



A Guide to Trinity College, University of Oxford

Outreach for Schools

in Oxfordshire

Support for your school

There are more than 60 committed staff working on access and outreach across Oxford University. Each college or consortium of colleges are linked to a region in the UK, and the schools in the region have a named point of contact, from whom they can request information, a visit or just get some advice on applying to Oxford.

The Access Team at Trinity College prioritise outreach engagement with schools on the basis of specific needs related to lower rates of progression to Higher Education, to the Russell Group universities and to the University of Oxford. We also prioritise engagement with under-represented and disadvantaged groups. If you or your school do not fall into these categories there is still *plenty* of advice and support available to you and your students here on the College Schools & Outreach pages and the University website. You are most welcome to contact us directly for more guidance on how to access that support.

Your school's main point of contact is **Hannah Rolley**, Head of Access and **Emma Johnson** the Access Officer at Trinity College, Broad Street, Oxford, OX1 3BH.

They can be contacted as follows:

Hannah Rolley tel: 01865 279860 mob: 07867 554 594 or by email hannah.rolley@trinity.ox.ac.uk

Emma Johnson tel: 01865 279864 mob: 07535 418 317 or by emailing emma.johnson@trinity.ox.ac.uk

Find out more about Outreach at the University of Oxford [here](#) and how we target our work [here](#).

Please also check Trinity College website regularly for updates of outreach events and programmes [here](#).



Prioritising our work with different year groups in schools

When over-subscribed with requests to work with pupils in schools and to support key dates and events throughout the school academic year, the Access Team try to prioritise work with specific year groups at different times of the year in the following way:

When	Priority visits in school	Priority visits into Trinity College
September - December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• YR7-13: Explore sessions• YR11: Exploring A-Level Options: making choices about university courses and the Russell Group.• YR12: Oxford & the application process.• YR13: Oxford/ Cambridge interview workshop• For Teachers: Oxford application support sessions	Enrichment visits into Trinity College YR11-12
January - April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• YR7-13: Explore sessions:• YR12: Oxford & the application process.• YR10: An Introduction to Oxford: the people, the courses & the Super Curriculum.• For teachers: Oxford application support sessions	Enrichment visits into the Trinity College YR10 & YR12
May - July	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• YR7-13: Explore sessions• YR7-9: Exploring University: the purpose, myth-busting the cost and what it might be like to study There.• YR10: An Introduction to Oxford: the people, the courses & the Super Curriculum.• YR12: Personal Statement workshop.• Primary school year groups.• For teachers: Oxford application support sessions.	Enrichment visits into the College All Year Groups and schools



Access Visits into Your School

The Access team at Trinity College visit state schools in Oxfordshire on **Mondays** and **Thursdays** and offer sessions for the following:

- **YR4, 5 & 6** What is University? Supporting primary aged pupils to understand what university education is, why and how they might get there. Suitable for all pupils
- **YR 7 & 8** Exploring University: the purpose, myth-busting the cost and what it might be like to study There. Suitable for all pupils
- **YR9** Exploring University: the purpose, myth-busting the cost and a brief introduction to the University of Oxford. Suitable All pupils
- **YR10** An Introduction to Oxford: the people, the courses & the Super Curriculum. Suitable for all pupils and those beginning to show potential to apply to a top university
- **YR11** Exploring A-Level Options: University courses and the Russell Group. Suitable for all pupils
- **YR12** Oxford & the application process. Suitable for those expressing an interest and/or having potential to apply to Oxford and/or Cambridge
- **YR12** Personal Statement Workshop. Suitable for all pupils and/or those applying to Oxford and/or Cambridge
- **YR13** Interviews and Admissions Test Guidance workshop. Suitable for those who have submitted an application to Oxbridge
- **Explore lessons for all.** These sessions are inspired by Oxford's online outreach platform, Explore, and aim to develop the kinds of skills associated with academic and other future success. These skills include critical thinking & analysis, explaining & reasoning, active listening & reflection, persuading, arguing and concluding. Further development of these skills can advantage all pupils in their future, whatever direction this may take.

Enrichment Visit Days to Trinity College

During term, we run visit days on a Tuesday or Wednesday each week to enable primary and secondary school students to come and experience university life and Trinity College. We welcome enquiries from teachers and individual students for a visit of any year group and time of year though generally, we prioritise Years 11 and 12 in Autumn Term, Years 12 and 10 in Spring Term and Years 9 and below in Summer Term.

A sample visit into College / University of Oxford:

Time	Activity
10:30	Welcome by the Access Officer
10:45	General University / University of Oxford Talk
11:45	Meet current undergraduates with Q&A
12:00	Lunch with undergraduate students & College tour



13:30 Academic taster or taught session at a museum or department ex. 'Object Handling' at the Ashmolean or a 'Collections Up Close' at the Bodleian

14:45 End of the day

This term's inbound visits are scheduled for the following dates and are open to Years 11 and 12:

- 16th October; 22nd October; 30th October
- 5th November; 20th November; 26th November

Again the Access team are very happy to adapt College visit days to meet the needs of any particular group of pupils, so please do get in touch with us directly, to discuss your pupils needs in more detail.

Teacher Support Sessions in Your School

The Head of Access, Hannah Rolley, also runs Teacher Support Sessions in schools, throughout the year. In these sessions, we aim to provide up to date information and guidance relating to the Oxford application process and the purpose of each stage, for example, the admissions tests and interviews.

We also offer guidance to teachers and other professionals about relevant enrichment activities that offer opportunities to pupils to develop skills associated with ranging measures of success. We also aim to provide teachers with guidance that may help them to support their pupils in all higher education applications, as well as those who may have the potential to apply to Oxford.

We particularly welcome invitations from schools and teachers who have little experience of the University of Oxford or low pupil progression to the Russell Group or Higher Education in general. These sessions can be planned around the demands of the school day and as such could take place after the teaching day, during staff meetings or training days. As such, please get in touch with Hannah directly to discuss your school's particular needs and the options.

An example of what a teacher session might include:

- The Oxford application process.
- The UCAS teacher reference – the essentials.
- How to offer students guidance and feedback on the personal statement.
- Relevant super-curricular and enrichment activity, the EPQ & work experience.
- The admissions tests and interview.
- General Q&A for all teachers

We also offer these sessions as a residential opportunity for teachers and the next residential is to take place on the 19th-20th September 2019 at Trinity College. Please get in touch with Hannah if you would like to reserve a place on next year's residential.



University Wide Support Available to Your Teachers and Pupils

Regional Teacher Conferences:

Because the University recognises the key role that teachers and careers advisers play in encouraging students to consider their options and make informed decisions, we run [regional teacher conferences](#) . During conferences, we welcome the chance to talk with teachers and advisers about supporting your students through all aspects of considering, and applying to, Oxford. [Sign up](#) to attend the next conference in you region.

Teacher Summer Schools:

Oxford's CPD accredited Teacher Summer School is a **FREE** two-day residential conference for teachers from state-funded schools and colleges in the UK. During the summer school, teachers receive detailed support and guidance about the Oxford admissions process, experience taster sessions for different academic subjects, and learn from mock interviews. It aims to support teachers to stretch and challenge their most able students, and equip them with the best possible advice and guidance on selective university admissions. Details of the summer school can be found [here](#).

Oxbridge Student Conferences

These conferences are designed as Open Days on the road, our conferences bring experienced admissions staff, subject specialists and current students from the universities of Oxford and Cambridge to you and your students at venues around the UK.

The events are aimed at Year 12 students (or equivalent) who are studying for their A Levels/IB (or equivalent) and are beginning to consider their options for study beyond sixth form. These full day events provide up to date information about our courses, clearly outline the admissions process and provide students with the opportunity to hear first-hand how our current undergraduate students find life at Oxford and Cambridge. Our aim is for students to leave having explored the breadth of subjects on offer to them, gained a deeper insight in to what our courses involve and an understanding of how both universities assess applications.

Find out more about the conferences [here](#).

Open Days

All colleges will be open for all prospective students on Oxford University Open Days. 2019 Open Days will be **Wednesday 3rd July, Thursday 4th July** and **Friday 20th September**. You can access more information about these days [here](#).

Additionally, subject departments will hold Open Days throughout 2020 and details of exact dates will be available later in the Autumn.



Explore: The Home of Big Questions

Explore is an innovative digital outreach portal from the University of Oxford. As the 'Home of Big Questions' it aims to engage those from 11 to 18 years with debates and ideas that go beyond what is covered in the classroom. The big questions aim to tackle complex ideas across a wide range of subjects and draw on the latest research undertaken at Oxford. Explore aims to realise aspirations, promote deeper thinking and stimulate intellectual curiosity. This could be an effective tool to aid **thinking** and **discussion skills** development. Find out more about Explore [here](#) and explore some of the Big Questions [here](#)

Competitions for your pupils

Several colleges and departments of the University of Oxford run competitions which are open to students from schools and colleges.

Preparing an entry for one of these competitions is a valuable experience for academically motivated students so please do encourage your students to enter. There are also some exciting prizes to be won. Further details can be found [here](#).

Oxlibris

OxLibris is a service run by University of Oxford librarians to help year 12 and 13 students with independent research for an EPQ or A Level coursework.

Knowing this may be student's first time doing academic research and it can feel really daunting, they are here to help! The website contains handy tips, and information about booking study sessions. Find out more [here](#). Or email for more information: oxlibris@admin.ox.ac.uk

Oxford for Oxford

Making Oxford resources accessible to schools and families

Oxford for Oxford works with key state schools in the Oxford city area. The project supports pupil aspiration and attainment and promotes connections between teachers, students, families and the University.

The Oxford for Oxford Project began in October 2015. Through the project, students have had the opportunity to participate in festivals, school visits, trips and workshops. To date, the University has engaged with local school children over 3,000 times. You can read more about this opportunity and download brochures for secondary and primary schools by clicking [here](#)

To learn more about the activities on offer through the programme and the financial support available for schools to attend, please contact oxfordforoxford@admin.ox.ac.uk

The Bodleian Library – For Schools

The education sessions on offer through this programme aim to inspire secondary school and college students to engage with the library's outstanding collections of manuscripts, maps, rare books and archives.



The Education Officer is based in the Department of Special Collections at the Weston Library. Working with state secondary schools and colleges in Oxfordshire is prioritised and workshops are available for groups from KS3 to KS5. You can access details about the Autumn programme for 2019 [here](#)

To find out more details about the schools programme and to access these opportunities click [here](#)

Gardens, Libraries and Museums

The University of Oxford's Gardens, Libraries and Museums are open to the public, providing broad access to the internationally significant collections held by the University as well as to the research and academic activity happening across the University.

There is an enormous range of opportunities available to schools to take part in events, visits and programmes. Trinity College encourage teachers to look at the website [here](#) to find out what is on offer for their pupils. The Access Team will work with teachers to help them build a whole visit day around activities taking place at one of the gardens, libraries or museums. This means pupils get to both experience learning in one of these world class facilities as well as visit Trinity College.

Targeted Programmes of Support for Your Pupils

UNIQ Residential – Spring or Summer

YR12 students come to Oxford for five days, stay in a college, attend an academic programme during the day and take part in social activities in the evenings. Students will get first-hand experience of life at university, meet like-minded people and gain deeper understanding of a subject that interests them.

Academic Programme

During UNIQ students will be taught by Oxford academics, attend lectures and labs, and use departmental facilities – just like a real undergraduate! In addition to lectures students might be asked to prepare some independent work for a tutorial at the end of the week where they will go through the topic in detail, either individually with a tutor or in a small group.

The UNIQ academic programmes are demanding, but they are also fun and students get to look at their favourite subject in new and engaging ways. The UNIQ courses give students an insight into what studying at degree level, and at Oxford, is really like.

We run courses on over 30 subjects, so there's plenty to choose from and almost certainly something to suit a variety of interests. Have a look at the courses page for more information

Admissions advice

We understand that aiming high and applying to top universities like Oxford can seem a little daunting. There will be a range of dedicated sessions throughout the week providing information on every aspect of the application process.

Social Programme



It's not all hard work! Outside of the academic timetable there will be free time or opportunities to take part in a range of social activities. In the past there have been stand-up comedy evenings, sports and games in the park, college tours, city-wide scavenger hunts and epic parties.

For more information on the selection criteria for UNIQ and to make an application [click here](#).

Target Oxbridge

[Target Oxbridge](#) is a free programme that aims to help black African and Caribbean students and students of mixed race with black African and Caribbean heritage increase their chances of getting into the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge (known collectively as Oxbridge). Since launching in 2012, Target Oxbridge has helped 81 students to secure Oxbridge offers.

The programme is open to UK-based students in Year 12 (as well as, in certain circumstances Year 13). The students accepted onto the programme will be high attainers – they will ideally

have achieved, 5 grades at A*, 9, 8 or 7 at GCSE. In the case of students hoping to study Medicine, they will ideally have achieved 8 grades at A*, 9 or 8 at GCSE.

The various strands of the programme focus on intellectual, cultural and social development irrespective of personal or economic barriers. These strands include:

- Regular contact with a black or minority ethnic Oxbridge graduate to pinpoint your strengths, discuss your aspirations and identify areas for development.
- A tailored series of critical theory discussions, seminars, Oxbridge-style tutorials, visits to both universities and guest speaker events.
- Advice on making the right degree subject, university and college selection.
- Personalised advice on your personal statement, UCAS form, SAQ statement and other submitted materials including essays, statements of purpose and portfolios.
- Structured Oxbridge interview practice, test preparation sessions with trained markers/assessors and revision workshops.
- One-on-one mentoring.

More information about how to apply can be found [here](#)

Universify Education

The vision is for all students to reach their potential in education. To achieve this, Universify want to help more students from non-traditional backgrounds to feel empowered and excited about fulfilling their potential at top universities.

Through their year-long programme the aim is to improve educational aspirations, school attainment and application prospects to highly selective universities.

The year-long programme is for Year 10 students unsure about whether university is for them. By taking part in the programme they will become a university student for a week in the summer, and gain a true experience of what it is like to study at a top university and how they [can](#) make it to a highly selective university, with the help of a Universify coach.



If you would like to know more about the programme you can Register your school's interest [here](#).

Study Higher

This programme is funded as part of the National Collaborative Outreach Programme (NCOP) which aims to promote social mobility by encouraging access to higher education for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Under the NCOP, we are required to work with young people in school years 9 -13 who live in specific geographical areas across Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, and Swindon. These geographical areas have been identified at ward level and are selected as they show:

- Low levels of participation in higher education overall
- A 'gap' in higher education participation – i.e. participation in higher education is lower than would be expected given GCSE attainment levels.

In order to support the Government's goals to increase participation in higher education by young people from these particular areas, we are working closely with schools, colleges, community groups, local councils and other stakeholders to deliver inspirational and informative activities and events.

More information on the targeting of the project and student eligibility checker can be found [here](#).

For Prospective Applicants

Opportunity Oxford

From 2020-entry, our new access programme, Opportunity Oxford will have up to 60 places available across a range of subjects for UK students who might not have expected or realised that they might qualify for a place to study here. This number of places on Opportunity Oxford will continue to rise over the next couple of years up to 200. To be eligible, applicants will be on track to meet the academic requirements of their chosen Oxford course but will not have received lots of support with their studies and will come from a less advantaged background.

Opportunity Oxford aims to prepare academically-talented students for university - so that they can make the most of their abilities and enjoy their studies. All students have to do is apply to Oxford through UCAS in the normal way. If they are eligible, they will automatically be considered for a place on Opportunity Oxford. They will know if they are successful in receiving an offer from Oxford and a place on Opportunity Oxford in January, and at the same time as all our offers for undergraduate study are made every year. Find out more about this initiative [here](#).

Foundation Year at Lady Margaret Hall

The Foundation Year is a **free** and **fully funded**, year-long course designed to enable students from under represented backgrounds to reach their potential. Students on the Foundation Year live and study at Lady Margaret Hall, a college of the University of Oxford. Over the academic year, students receive tuition in their chosen subject and you will also take a 'Preparation for Undergraduate Study' course. All of this teaching is aimed at preparing Foundation Year students to go on an excel either at Oxford University or at any other highly-selective university. Lowered grade requirements:



We recognise that achievement at GCSE and A Level is not necessarily an indicator of academic potential, and so we accept students onto the Foundation Year with grades that are lower than the traditional Oxford offer (e.g. BBB instead of AAA). More information about this programme is available [here](#)

Oxford announces Foundation Oxford

Oxford is developing an exciting foundation year course. This will be offered to state school students from less advantaged areas and who have also experienced personal disadvantage or a severely disrupted education. Find out more [here](#).

Additional Support for Schools

Careers Education:

The University of Oxford Careers Service are piloting a series of our successful programmes that we use with undergraduate students, in versions appropriate, usable, and effective for schools. The first programmes that have been tailored especially for schools are Litmus, The Student Consultancy for Schools, and Ignite. This initiative also extends to a specialised programme called Opportunity North which offers careers education support for state schools in the North East of England. Read more about each of these programmes and find out how you can get involved by clicking on the dedicated linked web pages below:

Litmus

Targeted and personalised careers advice can be more effective with students and more efficient for staff; [Litmus](#) is a careers registration tool that asks students to define their frame of mind around their career and the specific industry sectors in which they are interested. Staff can then use these to arrange tailored careers events that fit with students' current mindset and industry interests.

The Student Consultancy for Schools

[The Student Consultancy for Schools](#) is a structured programme designed to engage teams of pupils on real business issues with local organisations. Pupils who take part learn basic consulting skills including analysis, research, interviewing, presenting and report writing, as well as secondary skills of planning their time, taking part in a 12+ week project, working with the public and business people, and understanding how organisations work.

Ignite: Careers Confidence for Schools

[Ignite](#) is a programme of over 60 separate, age-specific lessons on assertiveness, confidence, networking, and marketing for Key Stages 3, 4, and 5. The programme is designed to be delivered by (e.g., PSHE) teachers within the existing curriculum, in 20, 30, 45, or 60 minute lessons.

The Oxford Careers Website

Oxford University Careers website might be of particular interest to teachers interested in supporting student progression within their own school. On this website teachers can find information supporting



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and developing student knowledge and understanding of the different [sector & occupation pathways](#) , guidance on [generating careers ideas](#) and [CV writing](#).

Finally.....

Trinity College *strongly* encourages all teachers to sign up to the [eNewsletter](#) to keep up to date with school events and other developments across the University and departments. We also encourage teachers to use the University [teacher's section](#) on the website for advice, information and resources.