



## Essential Information



## Help the University improve its services to you

The [Student Barometer survey](#) gives you the chance to share your views. Your feedback will be used by colleges, departments, faculties and central University services to identify strengths and weaknesses and put in place changes to help improve your experience at Oxford. A link to the Student Barometer will be sent from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) to your University email address today. Please do take the time to complete it.

[Read more](#)

## Industrial action - information for students

A [web page](#) has been set up to provide information for students about upcoming industrial action related to pay and working conditions. While recognising our colleagues' right to strike, the University is working to minimise disruption for students - and steps are being taken to ensure students are not disadvantaged in examinations and assessments. The dedicated page includes background information about the strike; an overview of its effects on teaching, and how this is being managed; and answers to many of the questions that you may have. You can find the page on the [Oxford Students website](#).

[Read more](#)



## Registering to vote

If you haven't registered to vote yet, you still have until Tuesday 26 November. You can [register online](#) if you are [eligible](#), and all you will need is your National Insurance number with you. Unsure whether you will be in Oxford when the election takes place? You can also register at your home address, but it is illegal to vote more than once. You can also apply for a [proxy vote](#) or a [postal vote](#) if you're unable to vote in person. Oxford SU also has a [helpful guide to voting](#) during a general election.

[Read more](#)



## Protect yourself against mumps

A small number of students have recently been diagnosed with mumps across the University. Mumps isn't usually serious, but it can lead to complications. You can look after yourselves and others by taking extra care with your personal hygiene, seeking medical advice straightaway if you suspect that you have mumps, and contacting your GP if you have not had two doses of the MMR vaccine (even if you currently feel well). Please take the time to read the additional information below, and for further details, see the [NHS website](#).

[Read more](#)

## Academic Life



## Learn a modern language with the Language Centre

The Language Centre is offering Intensive courses in Arabic, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin, Russian, Spanish and Academic English Written Communication courses. Intensive courses take place during the week commencing Monday 9 December and mirror the content of the term-time courses. Three hours of tuition a day, totalling fifteen hours of tuition throughout the week, allows learners an extra chance to take a course when they may have more available time. For more information and to enrol please visit the [Language Centre website](#).

[Read more](#)



## Curriculum Diversity – exploring next steps

On Friday 29 November the University is holding an event to consider the ongoing work on curriculum diversity. The event will take place from 2-4pm in the Sir Christopher Cox Room of New College, and will allow you to discuss how work on curriculum diversity can be progressed. Some departments have run curriculum diversity workshops over the past two years, and this event offers a chance to consider how to develop this work. The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education) will introduce the event and staff from some of the workshops will provide updates. For more info or to RSVP, email [sophie.herzberg@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sophie.herzberg@admin.ox.ac.uk).

[Email](#)

## Careers & Entrepreneurship



### The Summer of Innovation

The Summer of Innovation is a funding scheme to help you realise innovative ideas as digital projects. It's similar to an internship, but allows you to work on a project based on your own



### Have you visited the Oxford Foundry yet?

[The Oxford Foundry](#) is there to help you think more entrepreneurially, enhance your employability, build confidence and overcome fear of failure. They Foundry delivers hands-on learning through a vast range of workshops

idea. You can now go to the Oxford Ideas platform to receive updates on the Summer of Innovation. Once you've logged in with your SSO, you'll be notified as soon as you can add your ideas. Idea submission will only be open for a short period in January, so make sure you're ready! Visit the [Oxford Ideas platform](#) (log in with your SSO)

[Read more](#)

and offer an accelerator programme, which provides startups with a co-working space and a suite of support. If you want to unleash the entrepreneur in you, become more business minded or you're looking for a creative and chilled space to work in, visit the Oxford Foundry.

[Read more](#)

## Just 13 days to go until Oxmas...



### Oxmas: Christmas at Oxford

If you're new to Oxford, you might not have heard of 'Oxmas' before. Oxmas refers to Christmas at Oxford, which takes place on 25 November - exactly one month before Christmas day. We celebrate Oxmas so we can spread a little Christmas cheer during term time. Very soon the Christmas lights will turn on and you'll start seeing trees going up across the University. Some colleges and departments provide an Oxmas dinner, and if you're lucky, there may even be a carol service - complete with mince pies and mulled wine.



## Oxford Botanic Garden Christmas Fair

Find the spirit of Oxmas at the [Oxford Botanic Garden Christmas Fair](#) from 7-8 December. Hot food and drink is never far away, from pizzas and burgers to veggie and vegan offerings, all washed down with mulled wine, Physic Gin 'toadies', teas, coffee and hot chocolate. You'll also find botanically inspired gifts on sale. Entry for students is just £3.50.



## Share your #Oxmas photos and videos

We want to see how you celebrate Oxmas at your college or department. Share your Oxmas photos and videos with us on Twitter and Facebook by using the #Oxmas hashtag. We'll be reposting student content on our Instagram and we'll also include our favourite posts in an Oxmas 2019 Twitter Moment.

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## Oxford Life



## Black African and Caribbean Welcome to Oxford event

On Tuesday 29 October, the Undergraduate Admissions and Outreach (UAO) department hosted a dinner and drinks reception for UK Black and Mixed (Black African or Caribbean heritage) undergraduates. 67 people attended the event, which welcomed and celebrated the new cohort of UK undergraduates. Attendees included Target Oxbridge Student Ambassadors; the University's Registrar, Gill Aitken; and Samina Khan, Director of UAO.



## Attend a free lunchtime concert at St Hilda's

Come along to a fundraising lunchtime concert in support of ['Sing Inside'](#) on Thursday 21 November. 'Sing Inside' is an organisation that promotes music making within prisons. St Hilda's free Lunchtime Recitals take place every Thursday in Term Time at the Jacqueline du Pré Music Building at 1.15pm. Entry is free and all are welcome.

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## Do you use IT at Oxford? Be in with a chance to win £100, and help us shape the IT Strategic Plan

Each year the Oxford University IT Services department runs a short survey to better understand the IT requirements of current students. This helps us make sure that the services we provide are able to meet those needs. The [survey](#) takes less than five minutes to complete and closes on Friday 6 December 2019. After this date, one lucky entrant will be randomly selected to win a £100 Amazon gift certificate.

The IT Committee is also developing an implementation plan to deliver the University's IT (UIT) Strategic Plan over the next five years. If you want to feed into the plan, you can submit your own ideas, or comment constructively on those already posted on the University's [ideas platform](#) (you will need to log-in using your Single Sign-On account). If you're submitting a new idea, please try to give as much information as you can. The platform will be open for ideas until 30 November. All ideas and feedback will then be collated during December and presented to IT Committee at the start of January.

[Read more](#)

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## Wellbeing & Welfare



### Free flu jab for students with serious long-term conditions

Did you know that [the flu vaccine](#) is offered free of charge on the NHS to anyone with a serious long-term health condition? Long term conditions include chronic respiratory diseases such as asthma; chronic liver, heart or kidney disease; diabetes; sickle cell disease, and more. If you're eligible and want to take up the offer, contact your GP surgery or your local pharmacy to organise an appointment.

[Read more](#)



### The Student Resolution Service

The Student Resolution Service is a free mediation service for students finding themselves in conflict with another student. It provides a confidential and carefully managed space to voice your feelings and to hear the view point of the other person. The team of mediators are trained in facilitating conversations in a non-judgemental and safe fashion. [Find out more on the Oxford Students website.](#)

[Read more](#)

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## Bursaries & Scholarships



### Scholarships available to study or research in Germany

Applications are currently open for the Hanseatic and Theodor Heuss scholarships available to final year undergraduates and postgraduate students wishing to undertake research or study for one or two years in Germany. Applications close on Friday 31 January 2020. More information on how to apply and eligibility can be found on the [German Scholarships website](#).

[Read more](#)



### Scholarships available to study in Europe

We are now accepting scholarship applications for students to undertake a period of study or research in Europe. The [Scatcherd European Scholarships](#) and the [Charterhouse European Bursaries](#) offer awards of up to £6,500 for periods ranging from three months to a year. Applications close on Friday 31 January. For the full range of study abroad opportunities, visit the [Oxford Students website](#).

[Read more](#)

## Research & Innovation



## Research highlight: Moderate use of screen time can be good for your health, new study finds

Research by the Oxford Internet Institute at Oxford University, carried out in partnership with researchers at Cardiff University and Cambridge University, suggests children spending between one to two hours a day engaged in television-based or digital device activities are more likely to demonstrate higher levels of 'psychosocial' functioning than non-users.

[Read more](#)

## Jenner Institute Trial

The Jenner Institute are now recruiting for a BCG challenge study in healthy adults to help develop TB vaccines. Participants will be reimbursed for their time and travel from £685 to £725. Get in touch to find out more.

[Read more](#)



## Stay Informed

Stay informed with what's going on at Oxford by following our official [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) page. You can also find out about news and events on the [Oxford Students website](#).



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