



Wednesday 3 July | Thursday 4 July | Friday 20 September

Thank you for registering to attend an Open Day on **Thursday 4 July**. In this newsletter, we are focusing on colleges, so read on for hints and tips to make the most of your time in Oxford.

LAST MINUTE PREPARATION



There is just one week to go before our summer Open Days! Here is a last minute checklist of things to think about:

- We would recommend taking a look at the **Open Day Guide** and checking the **college** and **department** timetables to see whether there are any events you need to book in advance.
- If you haven't already, book your travel to save money. We strongly recommend that you use public transport as Oxford has very little parking in the city centre. Check out our **travel advice page** and download a copy of **the Open Day map** and, if you're coming by car, **the Park and Ride map**, which will show you where all the bus stops are in the city centre
- Read about the **process of applying to Oxford** and write a list of questions you want to ask when you're here.
- Write a shortlist of **colleges** you want to visit (see below for tips).

TOP TIP

Our welcome teams are here for you! If you need any help during the Open Day then our team will be there to give you a hand. You can find us at the Open Day Information Centre on the High Street, at the train station, park and rides, and in the city centre at our two information points. Just keep an eye out for the cheery people in the blue t-shirts and come and say hello!

OXFORD COLLEGES



Colleges are at the heart of Oxford's reputation as one of the best universities in the world and make it a very special place to study and live. Every student belongs to a college as well as being a member of their subject department and the University. This means all Oxford students benefit from belonging to both a large, world-class university and to a small and friendly academic community.

If you study at Oxford you will live in **college accommodation** for your first year and often for other years of your course. You will eat there, make friends and get involved in sports and college societies, have access to libraries, bars and a range of support and welfare services.

Colleges are also where much of your teaching will happen in **small groups called tutorials** run by tutors. You will have the chance to meet tutors at the Open Days. By visiting colleges, we hope you will begin to understand how the tutorial system works and why we think it's a great way to learn.

DO YOU CHOOSE A COLLEGE?

Not exactly. You can put a college preference on your UCAS form but you might still be shortlisted and offered a place by another college. Reallocation helps us ensure that the best candidates are offered places, regardless of which college they select. In 2017, 35% of successful applicants got an offer from a college they didn't specify on their application.

HOW DO I DECIDE?

The first thing you should do is check **which colleges offer your course**. On the whole, colleges have more similarities than differences so it is a matter of personal preference. Our website has **a list of things you might like to consider** when looking round colleges at the Open Days, from their size and age, to where they are and what **facilities they offer**.

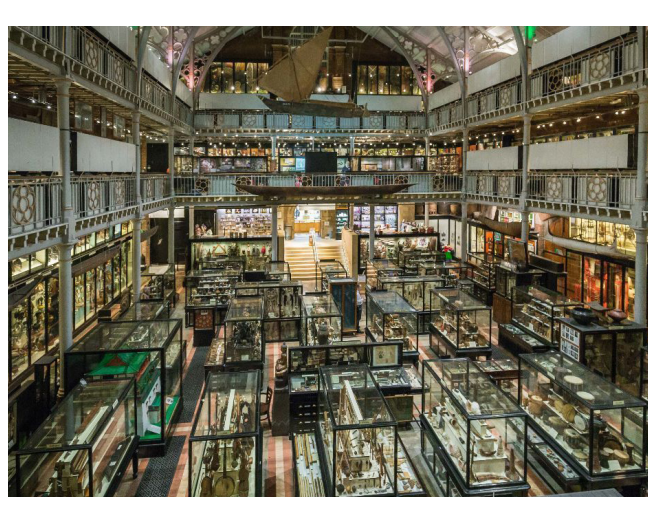
COLLEGES AT THE OPEN DAYS



At an Open Day you'll have the opportunity to take a tour, speak with current students and meet with staff. Colleges also run admissions talks, personal statement workshops and subject sessions. Remember, whichever college you go to, you will be studying for the same degree at the end of your course so you only need to attend one admissions talk as the information covered will be the same in every college.

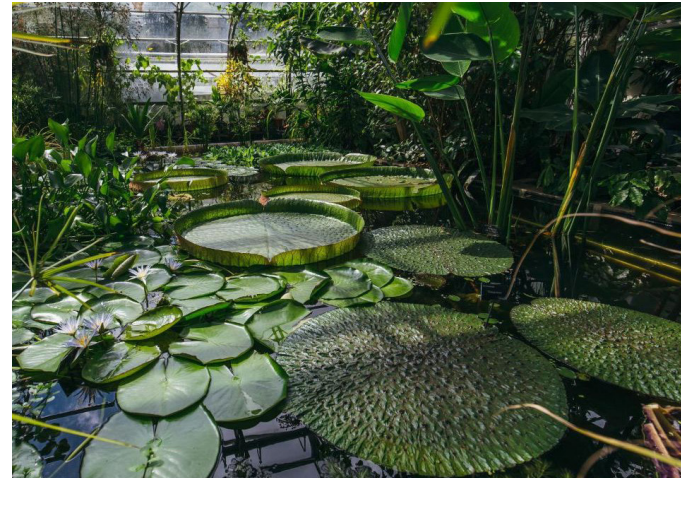
We would recommend drawing up a shortlist of colleges before you arrive in Oxford, you should aim to visit no more than three. Don't worry if you feel you have no strong preference for one college or another, visiting any of them will give you a good idea of how the college system works.

MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES



As a student here, you will be able to work in some of the best resourced and most awe-inspiring places to study anywhere in the world. Oxford has over 100 libraries, so why not arrange a tour to see the **Bodleian Library**, the **Social Science Library**, or the **Radcliffe Science Library**. You can also visit the University's **Language Centre** if you're interested in learning a language alongside your course, the main **Sports Centre** and the **Careers Service**.

If you have any time (or energy) left over after you've visited colleges and departments, you might like to see some of the many incredible resources the University has to offer. Oxford has **four world-class museums** that house rare treasures from the natural world as well as amazing art and artefacts. The museums are widely used as study resources for students on courses as various as **Classical Archaeology and Ancient History** to **Fine Art** and **Medicine**.



JOIN IN THE CONVERSATION



We can't wait to see you at the Open Days. Why not follow us on Instagram and send us a photo of your Open Day experience using the hashtag **#OxOpenDay**. Featuring real students, societies and events, alongside key information about applying, **@studyatoxford** is the perfect place to see what Oxford is really like.

Are you a family member or supporter of a university applicant?

At Oxford, we're keen to ensure our applicants have as much support as they need to make a competitive application. In order to do so, it's helpful to know as much as possible about their support network. We have therefore designed a survey to collect your thoughts, concerns and aspirations about your child and their future.

Filling out the survey should take no more than 20 minutes, and you will be automatically entered into a draw to win a £100 Amazon voucher!

