College Handbook
2023–2024
About this Handbook

A new edition of the Handbook is published annually, via consideration at the appropriate College committee; it may also be updated in-year from time to time as necessary.

The online version of the College Handbook is to be taken as the authoritative and most up-to-date version.

All students accepting a place at Balliol College are deemed to have agreed to be bound by these regulations and any subsequent amendments to them. These regulations shall be posted on the Balliol College website.

In this handbook, all references to College premises include the Jowett Walk buildings and the Graduate Centre unless explicitly stated otherwise. The Graduate Centre, also known as the Holywell Manor Complex, comprises Holywell Manor, James Fairfax Yard, Blocks B2, C1 and C2, and D1, D2 and D3 at the Master's Field, and five rooms in Jowett Walk, Tower 6. ‘College’ also includes Balliol property such as the boathouse, pavilion, and land and houses elsewhere in Oxford. Throughout, the word ‘residence’ means ‘residence in Oxford as a registered fee-paying student member of the College and University’.

The term ‘junior members’ refers to both undergraduate and graduate members of the College.

For the governing documents of the College, members are referred to the College Policies and Statutes, which include a Conflict of Interests Code.

The Current Members section of the Balliol website includes some of the information in this handbook, as well as some useful links for College members.

This handbook was last updated on 19.04.2024.
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1  GENERAL & WHO’S WHO

1.1  Terms
The dates of full terms during the academic year 2023/2024 are as follows:

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<th>First day of term</th>
<th>Last day of term</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michaelmas</td>
<td>Sunday 8 October</td>
<td>Saturday 2 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilary 2024</td>
<td>Sunday 14 January</td>
<td>Saturday 9 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinity 2024</td>
<td>Sunday 21 April</td>
<td>Saturday 15 June</td>
</tr>
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Undergraduate Freshers should arrive on Monday 2 October, between 10.00am and 4.00pm. Returning undergraduates must come into residence by lunchtime Thursday of 0th Week of each subsequent term, being sure to arrive in time for any afternoon Collections or subject meetings; and must remain in residence until the end of term unless they have the Dean's prior permission (see 4.2.4.1). Provided all academic commitments, including handshaking, are over, undergraduates may depart at 6.00pm on Friday of 8th Week. Temporary absence during term is covered by Rule 4.2.4.2. The arrival date for graduates will be dictated by their course commitments, communicated by their department or faculty. College Fresher activities for graduates begin on 1 October.

1.2  Closed Periods
College* is closed completely on the following dates:

<table>
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<th>Period</th>
<th>Dates of closure</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christmas</td>
<td>Close at midday on Wednesday 20 December 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reopen on Tuesday 2 January 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter</td>
<td>Close at midday on Thursday 28 March 2024 (with the exception of Hall which closes on 27 March)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reopen on Tuesday 2 April 2024 (with the exception of Hall, which reopens on 8 April)</td>
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*This applies to the Broad Street site and some Jowett Walk Buildings only. The Graduate Centre remains open throughout the year.

1.3  Post, Email and Contact Details
All graduate and undergraduate students are issued with a pigeonhole, for both internal and external mail. Undergraduate pigeonholes are located at Broad Street and are shared between two students; graduates pigeonholes are at Holywell Manor. Pigeonholes are accessed via a coded door at the Broad Street and Holywell Manor Lodges.

All mail for undergraduates should be addressed to the student at Balliol College, Oxford, OX1 3BJ; all mail for graduates should be addressed to the student at Holywell Manor, Oxford, OX1 3UH. Emergency messages can be taken on 01865 277777 or at porter@balliol.ox.ac.uk.

Tutors and College Officers may arrange meetings with students by leaving messages in students’ pigeonholes and by posting notices in the Porters’ Lodges. It is important for both undergraduates and graduates to check noticeboards and pigeonholes daily. They can fill up quickly with post; this is especially true of the shared pigeonholes at Broad Street.
As the pigeonholes at Broad Street are shared between two students there is a separate rack for any parcels delivered. When a student receives a parcel, the Porters will leave a slip of paper in the pigeonhole denoting which student the parcel is for and where it can be found on the parcel rack. Please remember to remove and dispose of these slips.

The College regrets that pigeonholes cannot be used to return or issue items of clothing to students as there simply is not enough space. The pigeonholes should also not be used for giving or exchanging gifts, items of food, or anything perishable.

Many tutors, College Officers and administrative staff communicate with students primarily by email, and important and urgent information may reach students by this means. It is the responsibility of all students to ensure that they can be contacted swiftly in this way. **Students must check their College email accounts (@balliol.ox.ac.uk) at least once in every 24-hour period.**

All students must ensure that their emergency next of kin/home contact details, personal mobile phone number and (if relevant) living-out address are up to date on [Student Self Service](#).

When a student leaves, it is their responsibility to notify others of their change of address. The College will not forward post to home addresses.

### 1.4 Keys and Security

The Lodge Porters should be contacted in any emergency – e.g. fire, flood, etc. – or if suspicious people are seen in College. See also [What to Do in an Emergency](#) (3.3.1). The Lodges at Broad Street and Holywell Manor are staffed 24 hours a day. The porters are responsible for postal services, room keys (5.2.9) and security.

The **Broad Street Lodge Supervisor, Mr Stan Forbes**, four day Porters, two weekend Porters, and two night Porters work in the Porters’ Lodge at the Broad Street entrance. They can be contacted at the Porters’ Lodge or:

- porter@balliol.ox.ac.uk
- 01865 277777

The Porters’ Lodge at the Jowett Walk entrance is staffed by the Broad Street Lodge Porters and is open Monday to Friday from 8.00am to 4.00pm, and arrival and departure Sundays. This Lodge can be contacted at the Lodge or:

- jwtlodge@balliol.ox.ac.uk
- 01865 281330

The **Holywell Manor Lodge Manager, Mr Nick Brown**, and the other Holywell Porters work in the Porters’ Lodge at Holywell Manor. They can be contacted at the Lodge or:

- hmlodge@balliol.ox.ac.uk
- 01865 271501 | emergency mobile if the Lodge is unoccupied 07501 999735

The **Junior Deans** resident at Jowett Walk and the Master’s Field, Tafadzwa Kufazvinei and Anna Zerio, are the first point of contact in matters relating to emergencies and security at those locations. At least one is on site from 7.00pm to 8.00am each day September–June except when College is fully closed.

Please check the [Junior Dean rota](#) to see who is on duty

- junior.dean@balliol.ox.ac.uk | duty mobile 07010 026478 (monitored 7.00pm-8.00am only)

At Broad Street, the post rooms, staircases and the Library are accessed by electronic locks for which you will need your University Card. The Jowett Walk site gates and towers are also accessed...
by these electronic locks and all doors at the new Master’s Field Development operate on this
system, including bedrooms.

The Holywell Manor front door is closed at midnight and is accessed by an electronic lock for which
you will need your University Card. Entry to the Courtyard door at Holywell Manor is via your
University Card. Residents need their University Card to use the Salto locks in the buildings of the
Master’s Field Development, and in Jowett Walk. There are push button code locks on the garden
doors at Holywell Manor, with an entry code. Please ensure that these doors are closed at all times.
Do not inform other people of the entry code; it is strictly forbidden to post the entry code outside
the building, for example in a message left for a friend.

**Junior members are strongly advised to ensure that they lock their rooms when they are unoccupied**, even if only brief absence is intended. They are also advised to lock money,
cheque books and credit cards away in a drawer. Cheque books and cheque cards should be kept
separately. Significant amounts of cash should not be left in rooms, even if locked away. Casual thefts
do occur from time to time. Housekeeping staff may lock bedroom doors that they find unlocked
and unoccupied. **The College accepts no responsibility for the loss of or damage to personal property on College premises** and members are therefore advised to arrange suitable
insurance.

### 1.5 Who’s Who

The following people are the main contacts for students; please also see the Balliol website for full
lists (including photographs and contact details) of Fellows, Lecturers, the principal College Officers
and staff by department.

**NB**: If dialling from an internal phone, you will need to delete the 01865 area code and delete the
first 2 from the telephone number given here.

#### 1.5.1 Master and Vice-Masters
The **Master, Dame Helen Ghosh**, is available by appointment through the **Master’s PA, Ms Nathalie Perret**.

masters.secretary@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277710

The **Vice-Master (Executive), Professor Seamus Perry**, is a source of advice to the College
on its budgetary position, and, in particular, on its non-academic income and expenditure.

The **Vice-Master (Academic), Professor Sebastian Shimeld**, is mainly concerned with Balliol’s
academic policy. He is happy to see people by appointment.

sebastian.shimeld@balliol.ox.ac.uk | or via college.office@balliol.ox.ac.uk

#### 1.5.2 Wellbeing and Welfare
The **Welfare Lead, Ms Hannah Jones**, leads the Wellbeing and Welfare Team, who are listed in
the [Wellbeing and Welfare](#) section below.

#### 1.5.3 Chapel
The **Chaplain is Revd Dr Melanie Marshall**. If you have any queries relating to the Chapel,
please contact the **Chaplain’s Secretary, Dr Ilaria Gualino**.

chaplains.secretary@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277768
1.5.4 Decanal
The Dean, Mr James Forder, is responsible for matters of non-academic discipline among the College’s junior members, according to the rules set out in 3.1 and 3.2. He is mindful of pastoral, medical, and academic considerations, and therefore works closely with senior College Officers, Tutors and the wellbeing and welfare team, for the good of the College community and its members. If any student is taken to hospital, the Dean should be informed as soon as possible.

He is always happy to meet with students. In general meetings should be arranged with the Dean’s Secretary, Dr Ilaria Gualino (deans.secretary@balliol.ox.ac.uk; tel. 01865 277768); in an emergency or in relation to urgent personal problems he can be contacted via the College Lodge on 01865 277777.

The Assistant Dean for the Graduate Centre, Mr Liam Smith, has responsibility for the maintenance of order and ensuring a safe and healthy environment in the Graduate Centre. Under the direction of the Praefectus, the Assistant Dean has responsibility for the day-to-day exercise of decanal authority related for example to noise complaints, events, and student behaviour. He also works closely with the MCR Committee, the Graduate Centre Manager, the Lodge Porters, and the Junior Deans to facilitate the safe enjoyment of student-organised events by all members of the community. Liam resides in Holywell Manor and can be contacted about any matters relating to everyday life in the Graduate Centre. He is usually available by appointment.

The Junior Deans support the welfare and decanal systems of the College, working across the three accommodation sites under the guidance of the Welfare Lead and other College Officers. They maintain the welfare and wellbeing of Balliol’s students, ensure the necessary levels of health and safety standards, and assist the Dean in administering the College rules. Working together but in either undergraduate- or graduating-facing roles, they are available to help with any problems. They offer a caring ear and can signpost students to appropriate support.

They are on duty, on site, between 7.00pm and 8.00am, and work with the relevant Lodge to help with emergencies. Please check the Junior Dean rotas to see who is on duty at each location.

Undergraduate-facing Junior Deans

- Broad Street: Alex Russell and Anna Zerio: broadst.jd@balliol.ox.ac.uk | duty mobile 07443 092538 (monitored 7.00pm-8.00am only)
- Jowett Walk/ Master’s Field A Block: Konrad Ksiazek [room JW3G1] and Tafadzwa Kufazvinei [room JW 3G2]: jowettmj.jd@balliol.ox.ac.uk | duty mobile 07470 114665 (monitored 7.00pm-8.00am only)

Graduate-facing Junior Deans

- Master’s Field/Holywell Manor: Ahmed Shalaby [room NW74] and Isabelle Rocroi [room C2-04]
- hmfjuniordean@balliol.ox.ac.uk | duty mobile 07443 092471 (monitored 7.00pm~8.00am only)

1.5.5 Academic Administration: The College Office
The Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar and Tutor for Graduates, Dr Nicola Trott, has responsibility for academic planning and is in overall charge of academic administration. She should
be contacted to discuss any academic problem not resolved by Personal Tutors/College Advisers (see 2.4.3). She is also the Disability Lead. Students are welcome to drop by her office (Room 1 of the College Office).
Specific appointment times: senior.tutor@balliol.ox.ac.uk | or for confidential matters nicola.trott@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277738

The **Graduate Administrator, Mrs Sarah Twinn**, administers all aspects of graduate business, including student registration and matriculation, examination entries, University Cards, extension requests, and graduate changes of status. She has responsibility for graduate scholarships awarded on admission, and also runs the graduate admissions exercise on behalf of the **Tutor for Graduate Admissions, Dr Adam Caulton**.

graduate@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277733

The **Undergraduate Administrators, Mrs Victoria Holt and Ms Katie Watson (job share)**, administer all aspects of on course undergraduate business, including student registration and matriculation, examination entries, Collections, University Cards, academic transcripts, and confirmations of student status. They also run the undergraduate admissions exercise on behalf of the **Tutor for Undergraduate Admissions, Dr Lisa Walker**.

undergraduate@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277765

The **Student Finance and Support Administrator, Mrs Fiona Chippendale**, administers the following for undergraduate and graduate students:

- Guidance for welfare services and support
- Disability guidance and information, and exam adjustments
- Finance: e.g. project/travel and research grants, awards for academic excellence, student hardship funding

For welfare or disability concerns: student.support@balliol.ox.ac.uk – see the **Wellbeing & Welfare** section for further details
For financial matters: student.finance@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277748

The **College Office Administrator**, assisted by **Ms Genny Teague**, supports the Undergraduate Administrators, and provides other academic administration.

college.office@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277788

**1.5.6 Domestic and Financial Administration**

The **Domestic Bursar, Ms Jennifer Smith**, (who is also Data Protection Controller and Fire Precautions Officer) is happy to see students during normal office hours. However, if possible, please make an appointment via the Domestic Bursar’s PA and Office. Administrator.

domestic.bursar@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277679

The **Finance Bursar, Mrs Amanda Tilley** (who is also the Freedom of Information Officer), is happy to be contacted directly via email or phone, or by appointment via her PA (see below).
amanda.tilley@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277763

**PA to the Finance Bursar:** Alison Wright
alison.wright@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277771

The **Fees and Battels Officer** is **Ms Lisa Carpenter**.
fees@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277762
The Deputy Domestic Bursar (also known as Domestic Manager), Mrs Keeley Mortimer, is responsible for the allocation and administration of student bedrooms and for the management of the cleaning staff. 

domestic.manager@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277712

The Front of House Manager, Mr Greg Butler, is responsible for the food service in Hall and for the management of Lodge staff and serving staff. 
greg.butler@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277899

The Maintenance Department rectifies all maintenance problems. 
maintenance.faults@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277761

The Director of ICT, Mr Christopher Thompson, heads the IT department, which is located in the basement of Staircase XI. 
it.director@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 279594

For any computing problems: helpdesk@balliol.ox.ac.uk

1.5.7  Fundraising and alumni relations

The Development Director, Mr Richard Norman, runs the Development Office, which is responsible for alumni relations and fundraising for College needs. He is pleased to have the involvement of current students in many of these activities. 
development.office@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277636

The Events and Donor Relations Manager, Ms Amy Lamb, runs the Alumni events programme and will help with student events that involve Old Members. She also runs the Degree Days: please contact her if you have any questions about graduations. 
development.office@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277690

For degrees and graduations: degrees@balliol.ox.ac.uk

1.5.8  Graduate Centre: Holywell Manor

The Praefectus of Holywell Manor, Professor Elena Lombardi, is the Head and Academic Director of the Graduate Centre. Working in partnership with the students, she plays a leading role in the social and academic life of Balliol’s graduate community, initiating events and activities, and offering advice and support as appropriate. She welcomes the opportunity to meet any graduate student for confidential advice, academic support, or signposting to relevant welfare resources. She is usually available by appointment at praefectus@balliol.ox.ac.uk.

1.5.9  Academic Resources

The Librarians, Mrs Naomi Tiley (job share Monday–Wednesday) and Mr Stewart Tiley (job share Wednesday–Friday), and the Archivist (Ms Faye McLeod), are normally available in the Library between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday. They and all the Library staff can be contacted with enquiries about the Library and Archives, including its historic collections of rare books, archives, manuscripts and modern papers. 
library@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277709

The Fellow Librarian, Professor Seamus Perry, may be contacted with enquiries about the Library and the College's historic collections. The day-to-day operations of the Broad Street Library and the Historic Collections Centre at St Cross are the responsibility of the Library staff. 
seamus.perry@balliol.ox.ac.uk
1.5.10 Junior Members
The **JCR President, Ms Isabella Alexandrou**, is responsible for representing the interests of the Junior Common Room (JCR), of which all Balliol students are automatic members, and for coordinating the activities of the JCR Committee.

jcr.president@balliol.ox.ac.uk

The **MCR President, Mara Kelly**, is responsible for representing the interests of the Middle Common Room (MCR), of which all graduate students at Balliol are automatic members, and for overseeing the activities of the MCR Committee.

mcr.president@balliol.ox.ac.uk

1.6 Complaints Procedure
If you are dissatisfied with the College’s provision, you should follow the Student and Non-Academic Staff Complaints Policy, first following the informal complaints procedure. Complaints which cannot be resolved by this informal route raise a formal complaint as outlined in the Student and Non-Academic Staff Complaints Policy. A student who remains unsatisfied with the College’s response may complain to the Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education.

For a simplified version of the procedure, see Making a Complaint: A Simplified Guide.

For information as to how the complaints procedure operates in respect of academic provision, see 2.4.5.
2 ACADEMIC PROGRESS

2.1 Studies

2.1.1 University Resources
Students should be aware of the following University resources, which are relevant to the information in this section:

- Student Handbook (Proctors’ and Assessor’s Memorandum)
- Course handbooks for all undergraduate and taught postgraduate courses, available from these index pages:
  - Undergraduate course handbooks
  - Postgraduate course handbooks

2.1.2 Study before Residence (Undergraduates)
Undergraduates may be required to do work set by the College in the interval between admission and residence, and, in a very few instances and with explicit advice from tutors, to be examined on it upon coming into residence.

2.1.3 Matriculation
The matriculation ceremony is the formal admission to the University and attendance at this ceremony at the beginning of a University course is compulsory; no person is permitted to reside as a member of the University unless matriculated (with exceptions for graduates of Cambridge and Trinity College, Dublin).

The required clothing for this occasion is formal academic dress, known as sub fusc, which is also worn for examinations and at degree ceremonies.

2.1.4 Sub Fusc
When required to wear sub fusc, you should wear your preferred items from the following: dark suit with dark socks, or a dark skirt with black tights or stockings, or dark trousers with dark socks or dark hosiery; a dark coat if required; black shoes; plain white collared shirt or blouse; a white bow tie, black bow tie, black full-length tie, or black ribbon. You are also required to wear a gown and mortar board (carried indoors) or soft cap (can be worn indoors). Clothes should be appropriate for formal occasions. Hoods are worn by graduates at University examinations and at presentations for degrees.

Ministers of religion may wear clerical dress, with a gown over, when attending ceremonies. If you wear a head dress/scarf for religious reasons, a black scarf should be worn. Members of the armed forces may wear service dress under their gowns. Members of the University serving in HM Forces are permitted to wear uniform underneath the gown. The uniform cap is worn in the street and carried when indoors.

Graduates of other universities who are reading for higher degrees and diplomas other than the Diploma in Legal Studies may wear either the graduate student’s gown or the academic dress of their own universities; graduates reading for certificates may wear either a commoner’s or (if appropriate) scholar’s gown or the academic dress of their own universities; graduates of other universities reading for Final Honour Schools must wear a commoner’s or (if appropriate) a scholar’s gown.
The headwear, tie and gown may be purchased on arrival in Oxford from local outfitters or departing students; these can also be loaned or hired from various outfitters in Oxford or from the Porters’ Lodge at Broad Street. Balliol Porters’ Lodge hire rates are as follows: deposit for gown, including cap, hood (for graduates) or mortar board: £10; hire charge: £5; deposit for cap or hood/mortar board: £5; hire charge £2. Spoiled or damaged gowns or cap/hood/mortar board will result in the loss of the deposit and a charge for the cost of replacement. Requests for academic dress, gowns, etc. must be made direct to the Porters, Monday–Friday prior to the date required.

2.1.5 Course of Study (Undergraduates)
All undergraduates admitted to the College are required to read for Honours in one of the Final Schools, for a Higher Degree, or, with the leave of the College, for a Diploma, or for such other course of studies as the College may approve.

2.1.6 Change of Course
Undergraduates who wish to change their course of study must apply for the permission of the College through the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar. The College normally permits changes of course to undergraduates in good academic standing (2.3.2) only after a Pass at First Public Examination (with a presumptive right to change only for those gaining Distinction at FPE), and with the agreements of tutors in both subjects.

Graduate members of the College who wish to change their status must have their forms signed by the Graduate Administrator. The forms are available under ‘progression forms’ here. Graduate members who wish to change their course are reminded that such changes may require the approval of their grant-giving body and new financial declarations.

2.1.7 Further Degrees
All members of the College who wish to stay on at Balliol for a further degree must make formal application to the University. Students should consult the faculty to which they wish to seek admission about application procedures and deadlines. Readmission to the College for a graduate degree is subject to approval by the Tutor for Graduate Admissions, in consultation with the relevant subject tutors.

2.1.8 Payment for Tutorials and/or Classes
Any junior member who arranges tutorials or classes for him/herself with tutors outside the College without the approval of a College tutor or misses arranged tutorials or classes (including departmentally organised/intercollegiate classes) may be required to pay for them. Graduates who attend undergraduate classes without the prior approval of the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar may also be required to pay for them. Of course, any student may attend any lecture (unless expressly restricted).

2.1.9 Intercollegiate Classes (Undergraduates)
Undergraduates should be aware that intercollegiate classes, at which attendance is compulsory, are regularly taken and assessed by appropriate graduate students within the faculty.

2.1.10 Employment during Term and Vacation for Undergraduate Students
Undergraduates are reminded that University courses require full-time commitment. Junior members may not take substantial employment (i.e. more than eight hours per week) outside the College during term without the permission of Academic Progress Committee. The College reserves the right to refuse permission or to require a student to cease employment for academic
reasons. The College does, from time to time, have jobs available for Balliol students (again for no more than eight hours per week during term or 35 hours per week for part of the vacations). The Domestic Bursar maintains a Register of Students seeking paid College work, and students may ask to be placed on the Register. The College wishes to emphasise that hardship funds are available, and encourages students to apply for these before resorting to paid work during term time (see 7.3.2).

2.1.11 Paid Work Guidelines for Graduate Students
The College recognises that some graduate students will want to undertake a limited amount of paid work during their studies, whether as part of their academic development (e.g. teaching and demonstrating), or to help to support themselves financially. The University has Paid Work Guidelines which students are advised to read. These guidelines aim to ensure that any paid work undertaken does not adversely affect students’ success in their studies or their ability to complete their course on time. In addition, some graduates will have prescribed limits on how many hours’ paid work they can do, which must be observed: for example, graduates funded by research councils and some other scholarships, and those graduates with Student (formerly Tier 4) visas (see 2.1.12). Students should be aware that demand for part-time paid work in Oxford often exceeds the amount of paid work available, whether it is academic paid work or other forms of paid work. For this reason, graduate students should not rely on the availability of paid work to fund their University and College fees and their living costs when planning how to finance their studies and completing their Financial Declaration.

Full-time graduate students should generally regard their studies as a full-time occupation of at least 40 hours per week, and should normally be available for all academic commitments during usual working hours (i.e. 9.00am to 7.00pm on weekdays). Graduate students on taught courses should regard this as applying to term-time study whilst for students on research courses (such as a DPhil) it applies all year round for a minimum of 44 weeks of the year.

The University and the College therefore recommend that full-time graduate students on a taught course (such as a Master’s) do not undertake more than eight hours’ paid work each week whilst studying. Students may find they have substantial study commitments in the Christmas, Easter and summer vacations as well as the University’s three full terms of eight weeks each. The number of weeks of full-time study required will depend on the course structure, and students should check the structure of their own course and its implications for any paid work with their department or faculty before taking up any such work.

2.1.12 Working while Studying on a Student Visa (previously Tier 4 visa)
See the University’s information page for all students about Student Visa.

Undergraduates are already limited to no more than eight hours’ paid work a week during full term (University rule), and those with Student visas may not work for more than 20 hours in any week during non-term working weeks. These include any time when you would need to be in Oxford or studying elsewhere for course-related academic purposes, and include project weeks, field trips, dissertation writing periods and fourth-year extended terms. Those on years abroad must follow the rules for the country they are in. Outside these taught/study periods undergraduates with Student visas may work any number of hours per week.

Research graduates with a Student visa may not work more than 20 hours a week during their studies. The only times when the 20-hours-a-week earning limit does not apply are when they are on complete holiday from their studies, i.e. not going into libraries/labs, not gathering data, not even
studying in their room. Most research graduates are limited by their department to having no more than 4–5 weeks like this a year, in accordance with the University’s Paid Work Guidelines.

DPhil students who have submitted their final thesis may be able to count some weeks between submission and viva as vacation, provided that their supervisor does not need them to do any work such as paper-writing, further research, or preparation for their viva.

For taught-course graduates with a Student visa, this limit includes all weeks during which they have contact hours (labs, lectures, seminars, etc.) and any weeks doing exams (including revision time immediately before them), studying in libraries/rooms or writing dissertations. When not doing any academic study, taught-course graduates may work more than 20 hours a week.

**For all the above**, a ‘week’ means any possible seven-day period; it is not an average. So those under Student visa rules may not work ten hours on each of Saturday, Monday and Wednesday and then do nothing for a month, because that creates a seven-day period during which they would be breaking the rules.

Students who hold Student visas are obliged to keep a careful log of their paid University work hours and are advised to note their vacation dates in case of checks. If working for a company they may be required to show their passport and visa at the start of employment as proof of the right to work and limitations upon it.

Anyone on a Student visa who breaks these rules may be liable to have their visa removed permanently, and to be blacklisted from future entry into the UK.

2.1.13 Reading Parties
From time to time, at their discretion, tutors and other senior members may organise and invite junior members to attend a reading party either during or out of term. The tutors select a small group of students to go somewhere outside College to read together or revise for a week. Reading parties take place annually in France at the Chalet des Anglais, a site owned by a separate trust with trustees from Balliol, University and New Colleges. For all such parties, participants must take out appropriate insurance (7.3.7).

2.1.14 Oxford SU Sabbatical Officers
Any member of the College wishing to stand for election as an Oxford Students’ Union Sabbatical Officer must have permission in advance from Academic Progress Committee. Applications must be made through the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar.

2.1.15 Enrolment Certificates and On-Course Transcripts
Once University registration is complete, all students are able to print enrolment certificates from the Student Self Service. This certificate may be used to confirm student status for many purposes such as council tax exemption, opening a bank account, renting private property, etc.

A transcript, an official summary of your academic performance and progress to date, may be required by prospective employers or another educational institution. Final and on-course transcripts, showing academic achievement to date but not final classification, are available from the University: for more information, see this transcripts page.

2.2 Academic Progress Committee
The body responsible for the academic oversight of all Balliol students is Academic Progress Committee.
Academic Progress Committee (APC) has oversight of individual students’ academic progress. Its membership consists of the Master (who chairs it), the Vice-Master (Academic), the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar, a College welfare representative, four Tutorial Fellows, and the Praefectus of Holywell Manor and the Domestic Bursar (these last two normally attend only when specific cases require them). APC is scheduled to meet in Weeks 2, 5, 7 and 9 of term, and is empowered to meet at other times when there is urgent business. The Tutorial Fellows on APC are chosen to ensure representation from a range of subjects and so that APC ideally includes both men and women. APC’s decisions are normally made by consensus; if necessary, they can be made by a simple majority of those present and voting. Where a matter is urgent and no meeting can be scheduled, APC is empowered to make decisions via electronic circulation, provided that a quorum (comprising at least two College Officers and two Tutorial Fellows) of APC’s membership participates in the electronic vote.

APC’s powers are delegated to it by the Tutorial Board (TB), which includes all the College’s Tutorial Fellows as well as APC members, and which meets once per term to consider general matters of academic policy. Members of TB are entitled to attend APC and are expected to do so to report on individual student cases in their subject when these arise. (Research and, normally, Professorial Fellows are not members of either APC or TB, but may be asked by students to represent them at APC.)

2.3 Academic Standards

2.3.1 Good Academic Practice and Plagiarism
Good academic practice involves a set of skills: for advice on many aspects, see this skills page. Plagiarism is the use, without appropriate acknowledgement, of the words or ideas of another author: see this plagiarism page, this video on Good Academic Practice, and the Avoiding Plagiarism e-learning course. All students should take care in their written work always to make sure that quoted material is presented as such, and that it is appropriately referenced. The authorship of material which is being paraphrased for the purposes of an essay must also be acknowledged.

The College takes a serious view of plagiarism. While tutors/graduate supervisors recognise that it can take time to learn how properly to present the ideas of other authors, it will not tolerate such practices as the downloading and submission as a student’s own work of essays from the internet, the use of AI-generated material, the purchase of work from other students, the copying of other students’ work, or the copying or attempting to pass off model answers or any solutions not created by students themselves, including examiners’ and tutors’ solutions, as their own work, in collections or in tutorial work, either explicitly or by implication. Suspected cases of such practices will be referred to Academic Progress Committee (2.2) and may lead to a student being required to withdraw from the College.

The University policy on plagiarism in University examinations can be found in the Student Handbook (7.7 Plagiarism).

2.3.2 Good Academic Standing (Undergraduates)
At undergraduate level (including 2nd BA), students shall be deemed to be of ‘good academic standing’ only if they:

* Keep appointments with tutors and College Officers, keep informed of electronic and other communications sent by tutors and the University and College
academic authorities and those on the noticeboards, and attend Handshaking (end-of-term reports) and Master’s Interviews as required.

- Pass (normally by the second attempt in cases where this is permitted by applicable regulations) the First Public Examination or other examinations laid down by the University as a necessary part of their course (2.5.7).
- Attend on time all College tutorials, classes and other required academic engagements, including collections (2.5.1) and intercollegiate classes (2.1.9), and all University classes and practicals, except where permission on adequate grounds is obtained, normally in advance, from the tutor(s) concerned.
- Produce on time work of a standard commensurate with individual ability and circumstances and appropriate to the stage in the course that has been reached: normally of 2:1 standard, but in no case below Third Class standard.
- Undergraduates are not allowed to read for a Pass degree.
- Undertake that all work submitted is their own and is consistent with good academic practice (2.3.1).

College tutorials form a central part of an undergraduate course. Attendance is compulsory and any student who fails to attend or is otherwise in breach of the criteria for good academic standing will be reported to Academic Progress Committee (2.2), which may impose disciplinary sanctions. Any student who has been suspended from study on academic disciplinary grounds will normally be refused tutorial teaching and the use of College facilities in subsequent terms, until the suspension is lifted.

2.4 Feedback, Support and Complaints

In College, undergraduates are given feedback, both written and oral, in the context of Collections, tutorials, classes and other academic meetings and conversations with tutors.

In the case of graduates, online reports on academic progress from the University supervisor, and the student’s own self-reports, are regularly monitored by the College Office and made available to Balliol College Advisers. The Praefectus or Head of the Graduate Centre has a formal meeting with each graduate annually.

2.4.1 Handshaking and Master's Interviews (Undergraduates)

Undergraduates receive formal feedback on their progress both in Master’s Handshaking, where the Master receives a report on the academic progress of the undergraduate in the presence of tutors, and at Tutors’ Handshaking, where undergraduates receive reports on their work from their tutors. They are also invited regularly to meet the Master on a one-to-one basis.

Attendance at both forms of Handshaking and at Master’s Interviews is compulsory, unless the Master’s permission to be absent has been obtained through a tutor. In the case of Tutors’ and Master’s Handshaking, notification is by means of email and a notice in the Lodge – students are urged to check the noticeboard regularly for the timetables towards the end of each term.

2.4.2 Feedback by Students

Undergraduates are invited each term to give anonymous electronic feedback on the tutorial teaching they have received from tutors in Balliol and in other colleges, and to reflect on their own learning and development. They can also report on academic matters at any time by email or in person, either to their Personal Tutor or to the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar (for Academic Complaints Procedure, see 2.4.5).
Graduates are invited to give anonymous feedback on all aspects of College provision via an annual online survey.

2.4.3 Personal Tutors and College Advisers
The Personal Tutor/College Adviser system is an important element of the College’s academic and pastoral provision. Each student is allocated, on arrival, a Fellow or Lecturer, normally in the subject which the student is studying, who acts as Personal Tutor (for undergraduates)/College Adviser (for graduates) in Balliol. The tutor/adviser is available to provide or to direct students towards appropriate personal and academic support, and students should feel able to contact their tutor/adviser for advice on any difficulties and problems which they may encounter during their course. When tutors/advisers are on sabbatical leave, their personal tutees/advisees are reallocated temporarily to other Fellows or Lecturers in the subject or in a similar field, who will be available to provide the same support.

See also the College Adviser Role Description for graduates.

Students will be informed at the beginning of their course of the name of their Personal Tutor/College Adviser, which appears in the College List. It is expected that students should subsequently have the opportunity of a termly (or for graduate students annual) individual meeting with their Personal Tutor/College Adviser (in addition to any teaching contact they may have with that tutor).

If a student wishes for any reason to change their allocation of Personal Tutor or College Adviser, they can do so by contacting the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar.

2.4.4 Student Support
Students who run into work-related or other difficulties should seek to resolve these as soon as possible. It is recognised that there are many ways and contexts in which problems can arise; whatever the reasons for difficulty, there will be someone who can help or who will be able to refer you for help as necessary. You are invited to discuss any academic problems openly with your Personal Tutors (undergraduates) and College Advisers (graduates) (2.4.3), preferably before any formal academic disciplinary process gets under way. Further academic support includes resources available in the College Library and graduate mentors or Study Advisers: see the Academic Support web page. You are warmly encouraged to draw on any and all of the other relevant resources in College or the specialist support services for the collegiate university: please see Section 3 or visit our Wellbeing & Welfare web section.

2.4.5 Academic Complaints Procedure
If you are an undergraduate and you are dissatisfied with teaching arrangements, you are encouraged to discuss the matter with one of your subject tutors or your Personal Tutor. If the difficulties cannot be resolved or if there are problems of communication or compatibility, you should then, as in the Students and Non-Academic Staff Complaints Policy, consult the responsible College Officer, in this case the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar. Complaints which cannot be resolved by these informal routes should raise a formal complaint, as outlined in the Students and Non-Academic Staff Complaints Policy. For a simplified version of the procedure, see Making a Complaint: A Simplified Guide.
Graduates who wish to discuss supervision arrangements or other academic problems should see their College Adviser (2.4.3). Difficulties which cannot be resolved by the College Adviser can be taken up with the Tutor for Graduates (the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar) or another College Officer.

Any student who remains unsatisfied with the College’s response may complain to the Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education (for more information please see the website for the OIAHE).

2.5 Examinations

2.5.1 Collections and Vacation Work (Undergraduates)
Collections are taken seriously by the College and both excellent and poor performance will be noted at meetings of Academic Progress Committee. They are an important indicator to you and your tutors as to how solid a knowledge you have of the previous term’s work or how thoroughly you have prepared for the term in hand. They can enable you to be more adventurous than you might be in University examinations, but they also help you to practise for those public examinations under similar conditions.

Failure to attend Collections or to hand in prescribed vacation work and markedly inadequate performance in the same are reported to the College, and may lead to a Special Collection being set (2.8.5).

Students must inform the Undergraduate Administrator in good time if they require special arrangements to be made for sitting their Collections. Where special arrangements have been authorised by the University, they will apply also to College examinations, provided that enough notice has been given for any adjustments to hard- or software to be implemented.

Collections (College examinations) take place on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of 0th week. Papers are to be sat in person in either Balliol Hall or another designated location.

IN PERSON
Collections (College examinations) take place under invigilation every Thursday afternoon of 0th week between 1.50 and 5.00pm, on every Friday of 0th week between 9.20am and 12.30pm and 1.50 and 5.00pm, and on every Saturday of 0th Week between 9.20am and 12.30pm. It is possible that additional Collections may be held, if necessary, between 1.50 and 5.00pm on Saturday of 0th Week. The Thursday afternoon and Saturday morning sessions are in Hall only, and, if the Friday sessions become congested, other rooms are used for overspill. Students must, however, go to Hall for all sessions in the first instance. **Collections start at 9.30am and 2.00pm. However, the doors to Hall open 10 minutes earlier than the start times and students must arrive 10 minutes before each session, at the times indicated above.**

Students with special examination requirements sit their Collections separately under invigilation. The Bajpai Room is set up with laptops for students with permission to word process exams; the Russell Room is available for students permitted extra time. **Students must inform the Undergraduate Administrator in good time if they require special arrangements to be made for sitting their Collections.**

ONLINE
In exceptional circumstances, arrangements will be made for collection papers to be sat online.
2.5.2 **Examination Entry**
Students are personally responsible for entering their names for University examinations via the [Student Self Service](#) website. To ensure that you are entered for the correct examinations and assessments, you will need to follow the [University guidance on examination entry](#). This includes details of how to pay any relevant fees, including a **Late Examination Entry fee of £65**. In order to complete your examination entry successfully you must have completed your University registration within the student registration window.

2.5.3 **Dress for Examinations**
At University examinations all students are required to wear sub fusc: see 2.1.4.

2.5.4 **Special Arrangements for Exams**
There is a system for students with ongoing exam difficulties or special requirements. Relevant categories include SpLDs, physical disabilities, and religious beliefs preventing students from sitting examinations on certain days.

Students who fall into any of these categories and have public examinations coming up in the academic year should inform the Student Finance and Support Administrator as soon as possible so that requests can be submitted to the Proctors on their behalf ([student.support@balliol.ox.ac.uk](mailto:student.support@balliol.ox.ac.uk)). Applications for non-urgent or chronic provisions must be made no later than Friday of Week 4 of the term before the exam is due to take place.

In cases of sudden, real and urgent need, special arrangements for examinations can be made at short notice, but these requirements **must** be notified to the Student Finance and Support Administrator immediately the need arises and provision will be at the discretion of the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar. Students must be aware that the central Exams and Assessment team require a minimum of 5 working days to be able to implement any urgent adjustments, including College sittings; it is impossible for the College to arrange for anything more quickly than this. Requests for urgent, last-minute adjustments must be supported by medical evidence from the College GP, College Nurse, Student Counsellor, or UK-based hospital as appropriate.

2.5.5 **Mitigating Circumstances Notices to Examiners**
If you have a problem before or during your exams, or in relation to your submitted work, that you think has seriously affected your performance, you can submit a ‘Mitigating Circumstances Notice to the Examiners’ (MCE) so that the assessors are made aware of the situation. It is possible for the relevant Board of Examiners to decide whether and how to adjust a candidate’s results as a consequence of mitigating circumstances when it meets to determine assessment outcomes (the College does not itself have any such powers). You should contact the Undergraduate Administrator or Graduate Administrator (as appropriate) as soon as you realise there is a problem, whether this is before, during, or after your exams. They will advise on the best course of action, but it is your decision as to whether to submit a notice, and your responsibility to make sure that you submit the required information. An MCE and accompanying evidence should normally be submitted after your exams or submitted piece have been completed, but before the final meeting of the Board of Examiners (only in exceptional circumstances will it be considered after the Board of Examiners has met). For more information, please see the [guidance on the University website](#).
2.5.6 Illegible Exam Scripts
If the examiners determine that a script is illegible, the student concerned will be required to pay for the invigilation and typing of that script, either in the Examination Schools or in College (plus an administrative fee of £40).

2.5.7 Exam Performance Expectations (Undergraduates)
Candidates are expected to obtain results consistent with graduating at a clear Honours level in all University examinations. In particular, those who are required by University regulations to pass a First Public Examination (FPE) are expected by the College to pass such examinations not later than the second possible occasion on which the examination might have been taken after coming into residence. Failure to comply with this condition will normally mean that a candidate will be required to withdraw from the course and cease to be a member of the College.

Students who fail to achieve more than a low pass in the FPE or re-sit will normally be required to sit a First Special Collection at the beginning of the term succeeding the First Public Examination. Performance in any second-year degree examinations should be at a clear Honours level, failure to attain which will normally result in the setting of a First Special Collection. The potential consequences of failing Special Collections are set out below (2.8.5).

On certain courses, students intending to progress to Year 4 should take note of any departmental and University regulation requiring a minimum 2:1 level of performance in second- and third-year exams.

2.6 Scholarships, Exhibitions and Awards

2.6.1 Undergraduate Scholarships and Exhibitions
Undergraduates who have excelled academically may be nominated first to Exhibitions (usually, following a Distinction in the First Public Examination) and afterwards, with continuing excellent performance, as evidenced by results in College Collections and/or public examinations, to Scholarships. Awards are held for one year at a time, but holders may be re-elected annually.

Prelims Prizes may be awarded to those whose First Public Examination results show First Class performance short of a Distinction; and post-FPE there are pathways to further academic awards via performance in Collections and second-year exams.

See the Academic Awards Flowchart. Note also:

- Scholars are invited to a College meal and celebratory ceremony in recognition of their achievement.
- Scholars and Exhibitioners are paid by a credit on battels. The standard amounts paid are: £250 for a Scholar and £200 for an Exhibitioner.
- Scholars and Exhibitioners may wear the Scholar's gown rather than the commoner's gown on occasions when gowns are to be worn.
- Scholarships and Exhibitions are tenable only during residence in Oxford. However, those on a Year Abroad who qualify will continue to receive their awards.
2.6.2 Other Scholarships, Prizes and Awards for all Students
A number of other scholarships, prizes and awards for academic/academic-related purposes are open to Balliol undergraduates and graduates. Full details about all these, and how to apply for them, may be found on the Financial Support web page.

2.6.3 Rules for all College Prizes
No essay which has already won a College or University prize shall be submitted for another College prize. The closing date for all essays and poems will be indicated when advertised. Students whose status is suspended are not normally eligible to make submissions for prizes. Examiners are empowered to divide the prizes. In any year in which there are no candidates of sufficient merit the examiners may decide not to award the prize or to award a prize of lesser value.

2.6.4 Subject Prizes for Undergraduates Only
The Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar may authorise the award of a special prize from time to time to an undergraduate reading a subject not covered by the list on the Financial Support web page.

2.7 Fitness to Study

2.7.1 Fitness to Study
Balliol College adopts the definition of ‘Fitness to Study’ as stated in Statute XIII.

‘Fitness to Study’ means an undergraduate or graduate student’s fitness:

- to commence a distinct course of academic study, or
- to continue with his/her current course of academic study, or
- to return to his/her current or another course of academic study

and his/her ability to meet:

- the reasonable academic requirements of the course or programme, and
- the reasonable social and behavioural requirements of a student member (whether resident in College or not) without his or her physical, mental, emotional or psychological health or state having an unacceptably deleterious impact upon the health, safety and/or welfare of the student and/or other students and/or University or college staff (not withstanding adjustments required by law).

2.7.2 Suspension from Study on Medical/Personal Grounds (Undergraduates)
You may, in serious medical, personal or other circumstances, apply through your Personal Tutor, a College welfare lead, or the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar to the Academic Progress Committee (APC) – a small internal College committee which includes a College welfare representative and the Senior Tutor (see 2.2) – for permission to suspend your student status and go out of residence (and hence out of College and College accommodation) for a specified period, usually one year. In exceptional circumstances, a request to suspend a second year will be heard. APC will not normally agree to the repetition of completed terms; and will not agree to a suspension based solely on the ground that you are or feel ill prepared for University examinations. In cases of ill health a medical certificate in support of the request to suspend is required from the College Doctors. A student whose request for a suspension of study is granted does not need to put a case to APC, but one whose request is turned down may do so. At the end of the period of suspension, the College will require another medical certificate from the College Doctors (informed by reports from the
clinicians who have been treating you while suspended and/or from health professionals the College Doctors have consulted), confirming you are fit to resume study. APC may require that some academic work take place in the run-up to a resumption of study, such as submitting an academic plan, or other written work assigned by tutors, or preparing to sit a returning Collection identical to that which is being set to the year group you will be joining. This academic component is intended to help you get ready to resume full-time study once you are well, and does not reflect any lack of good academic standing. (In the event that poor academic standing is or has been a factor in a suspension of study on health grounds, see 2.8.10.)

The Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar will write to you to convey the decision of APC with regard to the request to suspend, outline any conditions for return, and confirm the arrangements agreed for access to University facilities, services and support, communication with College while suspended, and other details as required.

The College will consider sympathetically a request to return into residence early, though normally not earlier than 0th Week of term, in order that you be able to settle in to academic work. Given sufficient notice, it may be possible to provide accommodation, for which you would normally be charged. Any early return into residence will require the certification of fitness to study to be brought forward accordingly.

See also this Undergraduate Suspension of Status Guidance.

2.7.3 Suspension of Status (Graduates)
University regulations allow graduates to suspend student status in exceptional circumstances that require appropriate adjustments to study timescales and arrangements. Such circumstances include serious medical, personal or other circumstances that limit your ability to pursue your academic course. (Status may also be suspended for internships and other special circumstances.) See the University’s guidance on suspension. There is a form, the GSO.17 progression form, that must be signed by the student, the supervisor, and the college – and is subject to Departmental approval from your DGS or equivalent. The Department and/or the College may impose some conditions on your return. There is separate form, GSO.17b, to request suspension for parental leave.

2.7.4 Interactions with College during Suspensions from Study (Undergraduates)
If you are granted permission to suspend status you will be given a primary point of contact for communicating with College while your student status is suspended, access to university facilities and services will be clearly explained, and one or more meetings with a College welfare representative will normally be offered in the course of the suspension. Visits to the College for any other purpose require the permission of Academic Progress Committee. While your status is suspended you may not participate in the activities of any College society, represent the College in any team, or obtain credit in College. You should also ensure that you return any books out on loan to the College Library, or any other University Library, before departing.

2.7.5 Interactions with College during Suspensions of Status (Graduates)
If you are granted permission to suspend status, you will be given a primary point of contact for communicating with College while your student status is suspended. One or more meetings with the Praefectus and/or a College welfare representative may be held prior to or during the course of the suspension, if these are felt either by you or the College to be needed or helpful. If you are resident in College accommodation, you will be required to move out of your College room at the earliest opportunity and your rental contract will be terminated. You should also ensure that you
return any books out on loan to the College Library, or any other University Library, before departing. While your status is suspended you may not access or use Balliol College sites or facilities, participate in the activities of any College society, serve as an MCR Officer, represent the College in any team, or obtain credit in College.

2.7.6 disputed fitness to study (undergraduates and graduates)
where the College, advised by its Welfare Team and with reference to the criteria for fitness to study (2.7.1), recommends a period of suspension from study, it will in all but the most urgent circumstances seek your agreement in the first instance. In exceptional cases, where the College, advised wherever possible by the College Doctors, Counselling Service, or other health professionals, understands a student to be unfit for study, but the student disagrees, the case will be decided within a week by APC, informed by available professional advice. Absence of advice will not disable the APC from acting to resolve a case of disputed fitness to study, nor prevent the College from requiring a student to go out of residence while the case is decided (see next paragraph). If a decision is taken that you should be required to suspend status on medical or welfare grounds, and you do not accept the decision, you are entitled to put a case to APC as to why this should not happen. This case can be made in writing, or (provided you are still in residence) in person, or by a Fellow (for instance a College welfare lead) who has been asked to speak on your behalf. (Any Fellow who speaks in this capacity will then take no part in any vote of APC, even if they are a committee member.) You may choose instead to be represented or (if still in residence) accompanied by a member of the Balliol JCR or MCR (such as the President or a Welfare or Academic Affairs Officer), but there is no obligation for any Balliol junior member to take on this role and this must be made clear to a fellow student at the time of asking. Following any decision of APC to require you to suspend status, you will be able to appeal that decision (2.8.8).

During the interim period, while APC and where relevant the Appeal Committee consider the evidence, you would normally remain resident unless it is judged likely to be significantly harmful to your health or there is potential risk to staff or other students of your doing so. The Master (or Vicegerent) would make such a judgment. If it is necessary to suspend your student status pending the outcome of an appeal, the interim suspension should not be seen as pre-judging the Appeal Committee’s decision.

Wherever possible, such cases are dealt with under the College’s own procedures; but the University has established a common framework across departments/faculties and colleges for cases where questions arise as to whether a student is fit to study, or to return to study after a period of suspension on account of medical, psychological, or emotional problems. Once normal procedures have been exhausted, a college or department may refer the case to a Fitness to Study Panel; see also this further information on fitness to study.

2.8 Academic Discipline

2.8.1 Failure in Examinations or Unsatisfactory Work
Under its Academic Disciplinary Procedure (ADP), the College may at any time require you to discontinue residence, either temporarily or permanently, for failure in public or (for undergraduates) College examinations, unsatisfactory work, or other failures to be in good academic standing (2.3.2), provided that you have first been given clear and adequate notice, in writing, of the conditions you must fulfil to remain a member of the College, and that you have then failed to meet them. (Here and elsewhere, the forms of written communication used by the College should
be understood to include electronic as well as printed or hand-written messages, notices and letters.)

It is most important that you make your tutors, or for graduate students your supervisor and College Adviser, aware at an early stage of any medical or personal reasons there may be for poor academic performance, so that appropriate support can be given and appropriate adjustments and allowances made (2.4.4, 3.6).

The College’s ADP comprises sections 2.8.2–2.8.10 and refers also to sections 2.2, 2.3, 2.5.1 and 2.5.7 above. There is an Academic Disciplinary Procedure Framework for this ADP and graduate students should refer to this document; the sections below apply specifically to undergraduate students (UG).

2.8.2 Academic Discipline (UG)

The College expects and requires that you attend on time all of your classes (including inter-collegiate classes), tutorials and other meetings with tutors unless you have received prior permission to miss a meeting; that you hand in all work you are set on time and to a satisfactory standard; that you work for and sit College Collections at a satisfactory level; and that you fulfil all other conditions required to be in good academic standing (2.3.2). Minor failings to do so will normally be dealt with, initially, in informal discussion with your tutor(s) or College Officers either in person or in writing during term, or in end-of-term progress meetings (Handshakings).

Informal warnings may continue but, if your work is persistently unsatisfactory or you are otherwise significantly failing to be of good academic standing, you are likely to be referred by your tutors to the College’s Academic Progress Committee (APC), which has formal oversight of student academic performance (2.2). Your tutors will normally tell you if they are going to do this, but in the event of repeated absence from meetings or serious under-performance your case may be referred directly to APC.

At this stage, the APC will normally decide that you should receive a formal warning from the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar and be placed on academic probation (2.8.4). The letter from the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar will ask you to come and discuss the situation, and will spell out what is required of you in order to avoid further sanctions, with reference to the fundamental requirement that you should return at once to good academic standing by putting sufficient time and effort into your studies and by attending, and completing work for, all of your teaching. APC will reconsider whether you have met these requirements in its subsequent meetings (it is scheduled to meet approximately every two weeks during term time and can conduct business by email at other times).

If, despite a formal warning, you continue not to be in good academic standing, the APC will decide what further action to take, based on your individual circumstances (including your tutors’ assessment of the quality of work you could reasonably be expected to produce if you worked satisfactorily for it).

Although the letter from the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar may have mentioned particular points about which APC is dissatisfied, APC always decides what to do on the basis of your academic performance as a whole. The academic disciplinary procedure within which APC decisions are made provides for two main courses of action: the first, to ensure you are meeting the academic standards expected of you by the College and of which you are understood to be capable, proceeds by Special Collections (2.8.5); the second, to ensure you make a consistent return to good academic standing,
proceeds through Academic Disciplinary Probation (2.8.6). The two procedures may be combined, and are intended to be mutually reinforcing so as to provide you with every opportunity to get back on track academically.

At all stages of academic discipline prior to a decision to suspend or expel, you will be able to recover good academic standing and remain on course. There are many sources of support to help you do this (2.4.4).

2.8.3  Reconsideration of APC Decisions Prior to Suspension or Expulsion (UG)
At any of the steps prior to a decision to suspend or expel, you may ask to meet the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar (irrespective of any meetings with you that are arranged by the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar). If you wish to register any concerns about how the academic disciplinary procedure applies to your case, the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar will with your permission seek to address these, if necessary in consultation with your tutors and/or APC. In the event that you disclose new information that may have a bearing on any previous outcome, the case will be referred back to APC for reconsideration. A decision of APC may be reversed or amended if APC judges that (i) the original decision was based on material omissions or errors of fact; or (ii) the College’s Academic Disciplinary Procedure was not followed correctly. The APC is not empowered to revisit issues of academic judgement, for instance in the marking of a Special Collection.

2.8.4  Academic Probation (UG)
If you are on academic probation, you will have received a formal warning that you are required to attend all tutorials, classes and other meetings, and to complete all work set on time and to the best of your ability; that is, you are simply required to be in good academic standing, as are all the College’s students (2.3.2). You should aim to return to good academic standing as soon as possible, and to stay in it. Once APC has ascertained that you are back in, and sustainedly remaining in, good academic standing, it will consider removing you from academic probation. There is no set period for probation, but you can expect your case to be reviewed termly.

There are certain respects in which being on academic probation may impact on your life in College: while on probation you will not be able to stand for and, if already elected or appointed, you will be expected to resign from, a JCR position or office. It may also be taken into account in applications you make for College jobs, although it will not necessarily debar you from being appointed.

If you are on academic probation then your tutors will be tasked with monitoring your performance carefully. If it continues to be the case that you are not doing what is required of you in order to be in good academic standing (2.3.2), that is, you fail to attend your teaching and/or to complete your work satisfactorily and on time, APC will decide on what further steps to take.

2.8.5  Special Collections (UG)
If despite a formal warning (2.8.2) you have failed to return to or to maintain good academic standing (2.3.2), APC will normally require you to sit a First Special Collection or, exceptionally, will move straight to a Second Special Collection. Independently of this process, Special Collections may also be set in the context of unsatisfactory performance in College Collections or public examinations (2.5.1, 2.5.7).

A Special Collection is a College examination with a required mark. It is set in situations where APC, advised by your tutors, assesses that your work is significantly below the level that you are judged to be capable of achieving; the Special Collection enforces and checks that you have improved your work to a satisfactory level. The grade set for a Special Collection is decided after advice from your
tutors and is meant to reflect your capacity, so it is likely to be higher than a barely passing grade for
the subject (though it would be exceptional for the required mark to be higher than a 2:1).

If you are set a Special Collection, you will be informed of this in writing, and the letter will spell out
exactly what is expected of you and what the possible consequences are of failing to achieve the
required mark. It will also inform you of what is expected of you if you do achieve it.

Achieving the required mark for a (First or Second) Special Collection does not in itself return you
to good academic standing. When you have met the required standard in a Special Collection, you
will receive a letter confirming the fact and reminding you of your continuing requirement to return
to good academic standing. As a norm, the letter will also notify you that you will remain on
academic probation for the time being and that if any further report of poor academic standing
should come to APC then APC will consider further measures, including setting a First (or,
exceptionally, Second) Special Collection again at a subsequent date or placing you on Academic
Disciplinary Probation (2.8.5, 2.8.6). You should commit yourself, after sitting the Special Collection,
to getting back into and remaining in good academic standing, especially (though not exclusively, see
section 2.3.2), by completing your work satisfactorily and on time and by attending all your required
teaching. Provided you do this consistently, no further sanctions will follow, and, in due course, APC
will consider lifting your academic probation.

If you do not achieve the required mark in a First Special Collection, you will normally be set a
Second Special Collection. This will be marked both by your tutors in Balliol and, if it is failed, by an
independent external marker in a University department or at another college. APC will again decide
the required mark for the Second Special Collection in consultation with your tutors; the topic of
the Collection may be different from, and the required mark higher than that for, any First Special
Collection which you have taken.

If you are doing a course where inter-collegiate classes or other centrally organised teaching is the
norm (as in the later years of some science subjects, in particular), APC may designate your
attendance at these classes and/or some pieces of classwork as having the same status as a First or
Second Special Collection, and having the same consequences if you do not achieve the required
mark. In this situation, any externally marked work will be taken back into College for verification by
your subject tutors.

If you fail a Second Special Collection APC will have a full review of the case to decide what further
action to take. Normally you should expect to be expelled from the course and the College after
failing a Second Special Collection, though in appropriate circumstances APC may instead decide to
suspend you for a certain period of time (2.8.7). In the event of your failing a Second Special
Collection, you will be given the opportunity to state your case to APC (2.8.8), and you will hear of
the outcome in writing. Following any decision of APC to expel you or to require you to suspend
study, you will be able to appeal that decision (2.8.8).

2.8.6 Academic Disciplinary Probation (UG)
Academic Disciplinary Probation will be imposed by APC when it considers that is what will best
ensure your consistent return to good academic standing. Normally this will be when you are
consistently failing to carry out some objectively verifiable part of your academic responsibilities,
such as attending tutorials or submitting work on time. Where your academic good standing is a
matter for academic judgement, such as when your work is judged by your tutors to be of
unsatisfactory quality, the Special Collection process will normally be used instead.
Your tutors will carefully monitor your attendance at, and timely completion of work for, all academic meetings. Being placed on Academic Disciplinary Probation will mean that, if you continue to fail to attend your teaching and complete your work in a timely manner, APC will decide on what further steps to take. Normally, you will receive a final formal warning, in writing, explaining the possible consequences you face, and you will then be given time – not less than four weeks in full term – to demonstrate a return to good academic standing (2.3.2). Once you have done this, you will normally be taken off Academic Disciplinary Probation, but will remain on academic probation for the time being; and will normally be on notice that further disciplinary measures may be renewed following any repetition of the failure to maintain good academic standing. However, if while on Academic Disciplinary Probation you continue to fail to be in good academic standing, you are at risk of being required to suspend study for a period of time, or of being directly expelled from your course and from the College (2.8.7). In these circumstances, APC will hold a full review of the case, you will be given the opportunity to state your own case to APC (2.8.7), and you will hear of the outcome in writing. Following any decision of APC to expel you or to require you to suspend study, you will be able to appeal that decision (2.8.8).

2.8.7 Suspension of Study or Expulsion (UG)
If APC is to consider whether to require you to suspend study for a period or to expel you permanently, you are entitled to present a case to APC as to why this should not happen. You will be informed in advance of the APC meeting that this is a possibility. You can make this case in writing, or you may address APC in person, or ask a Fellow, for instance a College welfare lead, to speak on your behalf whether or not you yourself are present. (Any Fellow who speaks on your behalf will then take no part in any vote of APC, even if they are a committee member.) You may choose to be represented instead by a member of the Balliol JCR or MCR committees (such as the President or a Welfare or Academic Affairs Officer), and/or to be accompanied by a Balliol junior member, but there is no obligation for a fellow student to take on this role and this must be made clear to anyone you ask.

If APC requires you to suspend study for a period (you may come across people using the old expression ‘rustication’), then it will normally set academic conditions for your return. You will be informed of these conditions in writing, normally within a week of being suspended and in any case well before your return date. If you do not meet these conditions you will not be permitted to return, and in this situation there is no equivalent right to present a case to APC, although you do have the right to appeal its decision (2.8.8).

2.8.8 Appeals against APC Decisions to Suspend or Expel (UG)
If you are suspended or expelled from your course and the College by APC, or if you are not permitted to return after a period of suspension, you have a right of appeal. You must inform the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar of your intention to appeal within seven days of being sent notification of APC’s decision. Your appeal will be heard by an Academic Disciplinary Appeals Committee, which consists wholly of Fellows or other senior members of the College or other Colleges who are not members of APC and who have not been involved in any way with earlier decisions involving you. You have a right to represent yourself at the Appeals Committee or to be represented by another student, Fellow or Tutor (with that person’s permission).

The Academic Disciplinary Appeals Committee will review the decision on the basis of information presented to it by the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar and by you. It has the power to reverse or amend a decision of APC if it judges that (i) you did not receive a fair hearing at APC; (ii) the original decision was based on material errors of fact; or (iii) APC’s action was disproportionate to the
seriousness of your failures to meet the academic conditions given to you. There are no grounds for appeal against academic judgement, and the Appeals Committee is not empowered to revisit issues of academic judgement, for instance in the marking of a Special Collection.

The detailed procedures and regulations governing appeal are set out in the Academic Disciplinary Appeal Procedure. Once the College’s own Appeals Procedure has been exhausted, you also have the right to apply, normally within five days of the College’s judgement, to CCAT (the Conference of Colleges Appeal Tribunal) and, if you remain unsatisfied, to refer to the Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education (an independent review scheme: please see the website for the OIAHE for more information).

2.8.9 Summary of Academic Disciplinary Paths (UG)
The academic disciplinary process via Special Collections (2.8.5) has the following steps:

1. formal warning + academic probation
2. First Special Collection (exceptionally, straight to Second Special Collection)
3. Second Special Collection
4. case review with chance to state own case
5. suspension or expulsion
6. right to appeal decision to suspend or expel

(For the setting of Special Collections in the separate context of unsatisfactory performance in College Collections and public examinations, see 2.5.1, 2.5.7.)

The alternative process via Academic Disciplinary Probation (2.8.6) has the following steps:

1. formal warning + academic probation
2. Academic Disciplinary Probation
3. final formal warning + defined period of monitored Academic Disciplinary Probation
4. case review with chance to state own case
5. suspension or expulsion
6. right to appeal decision to suspend or expel

Depending on the particular cases, these processes may sometimes be combined. However, in any situation where you are suspended or expelled due to failures of academic good standing that require academic judgement to assess, you will always have been given the chance to demonstrate a satisfactory level of academic attainment via at least one, and more normally two, Special Collections. You will be suspended or expelled without recourse to Special Collections only if you are consistently failing to fulfil objectively verifiable requirements such as attendance of teaching and timely completion of work.

2.8.10 Poor Academic Standing Followed by Suspension from Study on Medical Grounds (UG)
If you request and are granted a suspension from study on medical grounds (2.7.2) following a period in which you were not in good academic standing (2.3.2) and were subject to academic discipline, you will remain or may be placed on academic probation upon your return to Balliol. You will be required to obtain a certificate of your fitness to study from the College Doctors as a condition of your return. This process will normally take into account reports from your local clinical and/or mental health services, and may additionally require a consultation with specialist health...
professionals in Oxford. Any relevant records should be transmitted to the College Doctors in good time. If you do not meet the medical condition you will not be permitted to return, and in this situation there is no right to present a case to APC, although you do have the right to appeal its decision (2.8.8).

Provided you are certified fit to study, you will be expected to sit, at the beginning of the term in which you return, any Collections which are set for the year group which you will be joining. In addition, you may be set a required mark for the Collections, or, in the absence of a routine collection, some other work to be submitted to a given standard, as an academic condition of your return.

If APC grants your request to suspend study, you will be informed in writing – soon after your status is suspended and in any case well before your return date – of the medical condition for return, together with the details of any Collections or other work which you will need to sit or submit on your return, and of your remaining or being placed on academic probation.

In order to allow you to prepare for a return to full-time study, and in light of the fact that Oxford students are expected to study outside term time, the presumption will be that you are capable of resuming academic work in at least the four weeks leading up to full term. Tutors may set some preparatory work to be handed in either prior to or on your return. (The same access agreements and procedure for requesting early return into residence apply as in 2.7.2–2.7.3.)

Your fitness to study having been certified, you will be expected to maintain good academic standing (2.3.2). Any continued failure to remain in good academic standing – including serious underperformance on any Collections you sit on your return – will be considered by APC and may lead to further academic disciplinary proceedings, including Special Collections or Academic Disciplinary Probation.

The diagram on the following page is for illustrative purposes; and does not replace the procedure as published in College Handbook 2.8.2–2.8.9 passim, referring also to 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.5.1, 2.5.7.
Balliol College Academic Disciplinary Procedure for Undergraduates

All students are required to remain in ‘good academic standing’ and to observe ‘good academic practice’ (College Handbook, 2.3.1.2, 2.3.1.3). Most people will never have any problems when they’re here, but occasionally something can go wrong. This diagram outlines how the College will work to get you back on track if you start to struggle academically. We often find that academic and non-academic issues are inter-related. If an underlying issue is identified help will be made available. You will be supported by the Chaplain/Welfare and Welfare Officer, who can coordinate access to other support services (2.4.3). There are means for you to address any concerns about APC process (2.8.3) and you can appeal any decision requiring you to leave the College (2.8.8).

**Informal**

**First Stage** (Ch 2.8.2-2.8.4)

**Second Stage** (Ch 2.8.5-2.8.6)

**Third Stage** (Ch 2.8.7)

**Fourth Stage** (Ch 2.8.8)

**Formal**

**Good Academic Standing** (Ch 2.8.3.2)

Informal warning(s) from tutor(s), in person or in writing (email or handshaking report)

Referral to APC, with or without notice from tutor(s)

Formal Warning and Academic Probation, discussion with Senior Tutor

Continued poor academic standing

First Special Collection; exceptionally, straight to Second SC

Academic Disciplinary Probation for Defined Period

Fail in First Special Collection leading to Second Special Collection

Further report of poor academic standing leading to Final Formal Warnings

Fail in Second Special Collection, independently confirmed

No consistent return to good academic standing

Case review at APC – student can attend and/or be accompanied/represented by College member at their own case

Suspension or expulsion

Right to appeal to College

Right to apply to CCAT for appeal; thereafter to OA for review

ACPC to consider lifting academic probation once good academic standing has been maintained consistently, including after obtaining the required mark in a Special Collection; and/or returning to good academic standing during Academic Disciplinary Probation

ACPC to consider re-imposing Special Collections and/or Academic Disciplinary Probation if good academic standing is not maintained consistently after disciplinary measures have been lifted
3 WELLBEING & WELFARE

3.1 Wellbeing and Welfare team
The Wellbeing and Welfare team are people in College to turn to for help and advice should you find yourself in trouble or in need of support.

For urgent help, see What to Do in an Emergency (3.3).

If you are unsure whom to ask, contact Hannah Jones: welfare@balliol.ox.ac.uk.

Matters discussed with members of the Wellbeing and Welfare team will be treated in line with Balliol’s Student Health and Welfare: Guidance on Confidentiality. The email address welfare@balliol.ox.ac.uk is primarily managed by the Welfare Lead but may occasionally be monitored during normal office hours by senior members of the Wellbeing and Welfare team (below).

Details of all the people below are online too at Wellbeing and Welfare.

Welfare Lead: Hannah Jones
Hannah provides welfare support to all undergraduate and graduate students, and coordinates Balliol’s student wellbeing and welfare provision. She liaises with members of the College Wellbeing and Welfare team, the College Doctor, the Student Counsellor, the University Counselling services and the Disability Advisory Service. Hannah meets students for confidential discussions, including providing information, advice and guidance, and signposting them to appropriate services. She also supports complex student cases, including those where there may be fitness to study concerns.

Hannah works Monday - Friday during term time and is available by appointment at welfare@balliol.ox.ac.uk. At Broad Street she is in Staircase XXII, Room 1; she also meets students at Jowett Walk, 4G2.

College Nurse: Christine Smith
Chris is here to support undergraduates, postgraduates and Balliol staff members by providing support and health advice for minor injury and illness, travel health, contraception and sexual health, first aid and wound care. She can signpost to appropriate services and liaise closely with the College Doctor to facilitate speedy GP appointments, if needed, for both physical and mental health concerns. Once registered with the College Doctor at 19 Beaumont Street, students can contact Chris by email or phone in duty hours to arrange an appointment slot. Appointments can be in person, by telephone or on Teams. If Chris is not available (she works part-time and may not be on duty), students should contact the College Doctor at 19 Beaumont Surgery, telephone 01865 240501: please use this link: 19 Beaumont Street Surgery.

Chris is available at a range of clinic times and locations from 0th to 9th week (see also 3.4.2).

Student Counsellor: Steph Pagio
Steph provides a confidential space in which to listen to students’ emotional concerns and issues. She is a registered counselling psychologist with over 10 years’ experience, working with people from diverse backgrounds with a range of mental health and emotional difficulties. On days when she is not working at Balliol, she works at the University Counselling Service.
Steph is available at Balliol by appointment on Tuesdays, 9.00–5.00pm from 0th to 9th week
stephanie.pagio@admin.ox.ac.uk | 01865 270300

**Student Finance and Support Administrator: Fiona Chippendale**
Fiona is available during term time and vacations to support students with welfare matters and concerns relating to hardship and disability. She can be approached for help in accessing University welfare, disability, and support services, and with queries relating to arrangements for College accommodation and exam adjustments owing to disability or illness. She is also available to discuss any financial aid students might need due to unforeseen hardship, concerns about unforeseen demands on funding or support for health and welfare concerns – see 3.11 and 7.3.2 as well as the Balliol web page for Financial Support.
Fiona can be contacted for welfare or disability concerns: student.support@balliol.ox.ac.uk and for financial matters: student.finance@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277748

**Junior Deans**
The Junior Deans support the welfare and decanal systems of the College across the three accommodation sites, working together under the guidance of the Welfare Lead and other College Officers. All Junior Deans receive welfare training at the University prior to starting their roles. They are available to offer a caring and listening ear or word of encouragement, and their primary welfare role is in signposting students to the appropriate professional support.

- Broad Street (undergraduates): Alex Russell, Anna Zerio and Mala Gunadasa-Rohling: broadst.jd@balliol.ox.ac.uk or telephone 07443 092538 (monitored 7.00pm–8.00am only)
- Jowett Walk/ Master’s Field A Block (undergraduates): Tafadzwa Kufazvinei and Konrad Ksiazek: jowettmf.jd@balliol.ox.ac.uk or telephone 07470 114665 (monitored 7.00pm–8.00am only)
- Graduate Centre (Master’s Field/Holywell Manor) (graduates): Ahmed Shalaby and Isabelle Rocroi: hmjuniordean@balliol.ox.ac.uk or telephone 07443 092471 (monitored 7.00pm–8.00am only)

**Women’s Officer: tbc**
The Women’s Officer is available to talk to anyone who wholly or partially identifies as a woman, about problems or concerns, particularly those relating to issues such as gender representation, discrimination, harassment, safety, and sexual health.

**Harassment Advisors**
The Harassment Advisors can be contacted for confidential advice on matters relating to harassment:

- Raghav Srinivas: raghavendra.srinivas@physics.ox.ac.uk
- Fiona Chippendale: fiona.chippendale@balliol.ox.ac.uk | 01865 277748

**Personal Tutors (undergraduates) and College Advisers (graduates)**
Your Personal Tutor or College Adviser is also available to you for pastoral support: see 2.4.3.

### 3.2 Wellbeing and Welfare at Balliol
Balliol is a diverse community including students from many different social, economic, and cultural backgrounds. It is committed to promoting equality and avoiding discrimination; to maintaining a working, learning and social environment in which the rights and dignity of all members of the
community are respected; and to ensuring students’ fitness to study while they are at Balliol (2.7), helping them to towards a successful university experience.

The Welfare and Wellbeing team can advise students or direct them to appropriate sources of support about issues that may be affecting their wellbeing, including:

- Health concerns, minor ailments, and injuries.
- Anxiety, stress, panic attacks, low mood, sleep disturbance, the effects of bereavement, or mental health concerns.
- Difficulties arising from drug or alcohol use, or from eating disorders.
- Issues relating to gender identity, those specific to being a woman or coming from a minority ethnic or LGBTQ+ group.
- Challenges from estrangement from parents, care experience or being a student parent.
- Dealing with the effects of sexual abuse, assault, or violence.

3.2.1 Confidentiality
Matters discussed with members of the Wellbeing and Welfare team will be treated in confidence, in line with Balliol’s Student Health and Welfare: Guidance on Confidentiality.

3.2.2 Vacation support
While some people and resources described in this section may continue to be available during the vacation, students remaining in Oxford in vacation periods should be aware that College staff will take leave or be otherwise unavailable outside of term. If a member of the Wellbeing and Welfare Team is not available, please email welfare@balliol.ox.ac.uk (the inbox is monitored). See also What to Do in an Emergency.

The University’s Vacation Welfare Support page provides a number of emergency resources. The Oxford Vacation Guide provides information for those staying in Oxford during vacations.

3.3 What to Do in an Emergency
This is the official College policy on how to respond to an emergency, including contacting the emergency services (by making a 999 call to request assistance from the police, fire, or ambulance service).

Students confronted with a serious emergency can, if necessary, call the emergency services on 999.

Anyone who calls 999 must inform the Broad Street or Holywell Manor Lodge immediately or as soon as possible after any emergency services have been called. This is important, as only then will the Lodge be able to assist the emergency services in reaching their appropriate destination. Alternatively, students may call the appropriate Lodge and ask them to initiate bringing in the emergency services.

Please see 6.2.1 for guidance on what to do if you find a fire.

Automatic defibrillators are available at the Broad Street Lodge, Hall and the Master’s Field Pavilion and all Porters and Junior Deans are trained in their use. In addition, all Lodge Porters and the Junior Deans have first-aid training.

If you require assistance in deciding whether to take emergency action, please contact the relevant Lodge. If for some reason the Porter is away from the Broad Street Lodge, they will be carrying the emergency mobile phone and ringing the Lodge will divert to this. You can also contact one of the
Junior Deans or the Dean. If for some reason the Porter is away from the Holywell Manor Lodge, you can contact them via their emergency mobile. If one of the Junior Deans and/or the Praefectus is needed to lend assistance, the Holywell Manor Lodge Porter will telephone them.

Please also see: ‘What to Do in the Event of an Attack by an Armed Person or Persons’.

### 3.3.1 College emergency contacts
- Porters' Lodge (Broad Street): 01865 277777
- Porters' Lodge (Holywell Manor): 01865 271501 or emergency mobile 07501 999735
- Dean: 01865 277777
- Junior Deans (7.00pm–8.00am):
  - Broad Street: 07443 092538
  - Jowett Walk and Master’s Field A Block: 07470 114665
  - Master’s Field and Holywell Manor: 07443 092471

**NB:** There is not normally a Porter on duty in Jowett Walk or the Master’s Field. You must still inform the appropriate Lodge (either Broad Street or Holywell Manor) as soon as possible. Between 7.00pm and 8.00am, you must also alert the appropriate Junior Dean (see above) so that they can help.

### 3.3.2 Mental health emergency
If you need immediate mental health support or someone to speak to urgently, you can:

- Call 999 to reach the emergency services
- Contact the 24/7 Mental Health Advice Line (Oxfordshire) via 111
- Call Nightline (01865 270270) or the Samaritans (tel. 116 123 email jo@samaritans.org).
- Visit the Accident and Emergency department.

### 3.3.3 Safe Lodges
Balliol is part of the University’s Safe Lodge scheme. A Safe Lodge is indicated by a green circle symbol displayed by the lodge entrance, in Balliol’s case at the Broad Street and Holywell Manor Lodges. Any student in distress can go the nearest lodge displaying the sign and know that from then on, they will be safe. The lodge will phone the student’s home college and, if the matter is serious, call Oxford University Security Services or the police as appropriate.

### 3.4 Health

#### 3.4.1 Medical emergencies
For injuries, medical or mental health emergencies, see *What to Do in an Emergency* (3.3).

#### 3.4.2 College Nurse
The College Nurse, **Christine Smith**, is available to advise, treat and support any student as outlined above (3.1). Outside of term, or if the Nurse is unavailable (she works part-time), students should in the first instance contact the College Doctors (below), with whom the College Nurse works closely.

#### 3.4.3 College Doctors
All students must be registered with a doctor in Oxford and must notify the College of who their doctor is. The College Doctors, Dr Chris Kenyon and Dr Jayne Haynes, will register any member of
College to their practice at 19 Beaumont Street, Oxford (01865 240501), which has a helpful and comprehensive website with information on getting a GP appointment or telephone advice.

Students having difficulty registering with an Oxford GP should contact the Welfare Lead or the College Nurse as soon as possible.

3.4.4 National Health Service
In non-urgent cases, NHS 111 can help you find out where to get help for your symptoms or repeat prescriptions and can also tell you where to get an emergency supply of your prescribed medicine.

Consultations with doctors are free. If you are given a prescription, you must take it to a pharmacy, or the doctor will send it to the pharmacy of your choice. Rules regarding which medications can be sold over the counter and which are prescription-only are strict, but pharmacists will be able to advise you. Prescriptions are subject to a charge.

The NHS does not permit communication to insecure email addresses, and so students are advised to use their Balliol address when contacting health professionals by email.

UK students who need to consult a GP when away from Oxford during the vacations can be seen as a temporary patient by any other NHS GP practice, usually the GP where you are staying.

3.4.5 Overseas students
Any overseas student on a course lasting longer than six months is entitled to full NHS treatment for conditions which require treatment while they are here. For stays of less than six months you may be required to pay. Proof of eligibility may be required for hospital treatment.

Overseas students are advised to arrange a UK phone number, otherwise they cannot receive a call back from the College Nurse, the College Doctor, or the NHS 111 advice line.

3.4.6 Specialist consultations
These must be arranged through the College Doctor, even for private consultations: you cannot see a consultant without a GP referral. Some NHS departments have long waiting times and speed is the main reason to choose to be seen privately. The College Nurse or College Doctor can make recommendations. Complementary and alternative therapies are not available on the NHS; some may be available through private medical insurance. The College Nurse can provide contact details.

3.4.7 Dentist
Students are advised to try local dental surgeries for available appointments. All students are advised to retain their dentist at home for routine check-ups in vacations.

3.4.8 Out-of-hours medical care
Out-of-hours medical advice can be obtained via the NHS website or by calling the NHS 111 telephone helpline, which is also the out-of-hours telephone number for emergency dental treatment.

3.4.9 Opticians
There are several opticians around the city centre. Lenses and frames can be expensive, and it pays to shop around: you can take a prescription to any optician to have it made up. For eye injuries and urgent conditions, contact the College Nurse, the College Doctors, or the Oxford Eye Hospital.
3.4.10 Vaccinations and notifiable diseases
Students are strongly encouraged to take up vaccinations e.g., for Covid-19 or meningitis, when eligible, ideally before arriving in Oxford. When registering with the College Doctor or any other doctor, you will be asked for dates of your immunisations and can arrange any that are outstanding.

Students are required to inform Balliol via their Lodge and the College Nurse if they are diagnosed with a notifiable disease (e.g., mumps, measles, Covid-19).

3.4.11 Contraception and sexual health
Contraception is freely available from the College Doctors. For emergency contraception students should visit the Churchill Hospital as soon as possible: see the Sexual Health Oxfordshire website.

Blood pressure and other checks for repeat oral contraceptive prescriptions are available from the College Nurse, following an initial visit to a GP or specialist Practice Nurse at 19 Beaumont Street. Advice is available from the College Nurse and from the Oxfordshire Sexual Health Service.

3.4.12 Special dietary requirements
If you have special dietary requirements, including being vegan or vegetarian, or having a nut allergy or a special diet, see 5.5.4 or the Food web page.

3.4.13 Alcohol
Balliol endeavours to foster a culture of safe and responsible drinking, following this Guidance for Colleges on Students and Alcohol.

3.5 Counselling and mental health support

3.5.1 Mental health emergency
If you need immediate mental health support or someone to speak to urgently, or if you feel you may be at risk of serious harm, you can:

- Call 999 to reach the emergency services
- Contact the 24/7 Mental Health Advice Line (Oxfordshire) via 111
- Call Nightline (01865 270270) or the Samaritans (tel. 116 123 or email jo@samaritans.org)
- Visit the Accident and Emergency department.

3.5.2 Student Counsellor
The Student Counsellor, Steph Pagio, provides a confidential space in which to listen to students’ emotional concerns and issues. She is a registered counselling psychologist with over 10 years’ experience, working with people from diverse backgrounds with a range of mental health and emotional difficulties. On days when she is not working at Balliol, she works at the University Counselling Service. Steph is available at Balliol by appointment on Tuesdays, 9.00–5.00pm from 0th to 9th week. The College Counsellor is not an emergency service.

3.5.3 Oxford University Counselling Service
Any member of Balliol can access the Oxford University Counselling Service. For an appointment, please contact: counselling@admin.ox.ac.uk, 01865 270300, or visit the 3 Worcester Street office.

The Counselling Service offers confidential support; however, it is not an emergency service. It also provides supportive online self-help resources, for example, on performing academically, advice for Freshers, on anxiety, and perfectionism, along with details of educational groups and workshops.
3.5.4 External services

- **Oxford Nightline**, a confidential listening, support, and information service run for and by students at Oxford during term time: telephone 01865 270 270;
- **Samaritans**, a 24/7 confidential listening service: tel. 116 123 or email jo@samaritans.org.
- The **24/7 Mental Health Advice Line (Oxfordshire)**: call 111
- **Oxford Safe Haven**
- **MIND** including **Talking Space Plus**
- **Students Against Depression** including **I need help now**

3.5.5 Supportive online resources

- Oxford Counselling Service: **Supportive resources**
- Equality & Diversity unit: **Mental health self-help resources**
- **Togetherall** Managing Stress and Worry course (register with your Oxford email address)

3.6 Disability

Working with the University’s **Disability Advisory Service (DAS)** and within its Common Framework for Supporting Disabled Students, Balliol seeks to overcome barriers students face in relation to their studies at Oxford and take steps to remove them where possible. A disability is any impairment, physical or mental, that has a ‘substantial’ and ‘long-term’ negative effect on the ability of a person to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

The College is always willing to make provision for students with declared disabilities. If you have a disability, specific learning difficulty (SpLD) or long-term health condition we encourage you to declare this, confidentially, so that you can benefit quickly from the full range of support available. You can do this by following the [DAS Registration Process](#).

The Student Finance and Support Administrator (Fiona Chippendale) is the College’s Disability Coordinator and the principal point of contact for arranging and implementing individual reasonable adjustments, from the first contact with College through to final examinations. Together with the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar and Tutor for Graduates (Nicola Trott), who has oversight of provision for students with a declared disability, and the Domestic Bursar (tbc), Fiona is pleased to discuss any potential requirements at any stage of your studies.

If a student chooses not to inform the College of any requirements related to disability and a matter arises during studies or examinations, it may not be possible to make adjustments straight away. If you are in any doubt, please speak in confidence to the Student Finance and Support Administrator. Further information and advice is available on the University’s [disability web pages](#).

3.7 Harassment

Balliol is committed to maintaining a working, learning and social environment in which the rights and dignity of all members of the community are respected. In addition to harassment being a serious offence which is subject to the College’s disciplinary procedures, situations of harassment can also have a substantial impact on your wellbeing and welfare.

3.7.1 College Anti-Harassment, Sexual Misconduct and Bullying Policy

The College has an [Anti-Harassment, Sexual Misconduct and Bullying Policy](#). Complaints under the policy may be made in line with the appropriate procedures the [Student and Non-Academic Staff Complaints Policy](#).
Discussing a situation of harassment with a College Harassment Advisor before taking other steps can help you clarify your options and decide what to do.

3.7.2 University Harassment Advisor Network
If you prefer to speak to someone outside College, the University’s Harassment Advisor Network has over 400 trained harassment advisors across departments and faculties within the University. Named advisors are available who identify as black and minority ethnic, or lesbian, gay, bisexual or trans; others can advise on relationship abuse. See more information at Harassment Advisor Network or contact the Harassment Advisory Service at harassment.line@admin.ox.ac.uk.

3.8 Sexual violence and assault
Balliol is committed to helping students who have been raped, sexually assaulted, or sexually abused, either recently or in the past, to have appropriate specialist support. Members of the Wellbeing and Welfare Team will listen to and support you without judgement, and can help you to access:

3.8.1 Oxfordshire Solace Sexual Advice Referral Centre (SARC)
For an incident within the last 7 days: the Oxfordshire Solace Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) provides confidential specialist support for anyone who has been raped or sexually assaulted, including advice on the choices available, forensic services and medical treatment. SARC staff are specially trained and dedicated crisis workers who are independent, so you do not have to worry about the police or any other agency or person (including your loved ones) finding out about your assault if you do not wish. They understand it can be difficult at a time of crisis to think clearly about your choices – though it may not feel like it, you have options available to you.

You can contact the Solace SARC on 0800 970 9952 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week). If you need transport, please contact the Broad Street Lodge or the Holywell Manor Lodge.

3.8.2 University Sexual Harassment and Violence Support Service (SHVSS)
For an incident that happened more than 7 days ago: The University Sexual Harassment and Violence Support Service (SHVSS) provides a safe space in which to be heard, with advisors offering free support and advice to any current student regardless of age or gender who has been impacted by sexual harassment or violence. All specialist advisors at the service are trained to support you at your pace, non-judgementally and in confidence.

To arrange an appointment with a SHVSS advisor, email supportservice@admin.ox.ac.uk. You do not have to provide any information in your email about what has happened.

3.8.3 College Harassment Advisors and University Harassment Advisor Network
College Harassment Advisors, or any member of the University Harassment Advisor Network, can be contacted for confidential advice on any matter relating to sexual harassment. They will often support students in contacting the University Sexual Harassment and Violence Support Service.

3.8.4 Other support
The University provides a list of external support resources in addition to the University Counselling Service. Oxford SU (Student Union) provides a confidential and impartial Student Advice Service.

3.9 Students who are Care Experienced, Estranged or Parents
Balliol is determined to create a supportive environment in which students who have experience of care, or who are estranged from their families, or are themselves parents, can thrive. A wide range
of support is available, and if you are such a student and require help, please contact the Student Finance and Support Administrator to ensure you receive all support to which you are entitled.

### 3.9.1 Care experienced and care leavers

You qualify for targeted support as a care leaver if you were cared for by a local authority throughout any three-month period ending on or after the date on which you turned 16, and before the first day of the first academic year of your course. A letter from a social worker or support worker can confirm you are a care leaver and your period in care. If you have been given a residency order that expires on your 16th birthday, you will need evidence that you were in local authority care for three months after your 16th birthday to be considered a care leaver.

### 3.9.2 Estranged students

You should apply for independent status as estranged from parents if you are estranged from your family; or were in care for less than three months after your 16th birthday, or for a period before your 16th birthday but do not have a relationship with your parents. Oxford has taken the StandAlone Pledge to provide targeted accommodation, mental health and financial support for students estranged from their families. StandAlone has a guide for students applying for independent status, which you can do if your circumstances meet any of the relevant criteria.

### 3.9.3 Student parents

Whether you have a child or are about to become a parent, a wealth of services are available to support you in Oxford – from the University and Student Union to the County Council. Financial support is available for the Balliol Nursery.

### 3.10 Academic Support

For whatever reason, it may be that while you are at Balliol academic work-related or other difficulties arise which affect your fitness to study (see 2.7). If so, it is important to address such difficulties as soon as possible. You are encouraged to seek help from:

- Anyone in the Wellbeing and Welfare team
- Your Personal Tutor (undergraduates) or your College Adviser (graduates): see 2.4.3
- Academic support for undergraduates, including resources in Balliol Library and trained Study Advisers, described on the Academic Support: Undergraduates web page
- Any of the other resources listed here (3.12)

### 3.11 Financial support

The College has provision to make welfare- and hardship-related grants to students. These are made possible in part by the generous donations of Balliol alumni. Applications for hardship and welfare funding can be made on a rolling basis and also at set times of the year. Please check for details of additional funding that may be available to you on the Financial Support web page. See also Financial Aid (7.3.2). For enquiries relating to financial aid and welfare support please contact the Student Finance and Support Administrator: student.finance@balliol.ox.ac.uk or student.support@balliol.ox.ac.uk, or by telephone on 01865 277748. In the meantime, if you need any help, please contact the Student Finance and Support Administrator: student.finance@balliol.ox.ac.uk or by telephone on 01865 277748.

See also Financial Aid (7.3.2) and details of additional funding help that may be available to you on the Financial Support web page.
3.12 Other sources of support

3.12.1 JCR and MCR support
The JCR and MCR elect student officers to help other students, including Welfare Officers, and officers for ethnic minorities, women, people with disabilities, LGBQT+, international students, first generation students and others. Details are available on the JCR website and the MCR website, which are managed by the respective student committees independently of the College. Members of the JCR and MCR also volunteer as Peer Supporters to listen to Balliol members with problems such as stress, academic performance, sexuality, depression, homesickness, cultural barriers, and relationships: see Wellbeing and Welfare team above.

3.12.2 Oxford SU (Student Union)
Oxford SU represents, supports, and creates communities for all University of Oxford students, led by six Sabbatical Officers elected from the student body each year. They work closely with JCRs and MCRs with lobbying support, training, wellbeing products, and more. The Oxford SU Student Advice and Wellbeing hub provides a number of welfare resources.

3.12.3 University welfare support
The University offers a wide range of professional welfare support, including help for those with disabilities, support for those suffering harassment or sexual violence, advice on health issues, a counselling service, support for students from a care background, estranged students, student parents and much more.
4 COLLEGE RULES

4.1 Disciplinary Rules

All members of the College have a duty to show respect for other members of the College and its employees, and to support the purposes of the College. The Disciplinary Rules set out below are designed to promote those purposes. They apply at all College sites.

The Dean, in consultation with the Master, is responsible for discipline at Balliol.

The Dean has the power to enforce the Disciplinary Rules, and also to take measures against acts or activities liable to prejudice the order, social life or good name of the College, which are not explicitly mentioned in the Disciplinary Rules. The Dean can, with the authority conferred on her/him by the Master:

- impose fines
- require a student to pay the cost of damage resulting from breach of the Disciplinary Rules
- require removal from the College of electrical equipment or other property belonging to a student which causes risk or disturbance to members of the College
- ban a student from specified College premises or facilities, or require the student to go out of residence for a specified period
- impose other penalties and take other measures as she/he thinks appropriate.

Any instruction to see the Dean is mandatory. If you have been reported to the Dean for a disciplinary offence, the Dean will:

- tell you what is alleged and ask you to state your position
- confer with others (including tutors) at her/his discretion
- inform you of their decision and the reasons for it.

The full process under which the Dean has authority to act is laid out in the College’s Non-Academic Disciplinary Procedure. Appeals against penalties imposed by the Dean or Praefectus are made to the Master, also as laid out in the College’s Non-Academic Disciplinary Procedure.

Any non-academic disciplinary case which may result in a decision to suspend or expel a student cannot be taken forward by the Dean, but must be referred to a Non-Academic Disciplinary Panel as set out in the College’s Non-Academic Disciplinary Procedure. Appeals against a Panel’s determinations are heard by a Non-Academic Disciplinary Appeal Committee. The process and mechanism for appealing Panel determinations are set out in the College’s Non-Academic Disciplinary Appeals Procedure.
4.2 College Rules

4.2.1 General Rules

4.2.1.1 No member of College may deliberately disrupt the teaching, research or administration of the College or disrupt or attempt to disrupt the lawful exercise of the freedom of speech by members and employees of the College and by visiting speakers.

4.2.1.2 Every member of the College shall, to the extent that such provisions may be applicable to that member, comply with the provisions of the Code of Practice on Freedom of Speech issued from time to time by the College pursuant to the duty imposed by Section 43 of the Education (No. 2) Act 1986 (see 9.1).

4.2.1.3 Members of College are required to show consideration for each other by taking care not to create excessive noise or unreasonable disturbance in or immediately outside College premises.

4.2.1.4 It is an offence to cause a disturbance to the public in or from the College.

4.2.1.5 It is an offence to throw anything from any part of the College into the street or into Trinity College. It is also an offence for Balliol members to congregate, sing or shout abuse in front of the gates of Trinity College, or to climb on the gates.

4.2.1.6 Failure to comply with reasonable instructions given by the Junior Deans, the Dean or the Praefectus is an offence.

4.2.1.7 Dishonesty in financial dealings with the College is an offence. In particular it is an offence:

- knowingly to attempt to obtain credit anywhere in the College whilst on the cross list (list of debtors), except with the Domestic Bursar’s permission
- to offer a worthless cheque in College with intent to delay or avoid payment

4.2.1.8 It is a College offence to lend your University Card to another person, or to use it to give another person access to Balliol premises or facilities to which they are not entitled. Misuse of University Cards is also prohibited under university regulations. Students are reminded that in signing the application for their card they agreed to obey all the rules of the institutions and facilities to which it gives access. Lost University Cards must be reported to the College Office straight away in order for a replacement to be ordered. A temporary fob may be obtained from the Lodge for a week whilst waiting for a replacement University Card.

4.2.1.9 Students residing in Balliol accommodation are required to abide by all the terms of their formal Licence to Occupy.

4.2.2 Meetings, Parties, Music and Noise

4.2.2.1 Members of the College who wish to hold parties of more than ten people anywhere in College, Master’s Field A-Block or Jowett Walk Buildings must request permission from the Dean at least three days in advance, including the following information:

- where the party is to be held how many guests are invited
- whether or not music will be played and at what times (see 4.2.2.4, 4.2.2.5).

4.2.2.2 Members of the College who hold parties are required to take reasonable steps to exclude uninvited or disorderly guests, and to prevent damage or unreasonably noisy behaviour. Guests must be individually invited.

4.2.2.3 Except with the special permission of the Dean, parties at which music will be played may be held in College, A-Block and Jowett Walk Buildings only on Friday and Saturday evenings.
4.2.2.4 The music must cease by 11.45pm on Fridays and Saturdays. The level of noise must be turned down from 15 minutes before this time.

4.2.2.5 The Dean or the Junior Deans may require the complete shutdown of music if they consider the noise excessive. The noise level will be assessed with respect to the lateness of the hour.

4.2.2.6 Live music (other than routine organ or keyboard practice in the Chapel or residential piano rooms) may be played in College outside the music room only if permission is given by the Dean and the JCR Committee. Except at authorised performances, drums may be played only in the music room, and then only at weekends or outside the hours of 9.00am–5.00pm on weekdays. Large bands and any musicians using amplifiers may not use the music room between 9.00am–5.00pm on weekdays.

4.2.2.7 Permission for parties or meetings in public rooms in College, A-Block or Jowett Walk Buildings (e.g. the Massey Room, Pavilion, Michael Pilch Studio, Bajpai Room) or in the gardens must be obtained from the Dean normally at least three days in advance. The room must be booked through the Conference and Events Manager if any catering or alcohol is going to be provided; otherwise the room can be booked via Balliol College Teaching and Lecture Room Bookings (room.bookings@balliol.ox.ac.uk).

Those organising functions in Hall which will involve 50 or more JCR members must discuss the event with the Dean beforehand, and will be required to have a Junior Dean and/or a College Fellow present. Functions in Hall should normally finish by 11.00pm; any exception to this general rule should be agreed by the Master or the Dean.

4.2.2.8 The Dean, in consultation with the JCR Committee as appropriate, may give permission, subject to whatever conditions they think fit, for parties or meetings in the JCR or A-Block Common Room; when sufficient notice has been given and when refusal of permission is contemplated the Dean will consult the JCR Committee and, if she chooses, the Governing Body. During Trinity Term (especially between Sunday 3rd Week and Friday 9th Week inclusive) when a large proportion of students are revising for exams, the Dean is unlikely to grant permission for a large private birthday or other type of party (apart from the agreed JCR bops and a Ball or Garden Party if approved by Executive Committee).

4.2.2.9 The Praefectus and, as appropriate, the MCR Committee in consultation with the Praefectus may give permission for parties or meetings in specific public spaces in the Graduate Centre. Permission may be subject to conditions. Between the end of 4th Week and the end of 8th Week of Trinity Term, no parties may be held in the Graduate Centre (defined on page 2 of this handbook).

4.2.2.10 Parties will be allowed in the first week of the long vacation under the same conditions as in term, but must cease by 11.45pm, or earlier during examination season.

4.2.2.11 Audible music may be played in the undergraduate areas of College only between the hours of 5.00pm and 10.30pm (weekdays), and 9.00am and 10.30pm (weekends), unless special permission is granted by the Dean. Drums and amplified music may not be played in the music room during weekday office hours (see 4.2.2.7).

4.2.2.12 During Trinity Term gaming machines in the JCR TV Room and A-Block Common Room may not be played after 11.00pm. The curfew also applies to the television, both for viewing and playing games, in consideration for those preparing for exams. At other times the TV must be switched off at midnight unless special permission has been given by the Dean.

4.2.2.13 Once the JCR and TV room have been cleaned at the end of term, they are not for use by students during the vacation. Possessions left in either room may be confiscated and students are not permitted to sleep there in the vacation.

4.2.2.14 When using outside space at Jowett Walk, the main College gardens, or the tables outside the Buttery, there must be no electronic sound and no cigarette butts; all rubbish and mess must be taken away and cleaned up; and the tables must be left entirely clear every
time they have been used, and returned to how they were previously. The Dean, Praefectus and Junior Deans are authorised to put a stop to excessive noise.

4.2.3 Guests
4.2.3.1 Between the hours of midnight and 8.00am the Porters are required to admit to College only members of College and guests who are accompanied by members of College, except that unaccompanied guests may be admitted if the Porter is satisfied that they are invited guests of members in College. Members expecting late guests are therefore advised to inform the Night Porter in advance. The Porter has authority to exclude large and/or disorderly parties from College between those hours. All College overnight guests should be 18 years old or above.

4.2.4 Residence and Temporary Absence
4.2.4.1 Undergraduates must come into residence in College not later than lunchtime on Thursday of 0th Week of each term and upon arrival must check in at the Broad Street Lodge. Failure to return to College on time causes serious inconvenience to tutors, and students in breach of this regulation may incur a fine. Permission for late return must be for exceptional reasons and sought in advance from the College Office; and it is unlikely to be granted unless the student has already established that subject tutors are content.
4.2.4.2 Undergraduates leaving Oxford for one or more nights between their 0th Week return and Friday of 8th Week (1.1) must inform the College Office in advance by email. This must indicate:

- date and time of leaving
- address and telephone number(s) where the member can be contacted in an emergency
- date and time of return

4.2.4.3 In all cases where the above information is substantially altered, the College must be informed by telephone (01865 277777).
4.2.4.4 Those resident at Broad Street or Jowett Walk Buildings must leave their keys at the Broad Street Lodge or Jowett Walk Lodge before departure and check out of their room with the Porters.
4.2.4.5 Those resident in Block A Master’s Field must visit the Lodge at Broad Street or Jowett Walk to check out of their room with the Porters.
4.2.4.6 In all cases where the absence involves the missing of College or University tutorials, classes, etc., written permission must be obtained in advance from the member’s tutor and forwarded to the College Office.
4.2.4.7 Graduates should see 5.1.4 for the conditions governing residence. Graduates who are going to be temporarily absent from Oxford are encouraged to inform the Holywell Manor Lodge of the period they will be away.
4.2.4.8 All members of College, graduate and undergraduate, must satisfy the appropriate University residence requirements: see 5.1.4.

4.2.5 Privacy
4.2.5.1 Residents are entitled to reasonable privacy in their rooms. No member of College, senior or junior, may enter another member’s room without permission, except in emergency or in the necessary administration of the College.
4.2.5.2 No member of College may interfere with personally addressed items in the pigeonholes without the permission of the addressee except in an emergency.
4.2.6 **Drugs**  
4.2.6.1 The illegal use or sale of drugs in College or on premises managed by College is prohibited, and members in breach of this rule may be required to discontinue residence in College. The College is criminally liable if it knowingly permits the illegal use or sale of drugs on its premises.

4.2.7 **Gardens**  
4.2.7.1 It is an offence to walk across the lawns as a shortcut, although the croquet lawn and the main lawn in the Garden Quad may be used for normal leisure pursuits subject to rules 4.2.2.1, 4.2.2.2, 4.2.2.8 and 4.2.2.15.

4.2.7.2 No games except croquet and those approved by the Gardens Committee may be played on the lawns or in the Graduate Centre. Balls, frisbees, etc. may not be thrown on the lawns.

4.2.7.3 It is an offence to damage the lawns or to leave litter (e.g. cigarette ends, packets, papers, bottles, etc.), crockery, glasses, furniture or clothing out on the lawns. Crockery and glasses should be removed immediately after use.

4.2.7.4 The above offence is taken to include mess left behind by those celebrating after examinations. Substances which damage the grass, walkways or plants may not be thrown or spilled in the College.

4.2.7.5 The playing of musical instruments or radios/stereo systems in the gardens is not permitted except with the express permission of the Dean.

4.2.7.6 Benches, tables and chairs should not be moved on to the lawns.

4.2.7.7 It is an offence to climb trees on College premises. This is a College disciplinary offence.

4.2.7.8 The wearing of bikinis or similarly inappropriate clothing in the College gardens is prohibited.

4.2.7.9 It is an offence to light BBQs in the College premises without explicit permission in advance from the Domestic Bursar.

4.2.7.10 In accordance with UK drone laws, drones may not be flown by students over or from Balliol buildings.

4.2.8 **Fires and Firearms**  
4.2.8.1 No weapons or ammunition of any kind may be brought into College premises except by leave of the Dean.

4.2.8.2 Fire: Bonfires are prohibited. Fireworks and inflammable liquids must not be introduced into College premises on any account. No heating equipment other than that provided by the College may be used without the prior permission of the Domestic Bursars. This rule applies, for example, to stoves or other heating appliances using fuel such as paraffin or Calor gas. No cooking in rooms is allowed. Candles, joss sticks and fairy lights are banned and will be removed or made inoperative if discovered. Highly inflammable materials such as petrol, diesel and other fuels may not be brought into College, even in small quantities.

4.2.8.3 Improper use of the fire extinguishers or the fire alarm system, including deliberate triggering of the latter, is an offence. There is an automatic fine of £80 for breach of this rule, in addition to the cost of replacement and repair necessitated by any damage. Offenders are likely to be evicted from College accommodation. In those cases where the offender cannot be traced, residents of the site in question may be charged the cost of refilling any voided fire extinguishers.

4.2.8.4 Residents are forbidden to tamper with or switch off any smoke detectors or hard-wired fire detectors. If you discover that a detector is not functioning correctly, this must be reported to the Lodge immediately. Failure to report a faulty detector will result in an automatic call-out charge of £25. Persistent offenders, or anyone found tampering with the hard-wired system, forfeit their rights to College accommodation.
The Scouts are required to report to the Dean any infringement of rules 4.2.8.1–4.2.8.4.

See also sections 6.2 and 6.3 for specific fire rules.

4.2.9 College Property

4.2.9.1 Members in College premises who have radios or television sets may not erect outside aerials. Students should make their own arrangements for TV licences: see 5.2.7.

4.2.9.2 Members of College may not wilfully damage or deface College property or any neighbouring property.

4.2.9.3 Members of College may not climb or walk upon or otherwise make unauthorised use of any part of the roofs of College premises. This includes the gardeners’ shed and Trinity College wall, and scaffolding erected for building repairs. This is a College disciplinary offence.

4.2.9.4 Other than inoffensive and purely decorative, non-religious and non-political items, members of College may not tie or attach objects to windows or window latches, or place objects on to or around window ledges or areas outside windows, in any College room. This is a College disciplinary offence.

4.2.9.5 Crockery and cutlery must not be removed from the Hall or Buttery. The exception is dining outside in the summer on the lawns, tables and benches, when crockery and cutlery may be borrowed, but must be taken straight back afterwards with no mess left behind.

4.2.9.6 Removing or attempting to remove a book from the Library without properly checking it out is a serious offence.

4.2.9.7 Deliberately damaging a book, computer, or any part of the self-issue or security system in the Library is a serious offence.

4.2.9.8 If a reader fails to return to the Library after having set off the alarm, or attempts to evade the security system, a fine of £50 will be imposed and rights to use the Library will be withdrawn for one week. Academic Progress Committee is empowered to increase the sanction on a reader’s right to use the Library as necessary.

4.2.9.9 If a reader deliberately damages a book, a tag or the security system in the Library a minimum fine of £100 will be imposed (in addition to the cost of making good any damage) and the right to use the Library will be withdrawn for two weeks. Academic Progress Committee is empowered to increase the sanction on a reader’s right to use the Library as necessary.

4.2.9.10 Stealing books from the Library is a criminal offence.

4.2.9.11 Deliberately abusing or damaging College telephones, CCTVs and computers is a serious offence.

4.2.9.12 Students are not permitted to exploit their privileged access to private spaces and subsidised resources for monetary gain. Examples of activities which would contravene this rule:

- Selling access to private College areas and subsidised resources including but not limited to: Hall catering, college accommodation, computer resources, laundry facilities, bicycle storage, music facilities and meeting rooms.

- Conducting paid tours around college without observing the college’s tourism rules. Paying tourists must buy tickets from the Lodge at standard rates and only enter the college at permitted times.

- Bringing guests into the College Library without prior permission from the College Librarians.

- Selling access to free student or college events such as bops, parties, talks or concerts.

- Giving the above facilities away for free but inviting donations or tips is equivalent to selling them.
4.2.9.13 Students must inform the Domestic Bursar if registering a College address for a business.

4.2.9.14 Balliol College encourages entrepreneurship which does not breach the conditions above.
5 ACCOMMODATION, MEALS & FACILITIES

5.1 Accommodation

5.1.1 Undergraduates
Freshers must live in College for the duration of their first year in rooms which are allocated to them: the Dean will deal with correspondence about exceptions to this rule. Some second-years choose to live out, but a large number of rooms are available in Jowett Walk or at the Master’s Field for those who prefer to live in. For second-years, third-years, and fourth-years, room ballots are held.

5.1.2 Graduates
Oxford University postgraduates are not guaranteed accommodation. Balliol is able to offer accommodation to the majority of first-year postgraduates. First-year students whom we cannot initially accommodate are placed on a waiting list and allocated rooms if they become available. Thereafter rooms are assigned by ballot. The rules governing the ballot are approved by Executive Committee and distributed to students well in advance of the ballot draw. Rooms for the academic year 2023/2024 are available from September 2023 to July 2024, and this may be extended to 31 August 2024 subject to availability (please check with the Domestic Manager).

5.1.3 Living Out
All members not living in College premises must inform the appropriate Porters’ Lodge and must provide their address to the College via the Student Self Service. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that this information is kept up to date on the Student Self Service at all times, and that all changes are recorded in a timely manner.

5.1.4 Residence Requirements
All junior members must keep statutory residence. This is defined as residing within 25 miles of Carfax for graduates and within 6 miles of Carfax for undergraduates. All junior members must supply the Undergraduate or Graduate Administrator as appropriate with a current address via Student Self Service (see 5.1.3). In the absence of such information the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar will not be able to certify attendance for the purposes of grant-giving bodies, immigration law and degree examinations.

5.1.5 Council Tax
Full-time students living in rented property are exempt from paying council tax. An enrolment certificate is available from Student Self Service to download and print, which may be used by students living outside College accommodation to claim for council tax exemption. You will need to visit the Undergraduate or Graduate Administrator to obtain the official Balliol stamp and for any related enquiries. Oxford City Council does not offer an exemption from Council Tax for students who have suspended their studies and start or continue to rent in Oxford.

5.2 Rooms and Furniture

5.2.1 General
Rooms and beds in College premises are provided for single occupancy only. Some rooms at Broad Street, known as sets, have a study and adjoining bedroom. However, the great majority of rooms at
Broad Street are single study bedrooms. Rooms in the Jowett Walk Buildings, Master’s Field, and Staircases II and XII and some rooms on Staircase XXII at Broad Street are en suite.

Room charges vary according to location and room size. In the case of rooms without electric meters a consolidated room charge is made. Charges are levied termly.

No pillows, bed linen or towels are provided by College. All bedding should be provided by the junior member.

No crockery or cutlery will be provided by the College.

5.2.2 Damage
The furniture and furnishings in rooms are the property of the College and the occupant is responsible for any damage or losses. Posters etc. must be affixed to pin boards only. Blu-Tack, White-Tack, drawing-pins or Sellotape cause damage to walls, and are therefore banned across College. Any damage caused by the use of these substances, including fading, marking or peeling of paint/plaster, the costs of repair and/or redecoration will be charged to the student. Each student may request a pin board from the Domestic Manager and may hang pictures from any picture rails in the room, provided that the walls are not marked as a result. Please report any other damage or defect to your Scout, the Lodge, or the Domestic Manager, who will inform the Maintenance Department.

5.2.3 Alteration and Repairs
All alterations and repairs require the permission of the Domestic Manager, and such work is carried out by the College maintenance staff.

Students must not tamper with or remove restrictors or window bars in bedrooms; doing so is a serious offence.

Furniture may not be exchanged between rooms or used for recreational purposes, without the express permission of the Domestic Manager.

5.2.4 Maintenance
The working hours of the Maintenance Team are 8.00am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. No requests other than emergencies will be responded to outside these hours.

Any fault or damage should be reported via the online maintenance helpdesk.

Submitting a maintenance request gives your authority for a member of staff to access your room. Maintenance staff have access to all College rooms; residents do not need to be available while the repairs are completed. This will normally be between 8.30 and 4.30pm, save in cases of emergency.

The College seeks to respond quickly to any problems and undertakes that:
### Urgency of repair

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emergency repairs</th>
<th>Response time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When there is serious danger to property or persons – for example major leaks, insecure doors or windows, complete loss of power supply</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out of office hours emergencies must be reported to the Lodge: 01865 277777</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Urgent repairs</th>
<th>Response time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For example, loss of heating or hot water, blockages to toilets or sinks</td>
<td>24 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dealt with within 24 hours Monday to Friday, or during the course of the following Monday if reported over the weekend</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-urgent repairs</th>
<th>Response time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Routine repairs such as changing lightbulbs, adjusting doors, leaking guttering</td>
<td>72 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generally attended to within 72 hours. Updates will be given to the reporter informing them of an estimated time of completion if ordering of goods, for example, is required.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 5.2.5 Private Furniture

Private furnishings are permitted in College only if they comply with current fire regulations. In this regard, the opinion of the Domestic Manager should be sought. The College will not purchase such furniture or have it covered by the College insurers. Futons are not permitted except on production of a medical certificate; this should be enclosed with a letter which must be sent to the Domestic Manager before arrival. Private furniture should be removed from College at the end of the licence period. No additional furniture, electricals or student belongings of any kind are permitted to be introduced into the cluster corridors at Master’s Field.

### 5.2.6 Posters in Windows

It is forbidden to display any political or religious items, including flags, in bedroom windows. See also 4.2.9.4.

### 5.2.7 Television

Any student who uses a television in their room, or who watches or downloads any BBC programmes on iPlayer (live, catch-up or on demand), or watches or records live television on any device, must have a TV licence specifically for the room, irrespective of the ownership of the television set or device. The fine imposed by the licensing authorities for not having a licence is currently £1,000. The authorities have the right to call and inspect without warning, and do so from time to time.

### 5.2.8 Microwaves, Refrigerators and other cooking equipment

Microwave ovens are not permitted in bedrooms unless there are certified medical or other special dietary reasons: a letter must be sent to the Domestic Manager in advance of arrival, together with a medical certificate from your doctor. This also applies to air fryers, hot plates and other cooking equipment. Small, table-top-sized refrigerators (i.e. under 60 litres in total) are permitted at Broad Street, provided they are removed from rooms every vacation. Fridges in Broad Street may be
stored in the JCR fridge room until the end of a student’s degree, at which point they must be removed from the college. See 4.4.3 for charges for removal of abandoned fridges.

It should be noted that hobs are induction.

**NB**: Refrigerators are not permitted at Jowett Walk or in the Master’s Field buildings, as there is generous provision in kitchens, except by permission of the Domestic Manager.

### 5.2.9 Room Keys
Room keys will be issued by Lodge Porters. At the beginning of the academic year, all students will be asked to sign an acknowledgement that they understand the College’s conditions that govern the use of a room. The College key policy is that room keys are to be returned to the Porters’ Lodge when rooms are vacated at the end of each term and for periods of absence of more than three consecutive nights. Failure to do so will result in a charge of £35 per key on battels. Junior members are not allowed to obtain copies of keys cut. Lost keys may be replaced by applying to the Porters’ Lodge, for which a replacement key charge of £35 will be made on battels. Failure to do so will result in a charge of £35.

Coloured identity fobs on keyrings must be left on returned with the keys or a replacement charge of £20 will be levied.

**NB**: Spare keys or access fobs may be issued but must be returned the same day. The exception to this is fobs issued in place of University Cards (see 4.2.18).

### 5.3 Domestic Arrangements

#### 5.3.1 Smoking
Smoking or vaping of any kind is not permitted in bedrooms, in any other enclosed spaces, in the library passage, in Front Quad, or directly outside open windows or the entrances to buildings. Smoking in College is permitted only in the Garden Quad and the Master’s Garden. Smoking is not permitted in any of the Graduate Centre buildings. Smoking is permitted only in the designated areas in the Holywell Manor Garden and at the Master’s Field Development.

#### 5.3.2 Kitchenettes
Members using kitchenettes in College premises are responsible for cleaning the facility, and for washing up utensils after use. Failure to adhere to this policy could result in the kitchenette being closed and being reopened only when users arrange to clean it properly. Frying is not allowed in kitchenettes at Broad Street for Health and Safety reasons. Frying pans, woks and deep-fat fryers are not permitted at Broad Street. All food must be removed from kitchens and refrigerators at the end of each term or it will be disposed of.

**NB**: To prevent risk of fire, it is forbidden to use microwaves, toasters or rice cookers after 11.00pm and to use Broad Street kitchens between 1.00am and 5.00am, during which time they will be locked. Students requiring overnight access during Ramadan should contact the Domestic Manager.

The Staircase XXI kitchen in Broad Street must be kept clean and tidy at all times.
5.3.3 Recycling
Rooms at Broad Street have a commingled recycling bin for paper, card, glass, tins, plastics and cartons, and a green food bin for compostable waste, emptied daily by housekeepers. Jowett Walk rooms are provided with a waste-paper bin for paper recycling, emptied weekly by housekeepers. All other recycling is to be taken to the recycling area.

Rooms in Holywell Manor, James Fairfax Yard and the Master’s Field are provided with a waste bin for commingled recycling (paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, cans/tins). This is emptied twice weekly by housekeepers. Glass should be recycled in the appropriate bin in the MCR bar. Recycling bins for glass can also be found in the kitchens at Master’s Field.

5.3.4 Car Parking
There are no parking spaces for students in Broad Street, Holywell Manor, the Jowett Walk Buildings or the Master’s Field Development. Students returning or departing at Broad Street will be allowed 45 minutes’ parking to load or unload their belongings. Any vehicle staying longer will incur a charge of £30. When returning or departing at Broad Street, the driver of the vehicle must report to the Lodge to obtain a parking permit.

5.3.5 Bicycles
Undergraduates keeping bicycles in College are required to register their bicycles with the JCR committee. A sticker will be issued to those successful in the Broad Street bike rack ballot, and to those keeping bicycles in Jowett Walk or at the Master’s Field Block A. Bikes without current stickers are liable to be removed and disposed of. Graduates keeping bicycles at the Graduate Centre must register them at Holywell Manor Lodge in the same manner. If you are leaving your bicycle at Jowett Walk over the summer, it must have a current academic year sticker visible on the frame.

- Bicycles brought into College’s main site must be left only in the underground bicycle store. They must be put in the racks provided and not obstruct the walkway, which is also a fire escape route. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in the bicycle being confiscated.
- Bicycles must not be ridden in the quadrangles.
- Bicycles left in the underground bicycle store at Broad Street by students going out of residence will be disposed of by the bike rep.
- Bicycles kept in storage at Jowett Walk or the Graduate Centre must be parked tidily.
- Untagged bicycles in the underground store will similarly be disposed of.
- Bicycles must not be kept in students’ rooms.
- Bicycle owners should be aware that the incidence of bicycle theft in Oxford is very high. It is advisable to use a very secure lock and attach unattended bicycles to something which is immovable, even within college bike stores.
- Roller blades, roller skates, hoverboards, skateboards and similar items are banned from College premises. Consult the Dean if unsure.
- Bicycles are not permitted anywhere inside College residential buildings, bedrooms, staircases or corridors.

5.3.6 Animals
No animals (including fish) may be introduced into College.
5.3.7 Deliveries of Perishable Goods
The Lodge Porters will not accept deliveries of perishable goods ordered by students. If food is ordered, then the student or a Balliol friend must be at the Porters’ Lodge in time to accept the delivery.

5.3.8 Laundry
In Broad Street there is a Laundry Room for undergraduates, located on Staircase XXI in the basement. It is free for all JCR members to use (it is funded through a termly levy), and you can use it as often as you like, but you must book in advance. You can book up to three slots at a time. One slot gives you access to one of the three washing machines for one hour and one of the three tumble dryers for the following hour. If you forget to book, you can use them between midnight and 6.00am without signing up.

There are also laundry rooms with washing machines, dryers, irons and ironing boards in Holywell Manor, Master’s Field Blocks A, D and Jowett Walk.

5.3.9 Music Room
There is a Music Room on the main site in which instruments are routinely stored. To use it, you must first join the Balliol College Musical Society and then sign out the key to the room. Holywell Manor has its own music facility: see the Holywell Manor guide. You are advised to insure your musical instruments and they are stored at your own risk. Instruments belonging to people who are not members of Balliol may not be stored on College property except in private rooms. The Music Room key may not be taken by non-Balliol members.

5.4 Vacation Residence

5.4.1 Undergraduates
Undergraduates are required to vacate their rooms at the end of the rental contract period each term (see Normal Residency Periods below) and remove all belongings, unless special dispensation has been given by the College Office or an application for vacation residence has been approved: see 4.4.4. For the mutual convenience of students and conference delegates, students in conference staircases will have to move promptly to other rooms even if they have been granted vacation residence. Conference staircases are: II, X, XI, XII, XV, XVII, XX, XXII and Jowett Walk Towers 4 and 6. All kitchenettes will be locked during vacations, except for that on Staircase III and Staircase XXI, which will remain open.

The Normal Residency Periods for Undergraduates in 2023–2024 are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Residency period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michaelmas 2023</td>
<td>Freshers: 2 October 2023 to 2 December 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Returners: 3 October 2023 to 3 December 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilary 2024</td>
<td>All students: 7 January 2024 to 16 March 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinity 2024</td>
<td>All students: 14 April 2024 to 22 June 2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.4.2 Graduates
Graduates have 44-week residence contracts. Applications to extend or shorten these contracts are dealt with on an individual basis by the Domestic Manager in consultation with the Praefectus if necessary, during Trinity Term. Graduates who are absent for a few days are required to inform the Holywell Manor Porters’ Lodge.
If students have any issues with their College lease they should speak to the Domestic Manager.

5.4.3 **Vacating Rooms**

Vacating rooms, whether at the end of the academic year or at other times, entails packing up and removing all personal effects (including books, posters, refrigerators, computers, electrical appliances and all personal possessions), and either taking them home or placing them in one of the College storerooms if you live overseas (see 5.4.7; please note that there is only limited storeroom space).

The College accepts no liability for items left in store.

Rooms are to be left clean and tidy. Failure to do so will incur a £50 charge to cover the cost of cleaning, or may mean that the resident is refused permission to reside in College premises in future. The cost of making good any damage, which in the opinion of the Dean and the Domestic Manager is beyond reasonable wear and tear, will be charged to the occupant. See 5.2.2 and 5.2.9 for specific issues which might prompt damages charges. There will also be an administrative charge of £50 for the removal of any items belonging to the occupant that are abandoned in rooms and have to be removed by the staff, and a full conference rent will be chargeable while the room is out of use; in addition, equipment will be disposed of.

All students must check out with the relevant Lodge on departure, and keys must be returned; a fine of £35 will be imposed for each key not returned.

5.4.4 **Vacation Residence Procedure (Undergraduates)**

Vacation Residence Forms are emailed to each undergraduate in 5th Week each term. Undergraduates wishing to apply for vacation residence must complete their forms and return them to the Domestic Manager’s office by 12.00 noon on Tuesday of 7th Week each term.

Failure to submit an application form on time will result in the individual being put to the back of the queue in being considered for vacation residence. Students who wish to change their agreed vacation residence dates may do so only with the Domestic Manager’s permission, which must be obtained at least three working days in advance, even if the student leaves a day or more earlier than agreed.

**Students must vacate their rooms by 10.00am on the final day of their licence**, or on the agreed day of departure if they have been granted vacation residence. Failure to vacate the room by 10.00am will result in a charge of £10 per hour for every full hour taken to vacate after the 10.00am deadline.

While the College will do its best to meet the wishes of all applicants, vacation residence has to be tailored to fit in with the College’s conference trade. The College obtains a significant income by hosting conferences during the vacations. While this helps to reduce the charges to junior members, it also reduces the number of rooms available for vacation residence. Regrettably, therefore, there can be no guarantee that all applicants will be granted vacation residence or that the successful ones will be granted the actual period they have requested. Likewise there is no guarantee that vacation residence will be in the applicant’s term-time room. Rooms are allocated according to academic priorities. There may be no vacation residence, i.e. no assurance that in any one vacation the College will be able to offer any vacation residence, except to students who are due to sit exams.

College services and facilities are also restricted during the vacations. Please note that the Hall may not be open to junior members for much of the vacation periods (see 5.5.5).
5.4.5  **Vacation Charges**
With the exception of those students required to stay up outside full term to sit examinations, who are not charged for College accommodation, all undergraduates who reside in College during vacation periods are charged a daily rate for the period they stay, calculated in accordance with a complex formula, at the end of each vacation. Finalists requiring vacation residence after their final examination will be required to pay their vacation residence charges in advance.

Graduate vacation residence is charged at the daily rate applying to each room.

5.4.6  **Vacation Study Grants**
Vacation Study Grants, subject to funding, may be awarded to those requiring help with living costs while undertaking academic study during the vacation (noting that if you are sitting a public examination shortly after the end of full term you are not charged for accommodation in College: 5.4.4, 5.4.5). For more details, see the [Financial Support web page](#).

**NB:** you need to apply separately for Vacation Residence in College (5.4.4).

5.4.7  **Vacation Store Rooms**
For undergraduates, there are three vacation store rooms for students who have an overseas home address, including a room for storing student fridges in the basement of Staircase XIII to which all students have access. There is a vacation-only storage space beside the Pilch Studio at Jowett Walk, again for overseas students. The Domestic Manager will issue a list of those entitled to use the storage rooms. The keys can be signed out from the Broad Street Lodge.

For graduates, there is a small provision of storage space at Holywell Manor and Block D3. Those who wish to use it should email the Holywell Manor Lodge staff, who manage the spaces.

Any items going into storage need to be in cardboard boxes and must be labelled with one of the labels issued from the Lodges. Each student entitled to use the storage rooms may store a maximum of four boxes and will receive labels for only four boxes.

The College accepts no liability for items left in store.

5.5  **Meals**

5.5.1  **Hall**
We provide breakfast Monday–Friday, and an attractive full-choice buffet-style lunch and dinner seven days per week, in the College Hall in term time, see the [Food page](#) for more details. For payment, see 5.5.7.

5.5.2  **Times**
Full details of sittings for meals are on our [Food page](#).

5.5.3  **JCR Pantry**
The JCR Pantry (a cafeteria) is run by and for Balliol’s students.

5.5.4  **Special Requirements: Vegetarians/Vegans/Special Diets/Nut Allergies**
Allergen information is provided with the menus on the day, and we do our best to give plenty of choice in order to accommodate most dietary requirements, but please note that we are not able to guarantee that we cater for all diets at every mealtime.
Those students with a severe allergy or specific dietary requirements are encouraged to meet with our Head Chef to discuss these in person in order to make suitable arrangements. Please email Bertrand Faucheux our Head Chef: bertrand.faucheux@balliol.ox.ac.uk.

As per the allergen labelling legislation, the daily menu in Hall (available on the Intranet and on screen in Hall) shows the presence in a dish of any of these 14 allergens listed below: gluten, lupin, peanuts, nuts, milk, soya, mustard, eggs, fish, crustaceans, molluscs, sesame, celery and sulphur dioxide.

For allergen information for any formal dining, please ask a member of our waiting staff present or email greg.butler@balliol.ox.ac.uk prior to the meal.

5.5.5 Meals during Vacations
Hall lunch will be available on a sign-in basis for students during the vacations (but not the long vacation) whenever it is open for other purposes such as conferencing, Fellows and staff. An email will be sent round prior to these periods detailing how you may sign in.

5.5.6 Dress
Dinner in Hall is usually informal and gowns are not required.

5.5.7 Payment for Catering Services
We provide an attractive breakfast Monday to Friday and a full-choice buffet-style lunch and dinner in the College Hall seven days per week in term time. There is a Fixed Living-in Charge for undergraduates and graduates living in College accommodation of £40.40. This charge makes a contribution towards the overhead costs of the College Kitchen.

It is compulsory for students living out to pay the Fixed Living-out Charge of £26.10 per term (unless they have special dietary requirements, such as religious or medical needs, which mean they cannot eat in College) which does not include any meals.

To pay for meals in Hall, you may choose:

a. To deposit money on the University Card via the online payment system, or
b. To make a Catering Pre-Payment (CPP) via the online payment system

c. To pay by cash for any meals eaten in Hall at the member cash rate.

If you choose (b), the CPP will be added to your University Card. The following terms and conditions apply:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of meal</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 lunches (Mon-Fri) x 8 weeks (1 course) or</td>
<td>£92.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 dinners (Mon-Fri) x 8 weeks (1 course)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 lunches (Mon-Fri) x 8 weeks (2 courses) or</td>
<td>£158.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 dinners (Mon-Fri) x 8 weeks (2 courses)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 dinners (Mon–Sun) x 8 weeks (1 course)</td>
<td>£140.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 dinners (Mon–Sun) x 8 wks (2 course)</td>
<td>£222.90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All of these options are for Weeks 1-8 of each term.

For more information, please contact the Catering Services Office.
• Meals commence on the Monday of 0th Week and end on the Sunday of 9th Week. The CPP covers weeks 1–8.
• At the till, you will need to show the till operator your University Card. If you fail to produce your University Card, you will be charged cash for the meal.
• The CPP (two-course) entitles you to: a main course meat/vegetarian dish served with vegetables or a standard salad, plus a piece of fruit or hot or cold sweet. The CPP (one-course) entitles you to a main course meat/vegetarian dish served with vegetables or a standard salad. Extra items are charged accordingly at the till.
• No refund is due; neither are any monies transferable to following terms.
• The prepayment package will not be valid from Monday of 9th Week; students will need to pay cash or use money deposited on their University Card.

5.6 Entertaining

5.6.1 Guests
Whether day, evening or overnight, guests may only be admitted to College premises by a Balliol member in person. The Balliol member is responsible for the actions of their guests at all times.

5.7 Buttery and Bars
The Buttery bar is next to the Hall steps. Opening times during term time are usually weekdays, 12.00 to 8.00pm (with alcohol available 12.30–1.45pm and 5.00–8.00pm), Saturdays, 10.00am to 5.00pm (with alcohol served 12.30–1.45pm). In vacations, see the visitor information web page for details.

The Lindsay Bar in Staircase XV is open for the sale of drinks during term, 6.30–11.00pm from Mondays to Thursday and on Sundays, and 6.30–11.30pm on Fridays and Saturdays.

5.7.1 Guests in Hall
Members may entertain up to three guests at any meal in Hall. Bona fide guests are charged for meals at the same rate as members. Members with more than five guests wishing to eat in Hall should make prior arrangement with the Domestic Bursar.

5.7.2 Tuesday Hall
Tuesday Hall dinners take place in Hall at 7.45pm in Weeks 1 to 8 in Michaelmas and Hilary Terms, and Weeks 1 to 7 in Trinity Term. These dinners aim to combine the formal and the informal, so a three-course dinner and coffee are served but gowns are not worn. Wine must be purchased from the Buttery. Students are also welcome to bring guests, although larger groups should book in advance. Bookings for these dinners are made available online at the start of each term via https://food.balliol.ox.ac.uk/ (paste link into your browser). You will need to make sure you have sufficient funds on your University card to cover the number of meals booked.

5.7.3 Functions for Societies and Clubs
College societies and clubs wishing to hold dinners and lunches in College must first obtain leave from the Dean. Arrangements must then be made through the Conference and Events Manager at least ten days in advance. A Function Form, which includes the current rules, must be completed; these are available from the Conference and Events Manager. Prices for three alternative packages are as follows:
### Member ticket (incl VAT) | Guest ticket (incl VAT)
--- | ---
Society Package 1: 3 courses followed by tea + coffee | £ 25.60 | £ 30.72
Society Package 2: 3 courses with ½ bottle of wine (or soft drink alternative), followed by tea + coffee | £ 30.95 | £ 37.14
Society Package 3: Drinks reception (prosecco or elderflower pressé), 3 courses with 1/2 bottle of wine, and tea + coffee | £ 34.65 | £ 41.58

These prices are only available for Balliol societies as well as the JCR Christmas party, the MCR Christmas party, Burns Night and the MCR summer dinner. Non-society dinners charged internally will be at the standard price of £49.60 plus VAT per person.

Only societies approved annually by the Dean may have their subscriptions and expenses collected via battels. See 4.2.2.8 for specific rules for events held in Hall or the OCR.

#### 5.7.4 Booking Rooms for Meetings

Students may book teaching rooms for College/University society meetings (for functions, see 4.6.4) if approved by the Dean. All bookings should be made by email to room.bookings@balliol.ox.ac.uk from 0th to 9th Week. Teaching rooms may be booked **after 7.00pm** only on Monday to Friday, and from 9.00am at weekends. If any catering is required then the rules set out in 5.6.4 apply.

When booking a room please supply the following information in one email, in the following format:

**Name:**
**Booking/Group Name:**
**Date:**
**Start Time:**
**End Time:**
**Number of Attendees:**
**Purpose of Booking:**
**AV Required?** (If yes, specify)
**Catering Required?**
**External person(s) presenting/speaking?**

The person booking the room is responsible for collecting the keys and for the room being left in a clean and tidy state with nothing in it having been damaged. No food or drink is allowed in any of these rooms, except the Massey, Wolfson, Bajpai, Pavilion, Pilch and Buttery Archive.
The names of any speakers attending in-person meetings must be submitted to the Dean beforehand. Special arrangements may be made by the Dean for events or attendees which are expected to attract a great deal of external attention.

Those inviting VIPs or anyone with security details to events must inform the Dean beforehand.

You must allow at least 48 hours’ notice when booking a room.

5.7.5 Overnight Guests and Guest Rooms

Guests may be accommodated in College premises only as follows:

a. In a junior guest room: at Broad Street there is a single guest room, a twin guest room and a double guest room, all with an en-suite shower room (available during term times only); at Holywell Manor there is a twin room with an en-suite bathroom. The charges for these per night are: £57.60 inclusive of VAT.

b. In a member’s room on a camp bed hired from the Lodge (only available at Holywell Manor), for which the charge is: bed only: £8.40 per night inc. VAT; bed, linen, blankets, etc. £21.00 for the first night (bed only for subsequent nights).

c. In a member’s room, with the member present: no charge. The Lodge should be notified of any overnight guests.

All guest room bookings should be made by contacting bursars.office@balliol.ox.ac.uk. Camp beds should be booked via the Holywell Manor Lodge.

No one person may stay in College premises as a guest in excess of three consecutive nights; nor may one person stay more than a total of eight nights in any one term.

When more than one guest is involved, e.g. visiting sports teams, arrangements must be made beforehand with the Domestic Manager during term time or with the Conference and Events Manager out of term time.

Three working days’ notice of any changes is required to avoid guest room charges.

Sub-letting of bedrooms is strictly forbidden.

5.7.6 Guest Rooms at St John’s, Cambridge

A reciprocal arrangement between Balliol College and its sister college in Cambridge, St John’s, permits junior members the use of a guest room at St John’s for up to three nights, if available, during full term and the Long Vacation Period of Residence, for a fee. Breakfast will be provided Mondays to Saturdays free of charge. Lunch and supper may be paid for in cash in the Buttery Dining Room. Visitors wishing to dine in Hall should notify the Accommodation and Bookings Office at least 48 hours in advance to make a reservation.

Students should contact Laura Jones (guestrooms@joh.cam.ac.uk or tel. 01223 338691), giving as much notice as possible of the dates of their proposed stay and in no case less than one month. For dining in Hall or the Combination Room during their stay, contact Kirsten Canavan fellowssteward@joh.cam.ac.uk. Accommodation and Hall bills must be settled by credit/debit card on arrival, when visitors should present proof of identity.
5.8 Library
The Library aims to be a comfortable working environment for all members of College, and to provide lending copies of core texts, along with a broad range of wider reading and some research-level materials. There is detailed information about what the Library offers on the Library web pages.

All books in the open-shelf collection are catalogued on SOLO (Search Oxford Libraries Online), which also contains the catalogues of the Bodleian and faculty libraries. Readers can also request books for purchase for the Library by emailing the Library Staff at library@balliol.ox.ac.uk.

The Library is open 24 hours a day, except during the College’s closed periods (1.2). Readers may borrow books at any time by using their University Card at the self-issue machine on the Library landing.

If you have a disability and feel that you would benefit from extra support in order to get the most out of the Library during your time at Balliol, the Early Career Librarian who acts as the Library Disability Rep would be very happy to hear from you. Whatever support you need, please do get in touch with them by email.

Readers may use their own computers and access the Eduroam wifi network in the Library.

Staff are happy to assist with using Library services across the rest of the University, including the extensive online resources, and can also provide advice on research and information literacy. Library staff are normally available between 9.00am and 5.00pm on weekdays and can be contacted on 01865 277709, or at library@balliol.ox.ac.uk.

5.8.1 Archives and Special Collections
The College holds important and extensive collections of early and rare printed books, medieval manuscript books, institutional records, personal and family archives, and literary papers. All of the archives and manuscripts are housed in the College’s Historic Collections Centre at St Cross Church on Manor Road, near Jowett Walk and next door to Holywell Manor. The early and rare printed books are currently divided between the Broad Street Library and St Cross.

Most of the early and rare printed books are catalogued on SOLO, while the Archives and Manuscripts website contains descriptions of those collections. Further information is often available from staff.

All enquiries about special collections material, whether manuscript, archival or printed, should be addressed to the Library and Archives Staff, at library@balliol.ox.ac.uk. The Fellow Librarian, Professor Seamus Perry, is also happy to receive enquiries about the Historic Collections.

Exhibitions, open days, talks and special events are scheduled throughout the year and advertised via email and social media. Staff regularly support Balliol tutors teaching seminars based on special collections material and providing dissertation research training. More about the historic collections and how to access them is on the Library web pages.

A revised 2nd edition of the College History by Dr John Jones (OUP, 2005) is available to members from the College Office @ £30.

5.8.2 Library Rules
Balliol is delighted to have a library that is open for up to 24 hours a day. To make it work satisfactorily all students must read and abide by the Library rules.
1. Use of the Library is restricted to current members of the College. Readers need their University Card to gain access. University Cards must not be loaned to others, nor may non-members of Balliol be admitted.

2. Readers may not borrow Balliol books for the use of non-Balliol members; nor may Balliol members borrow books from other college libraries.

3. Food (including chewing gum and sweets) and drink are not allowed anywhere in the Library, except for bottles of water and drinks contained in official Bodleian or Balliol KeepCups. Bottles of ink are also prohibited.

4. Each item borrowed must be issued at the self-issue machine on the Library landing. Readers should not remove or attempt to remove material from the Library without properly issuing it, and if the alarm sounds, they are to re-enter and check out the item properly or contact Library staff. Readers are responsible for all books on their account until they are properly returned on the self-issue machine.

5. Periodicals, reference books, law reports and dictionaries are confined to the Library. Library staff may give permission to borrow these volumes very briefly.

6. Twelve books and/or DVDs may be held on loan at any time. Please consult Library staff if more are needed. During term the loan period is two weeks; up to four renewals are possible unless the book or DVD has been reserved by another reader.

7. All books and DVDs during term are due back on Wednesday of 8th Week. Books and DVDs may be borrowed for the vacation from Monday of 8th Week. Books borrowed for the vacation are due back on the Monday of 1st Week.

8. Fines of 20p per day will be accrued on overdue books and DVDs, and charged to battels. The cost of replacing lost or damaged books and DVDs will be also charged to battels. If a lost book or DVD is one of a set, the cost of replacing the whole set may be charged. Delays in answering librarians’ queries about overdue or lost books may result in books needing to be replaced and a charge being made for that replacement, even if the books are later returned. Administration charges may also be imposed to cover staff time and materials wasted by an incident.

9. Deliberately defacing or damaging a book, DVD, Library computer, furnishings, or any part of the self-issue or security system is regarded as a serious offence.

10. Readers are asked not to hold conversations in the reading rooms, and all mobile phones must be switched to silent before entering the Library.

11. Readers are reminded to observe the Health and Safety recommendations on the use of ladders and kick-steps, and other Health and Safety notices displayed in the Library.

12. Books, notebooks, and papers that students wish to leave out during the day or overnight must be left in a tidy pile and have a currently dated slip with them; any items without a slip may be cleared. Items such as bags, jackets, bottles, and others left overnight may be cleared and placed in lost property. Items left on ‘hot desks’ during peak times will be cleared according to posted notices.

13. Readers are required to abide by the University’s rules on computer use.

14. External readers are only to be admitted by prior appointment with the Librarian. Appointments will normally only be given to consult items from the Library’s special collections or where the College holds the only copy of an item in the University.

Fines and/or suspension of Library privileges may be imposed if these rules are not followed. If problems arise, the 24-hour opening may be reviewed.
5.9 **Balliol Day Nursery**
Balliol College operates a small friendly Day Nursery on the ground floor of an Edwardian house at 2A Rawlinson Road, North Oxford. The Nursery was rated as ‘Good’ in the latest Ofsted inspection report.

The Nursery has 16 places for children from 3 months to 5 years and is open weekdays from 8.45am to 5.00pm. It is open for 48 weeks per year with closed periods at Christmas, Easter, and in August. Exact term dates are available from the Nursery Manager.

The Nursery is open to all, although priority is given to Balliol members, e.g. staff, students, and Fellows. It operates on a non-profit-making basis and is able to offer a reduced rate of fees to Balliol members. Fees for the academic year 2023/2024 are:

- Non-Balliol members £5,300 per term
- Current Balliol staff, Fellows and students £5,140 per term.

There is also a charge for lunches of £10.00 per week, for all.

The Nursery is registered for Early Years Education funding, which enables parents of all three- and four-year olds to qualify for a grant from the government towards the fees. The hourly funding rate from April 2023 is £4.58 and is available for 570 hours. A further 570 hours are available on a means-tested basis.

A salary sacrifice scheme is available to eligible College and University staff. Details available on request.

To find out more about the Nursery and how to apply, see the Nursery web pages or contact the Nursery Manager, Ms Jemma Jones, at nursery@balliol.ox.ac.uk or 01865 515654 (between 9.00 and 10.30am on weekdays).

5.9.1 **Georgina Horlick Childcare Bursaries**
An Old Member of Balliol, Nicola Horlick, has donated to the College funding for childcare bursaries towards fees, in memory of her daughter Georgina. The bursaries are available to children at the Balliol Day Nursery whose parents are undergraduate or postgraduate students at Balliol. Further information may be found on the Financial Support web page.

5.10 **IT Facilities**
There are study areas in Balliol providing spaces for you to work with your own computer, together with quality printers and scanners. All student rooms have network points to which students may attach their own computers. Wireless facilities are available throughout College. Students using these facilities are required to abide by the rules governing the use of computers in College, and those governing the use of the University network.

Further details about the computing facilities, how to set up internet access, printing, the University email system, etc. can be found on the College’s IT web pages. The College computing facilities are managed by the ICT Department.

5.10.1 **Balliol Branding Materials**
Electronic files of the Balliol branding materials – the logo and shield of arms (also incorrectly known as the crest) – are available to all College Members, and may be used by any student for College purposes. Anyone requiring assistance should contact the Publications and Web Officer.
5.10.2 Audio Visual Equipment
The BII (Balliol Interdisciplinary Institute) has purchased easy-to-use audio-visual recording equipment, which is kept in the Lodge and available to all members on a sign-out basis, the Porters retaining a University Card and £10 refundable deposit. BII projects will have priority, but it is there for all to use and enjoy. If you post video material online, kindly be in touch with the Publications and Web Officer.

5.10.3 Projector Hire
Students may hire a data projector from the Porters’ Lodge at Broad Street for use at club/society meetings. There is a £10 refundable deposit to be paid, and one student is to be responsible for the projector, whose University Card will be surrendered for the duration of the hire period. If the equipment is returned faulty or damaged then the ‘responsible student’ will be liable for the repair or replacement cost, plus loss of deposit.

5.11 Chapel
Details of Chapel services are given on the Events page and in the Chapel Services web page.

At 5.30pm on Sundays there is Evensong. This is the main College service of the week, with music and often special guest preachers. There is a termly Roman Catholic celebration of Mass in Chapel.

All members of College, undergraduate and graduate, are welcome to participate in Chapel activities. There is a Chapel Choir and the Senior Organ Scholar, Benjamin Gardner, would be delighted to meet anyone interested in joining: contact him in his room (Staircase I, Room 1) or at benjamin.gardner@balliol.ox.ac.uk.

5.12 Michael Pilch Studio
The College has its own performance space, the Michael Pilch Studio, which is located in Jowett Walk. Subject to conditions and availability, the Studio may be hired for theatrical and musical performances (open to members of the University and their bona fide guests). The studio is also available as a rehearsal space, when not booked for performances. Term-time performance weeks are agreed between the Balliol Drama Society (BDS), the Bursar and Dean, and the BDS selects production companies which will have use of the studio for Tuesday–Saturday inclusive in specific weeks under a BDS contract and conditions. Balliol productions should use this route to book the Pilch for performances.

During term-time non-performance days or weeks, the Michael Pilch Studio is bookable through the Broad Street Lodge by Balliol members for appropriate activities (rehearsal, dance and other non-messy indoor sports, meetings and approved society activities; these do not generally include social events). The booking of the Pilch for rehearsals will be limited to three hours per day for any given group. The Balliol member who makes the booking will be held responsible for the use of the studio, and should personally ensure that it is left clean and tidy each day. (A daily report will be provided to the Domestic Bursar by the Jowett Walk Housekeeping team.) A fine will be imposed for the infringement of these rules. Residents of the Jowett Walk Buildings are not to be disturbed by the use of the Studio; activities may not go on beyond 11.00pm; and the Studio must be completely empty and locked by 11.10pm at the very latest. Those wishing to use the Studio should consult, and agree to abide by, the complete booking conditions, which are available on request from the Domestic Bursar, the Balliol Drama Society, or the Fellow Custodian of the Michael Pilch Studio (who is Professor Seamus Perry).
6 HEALTH & SAFETY

6.1 Health and Safety Obligations
The College’s Health and Safety Policy and its responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) require students to:

- Ensure that they are aware of appropriate College safety rules, and that they conform to them at all times.
- Report to the Duty Lodge Porter all accidents, whether persons are injured or not, and all damage. In the case of an accident, an accident report form, obtainable from the Duty Lodge Porter, must be completed.
- Report immediately to the Duty Lodge Porter any defects in any part of the building, plant, equipment or machinery which may be or may become a danger to themselves or others.
- Comply with the current College Handbook.
- Refrain from tampering with fire or safety equipment or obstructing those carrying out safety duties; such action may constitute a criminal offence. The College would always consider disciplinary action in such cases.
- Take personal responsibility for their own Health and Safety and that of all other members.

6.2 Fire Safety

6.2.1 General
Members are expected to read the College Fire Instructions posted in each room. All Freshers are expected to attend a briefing and a short training session during Freshers’ Week. Please see also this video on fire safety for Oxford students. It is a criminal and College disciplinary offence to tamper with any item relating to fire safety, whether fire exit signage, fire extinguishers or any aspect of the fire alarm system. There will be an automatic fine of £80 for each offence in addition to the cost of rectification. Offenders are likely to be evicted from College accommodation.

There are two Assembly Points at Broad Street. One in the Garden Quad, at the South end and one in the Front Quad near Staircase 2. Both are indicated by a green assembly point sign. There are also marked Assembly Points by the Jowett Walk Buildings, at the Master’s Field Development and in Holywell Manor garden.

If you suspect there is a fire, you should sound the fire alarm by activating the nearest Fire Alarm Call Point, then dial 999 immediately from the nearest available telephone, then immediately call the Porters’ Lodge (01865 277777). The Porter will have been alerted by the triggering of the fire alarm, so he will know the location of the fire, and he will have responded by attending the scene and then telephoning the Fire Brigade himself from his mobile telephone. But you should not rely on this; you should dial 999 yourself first.

If the fire alarm sounds, Fellows, staff and students must evacuate and gather at the Assembly Point. Every single fire alarm should be treated as a real fire; students not evacuating in a timely manner, ignoring the alarm, not gathering at the Assembly Points or returning for personal belongings will be reported to the Dean.
6.2.2 Cooking

6.2.2.1 The College is fully fire-alarmed with very sensitive heat, smoke, and steam detectors: these must not be tampered with in any way.

6.2.2.2 Cooking in private rooms is forbidden, including the use of air fryers and toasters, although electric kettles may be used.

6.2.2.3 When cooking in kitchenettes, great care must be taken. Appropriate cookware should be used on induction hobs and microwaves. Cooking must not be left unattended. Smoke from burnt toast or other cooking will set off the fire alarms. The Fire Service will charge colleges that generate numerous false alarms each year, and these charges will be passed on in whole or in part. Microwave ovens, toasters and rice cookers must not be used after 11.00pm and Broad Street kitchens may not be used between 1.00am and 5.00am, during which they will be locked.

6.2.3 Fire Doors

These must not be wedged open. Likewise, fire escape hatches in certain members’ rooms must not be obstructed.

6.2.4 Candles

Candles etc. are not permitted; neither are joss sticks, fairy lights or electric blankets. These will be confiscated on sight and will not be returned until the end of term, or will be made inoperable.

6.2.5 Smoking

Smoking is not permitted in bedrooms or in any enclosed spaces including the Library Passage and outside entrances to buildings in accordance with advice received from Oxford City Council and in compliance with the Health Act 2006.

Smoking is not permitted in Front Quad of College.

6.2.6 Electrical Safety

If members have any concerns about electrical safety in their rooms or elsewhere in College, they should report them immediately via the Broad Street or Holywell Manor Lodges.

6.2.6.1 Under the Electricity at Work Act 1989 there is an obligation on the College to control all electrical appliances connected to its electrical system.

6.2.6.2 It is the responsibility of any member bringing an electrical appliance into College to ensure that it has the appropriate British Standard Number or Kitemark. All plugs must carry the BS Number 1363, be of the safety sleeve type and be correctly fused for the appliance. Flexible cables must be in good condition and not worn, perished, split, stretched or twisted.

6.2.6.3 It is strictly forbidden to interfere with electrical fittings, to connect appliances to a lighting circuit, or to use two or three plug adaptors plugged directly into a socket outlet. Multiway boards may be used provided approval is obtained from the College Electrician via the Maintenance Supervisor.

6.2.6.4 Any appliances must be under one year old or PAT tested and labelled. The Maintenance Department can test equipment which does not fulfil these criteria. The Domestic Bursar’s decision on the use of an appliance is final.

6.2.6.5 Please note that the College operates a 230-vault 3-pin plug system which is likely to differ from voltages used in other countries.

6.2.7 Bathrooms

Residents must not leave baths or showers running unattended. Serious electrical and other damage can be done by flooding, which can easily be caused this way.
6.2.8 **Roofs**  
Members are not to venture on to any roof of any building. This is a College disciplinary offence (Rule 3.2.9.3).

6.2.9 **Window Latches and Ledges**  
Other than inoffensive and purely decorative items, non-religious and non-political posters, members are not to tie or attach any objects to windows or window latches or place any items on window ledges or other areas around the windows of any College rooms. This is a College disciplinary offence (Rule 4.2.9.4).

It is an offence to tamper with or remove window restrictors.

6.2.10 **Trees**  
Members are not to climb, or use equipment to climb, any tree on any part of College grounds. This is a College disciplinary offence (Rule 4.2.7.8).

6.2.11 **Occupancy Levels in Public Rooms**  
For reasons of fire safety, maximum occupancy levels are set for certain rooms in College.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>No. of people</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hall</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buttery</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JCR Bar</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapel</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCR Common Room</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCR Cockpit</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massey</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pavilion</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JCR Norway Room</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buttery Archive Room</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecture Room 23</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When numbers approach these levels, it is the responsibility of the senior staff member present or the organiser of the event to ensure that all doors leading from the room are unlocked along the entire escape route (or routes) from the building.

6.3 **Sport and Personal Safety**

6.3.1 **Rowing**  
Everyone who rows must be able to swim 100m clothed. Nobody who has not passed the swim test conducted by the Oxford University Rowing Colleges (OURCs), or otherwise satisfied the Rowing Sabbatical Officer that they can swim, may row in any Balliol boat.

6.3.2 **Gym Equipment**  
There are multi-gyms at Broad Street and at Holywell Manor. All students wishing to use a gym must attend an induction session for each gym they intend to use before using the gyms for the first time. The inductions are usually held in Michaelmas Term at the end of Freshers' Week. All students using
the gyms must pay a £10 per term membership fee; they may sign up yearly or by term; the MCR and JCR Sports Reps will pass names to the Bursary for payment following the induction session.

To use the Holywell Manor gym, you need to book online via https://scheduler.balliol.ox.ac.uk/ (paste link into your browser).

Keys to the gyms are available from the Lodge Porters, who are under instruction to issue gym keys only to those whose names appear on the list of those trained. Whilst the Lodge is scheduled to be open 24/7, during times that it is unmanned, the gym is closed.

All fire exits must be kept clear of gym equipment and any faults/damage must be reported immediately. Free weights are locked with a separate key which will only be issued by the Lodge by means of a second University Card as deposit and on the assurance that there will always be two people present when free weights are being used. The College reserves the right to request a medical certificate be obtained from the student's Oxford City GP confirming fitness to use the College gym facilities.

6.3.3 Squash
The College squash court is in the basement of the Pavilion at the Master's Field and may be booked online via https://scheduler.balliol.ox.ac.uk/ (paste link into your browser). Indoor-only shoes must be used to avoid tracking mud and dust into the court.

6.3.4 Insurance
All participants in organised College or University sports are covered by the College's insurance policy. All who participate in any other sport or use training facilities (including College gyms) do so at their own risk.

6.3.5 Injuries
All injuries must be reported to the Lodge and the College Nurse as soon as possible, and an accident form completed and sent to the Domestic Bursar. In the case of team sports, this is the responsibility of the Balliol team captain, who should report opposition injuries as well as any suffered by Balliol people. First aid kits should be signed out from the Lodge by the team captain or their deputy, and taken to all matches and training sessions which are held off College premises (i.e. except those held on the Master's Field). Items missing from the boxes, or newly used, should be reported to the Lodge on return.

6.3.6 Health and Safety Procedures for All Sports
1. The Chairman of the College’s Health and Safety Committee and the Domestic Bursar will hold an obligatory safety briefing for all sports captains and sports reps during Wednesday or Thursday of 0th Week of Michaelmas Term each year.
2. The Chair of Sports Committee is responsible for all sports, risk assessments and insurance.
3. Team captains are to carry out a risk assessment for their sport at the beginning of each Michaelmas Term to include accident reporting procedures; templates are available from University sports clubs.
4. Team captains are to nominate a first aider for each game or practice session who is responsible for signing out a first aid kit from either Lodge for any organised games or practices on the Master’s Field or University Parks. This person should also have a mobile phone with which to summon emergency services if required (details of postcodes are in the first aid kits).
5. A risk assessment and list of attendees must be completed and submitted to the Domestic Bursar and Dean before any overseas trip.

6.3.7 Sport at the Master’s Field
The Master’s Field is available to all students to play and practise sports, both formally and informally, during daylight hours but should be booked via the Jowett Walk Lodge (jwtlodge@balliol.ox.ac.uk).

1. When there is the possibility of machinery being in use, the field cannot be used before 2.00pm on weekdays.
2. There is no requirement for a qualified first aider to be present at any match or training as long as the measures in 6.3.6. (4) above are followed.
3. Only cricketers playing approved matches may use the central wicket square or the artificial wicket. Matches must be approved by Dr Adrian Kelly (adrian.kelly@balliol.ox.ac.uk) and sent to him with the Jowett Lodge cc’ed (jwtlodge@balliol.ox.ac.uk).
4. Only Balliol cricket matches may use the Pavilion, with the prior approval of Adrian Kelly. Other users of the field may only book the Pavilion with written approval from the Domestic Bursar.
5. Squash players must use indoor shoes to avoid damaging the surface of the court with mud and dust.
7 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

7.1 Expenses

7.1.1 Course Fees
Course Fees cover teaching, and other academic services and facilities provided to support study.

Course Fees also include a contribution towards the maintenance of the Chapel, Library, gardens, lecture rooms, and other parts of the College common to all, including rates, taxes, heating, lighting, insurance, College dues, administration expenses and staff.

Course Fees include a subscription to the Balliol Students’ Club. All undergraduates are automatically members of the JCR; all graduates are automatically members of the MCR. All students are also members of the Amalgamated Sports Club. The Common Rooms and the Amalgamated Sports Club are jointly called the Balliol Students’ Club.

Course fees do not cover your accommodation or other living costs.

For information on your Course Fees, please go to Oxford University’s fees and funding page.

7.1.2 JCR/MCR Charges
As well as the Balliol Students’ Club subscription (7.1.1), the JCR and MCR have an additional system of levies:

a. JCR members pay compulsory levies of about £20 per term.
b. MCR members pay MCR levies of about £8.00 per term.

There are optional levies in addition to these, which undergraduate members may opt out of, and graduate members may opt in to.

One optional levy included each term is £4 in support of the Student Giving Campaign. This donation goes towards student support initiatives.

7.1.3 Graduate Continuation Charges
The University Continuation Charge and the College Continuation Charge are levied once a student has reached the end of their standard period of fee liability. They are only payable by students registered on research programmes.

The University Graduate Continuation Charge is £572 per term; the College’s Graduate Continuation Charge is £137 per term (this is correct for 2023–2024).

7.1.4 Room rents
New students will be charged a holding fee of £150 to secure their room. This fee will be refunded when students leave College accommodation, net of any amount showing on battels. Rent covers the provision of fully furnished rooms, their upkeep and decoration, normal depreciation of furniture, service, etc. If there is any damage to a room, save for fair wear and tear, a charge will be levied to the student’s battels account. To cover the cost of laundry facilities, all residents are charged £15.40 per term on battels. Rents are charged as follows (you can download the full list of room rents from the financial information page):

Undergraduates:
- Broad Street: £1,200–£2,758 per term (27-week contract)
• Jowett Walk, paid termly: £2,110 per term (27-week contract); £2,573 per term (38-week contract)
• Master's Field Kirwan Building (also referred to as Block A): £2,448–£2,573 per term (38-week contract)

Graduates:
• All locations: £1,914–£2,996 per term (44-week contract)

7.1.5 Charges for Electricity and Laundry
Variable termly charges are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of resident</th>
<th>Charge</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduates in Broad Street (9 weeks)</td>
<td>Laundry and electricity</td>
<td>Approx. £65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduates in College accommodation (14⅔ weeks)</td>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>Flat rate of £5 per term</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7.1.6 Other Living Expenses
• For the cost of meals in Hall, see 5.5.7.
• The University provides [estimates for other living expenses](#).
• Overseas students should budget more for travel costs. Overseas undergraduates should allow for the additional costs of staying in Oxford during the vacations.
• When budgeting, remember to allow for expenses during vacations.

7.2 Payments

7.2.1 Payment of Fees
All College and University fees for the whole of the academic year 2023/2024 are to be paid to the College in advance or, at the latest, by Friday of 1st Week of Michaelmas Term.

If you have not paid your fees in full by Friday of 1st Week of Michaelmas Term and you have not made an agreement with the Finance Bursar, you are liable for suspension from access to the premises and facilities of the University. You will be notified of your liability for suspension and from the notification date you have a further four weeks in which to pay your fees. If within that time period you do not make arrangements to pay your fees in full or in instalments, you will be suspended until such a time as your fees have been paid.

**NB:** Many Scholarship holders such as Rhodes Scholars and Clarendon Scholars will have their University and their College fees paid automatically. Students who are in any doubt about their liability for fees should consult the Undergraduate or Graduate Admissions Officer as appropriate.

7.2.2 Payment of Graduate Continuation Charges
The University Graduate Continuation Charge of £572 per term will be collected via the online shop (in the same way as fees for recognised students). The College Graduation Continuation Charge of £137 per term will be charged to battels.

7.2.3 Payment for Meals in Hall
Payment for meals in Hall is by debiting a balance of money deposited on the University Card via the [online payment system](#) or by cash (see 5.5.7).
7.2.4 Battels
Battels (i.e. College bills) are sent out by email in 0th Week of each term, with an additional battels statement issued at the end of Trinity Term. These consist of fee items and non-fee items. The battels bill should be paid by **Friday of 1st Week of each term.** Permission to postpone payment of non-fee battels must be obtained from the Fees and Battels Officer on 01865 277762 by Friday of 1st Week. Failure to pay will result in a Late Payment Charge of £30, which will be levied on Monday of 2nd Week.

**Students who have not paid their battels risk sanctions until the bills are paid in full (see 7.2.1).**

Finalists are unable to charge any item to battels in their final term and will receive a battels bill at the end of Trinity Term.

Battels can be paid by using the online payments system (https://payments.balliol.ox.ac.uk –paste the link into your browser), which uses Flywire for bank transfers, cards and online e-wallets, and the ability to pay in your local currency. Choose the country you are paying from in the dropdown menu and you will be presented with local methods to select. For further information and advice on Flywire payments, please visit the [Flywire help page](https://support.flywire.com) or email support@flywire.com; you can also watch a video on how to pay by Flywire.

Please do not pay in cash. Should you experience problems, please email the Bursary prior to the start of term (fees@balliol.ox.ac.uk) or call in to the Bursary.

7.3 Financial Assistance

7.3.1 Student Loans Company
Many Home/EU undergraduate students will be eligible for government loans and/or grants towards their fees and/or maintenance. You must apply every year of your course, and it is recommended that you do so no later than the Easter vacation before the start of the next academic year. More information is available on the [Government’s funding and finance for students](https://www.gov.uk/student-finance) page.

If you find that you need a tuition fee loan after the start of the academic year, you are able to apply up until the end of May. If you have already paid your fees but would like to take out a loan instead, please contact the Bursary (fees@balliol.ox.ac.uk).

If you wish to alter the amount of tuition fee loan you have requested, then you should be able to do this using your Student Finance or SAAS account.

7.3.2 Financial Aid
Thanks to the donations of Balliol alumni, the College can afford to make provision for financial aid to junior members in instances of both expected and unexpected need. A generous amount of money is put aside in the Financial Aid annual budget for hardship loans and grants. The Student Finance and Support Administrator is able to help with financial aid enquiries: contact her at student.finance@balliol.ox.ac.uk or by telephone on 01865 277748.

Details of the financial help that may be available to students can be found on the [Financial Support](https://www.balliol.ox.ac.uk/support/financial-support) web page.
7.3.3 Sports Finance
Funding is available to Balliol team sports, and to Balliol students who participate in sport at University/Blues level. For details, see the Financial Support web page.

7.3.4 Undergraduate Project Grants and Graduate Project Grants
Grants towards academic, academic-related or other worthwhile projects are available to undergraduates. For details, see the Financial Support web page. Please remember that when travelling for project or other academic work there is a requirement to stay safe when using data and devices. Please see further University details about information security and Staying Safe here.

7.3.5 Linguists’ Year Abroad (Undergraduates)
Small discretionary top-up grants are available for assisting Modern Languages undergraduates during their year abroad, to help with the cost of language courses or special tuition. For details, see the Financial Support web page. Appropriate insurance must be taken out by all year-abroad students (6.3.7).

7.3.6 Exchange and Travel Schemes
For details of exchange and travel schemes, including the William Westerman Pathfinders awards scheme (which funds Balliol students to travel in North America or Asia, staying with Old Members of the College), see the Financial Support web page.

7.3.7 Travel Insurance
In all cases of travel, whether as part of a course (e.g. field work, year abroad, medical elective) or an extra-curricular activity (e.g. a project for which College has provided financial support, a College reading party, or William Westerman Pathfinders award), students are responsible for taking out appropriate medical and travel insurance for the whole of their time away, including any independent trips made alongside, and for consulting relevant travel advice, for instance as provided by the Foreign Office. Reading party participants are expected to sign waivers prior to departure. Students are not permitted to travel to countries or regions for which appropriate travel insurance cannot be obtained.
8 GRADUATION & GOING DOWN

8.1 Degree Certificates and Final Transcripts
Upon degree completion all students will automatically receive one paper copy of their final transcript. This will be sent to the ‘home address’ listed in the Student Self Service. Please ensure that your contact details on Student Self Service are up to date, otherwise you will not receive important information about graduating. Additional copies may be ordered for a fee: please see the University webpage on academic transcripts for full details.

All students will automatically receive a degree certificate once their degrees have been conferred at a degree ceremony. Your certificate will either be given to you on your graduation day, or be posted to you within a month of your graduation. Students who have passed their examinations but have not yet had their degrees conferred at a degree ceremony can request a degree confirmation letter free of charge. The letter will confirm successful completion of the course at the University of Oxford, the dates of attendance and the classification. More information is available on the University webpage about degree certificates.

8.2 Graduation
You can formally graduate at a ceremony (hereafter known as ‘conferring a degree’) up to three years after completing your degree. You can confer your degree either by attending a ceremony in person, or by taking it in absence. You must confer your degree at a ceremony in order to receive your degree certificate. You do not have to confer your degree to be an alumnus/alumna of Balliol, or of the University.

Undergraduates and postgraduate taught-course students will be sent an email invitation in Michaelmas Term of their final year, inviting them to book to confer their degree at a ceremony in the summer. Postgraduate research students will be invited to confer their degree after they have been granted leave to supplicate. If you choose to decline to graduate on the day offered to you, then you will lose priority and will have to join a waiting list to graduate in the future.

More information about graduation ceremonies can be found on the graduation web page, including details about eligibility for the MA degree and dates for forthcoming ceremonies. The Development Office is responsible for the administration of Balliol Degree Days and is contactable at degrees@balliol.ox.ac.uk.

The College expects a student to have paid their battels (see 7.2.4) and any outstanding debt in full prior to leaving the College. Anyone in financial difficulty should keep the Bursary informed and may consult the Student Finance Officer (see 7.3.2).

8.3 Balliol’s global alumni community
As soon as you go down, you become a member of Balliol’s community of alumni – a global network of around 8,500 remarkable people. The Development Office and subject Tutors maintain close ties with Old Members, including through a variety of events around the world and publications, such as the monthly e-newsletter, Floreat Domus magazine and the Annual Record. You can also follow Balliol on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Balliol aims to foster a lifelong relationship with all of its students. In particular, the Development Office co-ordinates a number of social, educational and networking events each year.
In your final term you will be asked to complete a Keeping in Touch form and provide your new contact details so we can keep you up to date with news from the College and information on our events and benefits for Old Members. You can see the full range of events and benefits available to alumni on our alumni web pages.

We’re always on the lookout for Old Members who would like to help spread the word about Balliol events to their friends and contemporaries. If you would like more information about how you can get involved please contact the Development Office.

### 8.4 Career Mentoring Sessions
Balliol’s alumni network is extensive and varied, including people working in different industries all over the world. Current students may apply for career mentoring sessions, which connect students with Balliol alumni to discuss their career options and chosen industry. Students may apply at any time during their studies: please see the Career Mentoring Sessions web page for details.

### 8.5 University Benefits
The University IT Services will contact you towards the end of Trinity Term about your University email account.

The University also likes to be kept up to date with leaving students’ contact details. As you leave Oxford, please remember to update your personal profile on the Student Self Service website. You will be able to access your homepage for six months after you have finished your course. If you have difficulties logging in, please contact IT Services. By keeping your contact details up to date you will ensure that you receive important correspondence from the University. You will also ensure that you receive help from the University Careers Service, which is available to you either now or in the future after you leave Oxford.

The University distributes University of Oxford ‘My Oxford’ Cards, which can be used to access a wide range of benefits available only to Oxford alumni, to Finalists in Trinity Term of their last year. If you do not receive one, you can order a new My Oxford Card.
9 LAW & CODES OF PRACTICE

9.1 Codes of Practice and Policies
The College has codes of practice relating to Harassment and to the Duties to Uphold Rights to Freedom of Speech and Assembly. It also has policies relating to Equal Opportunities and to Race Equality. All College policies and codes of practice are available on the Balliol website's policy page. The JCR/MCR Code of Practice is available there and on the JCR and MCR websites.

9.2 The Law Relating to Charities
The Governing Body is required by the Education Act 1994, Part II, section (4)(b) to draw to the attention of all students the restrictions imposed by the law relating to charities on the activities of the Junior Common Room and the Middle Common Room. It duly does so hereby. The DFEE booklet Students’ Unions: A Guide (1995: EDUC JO 344 57 NJ; ISBN 0-85522-471) provides helpful guidance. The JCR Committee has a copy which may be consulted by any member.

9.3 Personnel Records
The College holds training and employment records about students, which may include personal information. This information is held for the purposes of education and (in some cases) employment. The College is governed by the General Data Protection Regulation and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. If any student requires access to any personal information held about him or her by the College or has any other query relating to data protection, please contact either the Senior Tutor/Academic Registrar or the Data Protection Officer. The College makes a charge of £10 for any copies supplied in accordance with the relevant legislation. Students are requested to give consent to the housing of data by the College when they are asked to sign the University of Oxford Data Consent Form. Please see the College’s privacy policy and the University’s Information Security Policy.

9.4 Freedom of Information Act 2000s
Like all other UK public institutions, the College is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and publishes a wide range of information via its Publication Scheme; for more details see the Freedom of Information web page on the Balliol website. Other enquiries can be made to the FOI Officer, in writing or by email to foi.officer@balliol.ox.ac.uk.

9.5 Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
The College is required by the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to maintain a ‘Prevent policy’ which embodies our reaction to the obligation to have ‘due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism’. There is obviously a threat of tension between this and our commitment (and legal obligation) to the maintenance of free speech and equality. The College is very conscious of this tension, but also obliged to comply with the Act. Our response was designed in collaboration with the JCR and MCR Presidents and can be found on the policies web page on the Balliol website. It complies with the law whilst providing the utmost safeguards to free speech and equality. Students are required to comply with it and co-operate in its application. We do not believe it restricts free speech or the activities of the College and its members, but the Vice-Master (Executive) will welcome feedback on this arising from actual operation of the policy.