



Kaleb for **DISABILITIES REP**



A bit about me...

Hi, everyone! I'm Kaleb and I'm a first year English student, living in the charming Bevs. In 2015, I was diagnosed with a brain tumour after an 'excitingly' dramatic brain haemorrhage up a mountain. (If it's going to be done, do it in style...?) Since then, I've experienced fatigue, memory difficulties, cognitive processing issues, managing medication, and several medical treatments, including neurosurgery and proton-beam.

I hope all of this has given me an 'insiders' view' on life with a disability and, most importantly, highlighted the need to listen to and learn from others' experiences, so I can better understand their own, varying, experiences.

I'm also (as demonstrated by my poster-bombing cat, a feline fanatic.



A bit of experience...

Represented young people in national boards for Teenage Cancer Trust & Make-A-Wish.

- I worked with support staff, health professionals, & young people to ensure young people are supported in ways that are personalised, relevant, & practical.
- I've created resources published by Teenage Cancer Trust, Make-A-Wish, & the Brain Tumour Charity to raise awareness of experiences, physical and psychological of young people with disabilities & to share advice for young people living with health conditions.

Worked with one the largest NHS Trusts in the UK in the patient liaison team.

- Whilst there, I created resources to explain patients' experiences to clinical staff and to help parents and young people navigate the often opaque world of medical and disability admin and bureaucracy!
- One of the resources, a video explaining Covid ward procedures to young patients, was commended by NHS England.

Other stuff: represented a school community of 1200 as head boy, excellent communication skills, Oxford University student ambassador.

A bit of what I'll do...



I'd love to continue & develop ways to provide students with advice, support, & community.

- **Host regular disabiliTeas:** to allow students with disabilities - self-identified or diagnosed - to meet others with shared experiences, raise areas they would benefit from support, and also to wind down.
- **Be a point of advice & support:** for students looking for guidance on navigating the often complex work of DSA (Disabled Student's Allowance), DAS (Disability Advisory Service), NHS, or any other confusingly rhyming or anagramming acroynm!
I'll also be on hand to listen when anyone needs to have a chat. Having someone to listen can be a huge help.
- **Compile guidance for disabled students:** on applying for DSA, navigating life with a disability at Oxford, and tips & hacks for getting through.
- **Liaise with staff and students:** to work out where College could better support disabled students, how we can do this, and to get it done.
- **Encourage people to share their needs with College & the Uni:** recognising that I was eligible for support has been one of the most difficult aspects of having a disability, as it is for many people. As Disabilities rep, I'll strive to encourage and support students to recognise they are eligible for support and to report their needs.