



TRINITY

A Guide to Trinity College, University of Oxford Outreach for Schools in Oxfordshire and Milton Keynes

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. Trinity College is linked with schools in Oxfordshire & Milton Keynes and those in the Northeast of England in Cleveland, Darlington, Durham, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Stockton on Tees in the Northeast. We also work in partnership with St Anne's College and Christ Church as members of the **Oxford for Northeast** consortium to support prospective applicants, teachers and parents across the Northeast of England.

Your school's main points of contact at Trinity College

Chris Cottell – Oxford & MK Access Officer.

Chris is based at Trinity College, Oxford and can pick up general enquiries related to any aspect of the outreach programme and can support teachers and pupils with visits throughout the year. He can be contacted tel: 01865 279864 mob: 07535 418 317 or by emailing christopher.cottell@trinity.ox.ac.uk

Richard Petty – Northeast Teacher Engagement and Access Officer.

Richard is based full time in the Northeast and can support teachers and pupils with visits throughout the year. Richard can also advise on the careers education programme for schools and he can be contacted on tel: 07932 058 841 or by email richard.petty@trinity.ox.ac.uk.

What is on offer from the college

Trinity College Access Team offer university information and guidance sessions in school, in all three link regions. Our access team run sessions for pupils in YR4-13 each lasting about an hour. Sessions can be adapted to suit the needs of each group, which can be discussed at the time of booking. We also offer Explore (critical thinking skills) workshops for secondary school pupils. Contact us to book a visit.

The Access team also facilitate visits into Trinity College for all year groups in both primary and secondary state schools. These visit days include, meeting current undergraduates, learning about life at university, a tour of the college, an Explore session or a trip to one of our museums for a taught session.

There are also a number of residential opportunities in Oxford for both students and teachers and our outreach programme also includes after-school online CPD for teachers and virtual information and guidance sessions for parents and carers.



Details of all these opportunities can be found in the following pages of this guide, along with details of additional outreach and access opportunities from the University of Oxford for pupils, teachers and parents.

How we prioritise outreach support

The Access Team at Trinity College prioritise outreach engagement with our linked non-selective state schools in Oxfordshire based on 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 schools with higher rates of pupils who are under-represented and disadvantaged, for example, higher than average rates of pupils qualifying for free school meals.

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

Please take a look at the wealth of information available for teachers, families and prospective applicants on the University of Oxford undergraduate admission pages [here](#)

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

Trinity College support available for pupils, teachers & parents

FOR PUPILS

F2F and online outreach visits in school

Although face to face sessions are suspended until further notice, the Access team at Trinity College offer the following sessions to state schools in Oxfordshire as follows:

- **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 (*available in 2021*)
- **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

- **Oxplore lessons for YR7-12.** These sessions are inspired by Oxford's online outreach platform, Oxplore, 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.

To book an online live or pre-recorded session for your school please email access.officer@trinity.ox.ac.uk with your request.

We prioritise our work with different year groups in schools at different times of the year

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 at the College try to prioritise work with specific year groups at different times of the year in the following way:

When	Priority visits into school / online sessions	Priority face to face visits into Trinity College
September - December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YR7-13: Oxplore 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrichment visits into Trinity College YR11-12 • Primary school year groups.
January - April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YR7-12: Oxplore sessions • YR12: Oxford & the application process. • YR10: An Introduction to Oxford: the people, the courses & the Super Curriculum. • For teachers: Oxford application support sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrichment visits into the Trinity College YR10 & YR12
May - July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YR7-12: Oxplore 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrichment visits into the College • All Year Groups and schools

School enrichment visits to Trinity College, Oxford

(Online alternative available)

Once face to face provision resumes, 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.

Visit days are designed to give pupils a taste of undergraduate life at the University of Oxford and can be adapted for all year groups. There is no charge for these days.

<i>Suggested programme for school visit into College / University of Oxford:</i>	
10:30 Welcome by the Access Officer	12:00 Lunch with undergraduate students & College tour / explore Oxford
10:45 General University / University of Oxford Talk	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
11:45 Meet current undergraduates with Q&A	15:00 End of the day

The Access team are very happy to adapt and or extend College visit days to meet the needs of any particular group of pupils, so please do get in touch to discuss in more detail. If distance or other significant barriers prevent bringing groups of pupils to the College, please get in touch to discuss what support we may be able to offer overcome these.

To book a visit day please email access.officer@trinity.ox.ac.uk

Targeted access programmes for 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 University coach.

You can register your school's interest in this programme [here](#). Or get in touch with access.officer@trinity.ox.ac.uk to explore the options for running an Oxfordshire schools & University programme at Trinity College.

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](#).

Access opportunities prospective applicants

Opportunity Oxford

Under this programme, selected Oxford offer-holders participate in an academic bridging programme which supports them in their transition from school or college to our university. The programme explores and develops high-level academic skills that support the success of participants in their further studies. Opportunity Oxford also gives an insight into what life as an Oxford student is like so, when participants arrive to start their degree course, they can feel confident and know exactly what is expected of them and what to expect from Oxford. We hope that the programme will be enjoyable and rewarding and will give participants a great start to their university careers.

In 2020, the first year of the programme, we made more than 100 offers under Opportunity Oxford. For entry in 2021, we expect to increase the number of offers made under Opportunity Oxford to around 170. 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 University is committed to improving opportunities for talented students from all backgrounds to be able to access its excellent education.

Our foundation year course is for UK state school students who have high academic potential, but have experienced severe personal disadvantage or disrupted education. Those offered places take part in a free, fully-funded, yearlong bespoke subject-specific course at Oxford.

Foundation Oxford will offer up to 50 places per year. Foundation Oxford will admit its first students for entry in October 2023. All applicants for this course must apply via UCAS by the January deadline in 2023. Find out more [here](#).

University wide support available for all pupils

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. 2021 Open Days take place in late June or early July and again in September each year. You can access more information about these days [here](#).

Additionally, subject departments will hold Open Days throughout 2020-21 and details of exact dates will be made available later in this year.

Enrichment resources & opportunities for pupils

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](#)

Inspiring Digital Learning Materials

The University of Oxford has compiled the best of our digital resources to support learning and exploration. They can help parents and teachers to feed the curiosity of growing minds and inspire them to think broadly. These resources can also enable older students to explore their passions and interests further, and to discover more about Oxford. You can find these [here](#)

Competitions for 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](#).

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. To find out more details about the schools programme and to access future opportunities click [here](#) or contact the schools liaison officer here: education@bodleian.ox.ac.uk

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.

Additional Support for Schools

Oxford careers education for schools

Our Teacher Engagement Officer, Richard Petty, is also responsible for supporting schools to access Oxford Careers Education for Schools. The University of Oxford Careers Service have adapted a series of successful programmes that we use with undergraduate students, in versions appropriate, usable, and effective for schools. Tailored programmes especially for schools are Litmus, The Student Consultancy for Schools, and Ignite.

The programmes are **free** to schools and students in the maintained sector and are aimed at all learners within schools and colleges, not just those with particular aspirations in mind.

This initiative also extends to a specialised programme called Oxford Opportunity North, which offers careers education support for state schools in the Northeast of England.

For more information about this programme please contact Richard Petty [here](#)

Read more about each of these programmes 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 and developing student knowledge and understanding of the different sector & occupation pathways, guidance on generating careers ideas and CV writing.

FOR TEACHERS

Trinity College Online Teacher Support Programme

Our year-long online Teacher Support Programme is made up of six one and a half hour sessions each taking place after the school day. Whilst we begin the programme in January each year, we encourage teachers to join at any point or just for those sessions they would find most helpful. Whilst we offer a completion certificate for those attending all sessions there is no requirement to do so.

In these sessions, we aim to provide up to date practical information and guidance relating to the Oxford application process and the purpose of each stage, for example, the admissions tests and interviews. We also have the broader 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.

The six sessions include:

- An introduction to the University of Oxford and the admission process
- Supporting students through the process of writing a competitive personal statement
- Writing the teacher reference – what top universities are looking for
- Relevant enrichment activities for pupils – raising attainment and enhancing future academic success
- The admissions tests – supporting your pupils to prepare
- The interview – supporting your pupils to prepare

The programme also offers guidance to teachers and other school colleagues about pupil enrichment activities known to develop the skills associated with a raise in attainment and of benefit for university level study.

We particularly welcome applications from non-selective state schoolteachers who have little or no experience of the University of Oxford, pupil progression to the Russell Group or Higher Education in general.

To register your interest in the next programme please contact hannah.rolley@trinity.ox.ac.uk

University wide support available for teachers

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 your region.

Teacher Summer Schools:

The University of 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.

FOR PARENTS

Trinity College outreach for parents & carers

When it comes to deciding the next steps after school, everyone benefits from the support of the family and friends who know them best.

The team at Trinity College run an online live session for parents in which we cover questions about costs and finance, student support and well-being. These interactive sessions give parents the chance to ask questions and meet current students. The aim of our parent sessions is to explore

- the benefits of going to university alongside the costs
- what the University of Oxford has to offer prospective applicants
- and help parents and carers feel more confident about their role in supporting their child's future choices

We run these sessions in the summer and autumn term, and they are advertised through our linked schools. Parents can book onto a choice of dates independently, so look out for our emails to share with parents. To discuss planning a session specifically for your students' parents please get in touch to discuss directly access.officer@trinity.ox.ac.uk

As a parent it is not always easy to know how to help, so the University of Oxford wants to make sure everyone has to hand the information that might be needed.

The University has produced a website pages and a downloadable guide explaining why we believe university might be the right next step for a child and why Oxford might be a good fit. There's advice on how students should set about choosing what to study, preparing for university and how to put in a strong application.

We want parents and carers to know that students are in safe hands at Oxford and how seriously we take their wellbeing. We also understand that parents will need to be clear on how costs will be covered, and to be reassured that our financial support for UK students is some of the most generous offered by any university. This information and the written guide can be found here

Finally.....



TRINITY

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.