

ST ANNE'S COLLEGE

Alternative Prospectus

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If you would like the plain text, accessible version of the prospectus, please email our college Disability Coordinator, Sheila Smith: sheila.smith@st-annes.ox.ac.uk





Welcome to St Anne's JCR President, Sanaa Mughal

Dear Prospective Students,

I'll like to start off by saying welcome to St Anne's College; arguably the best college in Oxford! My name is Sanaa and I'm an undergraduate Earth Scientist and the JCR President 2020/21!

St Anne's is located slightly north of Oxford and is known for being close enough to the centre to get involved with student life, but far away enough to keep away from all the drama (and tourists!). The college has a very rich history which we are celebrating this year, particularly with female students! 2020 notably marks the centenary of women being awarded degrees at Oxford – a trademark in history that we as a college are proud to be a part of.

Founded as a society in 1879, St Anne's has grown into a college built upon widening access to an Oxford education. St Anne's started as one of the first women's colleges, enabling women across the globe to access an education flexibly and affordably. Now both welcoming male and female students, access to an Oxford education regardless of background has remained the college's central ethos. The main ambition of the college has been to educate a community that is diverse in many respects. I believe that not only has St Anne's accomplished this, but that it is continually growing and advancing its beliefs.

On Open Days you'll hear the word JCR thrown around quite a lot.... but what does it mean?!

'JCR' stands for 'Junior Common Room', which has two meanings. Firstly, the JCR is the collective name for the undergraduate student body at St Anne's. All colleges have their respective JCRs. Secondly the JCR is a physical space in college – one that some will be familiar with from open days or interviews. This is a room where the undergraduates like to hang out and socialise,

with amazing facilities that include a Wii and Pool, Fussball, and Ping Pong tables! It's the heart of the college and somewhere that I've spent a considerable amount of time so far!

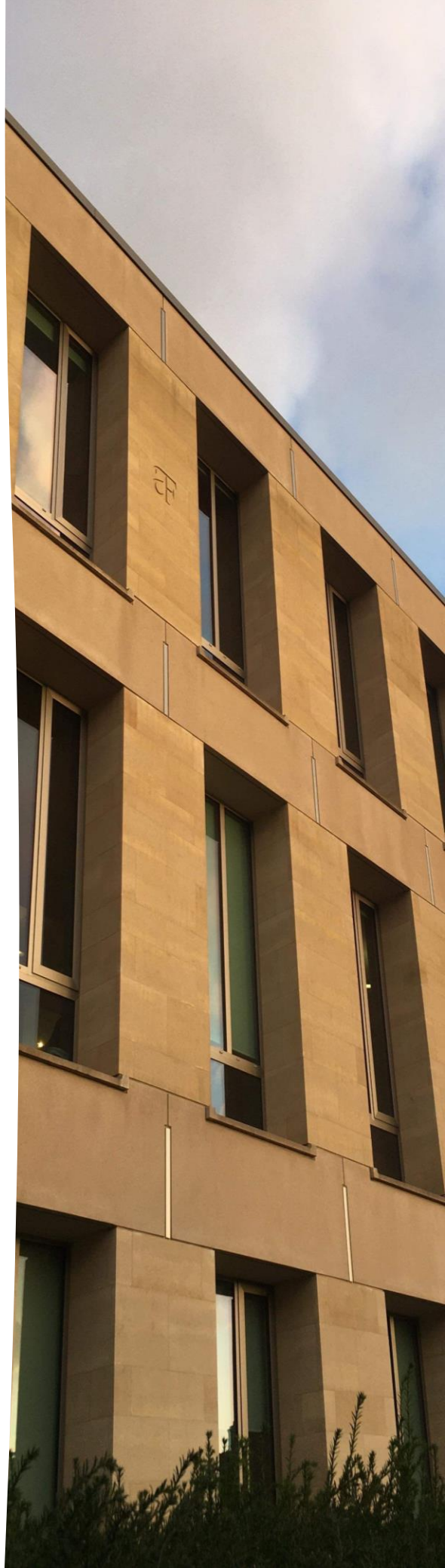
Something I really enjoy about studying at St Anne's is the close-knit community and the initiative the undergraduates take with regards to making sure all students are heard. There are countless projects relating to environmental movements, political affairs, and other global issues. I believe this really helps us to achieve our aspirations as a college to understand the world and change it for the better. The students at St Anne's are incredibly talented and some of the most down-to-earth people I've ever met! St Anne's is a kind and welcoming community and I think it remains unchallenged across all Oxford colleges! When I was a prospective student, this solidified my decision to apply here.

I hope that this Alternative Prospectus makes you fall in love with St Anne's, which is certainly a place many of us refer to as our 'home away from home'. This guide was created by our students to give you a first-hand idea of what it's like to study here and how St Anne's is unique from the rest of the colleges. The application process can be a lengthy and intimidating one, especially with Oxford's global reputation. The college is here to answer all your questions and support you through the process of applying to St Anne's. If you have any questions, please contact the Academic Office and they will respond to you ASAP!

I'd like to thank Rebecca Tearle (our Access Rep 2020/21) for putting this booklet together for you, and all the editors and creative team for bringing St Anne's to life!

Best of luck!

Sanaa Mughal
JCR President



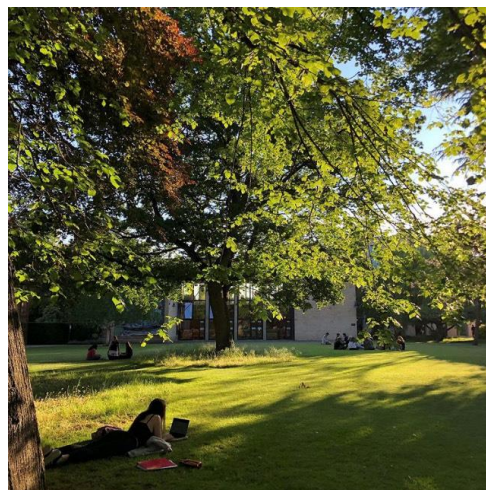


Top 5 Things about St Anne's



STACS– ST Anne's Coffee Shop! STACS is arguably one of the very best things about St Anne's. It serves all sorts of goodies—from sandwiches and wraps to brownies and cereal! Coffee, tea, smoothies, and more are also on offer, as well as the world's most delicious pizza from our brand new pizza oven.

St Anne's is one of Oxford's most modern colleges! Anne's encapsulates the traditional Oxford experience less through ancient buildings, and more through the wonderful people. Our dining hall is not lined with portraits but is surrounded by windows, making it light, airy, and enjoyable. As well as this, much of St Anne's accommodation is newly built and many rooms are en-suite, making this college one of the most homely in Oxford.



St Anne's isn't in the centre of Oxford! St Anne's is situated slightly to the north just a 15-minute walk to the city centre. While some see this as a disadvantage, most are grateful that we aren't overly exposed to tourists or the sounds of Oxford's bustling nightlife.

St Anne's guarantees accommodation for 3 years of your course. As St Anne's is one of Oxford's larger colleges, being on-site for 3 years of your degree is invaluable as nothing about the Oxford University experience is ever left out.



St Anne's is known for its wonderfully kind community. It is no secret that life at Oxford can at times be hard, but you will forever feel at home at St Anne's. This is thanks not only to our lovely welfare staff, peer supporters, and student welfare reps, but also to the many more who are always here to help.

Top 5 Things about being a Stanner

St Anne's is one of Oxford's largest colleges! Being one of Oxford's larger colleges means the community we have spans all ages and subjects; you can be sure that the help you need in an essay crisis or problem sheet conundrum can be found right outside your door.



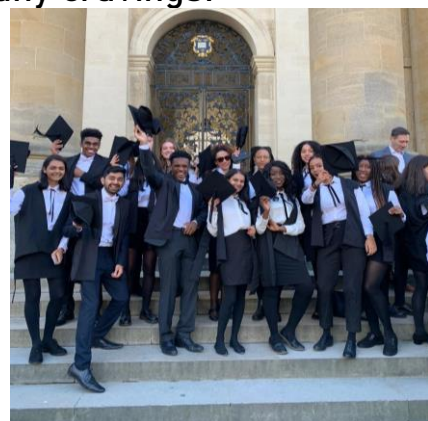
St Anne's has an active in-college nightlife ;) While Oxford is certainly home to many clubs, bars and restaurants which all contribute to the typical student life, St Anne's itself has a college bar in which karaoke, open mic nights, and quiz nights (and more!) are held. Our dining hall is home to our frequent formal halls, and the Danson Room (the JCR) is often filled with dancing classes, film nights, and games tournaments.

St Anne's has a very tight-knit community. Despite being one of Oxford's larger colleges, the community at St Anne's is one of the closest. It is certainly not uncommon to have friendships spanning several year groups and frequent events held by the JCR help to keep these connections strong.



St Anne's has some of the best college food in Oxford! It goes without saying that Fish Fridays, Formal Hall, and Weekend Brunch are some of the best parts of the week; with an award-winning team of chefs and kitchen staff, the food at St Anne's is second to none. Whether you're eating in hall or grabbing a quick bite in STACS, the college food will always be there to satisfy any cravings!

St Anne's is recognised for its celebration of diversity! Head over to the 'Equalities' section of the prospectus for some info on our student body and the wonderful groups you can be a part of.



An Introduction to the Application Process

There are famously many stages to an Oxford application, but don't let that put you off! With this guide through the process, I hope you will feel confident that you can make a successful application. This is going to be quite a general guide—for course-specific requirements, check out the University and department websites.



Deciding where and what to study

Your first thoughts will be around what you want to study and where! You'll be spending a number of years on your degree so it's a big decision and can be daunting. If you're struggling to work out what to study, I would recommend reading around the subjects you are interested in, listening to podcasts, and watching lectures on YouTube. If there isn't just one subject for you, perhaps an interdisciplinary degree or a dual honours degree could be good!

Next, you'll be thinking about the university where you want to study your subject. You might have preferences regarding being in a collegiate university (like Oxford), and it's good to understand the difference between city and campus universities. The biggest consideration is the course; not all universities offer all subjects (especially niche ones). You should also look at the structure and assessment of the course—specifically the actual module content and how much module choice you have. Watch out for interesting projects and field trips, or specific topics that you think would be really interesting!

If you decide Oxford is for you, your next decision is whether you're going to apply to a specific college or not and, if you are, which college you are going to apply to. Some people choose to make an open application where you don't nominate a college and if you do this, your college will be randomly assigned by a computer. Even if you apply to a college, you might be reassigned to a different one during the application process so it's important to not stress too much about this decision! By reading this, you're doing all the right things—for more information on how to choose a college we have a section dedicated to it a little bit later on! Hopefully, after reading this prospectus, you'll have decided that St Anne's is for you.





Personal Statement

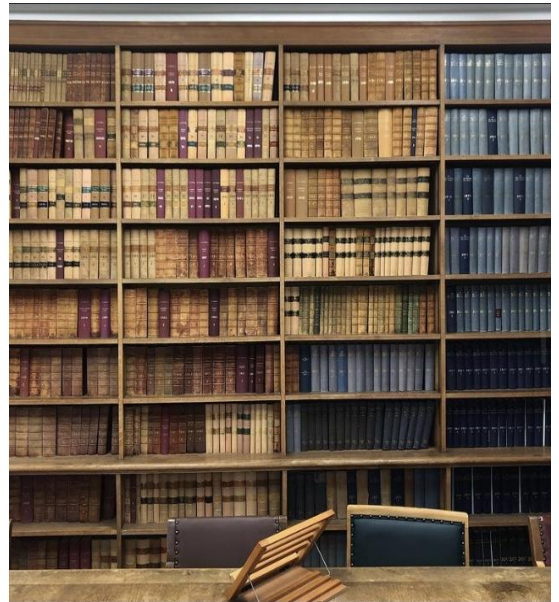


Your personal statement forms part of your UCAS application and it can be a lengthy process with lots of drafts, so start thinking about this early!

The word limit for your personal statement is 47 lines of text, which equates to approximately 500 words, so make sure every word counts! Your personal statement should demonstrate your interest in your chosen subject. Don't just list everything you have done (e.g. books you have read and work experience/part-time jobs you have taken on); instead, use these to demonstrate what you have learnt and relate this back to your chosen subject.

Also, make it personal! This is an opportunity for the university to get to know you, and they are interested to read about your enthusiasm for your subject.

Don't stress about whether you have read enough books or you don't have the fanciest work experience placement. The university is looking for what you have learnt from anything that you have participated in, whether this is a work experience opportunity related to your subject or a part-time job. A long list of work experience or books means nothing if you cannot show what you have gained from them.



**SOME OF OUR
AMAZING STUDENT
AMBASSADORS!**



TOP TIP!

Come along to an
Open Day to find
out even more
about life at Oxford.

Personal Statement Writing Tips

- ✓ Make a bullet point list of everything you might possibly want to put in your personal statement. Then, write around these bullet points. This is a great way to see which points you are most passionate about and to help you decide what to put in!
- ✓ Leave your introduction until the end—don't stress about it. It's much harder to get started with a blank page and write the introduction when you don't know where your personal statement is going to go.
- ✓ Show don't tell. This phrase is a classic and I remember hearing it myself, but you won't fully understand why it's said until you start writing and realise how easy it is to overuse the word "passionate". Your passion will come through without you having to say the phrase "I am passionate about", I promise!
- ✓ Quality over quantity is definitely true when it comes to personal statements.
- ✓ Don't lie (obviously!)—remember you will be interviewed, and they might ask you about it—it's really not worth taking the risk! It's very easy to think "Oh I'll do it by the time I have my interview" but Year 13 is a busy time!!



Admissions Test

Many subjects will require you to sit an admissions test around the end of October or the start of November. It's arguably the part of your application that most determines whether you will be called for an interview (although this varies between subjects), so it's important to be as prepared as you can be.

There are 13 different tests, most of which are subject-specific. If there isn't one for your particular subject, you will most likely take the Thinking Skills Assessment, which acts as a catch-all. Some subjects don't have an admissions test though! It's best to research whether you'll have to sit an exam as early as possible to give you the best chance to prepare. You will need to find a test centre (for UK students, this is often your school or college) and register to sit the exam with them. It's different for Law and the LNAT so check out www.lnat.ac.uk for more information on the admissions test for Law.

Each test is different; how you should prepare varies too. A good start is to familiarise yourself with the format of the test; is it multiple choice, is it an essay, does it have a practical component? Some tests, like the Mathematics Admissions Test, have a specific syllabus, which gives a useful overview of what you could be asked. On the other hand, some tests are designed to focus very little on your knowledge, and more on how you think. For many of the tests, the best way to practice is to simply look through past papers, all of which can be found on the Oxford website. Just like any exam, it's essential to practice under the conditions you will have for the real thing—the same materials, the same kind of environment, and the same time limit.

Submitting Written Work

Many humanities courses require you to submit written work, so it's important to check your course's requirements on the university website. The specifics of what you need to send in vary by subject and your college will get in touch with you with specifics about how they want you to send in your work.

Here are some of the general rules that apply for written work:

- ✓ Keep it under 2000 words (but you can use an extract from longer essays).
- ✓ It should be in English or come with an English translation, except where required for Modern Languages.
- ✓ It should be your own original work (obviously!) that you've written for school/college.
- ✓ It should have clearly visible comments & annotation from a teacher, but it should not have any corrections or alterations.
- ✓ Your essay doesn't need to have been given a final mark or grade.



Advice on written work from Stanners

- ✍ Don't worry about writing a masterpiece where you put forward the most revolutionary hypothesis of the 21st Century—the main purpose of the written work is to show the tutors your thought process and how you structure an argument.
- ✍ Your written work will also give your tutors an idea of the quality of teaching at your school and the support they offer students which helps them to contextualise your application.
- ✍ Remember that the tutors are most interested in how you answer a question, not what question you're answering.
- ✍ Don't worry if you haven't studied the subject you're applying for at A-Level or equivalent (as long as it's not a requirement!) as they will accept essays from another essay subject.
- ✍ Your essay might be used as a discussion point in your interview so make sure that you write about something you find interesting & reread your submitted work before your interview! If your opinions and interpretations have changed, that's completely fine; don't feel the need to stick to your original viewpoint.
- ✍ Overall, the written work is a small part of the overall application process and is not the be-all and end-all!



Interviews

If you get invited to an interview, you'll get a sneak peek into what it's like to be a Stanner! You'll stay at St. Anne's for a few days, eat in halls, meet other potential students, and have time to explore Oxford. Interviews can be incredibly daunting but the staff and student helpers at St Anne's will be here to make the situation as stress-free as possible!

How many interviews you have depends on the subject you're applying for, but most have 2 or 3.

The interviewers are the academics that will be your tutors if you are successful in your application. This can tell you quite a lot about what they are looking for.

Of course, the tutors are looking for intelligent people, but all Oxford applicants fall into that bracket.

More than that, the interviewers are looking for people they want to teach—people who engage in discussion and give well-reasoned arguments, people who are willing to defend or change their opinion when challenged, and importantly, people who will enjoy and thrive in the tutorial environment.

This means that you shouldn't be put off when you are questioned on your views and arguments; it's not a bad thing to change your mind about something.

The tutors aren't looking to catch you out or work out whether you're not smart enough (because the odds are that you are), they are simply looking for the people that would work best in the unique Oxford environment.



In terms of preparation, it's a good idea to make sure you're happy to talk about anything you have written in your personal statement or submitted work—you won't necessarily be asked about this, but it's definitely something you could be asked about so it's best to be prepared!

It's important to practise talking out loud which is very strange at first but you will get better. There are lots of ways to practise this—perhaps you could explain a problem/an argument in your essay to a friend (allow them to question you as you go along) or maybe you'd prefer to start off talking to your bedroom wall!

The interviewers are interested in seeing how you think, so it's important to practise explaining your train of thought out loud. This helps the tutors to steer you in the right direction and bring out interesting discussion points.

While you're here there will be a small fleet of student helpers to help you feel as comfortable as possible, organising little activities and just generally being on hand to answer questions and calm nerves. Many interviewees will have interviews at other colleges so that applications are fair and you have an equal chance of getting into Oxford no matter which college you pick. You might end up being offered a place at another college through this process and, although St Anne's is definitely the best, you will have an amazing time at whichever college you go to.

Getting an offer

You will find out if you've been successful in January through UCAS. There are a few types of offers that you can receive. If you've already got your grades, you will receive an unconditional offer which means you can join us in October! If you've still got exams to do, you will receive a conditional offer that is reliant on you making the grades. You might receive an offer from the college you applied to or be 'pooled'—receive an offer from a different college. You might receive an open offer, which simply means that your college will be confirmed in August when results come out. If you receive an open offer, your place at Oxford is still guaranteed as long as you meet the conditions!

Remember that an offer from Oxford is not the be-all and end-all. It does not represent your academic ability or potential. Regardless of the outcome, the application process allows you to develop and explore your passion for your chosen subject, whilst meeting other students who share a similar enthusiasm for learning.

Making the grades

After receiving a conditional offer, it all comes down to getting the grades. The next few months will be a lot of hard work, but it'll be worth it once it comes around to results day!



Some advice on how to smash your exams from Stanners:

- It's best (and much less stressful!) to start revision as early as possible rather than cram it in at the last minute.
- Make sure you check out the specifications for your subjects, so you don't miss anything!
- Past papers are your best friend. They'll give you an idea of what kind of questions to expect in your exams, what those questions are asking for, and any exact wording/terminology they might be looking for in your answers.
- Practise, practise, practise! Do as many past paper questions and/or practice essays as you can.
- Find something that helps you get through study sessions and stick with it. This might be listening to good music, drinking tea, and putting your phone away. It's different for everyone.
- Take plenty of breaks.
- Your phone is a big distractor—put it away. If this is a challenge for you, there are lots of anti-procrastination apps you can use. You could also disconnect from the Wi-Fi or go to a public library and leave your devices at home.
- It's really important to remember that it's quality over quantity. One hour of completely focused revision is much, much better than hours of distracted revision!

Picking a college & Why St Anne's

Once you're at Oxford it's hard to imagine going to any other college than the one you chose or were assigned so it's not something to stress about—all colleges have their pros and cons!



Some reasons why we think St Anne's is best

- Friendly and welcoming: It is one of the largest colleges, with a diverse and inclusive community of students.
- Comfortable and practical: The buildings are relatively new compared to other colleges and almost half of the undergraduate rooms are en-suite.
- Lively and vibrant: Lots of events are held in the college's lecture theatre and there are mega-BOPs (Big Organised Parties) in the Dining Hall every term. Lots is going on within the Anne's community—there's plenty to keep you busy and to meet all your interests!

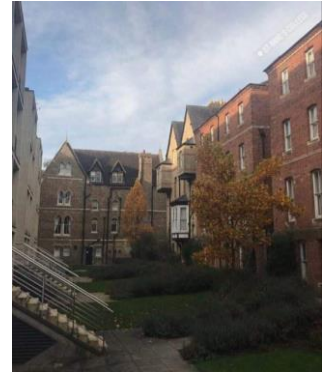


Choosing a college

Not all colleges offer all courses so the first place to start is to find out which colleges offer your course—St Anne's offers most undergraduate courses at Oxford but not all of them. Once you know which colleges offer your course, you need to decide what you want from your college.

Do you want on-site accommodation for the whole of your degree?

St Anne's currently provides 3 years of onsite accommodation to every undergraduate student. Only if you do a 4+ year course will you have to live out. Many other colleges will require you to live off-site for some of your time there.



Do you want to pay more for a better room or for it to be random?

At St Anne's, everyone pays the same accommodation fees regardless of which room they have. There is a small extra daily charge for an en-suite room. At some colleges, you are higher up the room ballot if you perform better academically—this doesn't happen at St Anne's. At other colleges, there are different bands of room quality and you will pay the price for your room's band.

Do you require an accessible room?

St Anne's has a selection of rooms built for disabled access. If you are an offer-holder and have any accommodation requirements related to a disability, contact Sheila Smith, our lovely disabilities coordinator (sheila.smith@st-annes.ox.ac.uk).

Do you want to cook or be catered for?

The Dining Hall at St Anne's serves three meals a day during the week and brunch on the weekends. All accommodation at St Anne's has fully equipped kitchens which are shared by around nine students each, and many students choose to self-cater! Other colleges will vary in the number and quality of their kitchens.



Where is the college?

St Anne's is very close to some department buildings, such as Experimental Psychology, Modern Languages, Maths, and the science teaching area (including physics, chemistry, and engineering!). You will really appreciate the short commute when you're struggling to wake up for your 9 am lecture!

It is slightly further from the town centre than some other colleges (but still very manageable!) which means walks to the local Tesco take a little longer than those from other colleges. However, some people prefer this as we aren't bombarded with tourists or exposed to too much noise, but you might prefer to be closer to the city centre.

What's diversity like?

Although Oxford definitely needs to work on its diversity, St Anne's is committed to improving this! You can find out more about coming from an underrepresented background and studying at St Anne's in this prospectus.

For more detailed information into the stats, colleges publish Equality Reports on their websites <https://www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/current-students/equalities/>, and you can read the university report to find out more about the university as a whole.

What style of buildings do you prefer?



Architecture varies between colleges, with St Anne's tending to be more modern. For instance, we have a light and airy dining hall surrounded by windows as opposed to the Oxford tradition of lining the dining hall with portraits. Our buildings might not be very famous or traditionally 'Oxford', but the college is very beautiful and after a while even the two brutalist accommodation blocks, Wolfson & Rayne, will grow on you!

What facilities are there?

All colleges have at least one library, a bar, and a Junior Common Room.

Different colleges have different facilities such as coffee shops, gyms, kitchens, and chapels. For example, you might want a college that guarantees 24/7 library access, group-working spaces, or a college with kitchen facilities for all students.

Here at St Anne's we have two 24/7 libraries with many soundproof group-work rooms, an excellent café, and a gym with both a weights and cardio room. All the accommodation here has kitchens equipped with fridges, kettles, microwaves, hobs, ovens, and freezers (the latter two of which are not common to all colleges).

St Anne's is one of the few colleges which doesn't have a chapel, but you are always welcome to attend services and join the choirs of other colleges!



Should you pick a college based on the specialisms of the tutors?

On each course, everyone attends the same lectures and learns the same content, regardless of which college they attend.

Tutorials typically focus on this content so your tutor's specialism should not make a difference. You will be taught by various academics during your degree, including those at other colleges, allowing you to benefit from tutors with a wide range of interests.

The atmosphere, accommodation, and location of the college will have a greater impact on your everyday life than your tutor's specialism; try using these as criteria when picking a college.

Still not sure? Try the Oxford SU college suggester-
<https://apply.oxfordsu.org/colleges/suggester/> which will point you
in the right direction!



Accommodation



How long is accommodation offered for at St Anne's? What if you are a medic/on a four-year course/taking a year abroad?

All students are currently guaranteed 3 years of on-site accommodation during their degree.

Everyone taking a 4-year course (or medics) has to live 'out' in the other years of their degree. For linguists with years abroad, this year counts as living out.

If you do live out in Oxford, you can either rent from a private landlord or from college, which has some houses around Oxford which you can share with a group of friends.

If you're on an integrated masters program, you can also live in the graduate accommodation in Summertown.

To help cover the extra costs of living out with a private landlord, the college provides a pot of money called the "Equalisation Scheme" which you can apply for.

How do you get your stuff to uni and back (especially if you live further away)?

Most people move in and out of college each term and this means moving a lot of stuff! However, if you're an international student, there is a storage scheme for you to store some of your stuff in college. Other students can apply for this, but priority goes to international students and those that live further away.

Can people from other colleges/universities stay over?

You may have one overnight guest for up to 2 consecutive nights in any 7-day period and will need to sign them in at the porter's lodge. The JCR also has camp beds and air mattresses that you can borrow for your visitors!

Are there kitchens for self-catering?

One of the best things about St Anne's is that everybody has access to a kitchen or a kitchenette, which makes self-catering an option throughout your time here. Although the food in hall is delicious, this option gives you a lot more choice around when and what you eat! All kitchens have a fridge freezer, oven, hob, sink, toaster and kettle.

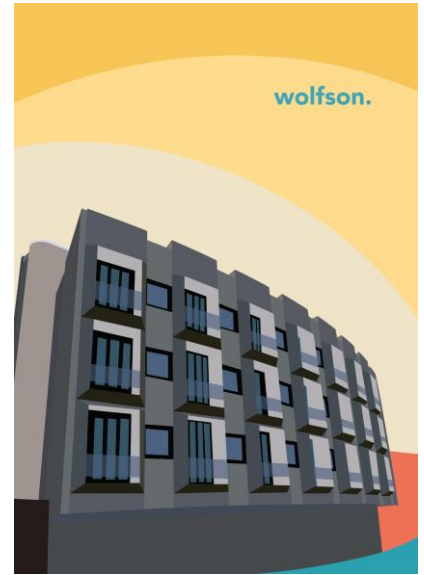
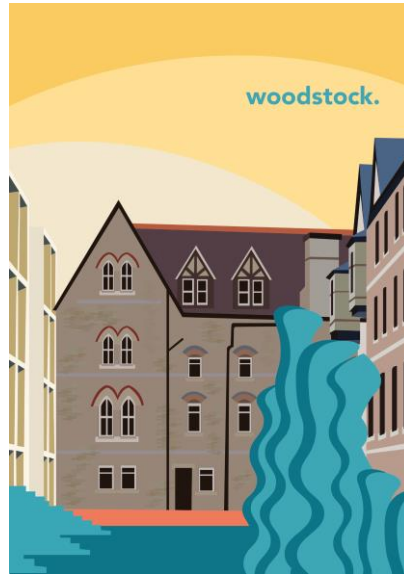
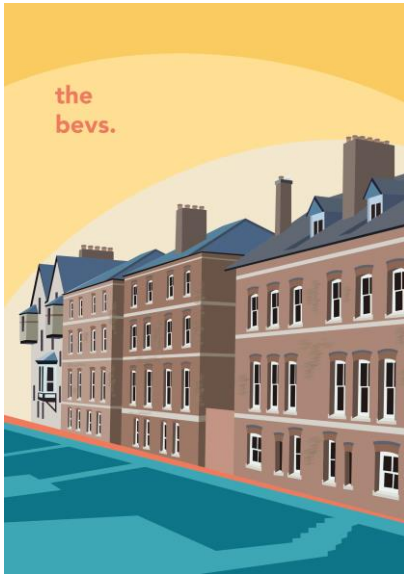
Do first years get en-suite rooms?

In first year, you can live in the Bevs, Woodstock, ATB or Wolfson. None of these are en-suite—although in later years you will have the option to be in an en-suite room.

I have special requirements for my living arrangements- what should I do?

If you have any requirements around your living arrangements, let college know and they will meet them! Make sure to include this in your UCAS form, or email college ahead of interviews for this!

Accommodation at Anne's



- 🏠 The Bevs: a row of Victorian houses and very homely. Most freshers live here.
- 🏠 Woodstock: home to the laundry room and one of the biggest kitchens at Anne's!
- 🏠 ATB (Above The Bar): this accommodation is, unsurprisingly, above the bar.
- 🏠 Wolfson: A concrete block you will come to love! Amazing kitchens & a bit more of a student hall vibe.

Later on in your degree, there is a room ballot to choose where you live. Everyone is ranked in order of their room from the previous year.

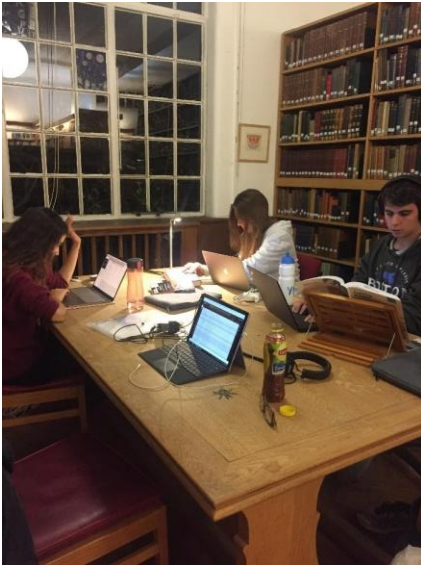
Other accommodation includes:

- 🏠 Rayne: Wolfson's twin
- 🏠 Claire Palley: en-suite and next to the beautiful gardens!
- 🏠 Ruth Deech: our newest accommodation with en-suite & modern rooms.
- 🏠 Trenamen House: found above STACs it's also en-suite.
- 🏠 College Rented Properties- all close to college

Everyone pays the same amount for their room at Anne's, with the room ballot designed to take into account variations in room size/quality. There is an extra charge for en-suite rooms, however.



St Anne's has over 100,000 books, meaning that we have the most books of any undergraduate college. This proves very useful when we need to borrow books as we, unlike students at other colleges, don't necessarily have to go to other libraries across the city to get what we need for our reading lists.



In addition, we have the choice of two different libraries in which we can study: Hartland House and the new Tim Gardam building, which opened in 2017. The stereotype goes that people studying STEM subjects tend to like working in the Tim Gardam Building and Humanities students in Hartland House, based on the way books are distributed across the two libraries.

Hartland House provides a more rustic environment, with wooden furniture, yellow-light table lamps, and bookshelves all around, whereas the Tim Gardam Building is more modern, with large windows. There are a range of workspaces across our libraries, including soundproof rooms for teamwork, individual study desks and shared tables.



Both of the college libraries are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Staff are available during the working week and they are really helpful, for example they will happily order in books upon request. There are photocopying, printing and scanning facilities in both of our libraries, too. Also, the Tim Gardam Building has a beautiful roof garden – a brilliant location to take pictures before going to a formal dinner.

As well as college libraries, students from all colleges have access to the Bodleian libraries. This is a group of 30 libraries across the city, which include department libraries.

Many libraries have workspaces available to which is particularly useful if you've just had a lecture nearby and want to study afterwards.

It can be nice to study away from college just for a change of scene or because you may feel more inclined to work as you can't just nip back home quickly if you lose motivation.



Another optional studying space is STACs, the college café. Rather than having a chapel like some colleges do, St Anne's has a coffee shop instead. Although small, STACs is pretty cosy with sofas upstairs and a couple of desks and a bar table downstairs. It proves a nice study space as you can order drinks and snacks whilst doing work.

Overall, there is a wide range of study spaces, so there will always be one that you are comfortable in. Also, there is always your room which might just be the best study space - you can work straight from your bed!

The huge volume of books stocked at Anne's means that I've never had to spend money on textbooks which has been really helpful over the year due to the large range of books required for my course.

Anne's library facilities are incredible. We have one cosy, old fashioned building and one bright, modern building, so it's easy to keep things varied!



Teaching at St Anne's



Students taking different subjects have a range of contact hours, which include lectures, labs, classes and tutorials.

Lectures are provided by the department and labs are also organised in this way, which is one of the ways that students interact across the colleges. In some subjects, such as English, students are encouraged to attend as many lectures as possible at the start, but over time they may be told to only go to the lectures that they find interesting. In other subjects, lectures are compulsory.

Classes are usually in small groups of no more than 5 or 6 students and tutorials are also very small with around 2 or 3 students per tutor. Tutorials are where students have small group teaching with a tutor, who is usually an expert in the topic which is being discussed. Unlike a lesson at school, tutorials are more of a conversation where students can delve deep into their subject, as well as getting the opportunity to ask questions and iron out any issues. They are quite intimate which allows for good discussion and feedback for essays and problem sheets.

In addition, each student has a personal tutor that they can discuss their general academic wellbeing with. Tutors are mostly very friendly, but at first it can feel a bit intimidating presenting your work to an expert! However, tutors are used to this and want to help their students make progress.

The transition to university can be challenging as students have to learn more independently than they might have done in the past, but tutors are great at supporting this change.





St Anne's has a reputation for some of the best Hall food in Oxford and it definitely lives up to that reputation! Our chefs have won awards in national competitions—not something most colleges can claim! To check out some of the food our chefs make, check out their Instagram [st_annes_kitchen](#).

'Hall'

Our college dining hall is unlike many other colleges; we don't have any portraits—just windows! Food is served three times a day on weekdays, and brunch is served on the weekends. If you have any dietary requirements, let the chef and his team know—they are always happy to meet them. There is always a delicious vegetarian option provided, which is usually vegan too. Menus are typically published online, and have included days themed around different cuisines (Italian, Mexican, Thai, etc.), as well as a variety of dishes such as quiche, fish and chips, risotto, gnocchi, and dhal.



Particular favourites among Stanners are the delicious and very cost-effective brunch and the decadent carvery on Tuesday lunchtimes. The queues for these will often stretch outside of the dining hall!

Meals cost around £3.50 for lunch or dinner (depending on whether you want dessert!) and around £1-2 for breakfast or brunch. At breakfast, a variety of food is offered. While it varies slightly every day, there are always cereals, toast, fruit, a fry-up, pastries, and yoghurts alongside hot drinks and fruit juice! At lunch and dinner, there is always a salad bar, soup, dessert, and a choice of three main meals and sides.





Example Menu (28/2/20)

Lunch

Deep fried fish, Tartar Sauce & Lemon

Beef & Onion Pie

Lentil & Chickpea Stuffed Aubergine with Romesco

Dinner

Pork & Fennel Ragu with Pasta

Grilled Chicken with Salsa Verde

White Bean, Slow Roast Tomato & Aubergine Ragu with Pasta

Sweet

Lemon Sponge with Lemon Sauce

Formals

Formals are a big event at Anne's, happening every other week. They cost around £15 (a great price for a high-quality 3-course meal), and for a couple of extra pounds you can have unlimited wine! Everyone gets dressed up and heads to the Dining Hall, and after the formal you can head to the college bar (and sometimes on from there to a nightclub!).



Here's an example menu from a formal:

Friday 21st February 2020

Parsnip, apple & sage soup

Roast chicken breast, cider jus, celeriac remoulade & shallot puree, straw potatoes

Confit fennel filo tart, celeriac remoulade & shallot puree, straw potatoes (v)

Chocolate & Caramel Tart

Coffee & Mints



STACS

STACS is our very own coffee shop which is very popular with Stanners! Serving hot and cold drinks, sandwiches, pizza, savoury and sweet snacks, STACS is a great alternative to Hall food if you're in a rush. It's also a great place to study and hang out with friends.

STACS is a staple of my college life. I am constantly treating myself to a millionaire's shortbread, mango smoothie or an entire pizza.



st_annes_kitchen

Dining Out

St Anne's is in one of the most optimal locations in Oxford when it comes to access to restaurants. The college is just a short walk away from Jericho, a charming neighbourhood full of unique spots from many different cuisines (although usually a bit upscale). Jericho is home to Zheng, a Chinese/Malaysian/Singaporean restaurant with many vegetarian and vegan options. Mamma Mia Pizzeria and Branca are also Jericho favourites. Barefoot Cafe is a cute study and chat spot that serves what may very well be the best cake you've had.

Little Clarendon Street, also just down the road from college, is lined with options: Pierre Victoire, a French bistro fit for a special occasion; GAIL's Bakery, one of the best spots for breakfast; G&D's, arguably the best ice cream in Oxford; and Common Ground, a hip cafe and co-working space. Just north of college, you'll find North Parade Avenue, home to a Japanese restaurant, a vegetarian pub, and a coffee shop, to name a few.

St Anne's isn't too far from the city centre, either! There you'll find George Street, which tends to have a lot of Italian restaurants, as well as Cornmarket Street, the High Street, and the Westgate shopping centre, which have all your typical fast and fast-casual chains. In addition, Gloucester Green square turns into an outdoor market a few times a week, where you can buy hot meals and produce from vendors (Taste Tibet is a popular stall!).

Cooking

Perhaps you're the next contestant on MasterChef or The Great British Bake Off looking to express your creativity through culinary means. Perhaps you miss a taste of home and want to make your friends your family's traditional recipe. Cooking is one of the most affordable ways to eat in Oxford, and you aren't bound to the times that dining halls or restaurants are open.



At St Anne's, each kitchen is shared between around 6-10 students and comes equipped with everything a basic kitchen has: a stove and oven, a microwave, a fridge and freezer, and of course some space to store your pots and pans. Many of the kitchens also have a table and chairs where you and your housemates or friends can enjoy a meal together.



Your welfare is always taken incredibly seriously at St Anne's, and there are a number of welfare resources for you to access in college. St Anne's has two JCR-elected welfare reps, who are specially trained in helping their fellow students with any issues they may be facing.

The welfare reps also run the weekly welfare teas which are perfect for an informal chat with the reps, or for a free cuppa and chocolate biscuit (or several!) with your friends. They work alongside a team of trained student peer supporters who are also there for you to message or speak to about any personal or work-related problems that might be stressing you out. They also organise events (such

as film nights and puppy parties in the JCR) and run anonymous services, such as the provision of free condoms and the 'text-a-chocolate' scheme, where you can send chocolates to your friends!

Before you arrive at St Anne's, you'll be contacted by your "college parent" which, despite the strange name, is actually a St Anne's student in the year above who studies your course. Not sure where to make a start with your reading list? Want to know more about freshers' accommodation? Realise there are questions you forgot to ask on the open day? Don't hesitate to send a message to your college parent, who'll be able to answer all your questions and give you plenty of advice!

If there's anything you don't necessarily feel comfortable sharing with the welfare reps or peer supporters, or if you need advice that they might not be able to provide, St Anne's Dean of Welfare or the college nurse are there to help you. Anything you discuss with them is strictly confidential (unless they feel you or someone else might be at risk) and a chat over the phone, through video, or in-person can be arranged. They're incredibly friendly and understanding (and known for providing a cup of coffee and biscuits when needed!).

To find out more about the welfare provisions at St Anne's, <https://www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/current-students/welfare-access/>



Finance & Budgeting



The finance side of university can be very daunting but there is plenty of support available from St Anne's and the university as a whole to help you out if you need it.

Scholarships & Bursaries

Most scholarships and bursaries are university-wide and cover a wide range of needs and backgrounds.

Some of these (such as the Crankstart Scholarship and the Oxford Bursary) are calculated based on your family's income and UK students automatically apply when they apply for Student Finance.

For other scholarships, you might need to make an application to receive the money, and there are a number of external scholarships you might want to check out too! It's important to remember that you should never feel bad applying for these pots of money—they're there to support students like you.

Many students at St Anne's and Oxford are supported by bursaries. They really help with your living costs and the costs of study; if you are eligible, it doesn't hurt to apply to lots of them!

If you run into financial difficulties during your time here, the college treasury is here to help and you can apply to the Access to Learning Fund. You can apply to this throughout the year and it is based purely on your own financial situation (i.e. the money in your account).

To find out which bursaries you might be eligible for, this search feature on the University website is really useful:

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/fees-and-funding/fees-funding-and-scholarships/search>

St Anne's Grants & Bursaries

If you want to travel to do something related to your studies, you can apply for a travel grant from college. This is a pot of money you don't need to repay and will give you the opportunity to travel and explore your studies further.

The COSARAF Scholarship is a St Anne's specific scholarship for UK Muslim students who face financial hardship and, ideally for those who are the first in their family to go to university. You apply once you get to Anne's and can receive up to £10,000 per year towards the cost of tuition and living expenses, as well as access to a personal mentor, a leadership support programme, and a paid summer internship at a leading charity. To find out more, go to <https://www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/life-here/internships/cosaraf-scholarship/>

Working at Oxford

Students at Oxford aren't allowed to work during term time. Given the short, intense terms, you simply because you won't have a lot of time around your degree. It's important to remember the university and Anne's will support you if you need. However, you take on paid access and outreach work, and can work in the college bar!

Money Management

To help students manage their money, the JCR Access Rep has created two template budgeting spreadsheets which students can adapt to their needs and lifestyles easily. Support is always there for anyone that needs help to get their head around Excel!

Internships

One of the great things about St Anne's is that they are the only Oxford college to offer internships which are exclusive to Anne's students! You can take part in an internship in the UK, Serbia, India, and Japan over the summer and they are amazing opportunities! To find out more, go to <https://www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/life-here/internships/>

St Anne's also offers careers advice during term including help with CVs and one-on-one sessions with college alumni.

There is also a university-wide Careers Service which advertises internships throughout the year. From week-long internships to much longer-term ones in the summer, there are plenty of opportunities available. The Careers Service offers support too from careers advice to CV help and, conveniently, is located very close to St Anne's.

Oxford Outside of Anne's

St Anne's is located on Woodstock Road, only a 15-minute walk from the centre of Oxford.

There are many benefits to be further out of town including being surrounded by hotspots, fewer tourists and beautiful walks to the centre. We've got the winning spot.

We are perfectly located sandwiched between Jericho, the trendiest part of Oxford, and the scenic wonder that is University Parks.



UNI PARKS –JUST ON OUR
DOORSTEP

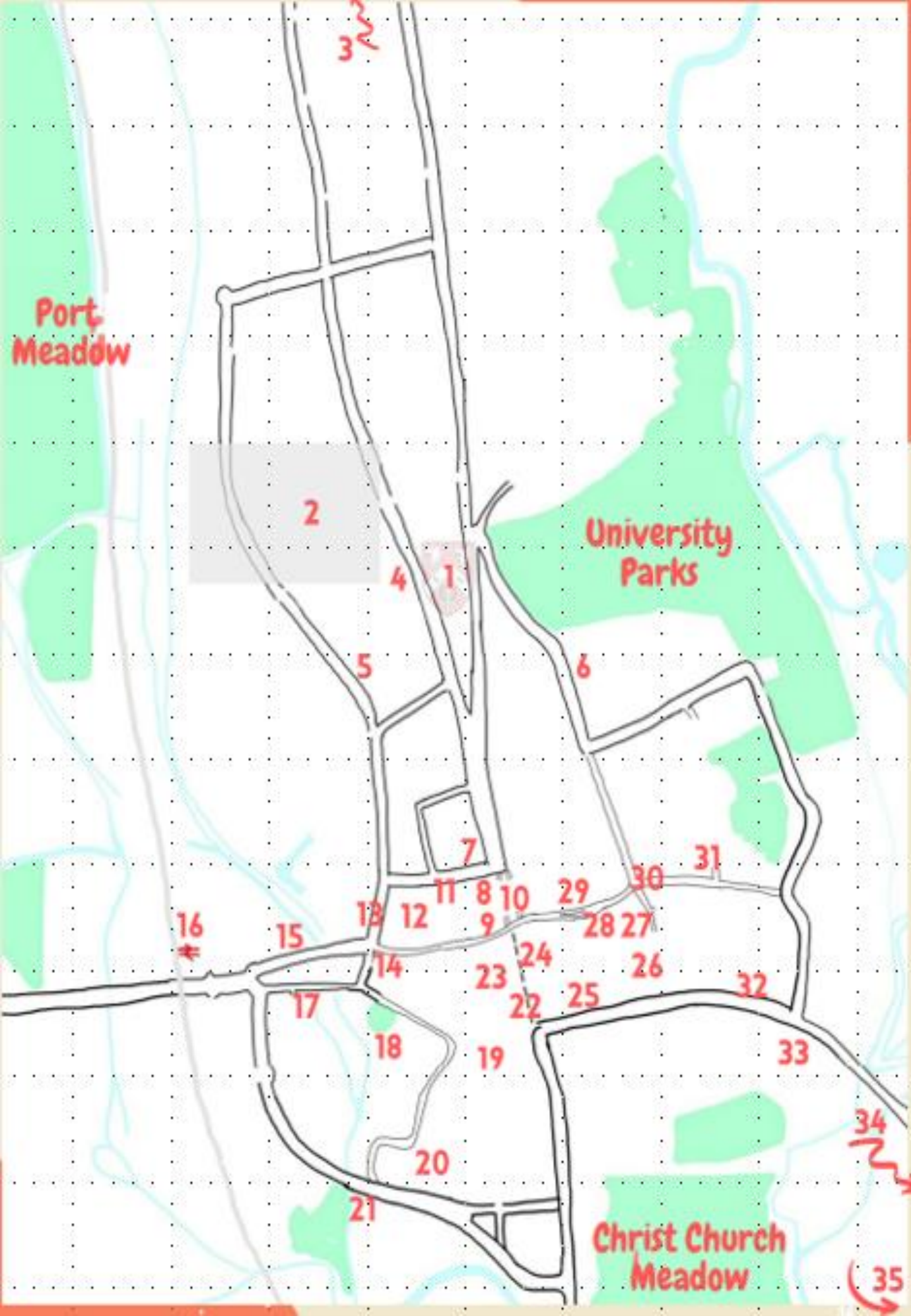
We have the optimal balance between quiet and busy, able to retreat from the hustle and bustle of central Oxford, while retaining the buzz that the many restaurants, bars and cafes around us bring.

With the intellectual hub of Oxford fast shifting north, St Anne's is surrounded by many academic faculties. We have the Languages Centre on our doorstep, and it is an easy roll out of bed for Engineering, Science, Geography, Maths, Modern Languages and Classics. If you're lucky, your faculty may even be on the other side of a picturesque walk through Uni Parks.

The Natural History and Pitt Rivers Museums are only a short walk away and the famous Ashmolean Museum is just five minutes down the road.

We have it all.







Key:



1- Home (St Anne's)	13- Oxford Student Union	25- Covered Market
2- Jericho (see below)		26- Radcliffe Camera
3- Summertown	14- Nando's, Spoons	27- Bodleian Library
4- East West Provisions	15- Bridge nightclub	28- Sheldonian Theatre
5- Co-op	16- Oxford Train station	29- Blackwell's Bookshop
6- Natural History/ Pitt Rivers Museums	17- Atik/Park End (club)	30- The King's Arms
7- Ashmolean Museum	18- Oxford Castle	31- Turf Tavern
8- Fever nightclub	19- Modern Art Oxford	32- Examination Schools
9- Tesco & Sainsbury's	20- Westgate Shopping Centre	33- Oxford Botanic Gardens
10- Saint Mary Magdalen Church	21- Oxford Ice Rink	34- Cowley (see below)
11- The White Rabbit Pub	22- McDonald's	35- Iffley Sports Centre
12- Gloucester Green Market	23- Plush nightclub	
	24- Pret A Manger	



Hotspots



Cowley

A 30-minute walk from Anne's, Cowley is renowned for being the more diverse area of Oxford. Cowley differs to the rest of Oxford and is a breath of fresh air for those wishing to experience a unique side of the city.

Many of you who choose to live out privately in your final years may select Cowley, a student hub in a vibrant location. Here you can find many small patisseries and food stores which sell authentic mixed spices and products to meet any dietary requirement. There are also restaurants catering to all your needs including Atomic Burger which is known for its comic-book theme. The Oxford Central Mosque is in Cowley as well as music venues such as the O2 Academy and The Bullingdon. The annual summer Cowley Road Carnival is a must-see event.

For those of you who are passionate about sport, the Iffley Sports centre is nearby which features an Olympic-sized pool, a gym and many other sports facilities!

The main hospitals such as the John Radcliffe, Churchill and Warneford are a mere bus ride or cycle from St Anne's- very accessible!

Jericho

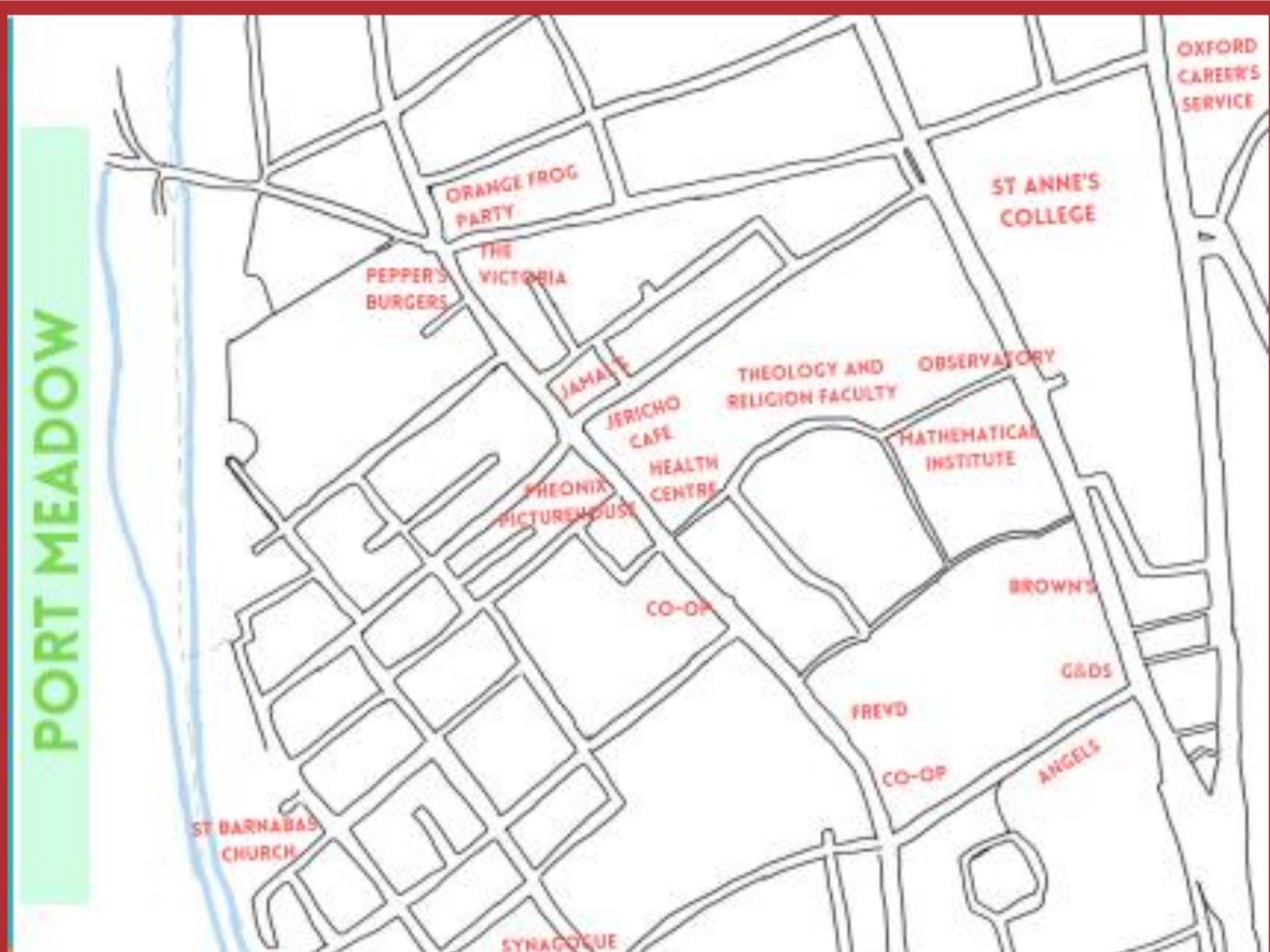
Jericho is without a doubt one of the biggest perks of living at Anne's; barely a five minute walk from college lies multiple hip bars, homey cafes and restaurants.

Highlights include the Phoenix Picturehouse which frequently shows indie and foreign films and the Jericho Tavern which often hosts live music.

Honourable mentions are the decently sized Co-op, Jericho Café (perfect for *aesthetic* studying), G&Ds and the University GP.

There are also multiple departments that reside in/close to Jericho, such as the Maths, Religion & Theology and Experimental Psychology Department.

The main road going through Jericho follows down to Worcester College and is perfect route for a quieter walk into centre of Oxford.



Equalities

Applying and coming to Oxford can often feel like a daunting experience, and perhaps even more so if you are from an underrepresented background. However, don't let that put you off applying—you deserve a place at Oxford as much as anybody else! There are many misconceptions about the type of people that go to Oxford—there really isn't an 'Oxford type'. The only thing that links Oxford students is the love they have for their subjects.

The JCR has a group of representatives led by our Equal Opportunities Rep including the Access Rep, BAME Rep, LGBTQ+ Rep, Disabilities Rep, and Women's Rep. They drive change within the college to make it a more inclusive and welcoming place for students from all backgrounds, and all students within the JCR are able to submit motions to make changes too.

There are lots of university-wide societies for students from a variety of backgrounds and interests—you will find something for you! Many societies have social media accounts and will be happy to answer your questions about being at Oxford from an underrepresented background such as the ACS, FirstGen, and the LGBTQ+ Soc (to name a few).

Oxford's Student Union (<https://www.oxfordsu.org/>) has a number of campaigns running to improve the situation for students from a variety of backgrounds including ClassAct (which supports students who are working class, low income, first-generation, and/or state comprehensive educated, as well as care leavers and estranged students), CRAE (campaign for Racial Awareness and Equality), Disabilities, LGBTQ+, and WomCam. Many Stanners are involved with these groups, which provide support to students at Oxford as well as making changes to make Oxford a more inclusive space.

If you're concerned about the money side of coming to Oxford, there are lots of grants available to students from low-income backgrounds as well as some for underrepresented groups. To find out more, check out the Finance section of the prospectus or the university website which has lots more information!



If you ever find yourself in financial difficulty, do let the College know—they have a fund to support you too.

Over the next few pages of the prospectus, you can read first-hand experiences of life at St Anne's and Oxford as a student from a variety of backgrounds. We hope that this will encourage you to apply—if you have any more questions you're welcome to chat with current Anne's students on our website—no question is too small!

I'm from an underrepresented background- what support is there for me when I'm applying?

Oxford, its departments, colleges, and current students have created lots of resources online to provide you with information around applying on their websites and on YouTube (and we have too in this prospectus!).

If you are from an underrepresented background, there are many programmes at Oxford to help give you the best chance of making a successful application. I would recommend following Oxford Outreach, St Anne's Outreach, and your relevant department's Outreach Twitter page in order to keep up to date with new initiatives and events.

On the college website, you can also talk to St Anne's students directly and ask them any questions you have about student life and applying! [Chat with them on the website here!](#)

Mentoring Schemes

There are many mentoring schemes set up by Oxford students for Year 12 students to help guide them through their application process such as Oxbuddy (<https://www.oxbuddy.co.uk/>), Zero Gravity (<https://www.zerogravity.co.uk/>), UniPear (<http://unipear.co.uk/>), and The Clydeside Project which is for Scottish students (<https://www.clydesideproject.org/>). They pair you up with current students who study your subject and can help you through your application!

Target Oxbridge

Target Oxbridge (https://targetoxbridge.co.uk/the_programme.html) is a free programme that supports black African and Caribbean students and students of mixed race with black African and Caribbean heritage and aims to increase their chances of getting into the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge. If your application is successful, you will be invited to lots of events, given advice with your application, and be mentored by a current or past student.

UNIQ Summer Schools (<https://www.uniq.ox.ac.uk/>) are run by Oxford you will have the opportunity to study a subject at Oxford for a week in the summer of Year 12. It's a great way to experience life at Oxford and be given an insight into studying at university!

Aim for Oxford

St Anne's also runs its own access programme specifically for students from the North East called Aim for Oxford, alongside Christ Church (<https://bit.ly/31Xuuc5>). Applications open in September for Year 12 students. Over Year 12, you will attend 4 academic enrichment, information, and guidance sessions in Newcastle and then attend a 4-day summer school in Oxford. If you decide to apply to Oxford, you will be part of the Year 13 programme where you will receive even more support! St Anne's also runs lots of activities in its link regions of the North East of England, Hillingdon and Southwark. If you are at school in a different region, then there will be another college that works in your area too.

Check out the online resources put out by colleges & departments!

Our website has lots of inspiration for what you could get up to outside of your school curriculum to make your application stand out (<https://bit.ly/3auA1L2>). It's really important to remember that you don't need to spend any money on flashy ways to make your personal statement stand out!

If you're worried about your admissions test, many departments have videos online (and some run programmes) to help you. These are great resources and it's definitely worth applying for these programmes if you are eligible! Many colleges and departments have videos of mock interviews and advice on YouTube channels that you should definitely check out.

Open Days

Finally, come along to an Open Day! This is a great way to experience what it would be like studying at Oxford and look round the colleges and departments. If you can't make it, check out the website for a virtual tour of St Anne's and use our chat feature to speak to current students.

My Experience- Chloe

Hello everyone! I'm Chloe – a second year Earth Scientist and the Equal Opportunities Rep for St Anne's this year.

This is my experience during my first year here in Oxford, which I hope you find useful. I am a care leaver, first-gen university student from a comprehensive state school and come from a low-income background.



My main concern before coming to university was money – would I be able to afford to go out with my friends? Would I have to struggle paying for things? Would people at Oxford notice my background and discriminate against me because of this? But let me tell you, none of these things turned out to be true! Sure, food shops at Tesco and Sainsbury's can be a little expensive – but a gal gotta EAT! Planning what you're gonna get, buying in bulk and buying things on offer – may – help you to reduce these costs. I also never struggled to go out with my friends – I budgeted and didn't buy crazy amounts of drinks when I went out and I still had a good time.

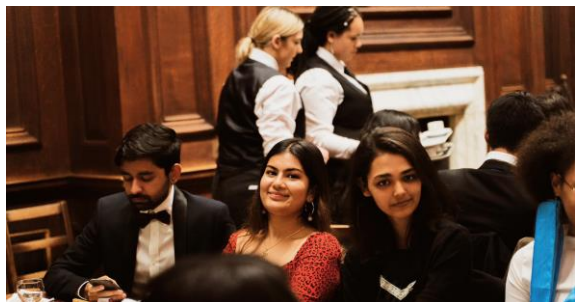
In terms of financial hardships & college rent, my student finance was able to cover the rent for my room, but if you are struggling then you can apply for help from college directly. PLEASE do not worry about money when you're here. You're here to have a good time and do well academically, not worry about financial issues especially when help is available!

Another thing I really struggled with was family issues, given that I am a care leaver with complicated issues at home. The college welfare staff, out-of-hours college welfare assistants, the dean, and the University Counselling Service were all extremely supportive mentally and emotionally to help me get by throughout the year, which really reinforced the notion of you always having somebody to talk to here. You are not alone, please don't ever think that because there are so many means of help!

Overall, none of the worries I had prior to coming to Oxford turned out to be true – the only thing I wish I had done in first year was get involved more in societies and the JCR (two things of which I will definitely be incorporating next year!).

Life as a BAME student

Asma



I chose St Anne's based on my initial impression on the Open Day—a modern, down-to-earth college which wasn't hung up on its "Oxfordness"—and my initial impression was right. St Anne's provides a chill and calm atmosphere which is unlike the other more traditional colleges. My expectation coming to Oxford was that I

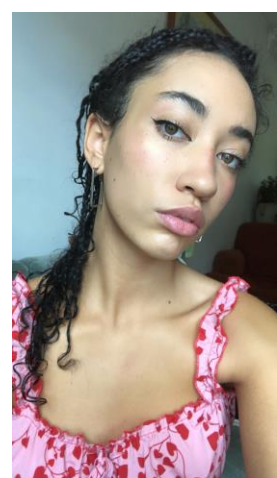
would be the only South Asian person in my year group, that I wouldn't fit in and would have to try to assimilate to the whiteness Oxford is known for, but lucky for me that wasn't the case! St Anne's has a diverse student body, the students here all have such different backgrounds and it's extremely easy to find like-minded friends. I came from a school that had a very diverse student body, so I was pleasantly surprised to find out that in my year alone there were at least 10 South Asian students (which doesn't seem like a lot but when you have zero expectations, is a huge number).

Over the year, I attended Pak Soc events, lectures from Palsoc, socials at ACS and South Asian society, and even went to French Soc once—there are so many societies at the University and attending these events really helped me feel at home at Oxford.

I was especially worried that in my degree course I would be the only student of colour in my year group, but I was again pleasantly surprised to find out that PoC made up nearly half of the course (of 12 people). The degree title of "Oriental Studies" can be extremely problematic, as it has the connotations of Western superiority and 'others' those who fit that label, but so far in my studies I have not encountered any othering experiences or micro-aggressions. In fact, the degree title is being reviewed and will hopefully be changed!

Oxford itself is notorious for some of its students' racist/sexist/discriminatory actions—experiences of feeling out of place or unwelcome are not uncommon. However, St Anne's does make me feel welcome. Of course there is always room for improvement in terms of being actively inclusive and anti-racist, and Anne's is making those steps by holding regular BAME socials and inviting BAME alumnae to come and speak, and in the coming year there will be more progress made in our active stand for appreciating and celebrating the BAME students at Anne's.





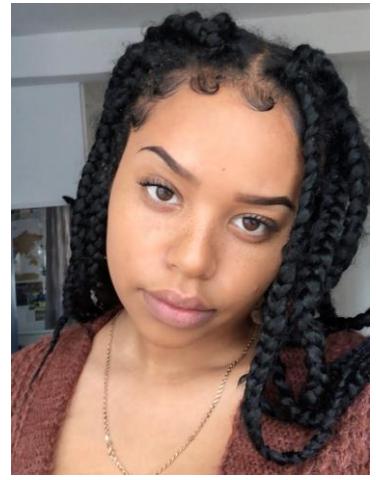
To be honest, I chose St. Anne's because one of my friends had been on a tour there once and had said it seemed nice. I hadn't visited any colleges, I had no experience of Oxford whatsoever, and did not think that I had any chance of getting in anyway. However, from the minute I came to St. Anne's, my opinions began to shift. Another of my friends from France was interviewing at another college and I was struck by the lack of care given to her. The interview helpers there seemed to have one attitude: you either know how this works, or you don't. This frankly terrified me, because it was a perfect example of the kind of things that you heard about Oxford, namely that it was nepotistic and impossible to break into if you weren't white and successful. With my experience at the other college still swimming in my head, I walked a few minutes up the road and arrived at Anne's. Immediately, a black female student came to take care of me and immediately, the diversity that I had noticed as being almost completely missing was actually visible at Anne's. Everyone was lovely, there was a mix of all different people from all different backgrounds and even people who had been to state schools like me; something that I never thought I would encounter at Oxford.

My views before coming were stereotypical, but I think that's typical of someone who comes from a background in which Oxford is not really seen as an option. If anyone reading this, like me, thinks that being a BAME student and not being privately educated might count against you when applying to Oxford, I want to reassure you that Anne's can be the place for you. This college has a higher proportion of BAME students than the university as a whole does; I never thought I would encounter as many PoC at Anne's as I have done. The college is an incredibly welcoming space, it doesn't have the cruel and somewhat harsh atmosphere that other colleges built on students coming from privately educated backgrounds can possess.

On the whole, St. Anne's for me has been a wonderful experience and one full of pleasant surprises. I am a member of the German society, although that has very little diversity. On the whole, I would really recommend joining the ACS as a BAME student. It will put you in touch with BAME students across the university, and there are also loads of fun activities to do. To be honest, I don't attend everything that the ACS puts on, but there is a great value in feeling like you belong, like there are people like you, from a similar background as you. And sometimes in Oxford, as a BAME student, you can feel isolated. That will, unfortunately, be the reality until the university really makes a change in the number of BAME students that it admits. But, in the meanwhile, find your niche, take advantage of the ACS, and consider St Anne's for your college, as I can't imagine a nicer or safer atmosphere to be spending my university life in, and cannot sing this college's praises highly enough.

Svetlana

Although I did not personally choose St Anne's as the college I wanted to attend, I cannot be more grateful to fate that I was pooled here. I think that Anne's actually had the largest intake of BAME students this year, with people on the ACS group chat humorously nicknaming it 'Afro Nation Anne's' when the wave of our new freshers all had to comment what college we were starting this year; the revelation being that majority of black or mixed students stated that they were to start at Anne's. Luckily for me also, I was housed with two other BAME students in my first-year accommodation, so we quickly found common ground and became friends.



Although my luck was fortunate, I do not think that it is necessary to be housed with other BAME students in order to gain these friendships. I quickly found that a lot of the second- and third-year BAME students were very welcoming and supportive to us freshers. There was none of the separation between year groups that I experienced in secondary and sixth form, but rather a very integrated mix between all the year groups, especially with BAME students. In addition to this, as I have alluded to earlier, freshers are added into an ACS group chat before formally starting Oxford, allowing for the building of an Afro-Caribbean community and the cultivation of friendships before one even arrived at campus. This sense of community is furthered throughout your studies through the multitude of ACS events (such as Oxchat, Take Me Out, Christmas Dinner, Quiz nights, University challenge, etc) and things like the BAME formal, allowing for continued support and integration with people that you can relate to.

Of course, I had doubts about racial exclusion when applying to Oxford. And even now I must admit that the stereotypes surrounding Oxford's behaviour to BAME students are not untrue, especially within more prestigious colleges that are perhaps known for churning out politicians. However, I do not believe that this should act as a deterrent. The opportunities and career prospects that are afforded to one who attends Oxford most definitely outweigh any



prejudice you might experience. It should also be added, that in most cases, tutors and staff take racial matters very seriously and are supportive, as well as your fellow BAME peers. But overall, I think that prospective students such as yourself need to disregard stereotypes and apply to Oxford, in the same way that we did, as diversification cannot happen without you, and stereotypes will remain unchanged.

Charlotte



My first introduction to St Anne's was stumbling across its entrance while in Oxford for a university-wide open day. I was greeted by two great buildings with modern aesthetics—the Ruth Deech Building and the Tim Gardam Library. These buildings were a complete subversion of my impressions of Oxford so far. They looked like they belonged in the 21st-century, in contrast to the medieval structures comprising most Oxford colleges. When I looked at them, my gut told me that this college was a forward-looking one, not saddled by ancient and befuddling traditions that I, as someone with no ethnic British heritage, would feel out of place in. It felt like a normal place I could call home.

So I applied to St Anne's, somehow managed to be offered a place here, and therefore I came to be an undergraduate at St Anne's College. Thankfully, my gut feeling was right. St Anne's is a truly unpretentious and inclusive college. No matter where you go in college, whether it's the comfy St Anne's Coffee Shop (which serves more than just coffee!) or the beautifully brutalist Wolfson and Rayne accommodation blocks, you'll feel able to be just as yourself as you are outside Oxford. There's nothing stopping you from visiting a friend's college for formals or concerts if you'd like a taste of the high life, but it's nice knowing that at the end of the day, St Anne's will always be there for you as an anchor to the real world!

Of course, the friendliness of the college wouldn't be possible without its people. I've personally never had any doubts that there is a place for me here, as an East Asian brought up in the UK, even though there's no denying that we're a minority among minorities here. You don't have to worry about just being a stereotype. There are BAME events held at college, which you're always welcome to. There's also a plentiful supply of societies for different nationalities, which might be especially useful for international students.

On a practical level, the much-beloved Tesco Metro that's a short walk away from college stocks a small variety of East Asian food (such as ramen, though whether you think that qualifies as a meal might vary). There's also a supermarket called Seoul Plaza further out in Cowley, which stocks primarily Korean (as its name might imply) but also other East Asian food and snacks. And if you have some cash to splurge, Oxford has lots of Asian restaurants!

Suna



As a South Asian student coming to Oxford I was quite nervous about feeling like I would belong somewhere, having heard some of the stereotypical things about Oxford, and fitting in—especially at a college I hadn't even heard of until I got pooled there, but being Anne's has done nothing but put all those worries to rest even from the very first moment I got here. Anne's is definitely on the more diverse side of Oxford colleges, but even without that the

people here were so open and easy to talk to that I found making friends wasn't the task I imagined it would be. There are so many people from all different backgrounds and Anne's has such an accepting feel to it, and I definitely think that adds to the atmosphere of it being one of the more 'chill' colleges, which is a huge advantage in my eyes and part of the reason I love it so much.

I was also quite determined to join a Bollywood dance class having danced a little bit when I was younger, and it was this that made me go looking for a society that would offer this at the Freshers' Fair. Even though it did take me a while to find such a class, I'm so glad I put the energy into looking because it was such a good place to meet people with a similar background to me and it is so much fun! It was organised through the Oxford South Asian Arts Society (OXSAAS) which works closely with HumSoc (Hindu Society) to put on events such as talks and desi fusion club nights. At the end of Hilary term, OXSAAS put on a huge show—'Utsav'—where there were loads of cultural performances such as my Bollywood group, a bhangra dance group, singers, and many more amazing acts, with an intermission filled with delicious South Asian food (something I have missed a little bit at uni!). Despite this being the first year they put it on, it was a huge success, and I know that they're hoping to continue doing this for the years to come. Even if you're not into performing there is the chance to come and experience this; it ended up being one of my favourite nights of term!

Whilst Anne's truly does have one of the most welcoming and friendly atmospheres I've experienced at Oxford, there are still ways (through the work of our wonderful BAME rep) it can improve, and you could be a part of that if you decide to apply to Anne's. And I'm sure everyone says this about their own colleges, but I feel so lucky to be studying at Anne's and can't imagine anywhere else feeling so much like home for the next 5 years of my degree!



Life as an LGBTQ+ Student

'Being LGBTQ+ at Anne's.' Hannah [they/them]

St Anne's has a great support system in place for students, which can help you navigate through coming out at university or dealing with your situation at home. The contact information for assistant deans, peer supporters and anyone else you might want to talk to can be found on the St Anne's website, as well as on the noticeboard of every kitchen in college. Also clearly signposted are the responsibilities of each person: who to talk to about what.

St Anne's is a bit further from the centre of Oxford than other colleges, but despite being a slow walker and a somewhat lazy person, I didn't find that the distance made it feel like I was separated from the LGBTQ+ scene in Oxford. The university's LGBTQ Society puts on so many events that I was never short of opportunities to meet people from other colleges. Moreover, St Anne's has an active and welcoming community all of its own, which means that you can find people to go to uni-wide events with, or just socialise in college if you prefer.

As Oxford's first women's college, St Anne's includes inclusivity amongst its core values. The college strives to make sure that the entirety of its student population feels at home, which makes it a great college for LGBTQ+ freshers.

Anne's already flies the rainbow flag throughout February—LGBTQ History Month—and runs karaoke nights and crew dates for its LGBTQ+ students. As LGBTQ+ rep, I plan on expanding the events calendar this year by introducing things like LGBTQ-specific welfare teas and pub quizzes. These are currently held over Zoom, but hopefully not for much longer! Either way, there are always plenty of opportunities to get to know others in the LGBTQ+ community at St Anne's and have a good time along the way.

'The LGBTQ+ Scene at Oxford' Ashar [he/him]

The best thing about the LGBTQ+ scene at Oxford is how incredibly diverse it is! You will meet people from all sorts of backgrounds, upbringings and identities, with everyone varying in their level of how they express who they truly are. It is always worth noting that, similar to how sexuality and gender operate on a spectrum, so does expression—you will always find a group you can fit in with. You'll find Oxford to be a very warm place with regards to anything LGBTQ+ related. Every February, colleges fly the Pride Flag as part of LGBTQ+ History Month, with many also flying the Trans Flag for Transgender Day of Remembrance. Many faculties and departments also get involved which just goes to show how important LGBTQ+ representation is to the Oxford community!

The Oxford University LGBTQ+ Society is one of, if not, the largest student society in the university, and runs events multiple times a week, such as drinks socials, welfare brunches, karaoke nights, and arts & crafts sessions! These are run by representatives who will cover groups such as Bi, Ace/Aro, Racial and Ethnic Minorities, Trans and Non-Binary, Women*, Faith...the list goes on! The Oxford SU LGBTQ+ Campaign may also entice those wishing to participate in activism, helping the university to become even more of an inclusive and safe space for all LGBTQ+ individuals. Some colleges run their own LGBTQ+ themed events, with the most notable taking place in 'Queer Week' which is hosted at Wadham, and they are open to everyone! And don't forget Oxford Pride—a really big event which is pretty much dominated by the student community in May/June.

I personally found a lot of comfort in the Oxford LGBTQ+ scene. Growing up in a South Asian, fairly strict Muslim household, I wasn't exposed to many liberties, but the friendliness and openness of the Oxford LGBTQ+ community has been one of the best things I've experienced. I was always scared I'd be the only one of my background, or that I'd find no one who had a similar story to myself. Funnily enough, several share similar experiences, but it is also worth noting that everyone's experience is unique, and the Oxford LGBTQ+ scene really brings us all together in one family.



'Any worries you had about being LGBTQ+ before coming to Oxford that you shouldn't have had.'

My main worry coming to Oxford was that I wouldn't be able to fit into the LGBTQ+ community, having not really ever had many openly queer friends. I had in my head a fixed idea of the type of person that would fit in (where anyone short of a fully-fledged drag queen wasn't gay enough...) but this was very quickly proven to be complete nonsense! The LGBTQ+ community at St Anne's, and across the university as a whole, is super diverse and welcoming and within my first term, I met so many lovely people whose experiences I could relate to and who quickly became some of my closest friends.

Another worry I had, and I know a lot of my friends shared, was having to go through the coming out process all over again. If it's taken a while for you to reach a point where you're comfortable with your identity and can be open with your friends or family back home, then the thought of starting over with the people you meet at university can be scary. Or if you're not yet out, having to think about taking that step in a completely alien environment with lots of other new things going on can be overwhelming. It took me a couple of weeks to find the courage, but I needn't have been worried, as everyone was super supportive (and not all that surprised!) and being in a new environment actually seemed to make things easier, as it was a good fresh start.

I also arrived at university believing some of the stereotypes about gay culture, worrying that I'd need to be into clubbing or drinking to get involved in the LGBTQ+ scene. But again, this isn't at all true here! Whilst there is a great gay club (called Plush, with student nights every Tuesday) there is so much outside of this to get involved in where you can meet people, like welfare teas, arts and craft events, and film showings. My favourite socials have been trips to G&Ds, an ice cream café!





Maria

Hi everyone, my name's Maria and I'm studying History & Politics at St Anne's. I'm originally from Portugal, and moving to the UK was a daunting experience that quickly turned out to be life-changing in a great way! English was not my first language, and I was quite nervous about the culture shock and having to pack everything in a suitcase. However, the friendly community in Anne's made everything much easier.

A few of my tips to help you settle in and cope with homesickness include bringing along many photos or personal objects that make you feel at home. Anne's has a pretty large and diverse community, and several international events are organised both within college and uni-wide to help you meet new people. It's totally normal to feel anxious—but please know that you'll have plenty of welfare support available and other people who are in the same boat as you!

In terms of the application process, don't be discouraged if you're from a different background. There are plenty of online resources available that can be useful—take a look at course pages as well as the St Anne's website, where you'll have Q&As answered by students, live chats, and many more. One of the main things I struggled with was having little to no idea of how the process worked—and none of my teachers were familiar with Oxbridge to help—but access efforts are constantly improving, so take advantage of that!



Isa

Hi! I'm Isa, a geography student from the Netherlands.

The UK is not far from my home country, but it was still a big step to move to a place with different habits, a different language, and without anyone I knew. Even though it is daunting, it is also a very rewarding experience and there are so many great people at St Anne's. Everyone is getting used to the new experience of being at university and living away from home, so you're definitely not alone!

To settle in more in a new country, I'd suggest integrating things from home into your life in Oxford. For me that was buying a bike, because in the Netherlands I always use my bike to go everywhere. If your native language isn't English, it's also great to try and meet people from your country, or even just calling friends back home, because eight weeks of not speaking your language can be a long time!

The most important piece of advice for applying I'd like to give is to just do it! I had never written an essay before coming to Oxford, so doing an essay based subject is challenging, but everyone is very supportive and really wants you to do well. Also be sure to take a look at all the resources St Anne's and the university offer, and if anything is unclear or worrying you, just send an email and they will be happy to help.



Isa at a formal at Trinity College with friends from Dutch Society!




Shannon

Hi! I'm Shannon, and I'm studying Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) at St Anne's. I'm from the US, so studying at Oxford was far-fetched, not only as a concept, but physically as well! However, I've been so pleasantly surprised to have such a supportive community at Anne's that really makes it a home away from home.

For me, a big difference was weather. I grew up without seeing a lot of rain in sunny California (especially because we were in a drought), so I adapted to the new environment and I got used to it pretty quickly. When packing, I tend to wonder whether I'm going to forget something or go over the airline's weight limit, but luckily, most things can be bought in Oxford and stored over the vacations. I tend to keep all my warmer winter clothes in the UK and only really bring t-shirts and jeans home with me.

I also experienced some minor culture shocks, even coming from another English-speaking country, but I have found it so rewarding to learn about a new culture and really expand my horizons by being surrounded by people from different backgrounds. And there are always opportunities to connect with others from your home country in college and beyond—I've gotten to befriend visiting students, postgrads, and Americans at other colleges! Staying in touch with friends back home on weekends has also been really helpful.

Oxford is a bit different from American universities: there seems to be more independent work and more essays rather than multiple-choice exams, for example. It gives you many opportunities to challenge yourself intellectually and keep growing as a person and as a scholar! There are tons of resources online to help you adjust to university, from the application stage all the way to current students, and tutors check in with you to see how you're doing. And it's totally okay if you didn't do A-levels and have a different background—I took APs/SATs and also did a gap year! I have friends who did IB or who are mature students as well. The courses try to be accommodating to every education system to make sure everyone succeeds!



Shannon with a friend
at American Society
Thanksgiving Party



Claire

Hello, I'm Claire and I study English Language and Literature! I'm half Korean and half British, but I live and was raised in Singapore. Coming from a fairly multicultural and international community, one of the things I was the most conscious of before arriving at Oxford was diversity. Despite this, I've come across people from a wide variety of nationalities and cultures, both inside and outside of college, and have been made to feel comfortable with both international and domestic students alike. You'll find that plenty of people will be genuinely eager to learn about your culture and what it's like where you live—and through them, you'll learn a lot about the UK as well.

The feeling of homesickness comes and goes during term time; tackling your weekly deadlines while also getting accustomed to a very different environment is no easy feat for people like us. Most importantly, you're not alone; it's something we all go through at some point, and a good way to is through seeking out what reminds you of home—whether it's people, events, or even food—that you can find at Oxford. I'd strongly recommend joining student societies that allow you to embrace your cultural identity here—being able to chat to people with similar experiences at Oxford has been very reassuring for me. Another thing is that there is no shortage of international foods available around Oxford, whether at local restaurants and food stalls (like the Covered Market or Gloucester Green) or international supermarkets, as well as the range of cuisines served at the St Anne's dining hall.

If you're currently thinking about applying to Oxford, be confident that you're in no way disadvantaged because you're from a different background. Also, even though I did the IB instead of A-levels, this wasn't a problem for me; most of what you encounter on your course will be completely different to anything that anyone will have been exposed to beforehand. The experiences I've had here as an international student are unlike any I've had before, and it's been eye-opening to both share my perspective and hear other people's too.



Claire celebrating with friends at the Singapore society's annual Lunar New Year dinner party!



Disabilities

St Anne's and the university as a whole will work with you to make sure your needs are met—whether that's life in college, throughout your study, or in exams (and even before you get here during the application process!).

The Disability Advisory Service is there to support you and this link (<https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/welfare/disability>) provides more details about the service they provide.

Alternatively, you can email Sheila (sheila.smith@st-annes.ox.ac.uk), our lovely St Anne's Disability Coordinator who will be able to answer more Anne's specific questions.

We also have a JCR Disabilities Rep who is here to help you out if you need it and to make sure St Anne's is inclusive and doing all it can to meet disabled students' needs.

Faith

Oxford is an inclusive student community where students of various faiths can feel comfortable practising them—and St Anne's is no exception.

If you are LGBTQ+ and worried about finding an accepting community, the LGBTQ+ Soc has created a resource for you to find out which places of worship are accepting, and also run a buddy scheme so you'll have someone to go with! <http://www.oulgbtq.org/religious-in-oxford.html>

For general resources on faith at Oxford: <https://edu.admin.ox.ac.uk/faith-societies>

Buddhism

Oxford Buddhist Society provides a community for adherents to Buddhism across the university, celebrating festivals and providing talks, as well as a few other events.

For more on Oxford Buddhist Society:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/oxfordbudsoc/>

Peace House (Oxford Buddhist Centre) is a 20-minute walk from College, and runs classes, courses and study groups for Buddhists across Oxford. It also hosts events to celebrate various festivals.

For more on Oxford Buddhist Centre:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/oxfordbudsoc/>



Catholic

Despite St Anne's lacking its own chapel, the University Catholic Chaplaincy (a 20-minute walk from college) offers daily masses and also accommodates international groups, with monthly masses in Korean and bi-monthly in Spanish.

It has several communal rooms for socialisation, relaxation, and prayer; all Catholic members of the university community can have access (register with them online to receive the termly access codes).

For more information on the Catholic Chaplaincy: <https://www.catholic-chaplaincy.org.uk/>

St Anne's is conveniently a mere three-minute walk from the Oratory (Parish of St Aloysius Gonzaga). The chapels at St Benet's Hall and Blackfriars, two Permanent Private Halls of the University, are five and eight minutes' walk from St Anne's respectively. For the more sports-minded Catholic there is also Greyfriars, located six minutes from the university's Iffley Road Sports Centre!

The Newman Society, or the University's Catholic society, provides both social and spiritual events for Catholic students. Some examples are a free meal and talk on Thursday nights, the termly Nightfever event, as well as various drinks and dinner events—with the occasional ceilidh.

For those seeking to fulfil their corporate works of mercy, the Companions of the Order of Malta provide opportunities to volunteer to assist the homeless, elderly, and children with special needs, as well as meet fellow Catholics.

For more information on the Newman Society:

<http://www.newmansociety.co.uk/>

Orthodox

There are many Orthodox parishes in Oxford—accommodating a range of Orthodox Christian traditions. Closest to college is the Ecumenical Patriarchate's Holy Trinity and the Annunciation parishes, only eight minutes away by foot. The parish of St Nicholas the Wonderworker of the Moscow Patriarchate, and the Romanian Orthodox parish of St John Cassian, are both around a half-hour walk (or seven-minute cycle) away. Every third Sunday of the month, the Serbian Orthodox parish of the Ascension meets at St Albans, a 45-minute walk or 12-minute cycle from St Anne's.

Protestant

The University has a strong protestant heritage and community, with the student-run Christian Union providing social and spiritual opportunities for all to enjoy. The Christian Union also plays a role in the St Anne's Community with its own CU rep who organises prayer, discussion, and community for our Christian students. The Anne's Christian Union meets regularly for Bible studies and for more social events too!

For more on the Christian Union: <https://www.oiccu.org/>

Oxford is full of potential places of worship for your time here—with around seven churches, St Ebbe's and St Aldate's (both located a mile from college) tend to be the most popular in the student community. For those seeking a nearby church, St Giles' is a mere seven-minute walk, offering convenience in busier times.

For more on churches: <https://www.oiccu.org/churches>



Hinduism

Oxford's Hindu Society (HUMsoc) provides a range of events for students with a background or an interest in Hinduism, and it runs cultural events such as the Diwali Ball and Bollywood movie nights. Unfortunately, Oxford does lack a Hindu temple, but the society does host religious activities, including weekly Aarti gatherings.

To find out more on Oxford Hindu Society:
<https://www.facebook.com/oxfordhumsoc/>



Islam

St Anne's is an ideal place for Muslims, only a nine-minute walk from the University's Muslim prayer room (open 24 hours a day and located in the Robert Hooke Building), placing you near the heart of the university's Islamic community.

St Anne's are more than happy to provide Halal food upon request, so just head on down to the hall and let a member of our excellent kitchen team know!

We have an excellent Muslim community at the university (Oxford University Islamic Society or OUISOC) with a diverse range of social, religious, and political events available. These include Q-Club (informal but informative study of the Surahs), free Iftars in Ramadan, Charity Week, and Sisters' Sport and Brothers Football; there is sure to be plenty to get involved in.

For more on Islamic Society: <https://www.ouisoc.org/>

Alongside the college's proximity to the prayer room in the Robert Hooke Building, there are many mosques slightly further afield, from the University's Islamic Centre with its mosque and scripture library only a half-hour walk or ten-minute cycle away, to the Central Oxford Mosque and Madina Masjid (both a 40-minute walk or 12-minute cycle from college), and the Shia Ahlul Bayt Mosque an hour's walk or quarter-hour cycle away which caters for both English and Urdu.



Judaism

St Anne's is conveniently located a mere 10-minute walk from Oxford's Synagogue and Jewish Centre in Jericho (a neighbourhood just opposite St Anne's), making us one of the most convenient colleges for Jewish students. The Oxford University Jewish Society also hosts several events each week for the university's Jewish community.

For more information on Oxford Jewish Congregation: <http://www.ojc-online.org/>

For more information on Oxford University Jewish Society: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/OxfordJsoc/>



Sikhism

The student-led Oxford Sikh Society provides opportunities to socialise with other Sikhs, celebrate Sikh faith and culture together, as well as get involved in access work.

For more information on Oxford Sikh Society: <https://www.facebook.com/oxfordsikhsoc>

Whilst Oxford's Gurdwara Sri Guru Nak Dev Ji is over an hour's walk away, it is accessible via public transport or a 20-minute cycle, and is open daily from 6am-8pm.

For more on Gurdwara Sri Guru Nak Dev Ji: <http://gurdwarasgndjoxford.org.uk/>



BOPs

One of the most notorious 'Oxfordisms', a BOP (Big Organised Party) is really just a college party. They are often organised on college grounds or in a venue (especially in the case of a multi-college bop) and they are one of the highlights of the beautifully bizarre Oxford nightlife!

Some of the best things about bops at Anne's include extremely cheap drinks (both alcoholic and non-alcoholic) if organised in college, as well as some particularly enjoyable themes such as 'Dynamic Duos' or 'Come As Your Course'.

At St Anne's, we pride ourselves on our termly 'mega-bops', which are held in our huge dining hall... a privilege unique to very few colleges. They are always sold out and are filled with students from all around Oxford.



The College Bar



As the primary location within college to wind down, have a drink, and even dance and sing, the college bar is adored across the Anne's community. Our beloved barman, Mike, serves drinks at extremely competitive prices (£2.50 for a pint!), and the spacious rooms are perfect for karaoke and quiz nights, or a more chilled out game of pool or darts with your friends after a stressful day. Complete with custom graffiti by Mike himself and an outrageously embarrassing picture wall, the college bar is a favourite amongst many. Mike also offers bartender jobs for students with competitive salaries and is always up for a chat. He's seen it all in Oxford and is truly one of the most genuine blokes out there. A wise man once said: 'I came to Anne's for the degree, and I stayed for Mike'.



The bar at Anne's is a lively social hub, with plenty of karaoke and open mic nights to get excited for! We also have a pool table which is much more entertaining than I could ever imagine.



Balls

Summer term at Oxford is always filled with college balls! They are the perfect reason to put on your fanciest clothes and have some fun with your friends. Expect a large variety of entertainment, food stalls to satisfy your cravings, and open bars running into the early morning. Each college ball has a creative and exciting theme; there is always something for everybody and each ball has something different to offer.

Here at St Anne's, we have a college ball every three years. The committee that organise the ball is made up entirely of students—the student body elects three executive roles, who then appoint the remaining members.



There are a variety of sports that you can get involved with on both a college and university level, either casually or much more seriously. Whether you want to get involved as part of your regular exercise, as a beginner, or are looking for more serious competition, there are a range of abilities, sports, and teams here at Anne's and at the university as a whole!

Another big plus of St Anne's is that we have the University Parks on our doorstep—home to many teams' training sessions, and great for running.

Anne's Sports Facilities

St Anne's has its own gym and weight room in college which you can access for £17 a year. These rooms have a number of cardio machines including bikes, treadmills, and cross-trainers, and are due to be renovated soon!

You can also pay for access to the high-end gym & swimming facilities at the University Sports Centre at Iffley road for a reasonable price.

Anne's shares a sports ground with St John's which has a rugby pitch, a football pitch, three hard tennis courts and three grass tennis courts. The tennis courts are free to use for Anne's students!

Yoga & Zumba Classes

Alongside the gym, you can take part in weekly Yoga and Zumba classes in college which are free of charge! These are really popular with students at Anne's and are a great way to keep active whilst at university.

Anne's College Teams

College Netball

St Anne's has a successful mixed netball team. It's not a huge commitment but is a great opportunity to meet people from other year groups and stay active! The team is fun and energetic and welcomes players, no matter their ability or how much experience they have.

Women's Football

Our women's football team called "The Saints" is made up of members from both St Anne's and St John's colleges. Last season, they had enormous success in the top division, winning the double of the 1st Division League as well as cuppers (cup competition for all colleges). In 2nd & 3rd terms, we compete in a futsal indoor league. Many current team members had never touched a football before joining—you can join whatever your experience! There are many social events as well as the weekly Uni Parks training sessions :)

Men's Football

St Anne's Football Club, better known as the Mint Green Army, has three teams for all levels of ability. As well as Oxford's best pitch and kit, the MGA are also known for their famous curry nights. We also play in the uni-wide Futsal League in the summer, so if five-a-side is more your thing, then there is also something for you!



Rowing

Rowing is huge at Oxford, and college rowing is a great way to get involved. There are numerous college crews that compete at regular regattas which cater for all abilities. No previous experience or particular fitness-level is required—most members of the crew hadn't been on water (or even a rowing machine!) before they came to Oxford, and it's all about motivation and dedication! We've got great coaches and great plans for next year (including plenty of social events)!

Rugby

St Anne's mens' rugby team is shared with St John's college (aka The Saints). It strikes the balance between excellent sporting standards and a buzzing social scene! The Saints is all-inclusive and open to all experience levels—there's something for everyone in our big, rugby-loving family.



The women's team is called the "All Saints" shared with St Hilda's, Wadham, St Cross and Mansfield and is welcoming to anyone no matter if they have any rugby experience or not <3

Other college sports teams

There are many more college sports teams including cricket, rounders, lacrosse, tennis, badminton, hockey and squash that compete weekly and in intercollege tournaments. There is sure to be something on the sports scene at Anne's that suits you.

University wide sport

Varsity Ski Trip

The Varsity Ski Trip is a massive event in the Oxford calendar in which both Oxford and Cambridge students travel to the French Alps for 6 days of partying, skiing and alpine bliss!

Older than the Winter Olympic Games, it started out as a ski race between Oxford & Cambridge and is now a renowned 3000+ student strong annual event!

Whether you are an experienced slalom racer or a complete beginner, the Varsity Ski trip is for you.

The trip includes ski hire and lessons and is one of the cheapest ski trips out there.

Skiing is only one part of the trip- there are lots of parties going on and many other events. In previous years, there have been some big names performing including Calvin Harris, Disclosure and Example.

University-wide societies & Blues Sport

From Korfbal to Karate, Football to Frisbee, and Squash to Salsa, there is something to cater for everyone at University Level. Popular sports are competitive at university-level, and if you're serious about sport, doing them at university is a great way to get excellent training for very little money.

If you are super passionate about sport, you might want to get involved in university level (blues) sport! The costs associated with university level sport are subsidised by the college and there is often support available from the sports clubs too to help with the costs.

Many Stanners achieve a coveted half-blue or blue in a sport and compete at university level. The Varsity matches against Cambridge are always massive events and, although not all are as famous as the iconic Boat Race, Varsity matches are an exciting experience for all those involved. The cricket match is held at Lord and the rugby match at Twickenham which means they're great days out!

Sports teams also have a great social side and many travel the globe for training weeks!

Volunteering & Charity Work

Many Stanners get involved in volunteering or raising money for a variety of charities during their time here! There are plenty of ways to get involved—including mentoring students, volunteering with Oxford-based homeless charities, and doing a 'Santa Run' (which is very well attended by St Anne's students!). Oxford RAG (Raise And Give) is another way to get involved—they run lots of charity events that students can get involved with and organise. It's really easy to get involved and do as much or as little as you want. There's plenty going on and it's easy to find out more on social media and at Fresher's Fair.

The JCR Charities Rep runs fundraising events throughout the year for the JCR's charity (which is voted for at the start of the year). They also organise events in college to raise money for this charity and manage the JCR charity budget, which is donated to other charities too!

'My experience volunteering' by Emily, 2nd Year French & German

You might think there's no time to do charity work during term time, but there's a lot of low time commitment ways of getting involved which can easily be fitted into your schedule and I've found it pretty easy to maintain. I volunteer for Turl Street Homeless Action, preparing and distributing hot drinks and food to homeless people across central Oxford and directing people towards the support they need (shelters, soup kitchens, other charities...) and it's super flexible. Two teams go out every evening but there's no fixed rota; you just sign up to as many or as few shifts as you like. Each shift is only a couple of hours, and I sometimes did up to 3 a week, sometimes none, but there was never any pressure. Alongside this, I got involved in a variety of charities working on access to university, with volunteer tutoring or interview help. This was also low time commitment and you really felt you were making a difference.

If you're trying to find out what volunteering opportunities there are, there are a few good ways to do this. For term-time volunteering, check out stalls at the virtual freshers fair, ask your charities rep for some advice, or see which charities Oxford RAG are supporting. If you fancy doing something with your time in the vacations, the Oxford Careers Service advertise voluntary roles with charities and can help you with your applications. I've found roles doing things like social media for small nonprofits, but there are also the more typical hands-on voluntary roles available.





Music



St Anne's has lots to offer for musicians of all abilities; most college groups are open for anyone to join, regardless of musical experience.

Current groups include:

- ♪ Stacapella, probably the most imaginatively named a cappella group in Oxford!
- ♪ JamSoc, a chill society where anyone can bring along songs for other musicians to jam along with!
- ♪ BoomSoc, our college Boomwhacker society, where we let off steam by whacking giant coloured tubes.

In addition to musical groups, our music society also runs regular "Beyond the Dots" recitals, a classical concert series of performances by St Anne's students.

End-of-term concerts give ensembles and musicians at Anne's a chance to showcase their work to the rest of college, and take place in St Anne's main performance space, the Mary Ogilvie Lecture Theatre (MOLT). As well as the MOLT, our college bar also serves as a musical hub of St Anne's. The music society hosts several events at the bar every term, including open-mic, karaoke, and music-themed quiz nights. These events are always low-pressure, and are a great chance to relax and cheer on the performances of your fellow Stanners!

Many of our student ensembles rehearse in the Annie Barnes room. This is a larger practice room available to music students (and experienced musicians by arrangement with St Anne's Director of Music Dr John Traill), featuring a grand piano and floor-length mirrors. Next door to the Annie Barnes room are three walk-in practice rooms available for use by students of any subject. These all contain a piano and are a quiet space to practice individually or in a small group.

St Anne's also has its own string orchestra, the St Anne's Camerata, which is made up of a mixture of professional musicians, St Anne's scholars, and exhibitioners from the Oxfordshire area. It's conducted by Dr John Traill and performs a mixture of classical and modern music to an exceptional standard.

In addition to the musical opportunities offered by Anne's, the wider university also has a further range of excellent musical societies to get involved with, so if college doesn't offer it, the university almost certainly will!





In St Anne's

St Anne's is home to the wonderful Jericho Arts Review, our in-house arts magazine. This is a student-led publication showcasing the best of our students' artistic talent: painting, photography, journalism, creative writing, and anything else you would like to create and contribute.

Drama Cuppers is the annual intercollegiate drama competition for freshers. At each college, actors, directors, producers, writers, techies, musicians, and anyone else interested in the theatre get together to produce a short play. In 5th week each college team has the chance to perform at the Oxford Playhouse's BT Studio (the home of lots of student productions here in Oxford), with the winning performances reprising their work in a showcase at the end of the week. Cuppers is a great way to get to know people involved in the theatre here and take your first steps into Oxford drama.

Arts week is held every year here at St Anne's and can include anything and everything! Plans for this year include painting workshops, art exhibitions, an open-air play, and talks by professional artists.

We also hold regular one-off events right here in college including painting workshops and open-mic nights, if you fancy a more relaxed way to get involved in some extra-curricular arts.

In Oxford

OUDS (Oxford University Dramatic Society) is the central organising and funding body for most drama in Oxford. It acts as an umbrella organisation for individual student-led companies who put on plays in various venues across the city. With around five different productions taking place every week there is no shortage of theatre here! Students even take plays up to Edinburgh Fringe. Actors can sign up to audition for a play on the OUDS website. Here you can also register your own production company and apply for funding.

If the technical production side of the theatre is of interest to you, Oxford is also home to TAFF, the body supporting student designers and technicians. TAFF holds workshops and training sessions so prior experience is never necessary to get involved in a play.

Comedy is another branch of the vibrant drama scene in Oxford. The Oxford Imps, a troupe specialising in Improv Comedy, hold auditions every year and perform weekly at the Wheatsheaf Pub, as well as taking a show to Edinburgh every year. The Oxford Revue is another successful student comedy group, who perform mostly sketch comedy and also hold nights at The Wheatsheaf.

The Oxford Arts Society organises a very wide range of activities and events every week. You'll find life drawing classes, photography workshops, lectures, and discussion groups, just to mention a few examples.



OXFORD'S ONLINE PERFORMANCE OF CINDERELLA: THE MUSICAL

FEATURING 3 STANNERS: MAYA, CHLOE & FABIAN

Anne's Subject Societies

Many subjects at St Anne's also have their own societies, which host both formal and informal events. For example, STAGS (ST Anne's Geology Society) caters to all the Earth Scientists, and the PPE society has termly talks and special lectures given by graduate students, tutors, and visitors. Even if your subject doesn't have an Anne's specific society, there will still be Anne's subject events and socials that will take place, and there will be a university society for your course.

Wider University Societies

There are LOTS of university societies that cover all kinds of interests! There is a wide range of music groups, drama productions, sports teams, and societies. You can campaign for social change, volunteer, attend talks, learn to dance, or even meet up to eat cheese! There are political societies, debating societies, film/book societies, and societies for students of different nationalities, backgrounds, and religious beliefs... The list really is endless, and you can find most of them at Freshers' Fair. They are a great way to make friends and there is plenty (if not too much) to get involved with. Remember: you can do anything, but not everything!



IN THE PINK – A UNIVERSITY A CAPPELLA GROUP

Online term didn't stop them putting together an amazing concert!



Day in the Life of...

George, in his first year of Maths & Computer Science



Most of my weekdays at Anne's start in a rush—being a three minute walk away from the Maths Institute invariably means leaving two minutes before lectures begin! After my morning Maths/Computer Science lectures, I return to Anne's to work in my room. The majority of my working week is spent solving problem sheets; I then discuss my solutions to these problems in tutorials and classes (usually four or five per week). Once I've done

enough work, I'll often play some table tennis in the JCR, and then make my way to hall for dinner. Post-dinner, I usually put in a half-hearted hour of work before giving up and seeing what's on this evening.

On Monday evenings, I play in a university jazz band, but other days I'm free to head to the bar for karaoke, destroy others at a games night, or just chill with friends in the JCR. On a Friday or Saturday night, I'll occasionally go out clubbing, but it's more common to congregate in a friend's kitchen until the early hours.

I also take part in a bunch of different societies; this year, I've played badminton and ultimate frisbee, which are conveniently played in the neighbouring University Parks. I've also sung in Stacapella (St Anne's a capella group), as well as playing in BoomSoc (our very own Boomwhacker Society). Sunday night is my film night, and is a relaxing way to cap off the week—except when you burn your popcorn and set off the building's fire alarm...

Suna, in her first year of Medicine



9:00 - Make it just in time for my first lecture at the Medical Sciences Teaching Centre, which thankfully only a 10-minute walk from Anne's. This means more time in bed and walking with a cup of coffee in hand to wake up properly!

11:00 - After two lectures, we might be lucky and get an hour's break before another lecture. If so, me and my friends like to walk back to Anne's for some tea and biscuits. Alternatively, we might be heading to labs for a practical, histology, or 'DR' (Demonstration Room) session. In DR, clinical professionals guide our learning and we get the chance to review the anatomy for the topic of that week.

13:00 - Running back to Anne's for lunch in hall is always worth it and you'd be surprised how hungry you can be after DR! It's nice to be able to just sit down and chill out for a bit, and hopefully see some friends around college.

14:00 - In the afternoons I like to head to the library to get some work done—unfortunately essays won't write themselves! Although most of my essay writing takes place at the weekend, using the group study rooms makes it more bearable and dare I say fun at times!

16:00 - Time to head to my tutorial—we have around two of these a week. Rereading my essay (submitted the day before) is good prep for these. Tutorials last around an hour each.

17:30 - There are so many societies and talks on offer at Oxford, and depending on the day I'll either be off to my Bollywood dance class, Zumba at Anne's gym, or a Psychology Society/Medicine talk at another college!

19:00 - Back at Anne's I'll either cook in my house with my friends or some of us will head to Hall (yes, again) depending on what we fancy that day.

20:00 - If I have any looming deadlines or I'm feeling particularly productive I might do another hour of work. If not I'll just be sat around - the students in 'Above the Bar' (ATB) accommodation can generally be found gathered on the floor at any time of the day.

21:00 - From there my night usually goes one of two ways: pres in someone's room and off to a club in Oxford (Park End Wednesdays are a must amongst my friends) or I head to someone's room for a movie night, blankets, and snacks galore!



Maria, in her second year of History & Politics



10am – My alarm rings! I have never been much of an early riser, and as a humanities student you have a lot of freedom to choose how and when you work! I'll usually have a light breakfast and some coffee.

10:30am – I go into the Anne's Old Library (my favourite spot to work!) and despite not being very productive in the morning, I try to get some work done and revise any content I am unsure of.

11am – Time for a Politics lecture at the Exam Schools! For HisPol you'll probably have four or five lectures a week.

1pm – Lunch break! I quite like to cook, and at Anne's we are lucky to have the option to go to hall or use our kitchens.

2pm – Afternoons usually mean I'll head into the center of Oxford and go to the Radcliffe Camera to work. It has all the history books I need and is absolutely stunning.

4pm – History tutorial at the Cohen Quad, Exeter college. On average you'll have one or two tutorials a week for History and/or Politics work, where you'll discuss your essays in detail with your tutors.

5pm – Back to the Anne's Old Library to get started on my next essay and go over the tutorial notes I made.

7pm – Being involved in uni sport means sparing some time for training! As part of the Equestrian Team, we head over to the Iffley Sports center for some Strength & Conditioning sessions. Doing sports at Oxford is a great way to keep yourself both physically and mentally fit, and is also a great way to meet new people.

8pm – Time for a treat! I'll get some dinner at Leon and walk back to Anne's with my legs feeling quite sore after the gym.

10pm – Will usually be the start of either pre-drinks before we head over to the club, or of a long library session in case I procrastinated a bit too much and have a looming essay deadline!



Lily, in her second year of Experimental Psychology



8am - I wake up and make some breakfast or go to Hall, which is often very peaceful in the morning.

9am - I work on an essay or presentation for a tutorial. From 2nd year onwards there are labs, so I sometimes work on a lab report instead.

10:40am - In 1st year, lectures are mainly held in the Medical Sciences Teaching Centre, a short walk through Uni Parks from St Anne's. In later years, lectures are at nearby Worcester College, which has beautiful gardens.

11am-1pm - Lectures. I have about 7 hours of lectures a week, most on Monday to Wednesday mornings.

1-1:30pm - Worcester College is near Tesco, so I go straight there after lectures for my weekly shop.

2pm - Lunch is back at St Anne's in the kitchen or our college café STACS. I then divide my afternoon up, writing an essay, making a presentation, doing a problem sheet for Statistics, or attending a tutorial (there are usually 3 a week). Once a week I have labs in the afternoon from 2-5pm at the New Biochemistry Building.

6:30pm - I have found that my course is feasible if I work between 9am and 6:30pm as well as afternoons on the weekend. Be assured there is time for your hobbies and going out with friends!

In my 1st year, I joined Hertford College Jazz Band and started ballroom dancing.

7:30pm - Dinner time! Hall opens fairly early for dinner at 6:15pm but I prefer to either cook or get a take-away with my friends. There are also loads of nice places to eat out in the centre of Oxford and nearby in Jericho.

9pm - There is plenty to do in the evening, including watching a film, seeing a play, going to the college bar, and going clubbing or to a bop (sometimes in Hall – a short walk home at the end of the night). If none of that takes your fancy, you can always go and sit on your friend's floor for a chat until the early hours.



Isa, in her first year of Geography

7.30am I usually wake up in time for breakfast in hall at 8.15. My lectures would never be before 11am, but many of my friends had to start at 9am and beginning the day with a good meal and a chat is always a good start to my day.

8.45am I squeeze in a bit of studying before my lectures, usually going over the lecture slides or reading a bit for that week's essay.

10.45am The geography department is a 10 minute walk through the beautiful uni parks. Most days there'd be 1 or 2 lectures, each an hour long.

1pm Heading back for college, to make some lunch in the kitchen. Except on Tuesday when there is a roast for lunch, which is always very popular.

2pm Sometimes there'd be more contact hours in the afternoon, like a tutorial, in which you discuss the topic of that week's essay, or a practical, in which we practice geographical research techniques. Otherwise, I'd spend the time working in either a library or one of the cafés in Jericho.

6.15pm Always be early for dinners in hall or the queue can get very long! On busy days having your dinner made for you is a great advantage of college life, but when my day is more relaxed (and I'm up for the 10 minute walk to Tesco) I like cooking my own dinner.

7pm With a looming essay deadline I'd sometimes spend the evening working, but often this time is reserved for hanging out with friends, society events, or sports, although sports training times can also be during the day.

11pm This is the time I'd either head to a club, or make my way from the library to my room to have some time to relax before going to bed. Luckily Oxford clubbing happens quite early in the day, so even with much work the next day you can still enjoy a night out.





Want to find out more? Check out the college website
www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/

Want to speak to current students at St Anne's?
[Chat with them on the website here!](#)

Have any specific admissions questions?
Email admissions@st-annes.ox.ac.uk

Want to find out more about college life? Check out...

The college Instagram [st_annes_college](#) is run by St Anne's students and is a great way to get a feel for the college!

The JCR TikTok [st_annes_college](#) for an extra insight into college life.

StAnnesOxford & St Anne's College Outreach on YouTube have tours of college, insights into student life here at Anne's, and application advice.

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If you would like the plain text, accessible version of the prospectus, please email our college Disability Coordinator, Sheila Smith:
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