

Keble MCR



Handbook 2026–2027

Welcome to Keble MCR!

Dear Keble Freshers,

Congratulations on getting into Oxford, and a very warm welcome to our Keble College Middle Common Room (MCR)! Here, “MCR” refers to both the *community* of graduate students as well as certain *communal spaces* for our graduate students, but not the band *My Chemical Romance*. Whereas most colleges only have one room as their MCR, at Keble we have the luxury of having two! One is located on Keble “main site” (Parks Road), and another one is in our graduate accommodation, the H B Allen Centre. Naturally, the MCR in HBAC is the one that is used more often, since so many graduates live here, but both MCRs are always open to every MCR student, and you can come at any time you like to make use of those spaces.

You may feel nervous before joining Oxford; I know I did. However, I quickly met so many amazing people in the MCR, who made me feel welcome. I am sure the same will happen for you as this is such a diverse community with so many different interests and talents.

Although it is your degree that has brought you here, there is so much more to Oxford than just working hard in dingy libraries from sunrise to sunset. It is about making friends, trying new things, and having plenty of fun. Our MCR community provides a great way of getting involved with Oxford outside of your degree. Our Freshers’ President, Mel, along with the rest of the committee, have organised a fun-filled schedule for Freshers’ Week, to welcome you to Oxford, Keble, and the MCR; you can look forward to picnics, games nights, tours of Keble and Oxford, sunset drinks, and so much more! To keep up to date with all the latest events and announcements, please join the [MCR 2026/27 WhatsApp Community](#), and follow [@keblemcr](#) on Instagram.

Following Freshers’ Week, our MCR committee will organise a wide variety of events each term that will give you the opportunity to relax and spend some quality time with your fellow Keblites. We have chill weekly events, such as craft nights, board games nights, and Sunday brunch, as well as the bi-weekly ‘Cheese & Why’ discussion series. We also have many other less frequent but much larger events, like BOPs (Big Organised Parties), black-tie dinners, bar exchanges, trips around Oxford, and much more! Although you will be working hard throughout the year, it is vital to take breaks and engage with others as these will help you to recharge, destress, and work more efficiently. More importantly, it will be the memories you created with your friends that you’ll look back on fondly and will have made your time here so special.

This handbook introduces you to the MCR, to Keble in general, HBAC, life and tips about Oxford, and the people in the MCR and College who can help you sort out any queries, such as accommodation, finances, registration, academic concerns, and welfare. Please do reach out the fabulous members of our MCR Committee with any questions you might have.

It is a pleasure to welcome you into the Keble family; we are all looking forward to meeting every one of you and seeing you at all the freshers’ events. I hope you have a wonderful time in Oxford!

William Gillow

Keble College MCR President 26/27

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Glossary, Common colloquialisms and Useful Terms

Find here some quick terms that are used throughout the college and Oxford!

Please also refer to the University's own list:

(<https://www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation/history/oxford-glossary>)

- Battels: Term for accounts/bills for students and academics at their individual colleges, which can encompass anything from meals and accommodation to charity levies. To be batteled therefore refers to being charged for the amount on to one's battels - which is due to be paid at the beginning of each term.
- Beadel: Official servant of the Vice-Chancellor.
- Bod: Bodleian, in reference to Bodleian library (Oxford's centralised library organisation).
- Bod card: University card, named after the Bodleian library.
- BOP: A party held by a college, typically themed fancy dress (Big Organised Party).
- Bursar: Chief financial officer of a college.
- Carnations or Colour-coded flowers: A non-obligatory tradition for Oxford exams. You pin a white carnation (flower) [to your gown/sub-fusc] for your first exam, pink for your interim exam(s), and red for your final. The colour of the flower symbolises the blood from the heart of a student as they bleed all the knowledge they have acquired onto the exam paper: hence the darker the flower, the closer to their final exam.
- Collections: Exams, named as traditionally you would have to collect them from the Examinations School. Also, in reference to specific meetings. Mostly relevant for undergraduate students.
- College Advisor: A postgraduate tutor in your field of study who is an initial point of contact within college for any academic issues and/or welfare concerns (both college or non-college) you may have whilst in Oxford. In some ways equivalent to the college's version of a personal tutor.
- Come Up: To arrive at Oxford.
- Congregation: Supreme governing body of the University, consisting of all academic staff and senior academic-related staff.
- Cuppers: Inter-college competition (could be sport and non-sport competitions).
- Degree Day: Dates throughout the course of the year when students may be presented with their degrees.
- Don: An academic or tutor.
- Fellows: Senior academics/appointed staff who serve as the trustees and governing body of a college (see SCR).

- Fob: A fob or keycard, all MCR members can get one from the porter's lodge at HBAC for the HBAC MCR and QCR.
- Go Down: To leave Oxford.
- Gowns: refers to the clothing/gown worn in exams, viva's, academic events and formal dinners. For MCR members the appropriate gown is the "advanced student gown" - a knee-length, plain black gown with long black streamers from the shoulders (see sub fusc). When events note "gowns required" this means you should wear your gown but does not mean you have to wear full sub-fusc.
- Graduation: 1) The process of graduating; 2) Ceremony in the Sheldonian Theatre taking place on Degree Days where students are awarded their degrees.
- HBAC: H B Allen Centre refers to the main hub for the graduate community and the predominant concentration of Keble's graduate accommodation.
- High Table: The table at the end of the hall reserved for the SCR fellows. MCR members will have the chance to dine here at least once in their time at Oxford. Students can join High Table on Wednesday – the sign-up form will go out a week before.
- JCR: Junior Common Room, denoting the body to which undergraduates belong too. It also dualistically refers to the physical space of the undergraduates (junior) common room.
- Lasagne College: a nickname for Keble College, due to the brickwork patterns on the main college site (it looks a bit like the layers of a lasagne).
- Lodge: Base of operations for college.
- Main Site: the old college buildings on Keble Road/Parks Road.
- Main-Site MCR: refers to the physical common room at the main site Keble College (see 28 on map).
- Matriculation: a formal ceremony which amidst one into the University of Oxford. At Keble, this includes gathering at the chapel and then walking to a ceremony in the Sheldonian Theatre, usually this takes place in Week 1 on a Saturday (subject to universities timetable). Sub fusc should be worn at matriculation (see sub fusc).
- MCR: Middle Common Room, denoting the body to which graduates belong. (Masters, DPhils, visiting students, etc., i.e., us!). MCR also refers to the physical space of the graduate (middle) common room.
- MCR (HBAC): or HBAC MCR refers to the physical common room at the H B Allen Centre.
- Pigeonhole (pidge): The University's internal mail system. The MCR pigeons can be found in the Sarah Acland House in the HBAC.
- Plodge: an informal term for the Porters' Lodge.
- Punting: The activity of going along a river in a punt (= a long boat with a flat bottom that is moved by pushing against the bottom of the river with a long pole, similar to a gondola). Keble

MCR has a punt at Cherwell Boathouse that can be used during Trinity and summer and only costs 5 pounds for us.

- QCR (HBAC): or HBAC QCR refers to the Quiet Common Room, a study and workspace in the H B Allen Centre.
- SCR: Senior Common Room, denoting the body to which fellows of the college (see fellow) belong too. This typically includes those working or teaching at the college.
- Sub fusc: Oxford's academic dress. Oxford students must wear subfusc to all formal academic occasions or events deemed "sub fusc must be worn"; matriculation, some exams, DPhil vivas graduation etc. This consists of black shoes, dark socks or tights, dark trousers or skirt, white shirt with a bow tie or black ribbon, a black jacket or cardigan, mortarboard and academic gown. Subfusc is not required for formal dinner in the hall, where you just need your gown (see gown). This dress code is checked and enforced so it is a good idea to obtain the appropriate dress. Graduates wear an 'advanced student's gown', which costs about £35. A mortarboard costs about £10. These can be bought from University shops such as the varsity shop on Broad Street, Shepherd & Woodward on High Street or Walters on Turl Street as a pack. Alternatively, if you wish, you may wear the gown and hood from your previous university.
- Tab: Student at Cambridge University.
- Terms: There are three terms in the academic year, in which teaching and examinations typically occur: Michaelmas Term (October–December); Hilary Term (January–March); and Trinity Term (April–June). Terms are usually abbreviated by their initials and the year, so MT24 would be Michaelmas Term of 2024. The Summer Term (or Long Vacation) spans the gap between Trinity and Michaelmas.
- Tutor: Academic who teaches students individually or in very small groups. They act as both teacher and academic advisor.
- Warden: the head of Keble college. Other colleges may refer to this role as the Master, Principal, or other names.

Welcome Freshers!

Dear Freshers,

Congratulations on starting this new academic chapter of your lives. Welcome to Keble college! On behalf of the MCR, it is a pleasure to receive you. We hope you will have a wonderful time with us throughout the academic year. To help you settle in and get to know the college and one another, I warmly invite you to join the many activities the MCR has organized for you throughout Michaelmas Term, from Week -1 (starting on 27/09) for early arrivals until the end of term on Week 8. Keble will be your home in Oxford, so make the most of it. Enjoy the best college in Oxford!

During Freshers' Week we will have plenty of social gatherings where you can meet your fellow students and hopefully make some new, long-lasting friendships. I understand if attending every event is overwhelming. That's why we will share the term card with you on the WhatsApp group so have a look through it and choose whichever events sound most enjoyable to you. I promise there will be plenty to choose from, including the Tea Party, Sunset Terrace pizza, the Literary Oxford Tour, formal dinners, rowing taster sessions, and much more.

If you have any accessibility requirements that the College may not already be aware of, please don't hesitate to let me know. We want to make sure that everyone feels comfortable and included from the very beginning. Finally, do not forget to register with a GP, download the NHS app, open a bank account, get a mobile phone and attend the mandatory College induction events. There is a lot to organize when you first arrive, but we will gladly guide you, so don't hesitate to ask.

Melanie Bautista Cruz

Freshers' Week President

(melanie.bautistacruz@keble.ox.ac.uk)



Freshers' President: Mel Bautista Cruz
3rd Year DPhil in Physics
(freshers.president@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk)

Hi! I'm Mel, a 3rd year DPhil student in Atomic & Laser Physics, researching the intriguing world where quantum mechanics meets relativity. Beyond my research, I'm your dedicated Freshers' week president for the MCR. I'm here to ensure everyone feels welcomed and included. I'm usually around the marquee for breakfast or in the HBAC cafeteria, so feel free to come by for a chat anytime! I'll be happy to discuss any issues or ideas you have related to living at Oxford.

MCR Committee 2026/2027

Below is a list of all our current MCR Committee members for 2026/2027. Non-executive committee positions are elected twice a year, at the end of Michaelmas term, and the middle of Trinity Term. Executive committee positions are elected once a year, in the middle of Trinity Term.

MCR Executive Committee Position	Holder for 26/27 Year
President	William Gillow
Vice President	Thomas Higham
Secretary	Emily Nurden
Treasurer	Angira Sharma

MCR Committee Position	Holder for MT26
Freshers' President	Mel Bautista Cruz
Welfare Officers	William Lugoloobi Tomoki Ishikawa Paras Bassuk
Equality and Diversity Officer	Adam Atcha
Accessibility and Disability Officer	Paige Norton-Edwards
Environment Officer	Jess Chiriboga
Entertainment Officers (Social Secretary)	[vacant] [vacant]
Arts and Culture Officer	Elena Tybulewicz
Games Officer	Michal Staniaszek
Exchange Dinner Officer	Adam Bush
Black-Tie Dinner Officer	Eve Hallett
Selwyn Exchange Officer	Fredrik Hasselgren
Cellar Steward	Alex Mackay
Sports Officer	Max Pralle
IT Officer	Phoebe Cheung

The Executive Committee

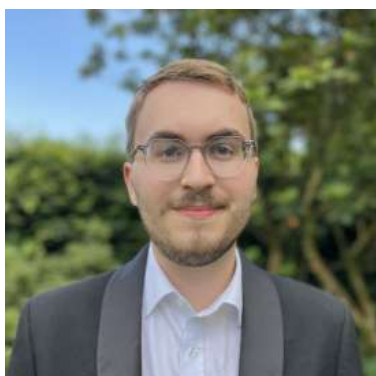
The Executive Committee consists of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. The committee holds MCR general meetings—occurring twice per term and open to all full members of the MCR—and oversees the MCR budget. They also represent the MCR to the Governing Body of College, attending meetings with the Warden, Bursar, and Domestic Bursar.

On a more personal note, the Executive Committee officers are here to represent you and are willing to assist you with any issues you may have! Executive Committee officers are returning students to Keble MCR and know the ropes. Never hesitate to reach out with comments, ideas, and questions!



President: William Gillow (he/him)
3rd Year DPhil in Mathematics
(president@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk)

I work on the mathematical modelling of surfactant-laden fluids (like soapy water). Outside of my degree, I fill my time by playing board games, doing crafts, rowing, powerlifting, and baking. As MCR President, it is my responsibility to represent the MCR and its interests to College and beyond, making sure that the best environment is provided for everyone, and that everything MCR-related runs as smoothly as possible. I look forward to seeing many new and familiar faces this year!



Vice-President: Thomas Higham (he/him)
2nd Year DPhil in Mathematics
(vp@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk)

I'm super happy to be the MCR VP for this year. For my DPhil I work on numerical simulations of plasma equilibria in nuclear fusion reactors. When I'm not working, I'm a keen musician, playing the keyboard and saxophone in an Oxford funk band. As your VP I will be the MCR liaison with the catering staff, helping to organise our special formals and events. I will also be in charge of our bi-termly general meetings, where you will get your say on the goings-on in the community.



Secretary: Emily Nurden (she/her)
2nd Year DPhil in Healthcare Data Science
(secretary@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk)

As Secretary, I am in charge of keeping everyone up to date with what's happening in the MCR each week and making sure meetings run smoothly. My research centres on applying novel techniques to improve diagnostics in healthcare and, outside of work you'll usually find me drinking coffee in one of Oxford's many cafes. If you ever have an event or opportunity you'd like to share with the MCR, please get in touch!



Treasurer: Angira Sharma (she/her)
2nd Year DPhil in Computer Science
(treasurer@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk)

As Treasurer, I'll keep the books clear, the spending sharp, and the MCR budget aimed at things people enjoy. I research how to stop advanced AI systems from going catastrophically off script. Outside work, you'll find me pistol shooting, dancing, or board gaming, depending on whether the day calls for accuracy, rhythm, or betrayal over cardboard.

The Welfare Team

The MCR Welfare Team is composed of our Welfare, Equality and Diversity, and Accessibility and Disability Officers. They work with College staff and other members of our community to promote health and wellbeing in the Graduate Community. Our objective is to help build maintain a safe, comfortable and enjoyable community for all of you; one that values looking out for one another.

Among the Welfare Team, we have specific members appointed as Gender Minorities (Paras Bassuk), Women's (to be confirmed) and Men's (Tomoki Ishikawa) Officers, who will have particular regard to welfare and equality matters pertaining to the sex/gender of their respective roles. All of the Welfare Team will be happy to help anyone, regardless of their sex/gender sub-role.

Welfare Officers represent the MCR at Student Support Committee, Health & Safety, Domestic, and Welfare Committee meetings. Together with the Equality and Diversity, and Accessibility and Disability Officers, they seek to raise issues that affect the wellbeing of members of our community. To enhance community life and to bring members together, Welfare Officers organise weekly Sunday welfare brunches and other events which provide opportunities for the Keble MCR community to come together. They also provide contraception, pregnancy tests, panic alarms, lube, and dental dams.

Information related to Welfare at Keble, including the College Welfare Team, can be found at: <https://www.keble.ox.ac.uk/current-students/student-wellbeing-welfare/>.

General Email: welfare-team@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk



Welfare Officer: William Lugoloobi
3rd Year DPhil in Social Data Science
(william.lugoloobi@keble.ox.ac.uk)

Hi everyone! I'm a third-year DPhil student in Social Data Science, where I train AI agents to do useful things like use computers (without having them leak your emails). You'll usually find me working at the HBAC café, lifting at the gym, or singing along at a BOP. Please say hello whenever you see me around, and welcome to Keble!



Welfare Officer: Tomoki Ishikawa (he/him)
2nd Year DPhil in Theology and Religion
[\(tomoki.ishikawa@theology.ox.ac.uk\)](mailto:tomoki.ishikawa@theology.ox.ac.uk)

Hello! As one of your welfare officers, my role is to help make everyone feel safe and comfortable in this vibrant MCR community at Keble. When I'm not wrestling with Augustine's Latin texts, you will find me at the chapel or at the college football team. I also practice Noh, Japanese traditional drama, as a hidden hobby. Please feel free to stop me for a chat if you see me around!



Welfare Officer: Paras Bassuk (they/them)
2nd Year MPhil in Social Anthropology
[\(paras.bassuk@keble.ox.ac.uk\)](mailto:paras.bassuk@keble.ox.ac.uk)

Hi there! I am so thrilled to be one of your welfare officers. I am excited to bring our Keble MCR community together, and to help make it a welcoming place for everybody. I am from Iowa, USA, and I am studying social movements, labour, and patrimony in Jujuy, Argentina. I am always down to chat, and I am usually up (too) late in case you need anything. I love animals, crafts, games, table tennis, and learning new things. I look forward to meeting you!

EDI and Representation Team

The role of the Equality, Diversity, Inclusion (EDI) and Representation Team is to be a source of advice for those who require support in equality matters, to promote equal participation of members in all aspects of the MCR, and to discourage discrimination against any particular group. However, it remains the responsibility of every member of the MCR to discourage discrimination as any form of discrimination will not be tolerated by the Keble MCR. Keep an eye out for the new EDI subcommittee!



Equality and Diversity Officer: Adam Atcha (he/him)
4th Year DPhil Socio-Legal Studies
[\(equality@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk\)](mailto:equality@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk)

As your EDI officer, my goal is to help ensure your time here at Keble (and Oxford!) is welcoming and inclusive for everyone. My research is a multi-sited ethnography looking at how Rohingya refugees from Burma resolve everyday conflicts in the world's largest refugee camps. During my spare time (if it exists), I enjoy watching movies, frequenting cafes, and travelling.



Accessibility and Disability Officer: Paige Norton-Edwards (she/her)
3rd Year MRes in Chemical Biology
(disability@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk)

I'm Paige, a 3rd year MRes Chemical Biology student and this year's Accessibility and Disability Officer. As a disabled student myself, I understand many of the challenges that can come with navigating university life alongside disabilities and health issues. I'm here to help make the MCR as accessible, inclusive and supportive as possible, so please feel free to contact me with any concerns, suggestions or accessibility needs. Outside of my degree, I represent the University on our Rifle Shooting Team!



Environment Officer: Jess Chiriboga (she/her)
1st Year DPhil in History
(environment@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk)

Hello! I'm Jess, a first-year DPhil student studying the environmental history of wildland fire management and flood control in Los Angeles. In my free time, I enjoy playing rugby, backpacking, and watching sports! As your Environment Officer, I'll be maintaining our HBAC reuse room (donate items you don't need or take donated items for your own use) at the start and end of the year, toolbox, and clothing/shoe repair kit to support mending and reduce waste in the MCR! I'll also be organizing walks around Oxfordshire and trips and events for those interested in environmental research and work. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you're interested in meeting others doing environmental work, suggesting a walk or trip, or teaching a skill like sewing or wayfinding!

The Social Team

Whilst there are termly large-scale events to look forward to (BOPs! Oxmas! Black Tie Dinners! Exchanges!), the Keble MCR typically aims to host smaller social events within the weeks of term. We host a wide variety of events, which includes our popular craft evenings, cultural trips, games nights, nature walks and picnics. Our events are often subsidised by the MCR and always are both alcohol-free and friendly, as well as considerate of other dietaries when applicable.

Our priority remains ensuring the safety of our members and we are certain that we will have a fun and memorable social season! Please do keep an eye on your emails and the [WhatsApp Group](#) for information about events.

The social secretaries oversee the organisation and running of large social activities for the Keble MCR. It is a great position to fully immerse yourself in the Keble and Oxford community, in addition to adding some excitement and fun to both your Oxford experience and the experiences of your fellow Keblites! The Arts and Culture Officer, and Games officer run dedicated to activities that are equally as social, typically on a smaller scale, but more regular!

Whilst the social team is committed to developing the best social season possible, we value the input of our members so if you have an idea or would like to run an event, please reach out to the social team, or the MCR secretary to get more information if you would like to help out!



Social Secretary 1 and 2: [vacant]
social@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk

The social secretaries organise and run the larger social events of the year. This includes BOPs, garden parties, and any other social events that they would like to run. If you would like to do this role, please contact president@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk.



Arts and Culture Officer: Elena Tybulewicz (she/her)
3rd Year DPhil in Genomic Medicine and Statistics
arts@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk

Hi! I'm excited to be your Arts and Culture Officer this year, alongside Sophia! I'll be running weekly Wednesday Craft Nights, organising one-off events, and, of course, putting together the annual MCR Art Show. Sophia will be helping me out with the role, particularly when my cells demand my attention! I work on developing gene therapies for a rare lung disease, so I spend most of my days staring at cells through a microscope and hoping they don't die. When I'm not in the lab, you'll probably find me knitting, running, or hiking in the mountains! Please get in touch if there are any crafts or events you'd love to see us do this year, I'm always looking for ideas!



Games Officer: Michal Staniaszek (he/him)
4th Year DPhil in Engineering Science
games@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk

I'm in the final few months of my DPhil on robot automation. When I'm not working on that I'm reading science fiction or fantasy, playing board games, or cooking. As games officer, I curate and maintain the MCR's board, video and garden game collection. I also run the MCR's regular Monday evening games nights, where we get together and play some games.

Black-Tie, Exchange Dinners and Cellar Steward

Formals and dinners are a big part of Oxford life and, through the Exchange Officer and Black-Tie Officer, you will be able to experience some of the more Oxford(esque) aspects of Keble life—the various exchange dinners with colleges that are organised and the termly anticipated black tie dinner, respectively. Our Cellar Steward also brings the opportunity to experience some fine wines, and other beverages, in termly tasting events.

Also look out for the Selwyn Exchange, which represents a unique opportunity for an exchange with our sister college, Selwyn College, at the University of Cambridge. Though this is a very anticipated event, spaces are often limited, with tickets going fast, so keep an eye out for it!



Black Tie Dinner Officer: Eve Hallett (she/her)
3rd Year DPhil in Biology
(black-tie@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk)

I am excited to be organising the biggest nights of each term, in the form of Black-Tie dinners with drinks receptions and entertainment. I study what actually is a species, although biologists still haven't made their minds up about this, and apply this to the spread of antibiotic resistance. You will probably hear me yelling on a river at some point during the year with my dual role as Keble's coxing captain for our rowing club. Outside of this, I like making art and looking at rocks. Please get me in touch if you have any wild dinner ideas or want to get into coxing/rowing for Keble!



Exchange Dinner Officer: Adam Bush (he/him)
Medicine Graduate
(exchange-dinner@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk)

Hello! Looking forward to sharing the fun and chaos of MCR exchange dinners with you all. They can be incredibly memorable. I'm (finally) a doctor up at the JR, and my academic research focusses on improving intensive care for pre-term babies. Outside of work I'm a keen but somewhat terrible guitarist, weightlifter, and photographer.



Selwyn Exchange Officer: Fredrik Hasselgren (he/him)
2nd Year DPhil in Mathematics
(selwynexchange@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk)

Hi! I'm looking forward to organizing a memorable Selwyn Exchange for the coming year. Perhaps, this year, we can show the Tabs (Cantabridgians) what they're missing out on. When I am not thinking deeply about the ideal Selwyn exchange dinner, I develop algorithms to run on quantum computers & do Judo in my free time.



Cellar Steward: Alex Mackay (he/him)
2nd Year MSc Social Science of the Internet
(cellar@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk)

Hi all! I have the pleasure of welcoming you to Keble as your Cellar Steward. I'm planning to host a tasting each term, so it'll be great to meet lots of new faces. Please don't worry if you have no experience with wine, it's completely relaxed and just for fun. Before coming to Oxford, I worked as a sommelier and wine merchant, so I'm really excited to share my passion for wine and other beverages with you. Please reach out at any time if there's anything you'd particularly like to try, or if you have any questions or suggestions. It's going to be a brilliant year of tastings, pairings, good company, and great vibes!

Sports Team

There are a lot of different opportunities to engage with sports at Oxford, however, it can sometimes be quite confusing or frustrating, especially for those who are new to the university and still trying to navigate through everything that Oxford and Keble have to offer. Part of what makes sports at Oxford and Keble so great is that there are always opportunities to play or engage, regardless of your background or experience. In fact, it is quite common for many to start a new sport or hobby while at Oxford, be it rowing, tennis, boxing, or ultimate frisbee (see *Sports and Teams at Keble* under Life at Keble for more info).

At the University Freshers Fair, you will be able to find lots of info about the university sports teams, as well as how to sign up! The Keble Freshers Fair will have more information about Keble sports teams.



Sports Officer: Maximilian Pralle
2nd Year DPhil in Law
(sports@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk)

Hi! I'm Max, your sports officer for 2026/27. Please contact me anytime about questions related to sport at Keble, including your suggestions and wishes about any sports-related MCR events. Outside of my academic interests on Law & Technology/AI, I play football for Keble and am captain of the Keble MCR football team - please reach out if you are keen to play!

IT and Social Networks of the MCR

As the default way for communication within the MCR, we have two different mailing lists. The first one is the “**official**” (keblemcr@maillist.ox.ac.uk) one and we would like to encourage you not to unsubscribe from it as important information is conveyed through this channel.

The second one is the “**social**” (keblemcr-social@maillist.ox.ac.uk) one that is used for sending out information about social events. By the end of September, you should receive an email informing you that you have been added to both mailing lists. If this is not the case, please do not hesitate to contact our IT officer, who will add you.

Many communications are also sent through the MCR WhatsApp Community, which you can join [here](#). This includes announcements of events, but you can also use the different channels to chat to each other and ask questions about college-related things.

You can also follow Keble college on Instagram at [@kebleoxford](#), and the MCR at [@keblemcr](#).



IT Officer: Phoebe Cheung (she/her)
3rd Year DPhil in Engineering Science
[\(it@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk\)](mailto:it@mcr.keble.ox.ac.uk)

As your IT Officer, I'll be looking after our MCR website, the QCR printers, the mailing lists, and pretty much anything else tech-related! When I'm not working on my Achilles tendon rupture rehabilitation research, you'll probably find me at band practice on my flute or at Iffley with a (fencing) blade in hand.

Keble College Facilities

Keble Main Site

Common Room (Main Site MCR)

The main room of the Keble MCR is the reading room and has many comfy sofas and an open fireplace which is often lit in the winter. It is an excellent place to work/relax in Oxford! Other Keble MCR facilities include a TV room with a Sky TV, a kitchen with a refrigerator, microwave and dishwasher, which everyone is free to use (see 26 on map, see last page). Disabled access to the Keble MCR is via Hayward Quad.

Main Site Porters' Lodge

The college porters are some of the most helpful people in college. The Porters' Lodge, located at the entrance to the College, is mainly responsible for security and post but can provide you with most of the practical information you need. Don't be afraid to ask questions. The Lodge is open 24 hours a day and the porters are there to help and support you. Disabled access is via the entrance to staircase 1 in Liddon Quad. The front college gate is locked after dusk, but members can enter using their University student card (AKA Bod card).

- All keys for the squash court, main site gym, music room, etc. can be collected here (see College Sports Facilities).
- Call in case of emergency, phone number **+44 1865 272727**

Keble Library

Accessed using your University (Bod) card, Keble library is open 24 hours a day throughout the year, something you will really appreciate when university libraries close early during the holidays. The books within the library are largely geared towards undergraduate courses, although many graduates admit to being pleasantly surprised by its resources.

Graduates can request the library to stock a book for them, if it is sufficiently relevant to their studies. Similarly, you can ask your college advisor to place a request on your behalf. The library has a printer and two computers (printer use only) in the basement. Copying and printing costs will be charged to your college account (known as battels). You can also borrow DVDs, travel guides, and novels from the library. Please email (library@keble.ox.ac.uk) for any inquiries related to the library.

As members of the University of Oxford, we are able to access all Bodleian Libraries. Other college libraries are in general inaccessible, just as Keble is to those from other colleges.

IT Support

The college IT offices are also located on the main site, and they are a good first contact to help you with any computer problems for free. You get a university email account once you have registered; you will be sent all the necessary instructions before your arrival. Since email is the default means of communication within the university, it is important to activate your account as quickly as possible and to regularly check your inbox.

Chapel

The Keble chapel is one of the most impressive buildings in college and is open daily to everyone of all faiths and none. Everybody is welcome to attend services in Chapel, whatever you do or don't believe. The side chapel boasts the original 'Light of the World' painting by Holman Hunt, a reproduction of which is in St. Paul's Cathedral. The main services of the week are sung by Keble Choir, one of Oxford's best-known vocal ensembles. They are College Communion on Sundays 5.30–6.30pm, Choral Evensong on Tuesdays 6.00–6.45pm, and Compline by Candlelight on Thursdays at 9pm, which is a very popular calm service of half an hour of choral music by Candlelight followed by port & hot chocolate. The College Chaplain is Fr Max Kramer (max.kramer@keble.ox.ac.uk). At the end of Michaelmas, there is a candlelit Advent carol service for Christmas which is always popular.

Dining Hall at Main Site

Keble College's dining hall is one of the largest halls among the colleges of Oxford. During term time and vacation time, the College serves three meals a day, five times a week, and two meals (brunch and dinner) over the weekends. The meals offered by the College Hall are diverse and accommodating of all dietary requirements. Mondays are meat-free as part of the College's commitment to sustainability. During term, there is a mix of informal (canteen format) and formals (3 course meal format). See *Food at College* in *Life at Keble*.

Keble Bar (main site)

Keble bar is a good social space in the college which provides an alternative to the MCR. With pints and even sometimes a pizza bar (usually open during weeks 1–8 of term), this is a great place for a drink and a bite to eat at the end of the day. The bar is also complete with various games equipment including a Pool table and a Darts board.

HB Allen Centre Facilities

As the HB Allen Centre (HBAC) is where many MCR Members live, many (but not all) events will be held here. Those of you who do not live here will still have access to many of the facilities in HBAC and are recommended to register for a FOB (access disc or card) at the HBAC Porters' Lodge (see below) as soon as possible so they can get access from the very start of their time at Keble!

Porters' Lodge

The Porters at HBAC are a great resource for helping you settle at HBAC, even if you will not be living there. You can request your FOB from the Porters, which will give you access to MCR spaces. Packages will be delivered here, and all graduate pidges (mailboxes) are located in the Sarah Acland building. If you can't locate something, the Porters are sure to point you in the right direction!

Common Room (HBAC MCR)

There is an MCR located within HBAC. Equipped with large sofas, TV with a Blu-ray player, Nintendo Switch, Pool table, Table Tennis, Fußball (or Table Football), Cards Table (Bridge, Mahjong, and others), and kitchenette (including a dishwasher), the HBAC MCR is a great space to meet other graduates at Keble, hang out with friends and relax. We do, however, ask that all MCR members take responsibility to clean up after themselves and keep the MCR neat and pleasant for everyone.

QCR (Shilston room)

The Quiet Common Room (QCR) is a designated study space in HBAC. There are plenty of tables, chairs, and sofas available for studying and group work, as well as a kettle and sink for late night tea. There is also a coffee machine within the QCR generously sponsored by our alumni.

Café

The Café is located between the Porters' Lodge and the MCR. Snacks and pre-made food including pizzas, salads and sandwiches, are available here and can be purchased with your University (Bod) card. There are plenty of tables and seating for all members of college.

Laundry

HBAC has laundry facilities, located in the basement of staircase 4, with five washing machines and five tumble dryers (although shared kitchens also have dryers). The laundry facilities are open 24 hours a day and are payable by card, Apple/Android/Google Pay, or through the service's app. The typical cost of using the washing machines is between £3 and £4 per wash, depending on the cycle chosen. All dryers are free to use.

Gym

HBAC has its own gym, with 24 hours access. It's very well equipped, with plenty of weights and cardio machines! You must [sign up](#) to use it and there is a yearly membership fee (around £90 in the previous two years). Every individual must go through the Gym orientation before they get access. There is also a dedicated women and non-binary hour once a week. More information will follow either from the HBAC team or from members of the committee, concerning orientation, cost, and hours so keep an eye on your email!

Terraces

During Trinity Term and the Summer Period (end of April to usually around September), Clara's Terrace is available to all members of the MCR during daylight hours. The terrace is accessible via Staircase 5. The door onto the terrace will be unlocked by the Porters at the start of the day and locked at its end—the hours of opening and closing are published at the Porter's Lodge at the HBAC. Members on the terrace at closing time should respect the instructions of the porters and/or the Sub-Dean.

The terrace may be used for relaxation, private or group study, and meetings with friends and colleagues. There is a second terrace, How High Terrace, which is also available to members of the MCR subject to the approval of the Dean at least seven days in advance. This terrace is reserved for organised events and such gatherings are subject to the Sub-Dean's absolute discretion and availability. The terrace, however, needs to normally be sponsored by the MCR Committee or by a Fellow of the College.

Sainsbury Re-use Room

From the end of Trinity term to early Michaelmas term (around June to October, inclusive), the Sainsbury room, located at the top of staircase 5 in the H B Allen Centre, operates as a room to deposit items that you no longer want when moving out, and for those staying to take any items left in there. There is a range of items available (for free!), including kitchen items (like some pans and kettles), books and folders, bedding, clothing, shoes, handbags, and other random things.

The aim is to reduce consumption of common items students need by having items reused, rather than discarded every year, with these items then purchased again by incoming students. After a few weeks of Michaelmas term, any remaining items will be donated to local charities, where possible.

College Sports Facilities

The College is well equipped with sports facilities, with its own sports ground on Woodstock Road, a boathouse on the banks of the Isis as well as one at Godstow, and an on-site College gym. The College is situated across the road from the University Parks, which provides further facilities close to the College.

Keble College's sports ground is about 15 minutes north of the main site on [Woodstock Road](#). In the summer, Cricket is played as the sports ground offers two artificial cricket nets and two grass nets. Other team sports, notably rugby and hockey, are also played in the University Parks, opposite the main site.

Remember to book all pitches and courts (including matches) with the Adrian Roche, the **Garden and Grounds Manager (<https://www.keble.ox.ac.uk/people/adrian-roche/>)**

Squash Courts

Keble College members have access to a squash court with showers, changing rooms, and observation gallery. It is [accessed](#) via St. Cross Road, backing onto the University Club Sports Ground. A Membership Application Form, along with Terms and Conditions, can be obtained on the Keble [website](#) or from the Porter's Lodge. The membership fee is currently £20/year, irrespective of the time of year you choose to join and is payable by a charge to your college account (battels).

Boathouses

The College has two boathouses, one on the [banks of the Isis](#) (Thames) amongst the main college boathouses, and another on the Isis at [Godstow](#). There are opportunities for novices to begin rowing in eights.

University Sports Facilities

Graduates can make use of the University's sport facilities, many of which are located at the [Iffley Road site](#) which is a 10–15-minute cycle from Keble, or 30-minute walk. To use these facilities, this requires a membership, however memberships to some sports societies give access to the facilities at specific times.

Life at Keble

As a graduate, life can be strung between multiple different components. This could mean much of your time at your department, libraries, pubs or even the comfort of your room. The college system in Oxford provides a unique community and space to which you can enhance your time here. At Keble, we are particularly interested in aiding not only your academic goals but also those beyond. The college and our MCR community therefore will aim to host multiple events throughout the year for social activities, hang outs and in general great ways to socialise and relax with the wider community here at Keble. As mentioned, the social calendar will be sent out soon on your arrival and you have many events during

the Freshers period to look forward to starting from week -1 (2 weeks before term starts, which this year is the 27th of September, and term starting on the 11th of October—known as week 1).

This section therefore provides some of the more staple aspects of life at college and with the MCR Community beyond the facilities and the wonderful events to look out for (which you will be notified of closer to the time). You can also find lots more information on the Keble [website](#), and in the [Student Handbook](#).

Access to College and Facilities

Please note again, that access to the main site Keble is done via your BOD Card (Student ID card). This is used to open the main doors, bicycle gates, MCR, and Library (most of which are 24/7 during term time).

HBAC is accessed via a fob or card (which you can get via the HBAC lodge). This fob will give you access to the HBAC MCR, QCR and main doors at HBAC. The same fob will be used for those who sign up to use the HBAC gym, though this must first be confirmed with the HBAC lodge.

Remember, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask any of the committee or that of the relevant lodges (main site Keble Lodge and HBAC Lodge).

Receiving Mail

All full-time graduates should have 'Pidges' (mailboxes), which are located in the Sarah Acland building, on the ground floor. Whether you live in HBAC or not, your campus and external post will be sent to your pidge here (situated in the Sarah Acland Building). Part-time students might not always get a pidge for post, however, post can be delivered to the HBAC address and collected at the lodge. Executive Degrees such as EMBA's and MMPM's can receive post through the HBAC porters' lodge.

- For large packages and mail delivered to the HBAC porters, pick up times are set between

Monday to Friday	Saturday and Sunday
7:30am–8:30am	7:30am–8:30am
1:30pm–2:30pm	1:30pm–2:30pm
5:00pm–8:00pm	5:00pm–7:00pm
- Mail for those who do not have pidges can be collected at more extended times.

If there you have any issues, please ask the HBAC lodge, who are always happy to help.

Food at College

Breakfast, brunch, lunch, and informal dinners do not currently require booking. However, formal dinners require booking by 10:30 on the day, or 10:30 on Friday for Sunday formal dinners. Booking of meals is done through the [College portal](https://meals.keble.ox.ac.uk/oxbooking/) (<https://meals.keble.ox.ac.uk/oxbooking/>) and is charged to your student account (battels), which can be viewed through the same portal, under Fees & Charges. The price of hall meals varies, though lunches and dinners were around £5–£7 last year. However, these prices are subject to change. Formals and Black-Tie Dinners will cost more and are typically sit-down three-course dinners. You can invite a set number of guests (usually between 1 and 2) for formals. However, there are additional charges for guests.

All hall menus are sent out by the Catering team every week (catering.supervisor@keble.ox.ac.uk). Since the kitchen is being renovated this year (see <https://www.keble.ox.ac.uk/about/hall-meals>), all meals will be served in a marquee on Newman Quad, for at least Michaelmas and Hilary terms. All meal service times will be extended to accommodate the reduced capacity of the marquee. See the table below for the schedule.

Mealtimes during term (Week 1–8)

Meal Type	Days	Time*	Description
Breakfast	Monday–Friday	07:00–09:30	Cafeteria style
Brunch	Saturday–Sunday	10:00–12:30	Cafeteria style
Lunch	Monday–Friday	12:00–14:30	Cafeteria style
Informal Hall	Days that Formal Hall is not on	18:00–20:00	Cafeteria style
Formal Hall	Tuesday, and alternating between Friday and Sunday	Be in hall by 19:00	Three-course meal, you must wear your gown. Booking is required and closes on the day in the morning (usually at 10:30am, and on Friday morning for Sunday Formal).

***These are provisional times; updates will be provided throughout the term from the hall supervisor.**

After the renovations are complete, we can expect mealtimes to revert to their original times, and the Formal Halls to return to every Friday and Sunday (and still every Tuesday).

Out-of-term timetables are subject to college timetables. Formals do not run outside of term time; lunch, brunch and informal hall require pre-booking via the portal. Breakfast (during the week) does not require pre-booking in vacation times.

HBAC Café and Keble Bar

The Café is located between the Porters' Lodge and the MCR and the Keble Bar is within the main site. Using your Bod Card or bank card, snacks and pre-made food including pizzas, salads and sandwiches, are available here. There are plenty of tables and seating for MCR use in both facilities.

Bike Locking and the Bike Doctor

Both Keble Main Site and HBAC offer a space to lock your bike throughout your time at Keble College. A registration and corresponding sticker will need to be attached to your bike, otherwise staff will remove your bike. You can go to both corresponding porter lodges to get a relevant sticker for parking your bike at Keble Main Site and HBAC. Note that the spaces to lock your bikes in HBAC are accessible by the public, so make sure you also get a strong lock (see *Bicycles* under *Living in Oxford: General*).

Every term, there will also be a Bike Doctor available at HBAC in Mickie Lane (beside the bike racks in HBAC). The bike doctor will be here once to twice each term and it is free to get your bike checked up. If any repairs are needed, you will be charged for any replacement parts. Dates will be announced during term time.

Sports and Teams at Keble

At Oxford, you can play sport at University ('Blues') or college level. While the Blues teams tend to be a bit more serious, taking part in college sports or university clubs can be a great way to meet new people, stay active, benefit your physical and mental health, fuel (or temper) your competitive edge, and help build discipline and mental strength. All teams at Keble and beyond also have a great social scene and people often form strong bonds with their respective teammates! In Keble, there are various MCR specific teams including football and cricket. When there is low demand for a particular sport, members of the MCR can join the JCR sports clubs and teams. When combined with the JCR you can get involved with anything from Rowing and Hockey to Dancesport and Croquet. That doesn't mean there aren't other new sports on offer if you fancy them: Keble MCR members have joined university teams such as Lacrosse, Quadball, and Australian Rules Football so there should definitely be something on offer for you! Similarly, if there is something you would like to start or feel there is enough demand for in the MCR, then please get in touch with the Sports Officer, who can help you get started. For more information about what is available in Keble and Oxford, have a look at the [Sports page](#) on the MCR website, or get in touch with the Sports Officer.

Rowing

If you want to get involved in an iconic Oxford sport, it is hard to go past rowing. Rowing with the Keble College Boat Club is the perfect way to learn a new skill, get some exercise, and be part of a great community. Whether you have some experience already or are completely new to the sport, everyone is welcome! If you are interested in rowing at Keble, or have any questions, please contact one of our Novice Captains, Molly Macleod and Adam Syme (molly.macleod@keble.ox.ac.uk and adam.syme@keble.ox.ac.uk).

If, instead, you want the smugness of being awake before your peers but do not want to do the exercise, you can have a go at being a cox! It will vastly improve your confidence (as well as voice projection), and you will be part of a fun team. Please contact the coxing captain, Eve (eve.hallett@keble.ox.ac.uk), if you have any questions.

Each term has one major regatta, with Tamesis regatta in Michaelmas term (for novices only), Torpids in Hilary term, and Summer VIs in Trinity term. Even if you choose not to get involved in rowing, the regattas have a great atmosphere, so we encourage everyone to come down and cheer on Keble.

Punting

Punting, one of the iconic activities of Oxford, is also offered for social use through the College; Keble MCR has a punt rented at the Cherwell Boathouse that can be booked during the Trinity Term and Summer. Keble MCR students will only have to pay a fraction of the fee for the use of multiple hours. Details regarding the punt and how to book it will be sent out closer to the time (most likely Easter 2027).

Croquet

The MCR has a croquet set it shares with the JCR that can be borrowed! Ask an MCR member for the details!

College Doctor

When you come to Keble, you must register with an Oxford doctor. Keble prefers that you register with the Jericho Health Centre on Walton Street (less than half a mile away). Information about how to do this will be provided by the college before you arrive. If you need to see a doctor, you can always call and make an appointment (01865 429993). UK residents, and some overseas students are entitled to free health care under the National Health Service, so be sure to find out if you are covered. You can also ask the nurse for recommendations of dentists and other specialists.

There is also a College nurse (pml.keblenurse@nhs.net), available every weekday during term time (weeks 1 to 8) for physical and mental health issues. The nurse has her office in Somerville College, a two-minute walk from Keble, as we share a nurse between our neighbouring colleges Somerville College and Green Templeton College.

The college nurse can see you for minor illness, minor injury, mental health, contraception and sexual health issues as well as providing support and advice for you to manage any ongoing health conditions that you may have.

Times and locations are accessible via (<https://www.keble.ox.ac.uk/current-students/student-wellbeing-welfare/medical/>).

The nurse can also provide some advice via email or telephone. Appointments may be booked by emailing the college nurse.

The nurse is usually based in Darbshire 16, Somerville college (ask the Somerville Porter) and their relevant telephone number is 01865 270608. Alternatively:

- College Doctors for Somerville and Keble at the Observatory Medical Practice tel: 01865 429993
- Call 111 for 24-hour medical assistance or 111.nhs.uk
- Only call 999 in a medical emergency

Keble Ball

After a short hiatus, the College Ball returned to Keble last year, with the theme of ‘Enchanted Forest’. Keble Ball is a wonderful night of fun with friends new and old, including music, food and drink, dodgems, and so much more to keep you entertained throughout!

The intention is that the Keble Ball will become a yearly event again, taking place in Trinity term. To make the Ball possible, this requires the hard work of many Keble students. If you fancy getting involved with the organisation this year, look out for information on this later in the year.

If one Ball is not enough, many other colleges also have them throughout Trinity Term, with guest tickets available for students from other colleges.

Financial Information for Keble College

Soon after your arrival, you should visit the Bursary to check that your Battels (Student) Account is in order. You will be required to pay a £150 damage deposit, whether or not you live in college accommodation, and key deposits (£15) for your room key if living in College. If there is a delay in setting up your bank account or some other kind of problem with your finances, you should inform the Bursary immediately, as the staff can usually make arrangements to help with this. More accurate and relevant information can be found [here](#).

At the end of each term, you will have to pay your battels (you will receive an email) but you can do this at any time, if you prefer. You can see all your charges and pay your battels [here](#).

Small Grants and Scholarships

Keble offers a small number of graduate scholarships. Information about these scholarships can be found at <https://www.keble.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduates/scholarships/>.

Keble also has a number of travel and study awards available to students throughout the year. The Keble Association is a registered charity that regularly supports students and can award small grants to help with study and travel costs. The Faith Ivens-Franklin Travel Fund is for current graduates to help with any travel in connection to your academic work and the Graduate Study Support Fund awards grants for everything from course-related equipment to conference attendance. More information can be found at <https://www.keble.ox.ac.uk/current-students/student-wellbeing-welfare/financial-support/>.

Living in Oxford: General

IT

Remember to set up your Eduroam (which is remote access not SSO) (to which you can change the password and gain subscriptions to other programmes <https://register.it.ox.ac.uk/self/index>). Information about connecting devices to the internet via Eduroam can be found [here](#).

Remember to also check your details to the university, records, and fill in your termly Graduation Self Reporting (GSR) at Student Records (<https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/selfservice/>).

If you have any college related issues, or personal IT issues, remember you can visit the college IT staff (situated in the old site under the warden's lodgings).

Accommodation

College Accommodation

The 'recently' built H B Allen Centre brings two thirds of Keble's graduate students onto one site, offering top-quality accommodation and fantastic supporting facilities. It has 231 en-suite rooms for postgraduate students. Of these, 191 are arranged in 32 self-contained flats, each with a spacious communal kitchen/dining room. The remaining 40 are individual rooms with their own kitchenette. For further information, see the Keble [dedicated website](#).

Notably, if you do NOT live in HBAC, you can—and indeed, are encouraged to—visit the building and use the spaces there, such as the MCR and QCR, the café and the gym!

University Accommodation

As a University member, you may also be able to get accommodation owned and managed centrally by the university. For that, you must apply to the [University Accommodation Office](#). This is typically not in association with Keble College and is separate to college accommodation.

Private Accommodation

Private accommodation varies widely in cost, quality, and convenience. If you are living out of the College, it is worth coming to Oxford as early as possible to find a place to live. Accommodation in Oxford is expensive (average about £170–£250 a week for students, depending on location) and finding a place near your college or department can be difficult. The University Accommodation Office is the best resource and has a database of what is available. Another useful source of information is the [Daily Info](#) website. The most practical way to find accommodation is through the [OxGradHousing](#) Facebook group. Research students and those on two-year courses may need to secure this kind of housing in their second and subsequent years. There is also a comprehensive guide available from OUSU that will be distributed around the time of the room ballot.

Student Union

The [Oxford University Student Union](#) (OUSU, or just SU) is the official representative body for Oxford students. A student-led charity independent of the colleges and University, it champions student voice, striving for all students to feel represented, supported and heard. Led by the four elected [Full-Time Presidents](#), alongside ten [Part-Time Officers](#) and [divisional representatives](#), Oxford SU works in partnership with Common Rooms, colleges and the University to improve students' experience of education, wellbeing and sense of community at Oxford. Its democratic policy-making body, the [Conference of Common Rooms \(CCR\)](#), brings together JCRs and MCRs from across Oxford, giving college communities a stronger voice as a collective. Any student can attend CCR meetings, and they take place twice during each term.

Oxford SU runs the annual [Freshers' Fair](#) at the Examination Schools, helping you find community and explore opportunities from the moment you arrive. For support, the [SU Advice service](#) provides independent, confidential advice and guidance whenever you need it throughout your time at Oxford. Don't hesitate to reach out; you can contact the Advice service at any time.

Whether you want support, opportunities to get involved in, or connections beyond your college, Oxford SU is there, from start to finish, to help you get more from your Oxford experience.

Weather

In the summer months (May–August), Oxford can be hot and sunny (the highest recorded temperature is 38.1°C, in July 2022) but, in the winter (October–February), it can be cold and snowy (snowing heavily every few years, with 2021 January bringing a day of heavy snow followed by some flurries). It will also rain at any time of the year (October 2020 being one of the heaviest on record!). So, while you are also packing thick jumpers for the coming term you may exchange these for cotton shirts and swimming costumes come Trinity term. It is also worth noting that whilst the H B Allen Centre provides radiators in each room and can provide fans upon request in the summer months; dressing appropriately is the best.

For the first term (Michaelmas) warm layers and a reliable, waterproof jacket are essential. The second term (Hilary) may still be wet and chilly, especially for those from warmer climates, though there are sporadic days reaching 20°C. The third, and final, term (Trinity) is often warmer, especially when relative heat waves pass through Oxford and the UK. Temperatures have been known to exceed 30°C in such conditions, though some buildings in Oxford can feel warmer as many buildings in the UK are built to retain heat and do not have air conditioning.

Dress

Dress around the University is informal. There are several occasions such as guest dinners, subject and club dinners, and balls where the dress code can be black tie (tuxedo/formal cocktail dress); attendance at these events is, however, completely optional and specific dress is not tightly enforced. At Keble, we have a moderate and open mind to traditions, so do feel free to join in, though also do not feel stringent. If, however, you want to go all out, tuxedos and dresses can usually be hired, though second hand/cheaper ones can be bought in town. Though, as mentioned, there are not often stringent requirements for dress codes. It is important to remember to wear your gown to formal dinners in Keble.

Specific attire is also required for formal university occasions such as matriculation and examinations (see ‘[sub fusc](#)’ in the glossary), which typically comprises a gown, white blouse/button-up/shirt, black trousers/skirt, black shoes, dark socks/black stockings, white bow tie/black ribbon and a mortar board/soft cap. Such garments can usually be obtained in Oxford, though most students opt to only purchase the gown, mortar board/cap, and bow tie/ribbon at the [store](#). Other useful items of clothing are a smart jacket and tie and a full-length dress, according to your preference.

Bicycles

The bicycle is synonymous with Oxford. Cycling is a very popular means of transport in Oxford as it is a fast and affordable way to get around town. While it is more affordable to bring your own bicycle from home, this isn’t always an option and there are a number of bike shops around the city. Unfortunately, where there are bicycles there is bicycle theft and it is advised that you spend a little money on a D-lock and always lock your bike to a solid object such as a rack.

There is a large second-hand bike turnover in Oxford. The Facebook group ‘[Buy and Sell Cycling Stuff in Oxfordshire](#)’, is a good place to look for a bike if you want to buy one second hand. Or you can always check the Facebook Marketplace and Gumtree for available bikes. There are bicycle racks around the perimeter of the College and plenty of bike racks at Keble Main Site and HBAC. These racks are particularly secure as it is only accessible to members of Keble, and the area is monitored by CCTV. If you wish to use these facilities, please register your bike with the Porters’ Lodge (main site and in HBAC) when you arrive. A helmet is also strongly recommended, and it is a legal requirement to use bike lights (white at the front and red at the back) after dark. You can be stopped and fined for not using them. Removable bike lights (to prevent theft), locks, and other things can be purchased from the [University Estates services](#) at a reduced rate.

Cars

Parts of the city centre are only accessible to pedestrians and public transport, and parking space is limited. There are short-stay parking spaces close to college and HBAC. There are also spaces at Norham Gardens, which is a five-minute walk. To use these parking spaces, you need to purchase a parking ticket, which tends to be quite expensive. If you are living in private accommodation, you may be entitled to a resident’s parking permit, and you should speak to your landlord. Students are not able

to park cars within College grounds. HBAC has temporary parking spaces which can be booked by emailing the Lodge for 90-minute periods. These are primarily used in aiding with moving in and out of accommodation.

Buses and Walking

For those who wish to avoid having a car or bicycle in Oxford, it is quite possible to walk to most locations. Most destinations are within 5 to 20 minutes walking from Keble, although distant locations such as the JR Hospital, Churchill Hospital, and Headington are easily accessible by the comprehensive city bus system (or by bicycle).

Passport photographs

You will probably find it useful to bring copies of recent passport-sized photographs. Membership and discount cards often require a photo of this kind. An instant-photo machine is also available in Boots, the pharmacy on Cornmarket Street.

Electricity

British electricity is 230 volts and 50 Hz and runs through the large three-pin outlets (rectangular shaped pins). Converters may be readily purchased online and in some shops in the city centre.

Visas, Customs, and Immigration

If coming from abroad, ensure that you have the appropriate entry documents on hand before leaving home. Depending on your country of origin, this may include your letter of admission to the college or your department in addition to your Tier 4 visa. Before travelling to the UK, check the UK Border Agency website and/or your local UK Embassy for more information. Remember (at least for your UKBA Landing Card) that your address is:

Keble Main Site

Keble College,
Parks Road,
Oxford,
Oxfordshire,
OX1 3PG

Keble HB Allen Centre

HB Allen Centre,
25 Banbury Road,
Oxford,
Oxfordshire,
OX2 6NN

It is advisable when clearing border control to carry all the documentation used when applying for the student visa, particularly CAS documentation. If in doubt, also get in contact with your department about this; they are the ones who normally deal with visa issues.

Bank Accounts

All the main banks in Oxford (Barclays, HSBC, Lloyds and Santander) are located on Cornmarket Street and generally offer accounts for students. If you are a non-EU student on a one-year course, you may not be eligible for a student account, but it is worth researching the banks in advance to check. If you are an international student, be prepared to provide evidence of your address in the UK and your student visa in order to set up a bank account (the best combination of documents to take are your passport, college enrolment certificate, and lease agreement).

There are also various funds that you can apply for if you find yourself facing financial hardship; more information can be accessed at <http://keble.ox.ac.uk/students/student-support/financial-and-personal-support/financial-assistance>.

Phone Contract/Number

Even if you do not think you need one, you will have to get a UK phone number. It's essential for registering and communicating with a GP, or even smaller things like ordering food. You can get a Sim-card basically everywhere, such as Tesco or Sainsbury's. Many phone providers now offer eSIMs as well, which can be convenient if you want to use multiple numbers/networks on a single device.

Working in the UK

Depending on your Visa and Course Classification (e.g. DPhil), you may be able to work for a limited number of hours a week. If you are planning on doing this, remember you will need a National Insurance Number in order to work in the UK, and it is a fairly lengthy process in terms of wait time so it is best to apply as soon as you can. You can work without one while the process is underway (as long as you are eligible to work according to your visa) and should provide your employer with it as soon as you have it.

If you have pre-settled or settled status, you may prove your right to work via a [shared code](https://www.gov.uk/apply-national-insurance-number). See: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-national-insurance-number>.

Shopping

There will be time in the first few days to shop for essentials, such as gowns, mortar boards, books, bicycles etc. There will usually be a bike sale at the Oxford Union (St Michael's Street) at the end of 0th Week. Alternatively, you can buy a bike from bike shops (Cowley Road or Walton Street). Argos online, Tesco, Sainsbury's, and John Lewis in the Westgate Mall are good places to purchase kettles, cooking utensils, linen and other essentials for your room. The Facebook group [Oxford swap shop](#) is a platform for students to cheaply buy and sell all sorts of things, and it is worth becoming a member if interested. Gowns can be bought in the University Campus Stores and similar shops on Broad Street and High Street. All major shops in Oxford are based around Cornmarket, Broad Street, Queens Street (including the Westgate Mall), and High Street.

Sexual Health

Through the college you will have access to welfare officers (both students and staff) who are available for information and support. Do speak to the welfare team if you need any information. Nevertheless, due to the NHS, most contraceptive prescriptions are free. Pregnancy termination is legal and free in England.

- The Oxfordshire Sexual Health Clinic at the Churchill Hospital provides a broad range of services including contraceptives, HIV, STD and pregnancy testing. These can be mailed to you and have free express shipping. Phone number: 01865 231231 (<https://www.sexualhealthoxfordshire.nhs.uk/>)
- Terrence Higgins Trust provides HIV-related info and support. Phone Number: 08451 221200 (<https://www.tht.org.uk/>)
- You can self-refer to an abortion provider for any reason, for example the British Pregnancy Advisory Service. (<https://www.bpas.org/>)

Travelling to Oxford

The below information is under normal circumstances; please check government information and relevant plane, train, bus or traffic and travel websites before making any travel plans:

From London

- One hour by train from Paddington Station in London. A longer (over an hour), but cheaper train can be found leaving from Marylebone Station in London. Booking in advance with the [National Rail](#) or [Trainline](#) is the cheapest option (both have Android/Apple apps that can be downloaded to virtually secure your ticket).
- Around two hours by bus from Victoria. One option is the [Oxford Tube](#).

From Airports

- From Birmingham Airport (BHX), the train is the easiest option, and it only takes one hour.
- From Heathrow Airport (LHR) and Gatwick Airport (LGW): The bus service - Oxford Bus Company's [The Airline](#) is one of the easiest ways to navigate to Oxford. Travel from Heathrow takes 90 minutes and costs £25 (single) and from Gatwick takes 2.5 hours and costs £30 (single). Different types of return tickets can be bought, depending on when you will be returning to the airport. If you have a lot of luggage, you may have to pay an additional £5.
- [National Express](#) coach service offers regular services from all the major airports: Heathrow, Gatwick, Luton and Stansted.

By Bus

- Gloucester Green Bus Station is the closest stop for those heading to Keble or the HB Allen Centre. Anyone arriving on a bus/coach from the North (i.e. Banbury/Woodstock) get off at the 'Keble Road' stop or the stop opposite the old Radcliffe Infirmary. Keble and the HB Allen Centre are both about a safe 15-minute walk from Gloucester Green bus station or 20 minutes from the train station. A taxi from the bus station or train station to Keble should cost around £5–£10. (001 Taxi's phone number: 01865 240000).

By Train

- Rail and bus passes can be useful if you plan to travel within the UK while at Oxford. A [Railcard](#) (ages 16–25 or mature students) is available for £35 per year (or £80 for three years) and will entitle you to a one third reduction with off-peak rates. You can buy a one-year [National Express Coachcard](#) for £30, which gives you discounts of up to 30% on National Express fares throughout Great Britain. Two passport-sized photos are typically required though much of this can also be achieved online. Uploading a passable passport photo and processing payment allows a virtual Railcard to immediately be accessed through the mobile app. Further, bus passes are also available from the Oxford Tube, Oxford Bus Company, Stagecoach and Oxford Citylink companies.

By Car

- If you arrive by car, a limited number of short-stay parking places are available outside the college on Keble Road for you to unload your car. Arrangements can be made with the Porters of the H B Allen Centre should you need to unload your belongings.

Associate members

Some individuals who are not current graduate students at Keble, but who are connected to Keble, are able to become associate members of the MCR for a small fee (£75/year or £40/term). They are able to enjoy many aspects of the MCR; they are added to the mailing list, can play in the sports teams, are able to attend all MCR-run events, and are eligible to run for non-executive MCR committee positions. Additionally, they have access to both the main site and HBAC MCR. Access to the first is obtained through your BOD card; a FOB can be obtained from the HBAC porters for the second. To become an associate member, individuals must either be a previous MCR member or the partner of a current MCR member. More details, including the rules and registration, can be found [here](#), or contact the secretary. This is a particularly good opportunity if you have a long-term partner or spouse coming to Oxford with you (sometimes it can be more difficult for them to integrate into a social scene). Associate membership gives them an excellent opportunity to quickly integrate into a common social scene.

Leaving the MCR

Throughout your time here, former students will be supporting you and all current students through the Talbot Fund. Keble alumni fund student scholarships, bursaries, prizes, our outreach programme, extra-curricular activities (sport, music and drama) and help to restore and refurbish the wonderful buildings in which we live and work. In 2016, the MCR voted for all its members to start their own tradition of alumni support for the next generation by opting in to making a donation of £20 to the Talbot Fund as they leave. By way of thanks, MCR Leavers who make such a gift will receive a Keble ‘brick’ and become honorary members of the Talbot Society. Members will be notified about the MCR Leavers Gift before they leave and receive details of how to allocate your gift to an area of choice and how to opt out, should you wish. For further information please contact the Alumni & Development Office.

Key Contacts at Keble College

The following two tables contain a (non-exhaustive) list of useful contacts within Keble College.

Welfare

Position	Name	Contact email
Welfare Fellow & Chaplain	Fr Max Kramer	chaplain@keble.ox.ac.uk
Student Support Officer	Layla Al-Katib	student.support@keble.ox.ac.uk
College Nurse	Jenny Fitzgerald	pml.keblenurse@nhs.uk
On-site Counsellor	Kirsty Hunter	counsellor@keble.ox.ac.uk
Harassment Officers	Dr Ellen Paterson	ellen.paterson@keble.ox.ac.uk
	Dr Jeremy Fix	jeremy.fix@keble.ox.ac.uk
Dean (also EDI Fellow and Tutor for Graduates)	Dr Sabrina Martin	dean@keble.ox.ac.uk
Junior Deans (for emergency issues out of office hours)	Rawletta Barrow	junior.dean@keble.ox.ac.uk or contact by calling the Porters' Lodge on 01865 272727
	Adrija Ghosh	
	Annie Qurat Ul Ain	
	William Pelletiers	
Senior Tutor (for academic issues)	Dr Ali Rogers	senior.tutor@keble.ox.ac.uk

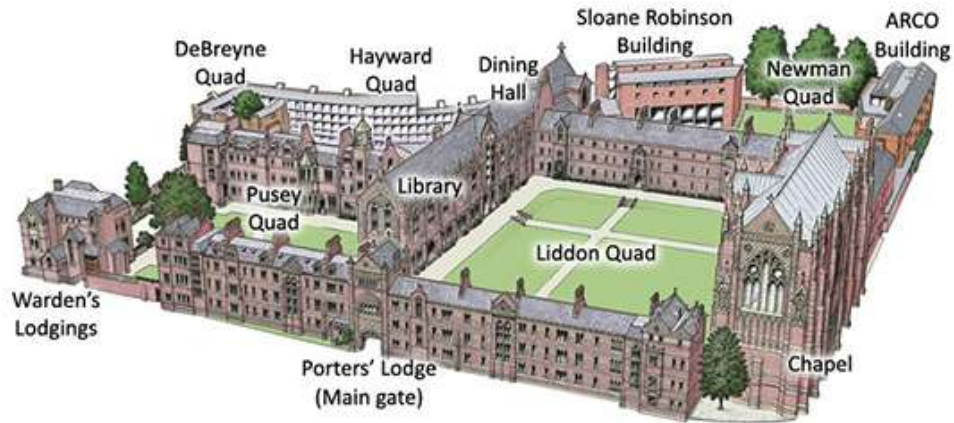
Administrative

Position	Name	Contact
Academic Director (HBAC)	Diane Purkiss	diane.purkiss@keble.ox.ac.uk
Financial Controller	Michael Hill	michael.hill@keble.ox.ac.uk

Accounts Assistant	Hien Le	hien.le@keble.ox.ac.uk
Academic Office	Penn Bateman	academic.office@keble.ox.ac.uk
	Vicky Archibald (admissions)	
IT Office	Steve Kersley	it-support@keble.ox.ac.uk
	Jacob de Goris Jedrzejowski	
Housekeeping	Mirjana Haouam	mirjana.haouam@keble.ox.ac.uk
Porters Lodge (HBAC)	various	hbac.porters@keble.ox.ac.uk
Porters Lodge (Main Site)	various	porter.lodge@keble.ox.ac.uk
Maintenance	Log via online form	Online form

Maps

Keble College: Main Site



Quads

- 1 De Breyne
- 2 Hayward
- 3 Liddon
- 4 Newman
- 5 Pusey

Entrances

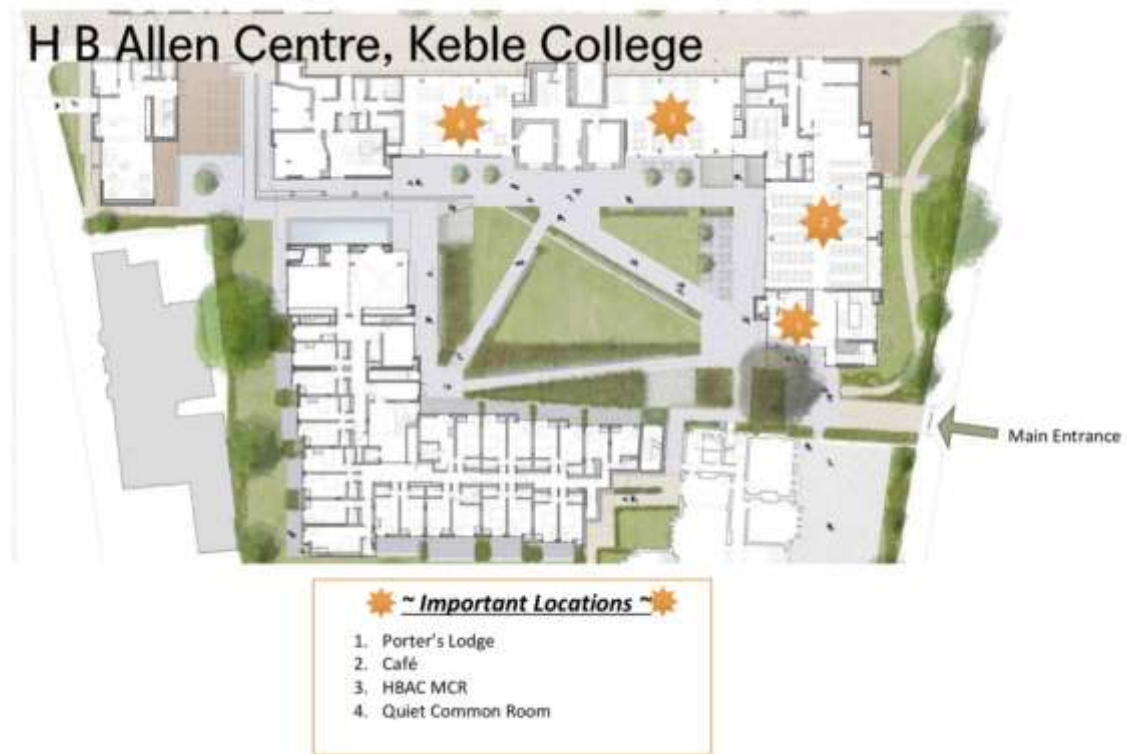
- 6 Arco Gate
- 7 Chapel-side Gate
- 8 Lodge Entrance
- 9 Magic Gate
- 10 Maintenance Only Gate
- 11 Sloane Robinson Gate
- 12 Vehicle Access Gate

Buildings/ Places

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| 13 Arco | 24 Liddon (West, Lodge & Chapel) |
| 14 Bar | 25 Maintenance |
| 15 Bike Racks | 26 MCR |
| 16 Chapel | 27 Offices |
| 17 De Breyne | 28 Porters' Lodge |
| 18 Gibbs Room & IT | 29 SCR |
| 19 Hall | 30 Toilets |
| 20 Hayward | 31 Warden's Lodgings |
| 21 JCR (Gym below) | 32 Washing Machine Room |
| 22 Sloane Robinson | |
| 23 Library | |



Keble College: H B Allen Centre (HBAC)



Oxford

Please refer to this Oxford Freshers Map, made by the JCR:

Keble Freshers' Map

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=11bYT6XIIYokDKt5RQhwwnR6B-sg&usp=sharing>

Bodleian Libraries

Please refer to:

https://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/bodreader/documents/media/map_of_libraries_2021_0921.pdf

As members of the University of Oxford, we can access all Bodleian Libraries. Other college libraries are in general inaccessible, just as Keble is to those from other colleges.