

# DAN FOR ACCESS REP



## **About Me**

I'm Danyaal, a first year doing Materials Science. I'm first gen, went to a state school, an ethnic minority and a Northerner ! When it came to applying to Oxford I had a lot of worries and not much support - which put me off applying for quite a while. Being involved with access / outreach schemes and seeing the reality of Oxbridge is why I decided to apply and I'd love to play my part by showing everyone how great and inclusive our family is here at Anne's.

## **Why I want to be Access Rep**

Access is something I care about massively – I don't think anyone should feel like their background dictates where they can or should apply. Even after applying, interviews are a key time where applicants experience life at Oxford – having nearly declined my offer after my experience at another college (before I was welcomed by Anne's !) I want to make sure we show the warm, welcoming environment that makes Anne's an amazing college. I want to help make sure no one, applicant or student, feels disadvantaged because of their background

## **Aims & Ideas**

- Work with our access team and promote students' input into the access work we do at Anne's, since our experiences will be what others relate to
- Work with other colleges on access & outreach – Anne's isn't the most well-known college so working with other colleges means not only can we have bigger events but we get the chance to show more people the amazing community we have at Anne's
- Online events – this year has taught us the importance of having good online outreach events & resources, and I intend to improve and carry these on since not everyone has the means to come down to an open day or for a tour
- In-Person events – Equally, after a year of online events, it's important we have people come to Anne's and see for themselves how inclusive and welcoming our college is by organising tours & shadowing days
- Collaborate with the other Equal Opportunities Officers to organise events in college, allowing people across different year groups from similar backgrounds to meet and form a supportive community.

## **My Experience**

- I'm invested in helping with access and that ensuring no students feel disadvantaged or put off from applying - having felt this way myself in the past I feel I will relate to many people and therefore will be approachable.
- I've given talks at my sixth form talking about my experiences being a Northerner in Oxford and the application process and so am happy talking about my experiences to applicants.
- I was a panellist and ambassador for Jesus college's outreach event working with applicants from ethnic minorities and so am confident in answering questions that applicants may have.