mystery box that you order in advance via the app.

Being on Turl Street, we are right by the High street, Broad Street, the Covered Market, and the Westgate, which means we have all kinds of big chains on our doorstep, including Franco Manca, Wagamama, McDonald's, Five Guys, KFC, Zizzi, GBK, Pret (there are two Prets on Cornmarket alone), Itsu, and Wasabi (all sushi is half-price 30 minutes before closing in both Itsu and Wasabi). All of these restaurants are less than a 5-minute walk from College. But if you are looking for something slightly more off the beaten track, here are some other suggestions:

DISCOUNT





Cafés



- Missing Bean (Turl Street): the closest coffee shop just down Turl Street is an Exeter favourite and you will see plenty of people carrying these coffee cups in Freshers' Week. Great value coffee, and they sell delicious sandwiches too. It's popular and usually packed all day!
- Society Café (St Michaels Street): the loveliest café with every kind of tea you can think of. Great spot to meet others or work, just 2 minutes from College!
- Sofi de France (Covered Market): a hidden gem of a brunch location. Staff are lovely and will be there for you if you're ever in a crisis.
- Knoop's (Turl Street): turns out I've been pronouncing it wrong all year, but this lovely café does the best chocolate milkshakes, chocolate smoothies, chocolate coffees, and hot chocolates I've ever had. If you're a fan of chocolate... need I say more?
- Gulp Fiction (Covered Market): a book shop/café where you can choose from a selection of books and get a free beverage included with the purchase of certain novels!



Lunch Spots

- Gloucester Green Market: food market open Wednesday through Saturday during daylight hours, with foods from all over the world. Note that they tend to only take cash. Also on site are some stands selling vintage clothing and other random objects!

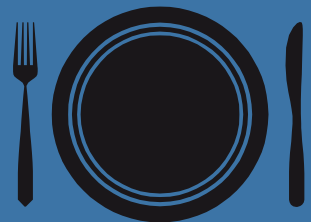


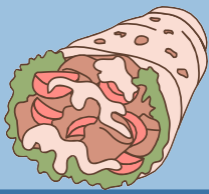
- Alpha Bar (Covered Market): every day they have a freshly-made selection of hot meals and salad options (definitely not the boring kind!). They are also fantastically flexible, so for the indecisive amongst you, I recommend a hot dish with a half-and-half salad rather than the rice you automatically get with the hot dishes.
- Najar's Place (St Giles): number one recommendation. Lebanese and Mediterranean wraps made on the spot here for takeaway. Falafel, halloumi, chicken - you can have anything you want.
- G&Ds (various): they have great filled bagels and ice-cream galore!
- Dakota Café at Cohen Quad: seriously don't forget about our own hidden gem - some of the best value for money in Oxford.
- Alternative Tuck Shop (Hollywell Street): affectionately known amongst New College members as 'ATS', this place serves every kind of sandwich imaginable, from paninis to bagels and wraps - all customisable. They also have some sweet treats to get you through the day, and they now take card.
- Cafe Italiano (Broad street): perfect lunch spot a stone's throw from College. Italian focaccia sandwiches or calzones on offer.



Restaurants

- Quod (High Street): delicious food, but often busy/loud. Well worth a few visits, especially if your parents are paying.
- Edamame: very small and very odd opening times but very worth-it Japanese food. On Hollywell Street just opposite New College. Sushi at lunch time and hot food in the evenings.
- Tse Noodle: delicious food on Ship Street - right next door to Exeter! We recommend the Noodle Soups - many Exonians make this a weekly dinner. Beware the cash-only policy (not to worry with ATMs on Cornmarket Street) and slightly unusual opening hours.
- Pizza Express (off Cornmarket): 30% student discount, you know the drill.
- The Westgate: hosts many cafés and restaurants, including Tommi's Burgers downstairs, an amazing Danish Bakery called Olé & Steen, and Pho. Check out their website for a truly extensive list.





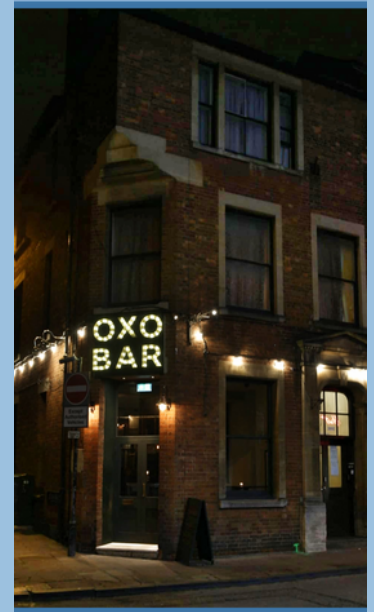
After Hours

- Hassan's is the nearest kebab van to Exeter, and therefore the best one in Oxford. Colleges get very attached to their kebab man and his van. Univ and Oriel reputedly almost went to war against each other over who "owned" Ahmed's on the High Street. Hassan, our man with the van, resides on Broad Street. Cries of "Hass-aaan!" will soon become familiar to you, and we can guarantee that you will be eating from his van at some point during your first year.
- Hussain's and Solomon's are other nearby kebab vans but most Exeter students would agree: home is where Hassan is.



Bars

- Oxo Bar - right in the heart of the city and a regular haunt of the College rowers, the Oxo Bar serves deliciously cheap cocktails and is a popular stop on the way to Bridge.
- Hanks Bar - although less popular than Oxo, Hanks is the closest cocktail bar to College, located on Queen Street near the Westgate. Often worth it when club queues are too long and you're looking to start dancing!



55

· The Mad Hatter

East Oxford. Nestled right by the Iffley Road Sports Centre, this pub is Alice in Wonderland-themed (as is the White Rabbit pub: we can't get enough of it here, clearly), serving cocktails to share in teapots, amongst other things. But most importantly, it is the home of the wonderful Jazz Night! Tuesday night is for JazzSoc where a special band plays for the first two hours, followed by an open mic session, ending at 11 PM. You're bound to leave wishing you had more musical bones in your body. Also great for karaoke for birthdays - you will get a taste of this in Freshers' Week.

· Our College Bar, The Undercroft

This had to be included! Great value for money, and always great company. Raised to extraordinary levels of homeliness by the towering, reassuring presence of Vilmos, our barman, and his legendary pints.

Instagram: bcuno2

Pubs: Classic Spots



- Turf Tavern - the food and drinks here are on the pricier end, but it's very cosy and truly a classic.
- Lamb and Flag - right next to St John's - many claim this is the best pub in Oxford, with a great atmosphere and wide-ranging tap selection.
- The King's Arms - similar to the above. You will inevitably walk past it a lot, since it's located on the corner of Broad Street.
- The White Horse - opposite Exeter College on Broad Street, you'll find this pub to be cosy, welcoming, and squished between two walls of the Blackwell's Bookshop. A top spot in the warmer weather, when you can stand outside on Broad Street.
- Chequers - this classic has a lovely outside area and two different levels within the pub if you want to sit in a more secluded space. Try to spot the Exeter crest on the walls! It can be found off the High Street.
- The Bear - a more intimate pub, hidden away from crowds off the High Street. They also have a sheltered outside area with heaters, and there's live music every Tuesday.
- The Four Candles - ah, Wetherspoons. A trusted staple. If you can't get in here, you may want to endure the trek to the Swan and Castle past the Westgate, for even more Spoons fun.
- The Jolly Farmers - Oxford's prime LGBTQ+ pub, the JF is a regular spot for LGBTQ+ socials and Exonians who are after a welcoming atmosphere.
- White Rabbit - pub with honestly some of the best pizza the second years have ever tasted. Friendly bar staff and an all-round supreme vibe. Not one to miss out on: just head to Tesco and go down Friar's Entry (the little alleyway to the side of Tesco).



Pubs: Further Afield

- The Rose and Crown - North Oxford. Truly worth the walk, with a gorgeous fairy-lit beer garden. It's pink and it's aesthetic.
- The Rusty Bicycle - East Oxford. Located right next to the College-owned Exeter houses. Check out the back garden to see some vamped-up beach huts, most certainly very far from their natural habitat.
- The Cape of Good Hope - at the Plain Roundabout. Close to the Iffley Road Sports Centre if you fancy a post-workout pint! Often has student offers going, so keep an eye on their social media!
- Jericho Tavern - lovely setting for a drink or two near Cohen Quad: great beer, and a lovely patio garden with heaters for those early Hilary chills...

Clubbing

Clubbing at Oxford is something else. You might be coming to the city for its academic life rather than its more dubious clubbing reputation, but there are still a lot of brilliant nights to be had here. Don't be disheartened that you actually made your offer (congrats!) and didn't get to enjoy Leeds/Bristol/Manchester - there are still plenty of venues to suit your tastes.

Bridge

'Bridge Thursday', for many, is a religion. Not just a club, but an institution - with its two main dancefloors and an extremely loosely-guarded VIP area, Bridge can be an attractive destination for the Oxford clubber. On the top floor you'll be hearing mainly electro dance club bangers whilst the bottom floor bangs out pop and R&B tunes, yet a lot of people go to Bridge for the legendary smoking area alone. Bridge is on Hythe Bridge Street, about a 10- to 15-minute walk from College.

Plush

Oxford's premier LGBTQ+ venue. Plush runs weekly LGBTQ+ nights, including the famous 'Tuesgays', which is arguably one of the best nights out in Oxford. If your Freshers' Week experience there is a little on the sweaty side, don't be disheartened - the second time really is the charm for Plush. Expect classic tunes, cheap drinks, and its famous pole, the centrepiece of the dance floor. It's open Tuesday through Saturday until 4AM. 'Broke Thursdays' are popular, along with the Queerfest and Wadstock after-parties. Plush is the closest club to Exeter, waiting for you down a memorably-alluring set of stairs on Cornmarket St.

The Varsity Club

This cocktail lounge bar with a roof terrace view over Oxford is not necessarily a club, but it is an experience. The cocktails are delicious, there's a beautiful view, and it's definitely a place you should visit at least once in your Oxford lifetime. TVC is on the High Street, about 3 minutes from College.

O2

The O2 Academy is on Cowley Road, around a 25-minute walk from College. Every fortnight O2 runs 'Indie Fridays', which most Exeter students claim are the best nights out in Oxford. Indie Fridays always have good Exeter attendance so come and see for yourself!

This is also a good spot to check out smaller upcoming music artists on tour!

Bullingdon

No affiliation with the Bullingdon Club you might be thinking of, don't worry! The Bullingdon (aka 'Bully') is located on Cowley Road, about a 25-minute walk from College. Potentially the best venue that Oxford has to offer, the Bully plays host to a multitude of fantastic club nights, from techno to jazz.



GLOSSARY



Here's a short introduction to the (often mind-boggling) Oxford lingo. Don't worry, you'll pick it up soon!

Battels = the itemised bill for rent, hall food charges, rowing pay-outs etc. that you receive from College each term. Pay this promptly, or as soon as your student loan comes in.

Blue = sporting accolade won when you play against Cambridge as a member of a University first team, complete with complementary superstar status.

Bod Card = your life in a small square of plastic. Much more than a simple university ID card, this magic square allows you to borrow books from the University libraries and acts as your pay-as-you-go College cash card for the bar and dining hall. It also grants you access to College at night, so don't lose it. You can get a new one, but it'll cost you £15.

Bodleian (Bod) = the University's mammoth principal library, affectionately known as the Bod and luckily right next to Exeter.

Bop = inspired name for the sweaty, fancy-dress discos held in the bar throughout term. You WILL spend all day and your entire weekly budget making a costume.

Carfax = the crossroads beneath the tower in the centre of Oxford. All roads lead to Carfax....

Cherwell = a river running through Oxford and the name of a student newspaper.

Cohen Quad = Exeter's third quad. It's in Jericho, about a 3-minute cycle from College. Lots of third years (and a few lucky second years) live there. Don't miss a chance to use it - eat at the café, work in the open-plan, etc. It's amazing!

Collections (written) = the test your tutor sets you at the beginning of every term (except your very first) when you get back to College after the vacation. Their principal function is to check whether you have done or caught up on the work from the previous term, as there will usually be no formal testing during the 8 weeks of term. They mostly take place on Thursday and Friday of 0th week, by which time you are **required** (by College rules) to be back in Oxford.

Collections (Rector's) = an annual end-of-term summary of academic progress held in the Rector's Lodgings. The Rector, Senior Tutor, and a designated 'lead tutor' (one of your subject tutors) are in attendance, and the lead tutor will start by reporting on your academic progress during the year. The aim of the engagement is to have a personalised discussion and to provide honest and constructive feedback. It is a two-way dialogue. The style of the event is designed to be welcoming, open, and encouraging!

Coming up = 'coming up' means arriving at Oxford at the start of term. Apparently, you always come 'up' to Oxford, even if you live up north.

Commoner = a title that applies to all freshers (except for the organ scholar) and all others who wear a short sleeveless gown. You can rise to the dizzying heights of Scholar or Exhibitioner after a first-class performance in your Mods or Prelims.

Crew Date = dinner (and accompanying revelry) which you and your team go to with a sports team of the opposite sex from another college. These can vary in quality as much as any real dinner date.

Cuppers = intercollegiate competitions in sports, drama, etc. The Drama Cuppers competition in Michaelmas is reserved for freshers. Budding directors and thespians among you, please take centre stage.

ExVac = Exeter's fantastic children's charity. You will hear more about this in Freshers' Week!

Fellows = the trustees of the College. The Fellows' Garden is home to midsummer madness in Trinity and boasts a spectacular view over Radcliffe Square that will impress any visitor or prospective love interest.

Freshers = New students, i.e. you.

Gown = a garment which you wear for matriculation, formal exams, Rector's Collections, and formal hall in College and in due course, graduation. This item of clothing is also worn with subfusc clothing for matriculation, University exams, and graduation, and leads your friends to believe that you actually go to Hogwarts.

Hilary = Winter term, starting in January.

Iffley Road = the name of one of the roads leading East from The Plain (towards Iffley), and the location of University sports facilities you are bound to visit. This road is also home to "Stapes" (Stapledon House and Annexe) and Exeter House, off-site College accommodation, in which a number of members of College live.

JCR = (the Junior Common Room): refers both to the living, breathing body of undergraduates in College and the place where this body congregates to watch Eurovision, read the daily papers, and attend JCR meetings. Unfortunately, the room itself often assumes a living, breathing state of being after it has been visited by late night partygoers and consumers of kebabs (clean up after yourself!).

MCR = (the Middle Common Room): where you can find graduates chilling and hanging out. This room is a cut above our JCR, most likely because we are not allowed in it to sully it.

Matriculation = this a compulsory ceremony during which you formally become a member of the University. It would normally take place at the Sheldonian Theatre on the Saturday of 1st week and is preceded by a group photo of all the freshers - subfusc and gown are worn all day (and night).

Michaelmas = the first term of the year, and over before you know it.

Mods = the first set of public/University exams you sit in Law or Classics. As opposed to Prelims, these exams are called Honour Moderations (Mods). For Classics, they happen in the Hilary Term of second year. For Law, they happen in the Hilary term of first year.

Pidge = short for 'pigeonhole' and located in the Porters' Lodge. You will quickly become obsessed with checking your pidge any time you go through the Lodge.

Prelims = the names given to the first set of University (aka "public") exams you sit. These happen in Trinity of your first year.

Proctors = very important people who decide what appropriate behaviour is for an Oxford student and enforce these standards. They also oversee formal examinations.

Quad, Front = an inviting square of virgin grass where it is a breach of contract (the terms of the use of the Quad) to desecrate it by walking over. Okay to walk on on very special occasions (and with permission). Your birthday is not one of these.

Red Book and Green Guide = books which will be placed in your pidge (and are available online) that contain useful student contact info, rules, and financial information not heretofore present. Their garish exteriors function as do bright colours do in nature: as an irresistible allure to visit their pages or, alternatively, as a warning that you may find them indigestible. References to their contents will be made with the expectation that you will have read, or at least still possess, them. So don't be a fool, read them - it'll be good practice for all the hours in the library you have signed up for!

SCR (the Senior Common Room) = exclusive club to which all Exeter teaching staff belong. Their common room is where Philip Pullman drew the inspirations for his books, but few lowly undergraduates ever manage to gain access to this space.

Sheldonian Theatre = big concert hall next to the Bod; where matriculation and graduation take place.

Stash = any clothes indicating affiliation with a team, society, College, or other organisation, adorned with a crest or logo. Some also display embarrassing nicknames.

Subfusc = an outfit that you wear for matriculation, exams, and graduation. Either: dark suit with dark socks, or a dark skirt with black tights or dark trousers with dark socks. Add to that black shoes, a plain white collared shirt or blouse, and a white bow tie/black bow tie/black full-length tie or black ribbon. A gown is usually worn with it. You can purchase subfusc items and gowns from one of the Oxford suppliers: Ede & Ravenscroft, Walters, or Shepherd & Woodward (all of whom have webpages), to be picked up on arrival in Oxford. Don't forget the all-important mortarboard or soft cap.

Summer Eights = the rowing competition which takes place in Trinity term, during which the sun will shine and the Pimm's will flow. Except for all those rowers still on a drinking ban.

Suspension of Studies = describes what happens when you need to take time off from your course, such as for reasons of ill health.

TABS = Cambridge Students (short for Cantabs, which is in turn short for Cantabrigienses, which is Latin for Cambridge Students).

Torpids = rowing competition that takes place in Hilary Term. Cold and rain are guaranteed for the event.

Trashing = what will happen to you when you finish Mods or Prelims and Finals. Your "friends" will throw buckets of cold water over you and laugh as you struggle to regain the power of speech. Just make sure not to drown any innocent bystanders in all the excitement!

Trinity = The third and final term of the year. A strange juxtaposition of sunshine-induced punting outings, Pimm's-drinking, and croquet with hours spent in the library revising for exams.

TSAF = Turl Street Arts Festival: week-long Music, Art, and Drama festival hosted by Exeter, alongside Lincoln and Jesus. This collaborative effort is a classically jazzy-abstract extravaganza that will force your artistic talents out of you when it comes waltzing into College in Hilary term.

Tute = short for tutorial, and a word synonymous with the worst/best hour of your week, depending on whether you have done any work.

Undercroft = the glorious College bar. But to call it anything other than “the bar” would be a rookie mistake. Home to cheap drinks and an array of bar sports.

Vac = name for the six-week-study-leave between terms (3.5 months for the summer) during which you will spend your time pining for Oxford and or/revising for Collections.

Weeks = what each term is made up of. Full term, during which lectures run and you are guaranteed a room in College, goes from 1st week to 8th week. Weeks start on Sundays. The importance of 0th week should be made clear: Freshers' Week will take place in 0th week of Michaelmas and you are **required** to be back in Oxford by noon on Thursday of 0th week each term. Minus-1st week and 9th week also feature prominently in Oxonian jargon. You will soon forget what months and dates are and speak only in terms of weeks. This will make you sound pretentious when you get back home.

Williams Students/WEPO = students from Williams College, Massachusetts, studying at Exeter College for a year.



CONTACT INFO



Freshers' Reps

Our e-mails and socials can be found under our profiles in the '[Meet the Freps](#)' section

If you'd like to contact College in a more official capacity, here are some other useful contact details. You can find more College contact information online, on the Exeter College website.

- ♦ **Admissions:** admissions@exeter.ox.ac.uk
- ♦ **Academic Office:** academic.office@exeter.ox.ac.uk
- ♦ **Library:** library@exeter.ox.ac.uk
- ♦ **Porters' Lodge:** lodge@exeter.ox.ac.uk +44 1865 279600

Social Media

You'll find most of our official social media by searching online for Exeter College, Oxford, but in case you have any trouble, here are the main ones to follow!

JCR Insta: [@exeterjcr](https://www.instagram.com/exeterjcr)

College Insta & X: [@ExeterCollegeOx](https://www.instagram.com/ExeterCollegeOx)

Freshers' 2026 Insta - the most important one to follow for info!! -> [@exetercollegefreshers26](https://www.instagram.com/exetercollegefreshers26)



Thank you for reading

We will see you
soon!!!

Yours sincerely,
Your Freps