

QUEENS' COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

ALTERNATIVE PROSPECTUS

A STUDENT-MADE GUIDE TO LIFE
AT QUEENS'

2023 VERSION

CONTENTS



WELCOME

PAGE 3



PAGE 4

QUEENS' OVERVIEW



QUEENS' IN
CAMBRIDGE

PAGE 5



QUOTES FROM
STUDENTS

PAGE 6



PAGE 7

FOOD & FACILITIES



ACCOMMODATION

PAGE 9



PAGE 11

SOCIAL LIFE



SPORTS & SOCIETIES

PAGE 12



PAGE 13

QUEENS' QUIRKS



WELFARE

PAGE 14



PAGE 14

INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS



FINANCE

PAGE 16



PAGE 16

ACADEMICS



LIBRARIES

PAGE 17



PAGE 18

LIBRARY
SERVICES



WHAT DO STUDENTS
THINK?

PAGE 19



PAGE 20

TYPICAL TIMETABLES



HELPFUL LINKS

PAGE 23



WELCOME

Queens' College (note the apostrophe!) is a constituent college of the University of Cambridge. We are among the largest, friendliest and best-located colleges in Cambridge, known for a bridge, diverse architecture, and top-notch students.

Queens' is often quoted as one of the friendliest, most iconic colleges and although you may hear about the 'ugliest building on the river' from punters, it is actually a lovely space to live and study! Having a large community means that you can really get involved in all of the quirks of university life - from the classic Cambridge pastime of rowing at the boat club to directing, producing or acting in a play put on by the Queens' drama society, BATS!

There's so much more that I can't fit into a small foreword but I highly encourage you to read on, and contact the college if you have any questions! In this alternative prospectus, we hope to give you a student's view to life in Queens'. Many of us came to Cambridge having heard from current students. We hope you benefit as we did :)

Anna Fitzpatrick

Chemical Engineering student & Queens' JCR President 2023-4

Queens' College JCR is the undergraduate student body in Queens', represented by the JCR Committee, who produced this guide. For updates and more information, you can follow us on our social media:

Instagram: [@queensjcr](#)

TikTok: [@queenscollegejcr](#)

TAKE A TOUR OF QUEENS' COLLEGE

ADMISSIONS

This alternative prospectus will focus on life at Queens', not really admissions. We would encourage all students to consider applying to top universities like Cambridge and know that Queens' warmly welcomes applicants from all backgrounds. There are some links at the end of this document that should explain the admissions process.

TERMINOLOGY

Buttery = The food hall, so the cafeteria basically. It's called 'Hall' in some colleges.

Plodge = Porter's Lodge, the main entrance to a college. (**Porters** are basically receptionists - they're lovely!)

Formal = Three-course formal dinners in the college which students can book onto.

Michaelmas = The first term of the academic year (mainly October & November).

Lent = The second term of the academic year (January-March).

Easter = The third term of the academic year (April-June).

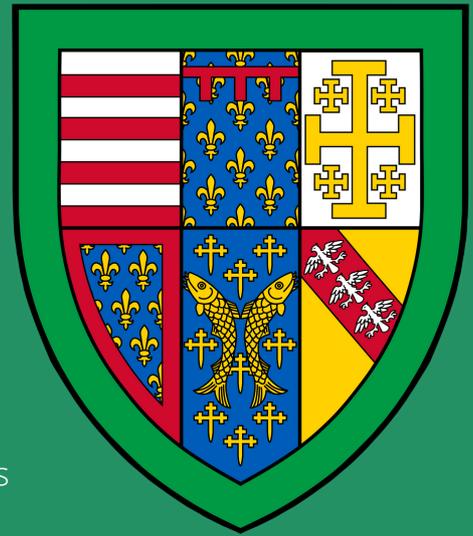
JCR = "Junior Combination Room" = The undergraduate body **or** the JCR Committee, that represents it **or** the JCR Common Room.

Society = An extra-curricular club, typically run by students.

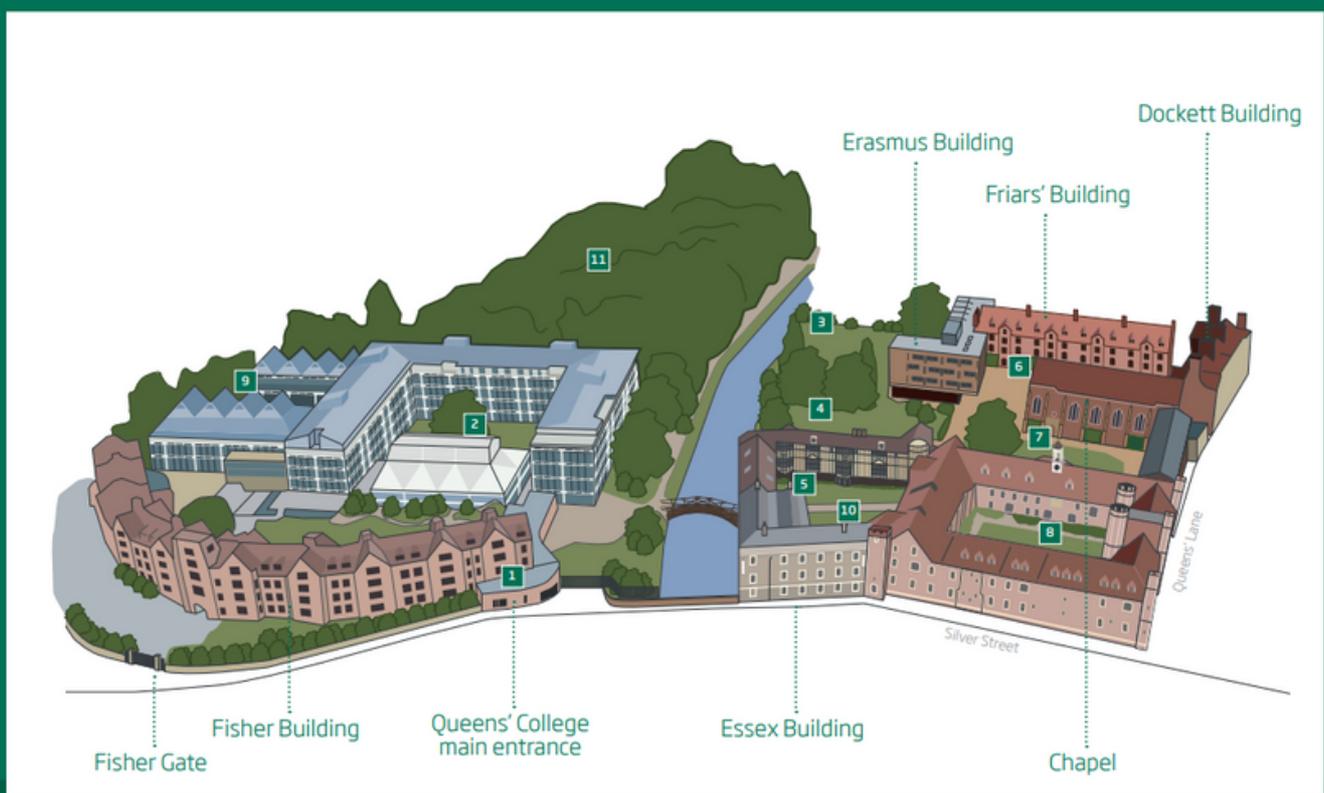
QUEENS' OVERVIEW

Queens' College is a constituent college of the University of Cambridge. It has around 500 undergraduate students (typically 150 a year for years 1-3), as well as nearly as many postgraduates (who live off-site). Queens' offers almost all subjects (check) and consistently performs well academically, without feeling as intense as other colleges.

Its defining features are its centrally-located, compact and architecturally-diverse grounds, straddling the River Cam, with its two sides connected by the 'Mathematical Bridge'. The more modern side is nicknamed the 'Light Side' whilst the older side is nicknamed the 'Dark Side'. It is also one of the largest colleges by number of students who regards the college to be a sociable and friendly one. Queens' is also known for novel widening participation work (often student-led), its long history (since foundation in 1448) and its famous alumni.



[UNIVERSITY WEBSITE](#)
[QUEENS' WEBSITE](#)
[QUEENS' JCR WEBSITE](#)
[WIKIPEDIA](#)



1. Porters' Lodge
2. Cripps Court
3. Fellow's Garden
4. President's Garden

5. Cloister Court
6. Friars' Court
7. Walnut Tree Court
8. Old Court

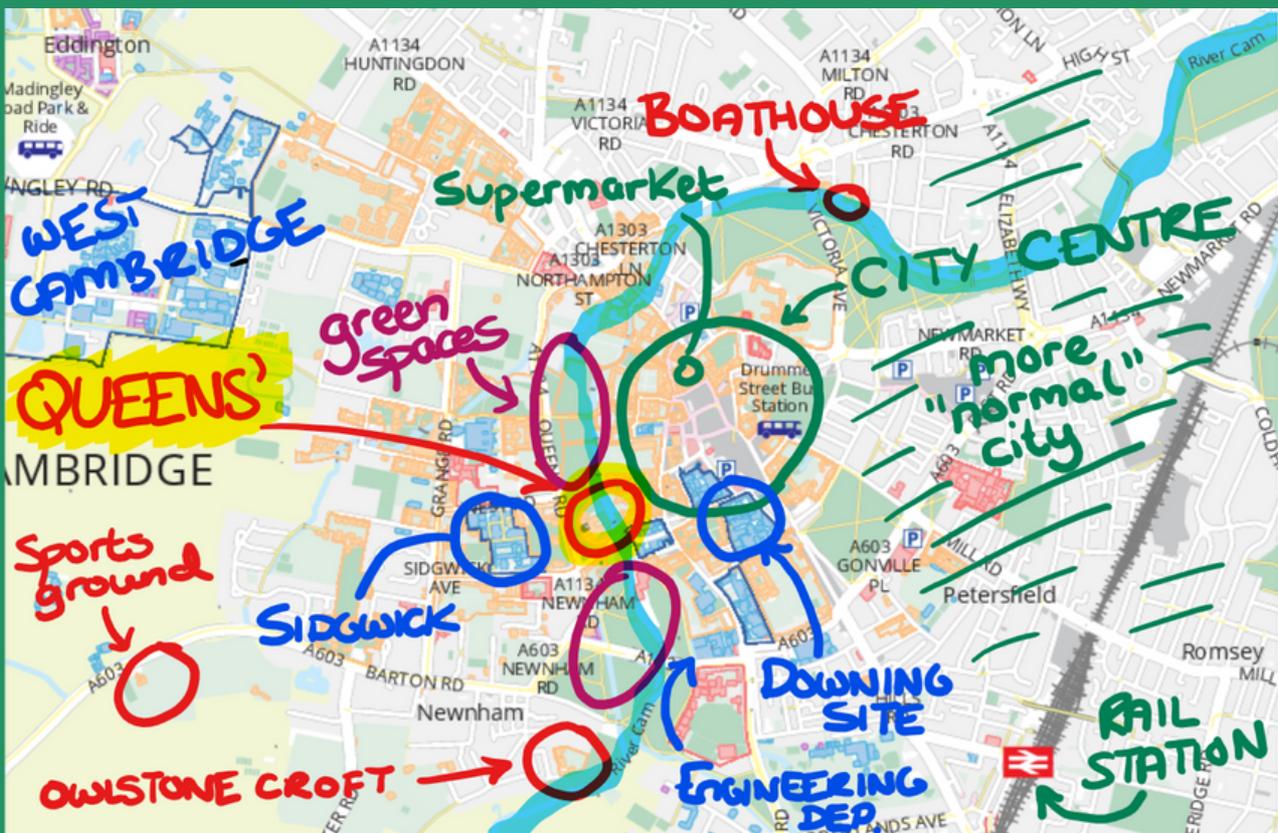
9. Lyon Court
10. Pump Court
11. The Grove

Not shown above: Queens' also operates some off-site facilities, including the Owlstone Croft accommodation block (5-10 minutes' cycle away) for postgraduates and some undergraduates, houses for postgraduates, a boathouse, and sports grounds.

QUEENS' IN CAMBRIDGE

Queens' is arguably the best-located college, right on the river and on the edge of the busy centre of town. It's midway between the two main cluster of faculties - the Downing and New Museums Sites, and the Sidgwick Site. Queens' students don't tend to go out 'for the day' to their department or faculty, as Queens' is so close you can comfortably go back for a long lunch break!

An annotated map is below. College buildings are in orange and university buildings (such as departments) in blue. You can see the original map at: <https://map.cam.ac.uk/>



How far is Queens' from various places?

Queens' is also on the university bus route that connects West Cambridge site to the hospital and train station. It costs £1 for university students.

- Sidgwick Site (humanities/languages faculties) - **500m**
- Engineering Department - **800m**
- Downing Site (sciences faculties - mainly teaching) - **650m**
- Sainsbury's - **800m**

What's Cambridge like as a city?

- Really busy with tourists and day-trippers, especially on weekends and nice days.
- Flat, and probably the most cycle-friendly city in the UK!
- Hotter and drier in the Summer and colder in the Winter than the rest of England.
- Touristic with lots of green space right outside the city.
- University-dominated - coffee shops are full of students chatting and working.

QUOTES FROM QUEENS' STUDENTS

I chose Queens' because I wanted to be in the central of Cambridge but not too far away from West Cambridge. Queens' was the prettiest of these colleges and being somewhere pretty would make me feel better mentally.

Will, Computer Science

The atmosphere and beauty of Queens' really appealed to me when choosing colleges. It seemed to be a friendly and warm community, which I can now say it is exactly! The location too is perfect.

Max, Engineering

I applied to Queens' because (1) river colleges are the best (2) it's a mere five minutes from the law faculty, making it easy to reach my 9 AMs and (3) it's a short walk to clubs, cafes and shops. Friends from other colleges envy how easy my life is.

Lizzie, Law

"Queens' is a really friendly community - staff and students alike! I was worried before I came here that I would not find people like me, and that everyone would spend all their time working. I wish I hadn't worried - I make time to relax and I know I've made friends for life."

Grace, BioNatSci

As someone doing a niche subject, one of the reasons I chose Queens' was the size of its student body. At Queens', I was less likely to be the only linguist in my year, which meant I had someone else to go to lectures and discuss assignments with.

Kat, Linguistics

I chose Queens' because of its brilliant community and all round vibe! As soon as I set foot into college, I felt at home here and incredibly welcomed. The people here are so fantastic and the location doesn't hurt too!

Abby, Classics

I chose Queens' because Computer Science at Queens' has a large cohort and offers a lot of support, making it a brilliant choice for me. It is also located really well in the city, close to almost everything, and also has a very friendly community.

Conall, Computer Science

As someone who thrives on socialising, I wanted to choose a college that had a large student body. Queens' is one of the largest colleges in Cambridge while also being equidistant between the centre of town and my faculty building.

Conal, Linguistics

FACILITIES & FOOD

On the main site, Queens' facilities include

- 3 modern conference rooms and several older (and grander) meeting rooms
- 2 squash courts (free to use) and a free to use gym (a weights room and a cardio room)
- The Fitzpatrick Hall - a sports hall, theatre, and lecture space
- 2 bookable music practice rooms
- 3 punts for hire in the summer months
- **Free laundry**

FOOD AT QUEENS'

- **The Buttery** - serving 3 meals a day during the week, and brunch and dinner on the weekend. Normally, there are typically 3 or 4 meal options, as well as soup and jacket potato. Some students will eat all their meals at the buttery, where a meal with two sides costs £3, with drinks, desserts, and the like costing a little extra.
- **Self-Catering** - Main site rooms have 'gyp rooms' available to students. The quality varies by building, but all will have fridges, hobs, a toaster, microwave, sink and a kettle. Kitchens off the main site have ovens and more extensive facilities.
- **QCafe** - open from 10:30am until 4pm on weekdays. It serves a variety of savoury and sweet snack options, ranging from hot to cold, as well as a selection of hot and cold drinks. It also serves bubble tea!
- **QBar** - open in the evenings, serving a variety of meals, such as burgers, pies, and chips.

The JCR Room

The JCR Room is a common room for students to hang out in on the third floor of the Cripps Building, looking out over the Mathematical Bridge. Some use the space as a more relaxed place to work, but it's designated as an alternative social space to QBar. There's a TV screen for film nights and a Wii console, tables and chairs, bean bags, board games (including Queens' Monopoly), computers and a printer.



Offsite Sporting Facilities

Queens' shares a sports ground with other colleges on Barton Road. This site, a 10 minute cycle and 20 minute walk away, includes a number of tennis courts, football pitches, rugby pitches, lacrosse pitches, cricket squares and netball courts. The University of Cambridge owns a sports centre and grounds for many sports also. There are public swimming pools and climbing walls in Cambridge.



The Fitzpatrick Hall

The Fitzpatrick Hall is a multipurpose venue in Queens' that acts both as an open hall, and a theatre that seats around 200 people. It's used for badminton, indoor football and dance, and it's been used for ceilidhs, art shows, and student bops (parties). In theatre mode it can be used for lectures, shows, film screenings, and plays.



Green Spaces

Queens' doesn't have vast tidy lawns like in other Cambridge colleges. Instead we have some grass lawns and other secluded green spaces. Among them is the Grove, a forested area on the river in Queens' that members are free to walk through to clear their minds or relax. Opposite the Grove is Erasmus Lawn, a lawn on the river that students flock to during the warmer months to read, relax or socialise.



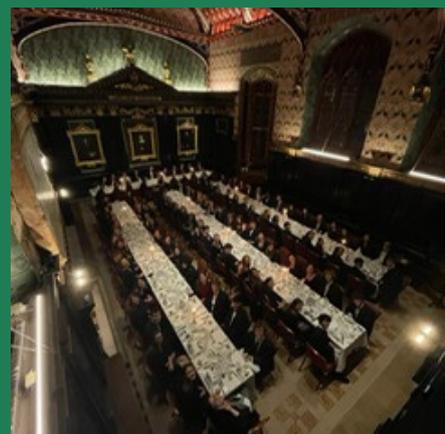
The Queens' Bar (QBar)

QBar is the college bar in Queens'. The opening hours are 18:30-23:00 most nights, with later closing on weekends. The bar is also be used to host events such as open mic nights, football and Eurovision watch parties, and open meetings. The bar has two pool tables and a football table, both of which are free to use. During the day, the space is a cafe serving hot drinks, snacks and paninis. It's a popular working space.



Formals & Dinners

Formal dinners are a tradition of Oxford & Cambridge colleges. Students dress up and wear gowns and receive a three-course meal, at about the same price as a meal out. Students can book on to these as often as they like (there's no obligation to go to one). Birthdays or hosting guests are a common excuse to go! In Queens', as well as formals, there are annual black tie dinners that an entire year group or subject group attend, held in the Old Hall.



ACCOMMODATION

Queens' has a mix of old and new accommodation buildings across the college site. The majority of undergrads are housed on-site, and are able to choose from a range of options to fit their budget and preferences - students tend to get the room type they want. The college is one of the only ones to have accommodation on both sides of the river, this leads to a split in architectural styles that we call the 'Dark Side' and the 'Light Side'. The Dark Side contains the original buildings of the college with an older architectural style, whereas the Light Side has two of the newer buildings and the modern porter's lodge, as well as most facilities. Accommodation can vary in the following ways:

- **En-suite** vs **shared bathroom** vs **private bathroom** - there are a range of bathroom options and this is reflected in price. Private bathroom rooms have their own individual associated bathroom, it just is not connected to the room.
- **Sets** or **rooms** - sets are made up of a couple of rooms - typically a bedroom connected to a lounge/study.
- **Size** and **view** - these can vary considerably and this is reflected in room price.

There are also a handful of rooms in the Queens' Old Court on the Dark Side, some of which are shared - [see here for more info!](#)

Click on the headings below to see floor plans and 3-D tours!!

Cripps Court

The most recent addition to Queens', Cripps is home to nearly 200 rooms, many college facilities, and a majority of first year students. All rooms in Cripps have either an en-suite or a private bathroom, and there's a few 'penthouse' rooms. Cripps is the most accessible of all of the buildings, with ramps to access ground floor rooms, and two lifts. The lighting in Cripps is also significantly brighter than the lighting in the older buildings.



Friars Building

Friars holds some of the cheapest (and beautiful!) on-site accommodation, and its on the main site. The building dates to the 1800s and is on the Dark Side. The rooms are very large, with the one downside that each staircase shares a few bathrooms (1 on the top floor and two on the ground floor). There are sinks in every room and a small gyp room on every one of the four floors. Top floor Friars rooms are sets.



Owlstone Croft

Owlstone Croft is the main block of offsite accommodation owned by Queens'. It's mostly occupied by around half of second years and the majority of graduates. Most rooms are in the cheapest band with shared bathrooms. The building has fully-equipped kitchens (ovens and freezers!), and its own common room and gym. It's located beside a local nature reserve, 10-15 minutes walk (5 minute cycle) south of Queens'.



Dokett Building

Traditionally, third years live in Dokett's mix of big, comfortable en-suites and smaller rooms with bathrooms shared between 2. While the rooms vary massively in size and view, its more modern gyp rooms and cozy and carpeted interior make it quite different from neighbouring Friars, even though they do look quite similar from the outside! The rooms in this building vary from the cheapest in Queens' to some of the more expensive.



Erasmus Building

Considered by some to be the ugliest building in Cambridge and loved by others, Erasmus is the newest building on the Dark Side. Its residents benefit from modern gyp rooms and views of the river (and prettier buildings). Built in the 50s, all of the rooms in Erasmus are en-suite study bedrooms. The rooms in Erasmus are regarded as "like Cripps but a little better", and are usually taken by second and third year students.



Fisher Building

The first building to be built on the light side, Fisher is made up of large sets that are on the more expensive side of Queens' accommodation, as they used to be shared rooms. The first three floors of each staircase are made up of en-suite sets, with the attic sets sharing a separate shower room and toilet between the four rooms on the floor. These rooms are occupied by mostly second year students.



THE SOCIAL LIFE AT QUEENS'

Queens' regards itself to be a sociable college, with good interaction between years of study. Being so populous and compact, students get to know lots of different people and will often have multiple groups of friends.

What are typical evening activities and events students attend?

- College 'bops' (parties, usually themed)
- Society, subject or sports team social events
- Socialising in a friend's room
- Going out clubbing
- Formals (formal dinners), both in Queens' and at other colleges
- Attending talks, debates and panels held by societies such as the Cambridge Union

How might a Queens' student relax with friends?

- Enjoying a drink and playing pool in QBar in the evening
- Playing board games or on the Wii in the JCR Room
- Bringing food out to eat on the riverside during the summer months
- Cozying under a blanket in a friend's room for a film night

What are the highlights of the year?

Freshers' Week happens at the start of Michaelmas Term. Yes there's clubbing and parties, but in true Cambridge style there's a lot more to it, including **matriculation**, a formal celebration of admission into the college.

The **Queens' May Ball** is a biennial black tie event (in June, confusingly) where the college is transformed into a party lasting until 5 or 6 a.m. the next morning. There will typically be fairground rides, a range of foods and drink, headline acts and varied activities.

Every year after exams the JCR events team (QEnts) host **Bounce**, a garden party with food and drink on the college's riverside Erasmus Lawn. There's food, drinks and musical acts, but the highlight is all the bouncy castles and obstacle courses.

What's Cambridge like for shops, venues and clubbing?

Cambridge is a city and has everything you would expect: cinemas, a bowling alley, musical venues and all typical restaurant chains and high street shops. It isn't well known for its clubs. Still, there are four nightclubs in Cambridge, and other venues also host regular nights out. Plenty of students are into their clubbing and will go multiple times a week.



SPORTS & SOCIETIES IN QUEENS'

The opportunities available outside of lectures is what makes Cambridge, and Queens', so special. Queens' is lucky to host a wide range of sports & societies, most of which are student-led, and are the perfect place to meet new people. You can join teams in sports including rowing, football, climbing, mixed netball, and even Ultimate Frisbee, to name a few. Or you can even get involved in societies, which include, for example, Just Dance, discuss Politics, or eating Vegan food. Our warm and friendly atmosphere at Queens' stems partly from all the different sports & societies we are proud to have and which we encourage everyone to take a lead in. Check out the QJCR website for more information on what's on!

Max Krefting, JCR Sports & Societies Officer 2023-2024



Rowing

Rowing is a must-try in Cambridge! It is one of the most popular sports and welcomes complete novices, in fact most rowers have never rowed before starting at Cambridge. Queens' Boat Club trains throughout the year working towards the famous May Bumps, where colleges race against each other. The social life that comes with Queens' rowing is special, from Bowling to Cheese and Wine night, and our fantastic Black Tie dinners.



Music & Drama

Queens' has a lively music scene. Its music society, 'MagSoc' organises concerts, rehearsals and musical prizes and even casual musicians get involved! Queens' also has a college choir who sing in our beautiful chapel. BATS is Queens' renowned theatre society whose alumni include Stephen Fry and Simon Bird! BATS host socials, organise theatre trips and put on shows in our very own Fitzpatrick Hall throughout the year.





QUEENS' QUIRKS

SOME FUN FACTS ABOUT QUEENS'



Queens' alumni include Stephen Fry, the Scholar Erasmus, journalist Emily Maitlis, the current governor of the Bank of England and many more...

Squirrels and ducks are common in Queens'. Badgers, foxes, kingfishers and water voles live in the local area.

Among the famous alumni of Queens' is the astronaut Michael Foale. A flag that flew on the space shuttle can be found in the bar in Queens'!



Queens' has a secluded rooftop garden complete with a student herb garden!

The most commonly-clicked link on the Queens' and JCR website is the link for the buttery menu...

During the 2020 pandemic, Queens' students parodied Billy Joel's *We Didn't Start the Fire* with a Queens' version of the song

Most food halls in Cambridge require you to keep your tray on a rack after eating. Queens' is special and has a conveyor belt!

Queens' was founded twice by a queen of England (Margaret of Anjou in 1448, and again by Elizabeth Woodville in 1465) hence Queens' and not Queens or Queen's.

Queens' is well-known for its brunch, a cheap meal on weekend mornings with all the breakfast classics. "Two hash browns is one item" is the Queens' motto!



Queens', like many colleges, has a TV and Wii in its JCR common room. What's unique in the Queens' JCR Room is that there's a balcony looking out onto the river below!

Buttery and most formals occur in the large, modern Cripps Hall. Queens' also has Old Hall, a grand hall with painted ceilings that once featured in a Bastille music video.

Nobody is allowed to walk on most of the grass in Queens', though in the Summer you can relax, sunbathe and eat on the riverside. There's even an annual bouncy castle party after exams on them!

Check out our Humans of Queens' - @queensjcr

WELFARE

Queens' has multiple avenues of [welfare support](#):

- **JCR Welfare Officers** - Queens' Welfare Officers organise events for students to provide supportive and calming places to relax, do arts and crafts work, enjoy tea and cakes, or even spend time with dog Tally! Have a look at [queensjcr_welfare](#) on Instagram to explore Queens' welfare activities.
- **Welfare Team** - Queens' has a dedicated team of welfare advisers and mental health specialists on hand to support students - both in terms of responding to student concerns and incidents, and pro-actively ensuring students' conditions are catered for in aspects of college life.
- **College Nurse** - Queens' has a registered nurse who can treat minor injuries and advise on physical wellbeing generally.
- **Tutors** - tutors are fellows (academics) of the college who are a contact for your non-academic wellbeing. They support students experiencing financial hardship, support applications and support or who are having difficulty studying.
- **The Chaplain** - the college chaplain is available to advise students on welfare and spiritual issues - and not just if you're a christian!
- **University Counselling Service** - a service available to all Cambridge students.
- **Porters** - the porters are available 24/7 to provide support with wellbeing concerns.
- **Animals!** - we have a variety of furry friends around college, including Tally, our official welfare dog (second left)!



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Queens' has a varied crowd of students coming from more than 20 countries! If you come from abroad and think of applying to Cambridge, Queens' is a place where you will find a large community of lovely, welcoming, and open-minded people. It can be scary to move to another country on your own, but that is why the college system is so great! It gives you a chance to know everyone better, as you all live together, and get to meet people with shared interests and experiences that will become your lifelong friends. We have many international students at Queens' which is amazing in the moments when you want to talk about your country, and your shared experience of living abroad. In addition to this, internationals in second and third year will be able to provide you with information and reassurance on all you need to have the best university experience in England.

There are a variety of things that Queens' provides for internationals:

- A JCR Internationals' officer, in charge of helping all international students from an administrative and social point of view:
 - Bar swaps for you to meet internationals uni-wide.
 - Events for special national holidays like Chinese New Year, Diwali, Thanksgiving, and more!
 - Organization of the college storage room where you can leave your belongings during the holidays to facilitate your return back home.
- An international freshers' guide to tell you all you need to know and prepare for before coming to Cambridge (and England in general)
- A great support team with people to talk to if you feel homesick, and that will really help facilitate your transition to living abroad
- Communication with different international societies that you can get involved with to keep your cultural ties (here is the link to all of them: <https://www.societies.cam.ac.uk/>)

All and all, if you are an international student who wants to have a great university experience, come enrich our international community at Queens'!

Salomé Sivignon, JCR International's officer 2023-2024

Statements from International Students

Queens' is an extremely welcoming environment, but don't feel there is anything wrong with you if at first everything feels scary and difficult! Don't stress over trying to feel at home, it will happen little by little and that will in part be the joy of your time here.

Catalina from Spain

It was lovely to see how excited my British friends were to participate in Chinese New Year traditions :)

James from Hong Kong

Life at Queens' as an international student is really fun: there's many of us here and you never feel alone!

Vicky from Italy

As an international student, I had a very smooth transition to living in Queens'. What I really liked was that people were interested in my background and I never felt the need to give up my identity to fit in. Queens' has just the right balance between promoting integrating yet keeping the diversity. It also made me very happy when the Chaplain made sure that I was feeling okay after the natural disasters in my country. Overall, I think Queens' is a very welcoming place for international students.

Defne from Turkey

I've had so much fun at Queens' so far!

Me being from another country has never been a problem to fit in, people are very open and curious about my culture. Whenever I feel homesick, I always find people to talk to and I can always go to the French society events if I feel the need to speak my language.

Salomé from France

FINANCE

UK students can apply for a student maintenance loan to cover living costs, with more money available for students on lower households income. Almost all UK Queens' students will have student loans.

Queens' students are eligible to automatically receive the 'Cambridge Bursary', which offers £3500 to students in households earning £25,000 or less, with a linear tail-off to zero at around £62,000. Queens' students can also receive funds to deal with financial hardship through tutors.

Queens' accommodation is on a "quarterly scheme" where we pay for accommodation for 3 continuous quarters - the 9 month academic year. This means we pay for rooms (and can live in Queens') over the Christmas and Easter vacations, unlike most colleges. In 2022, rooms cost between £1314/quarter (shared bathrooms) and £2742/quarter (the top-end en-suites). Utilities are about £60/term and laundry is free. Food is typically the biggest other expense with the budget depending on the balance of self-catering, eating in the buttery with our £3 pound meal deal, and amount of takeaway/formals.

Queens' also has a variety of grants and bursaries to aid students in pursuing extra-curriculars. This can include for playing sports, musical instrument hire and lessons, and, perhaps most excitingly, travel. These grants and bursaries aren't usually means tested which means that they are available to all students that want them, and they refresh every year, meaning that you can access these funds every year of your degree if you so choose. Individual faculties in college and across the university also tend to have grants and bursaries for things like books and course materials.

ACADEMICS

As in other colleges, Queens' appoints a **Director of Studies** (DoS) for each subject. This is a fellow of the college (an academic member of Queens') who is responsible for the academic development of students in their subject. They will meet with students a couple of times of term for meetings and organise supervisions for students, even if they do not directly teach students through the course. If you get the chance on an open day, talk to a DoS to get the opportunity to understand what studying a certain subject is like in Queens', or any other college.

QUEENS' LIBRARIES

Queens' has a variety of study spaces spread out across the college to help students do as well as possible with their degrees. This includes a library, study rooms, computer rooms, and a several other spaces!

WAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The War Memorial Library is Queens' main library for students. The original chapel, it has three floors, each with a different vibe to fit your mood and all the books you will need during your time as an undergraduate here! The library is open from 7am until 2am, with opening hours extending to 3am during Easter exam term. The War Memorial Library has over 30,000 books and are willing to order any book you need for your course, so our collection is constantly growing! The library also stocks a General Reading section, board games, and DVDs (with a borrowable plug-in DVD player) to help you relax away from your work.



QUEENS' OLD LIBRARY

The Old Library is the original Queens' library from the college's foundation in 1448 with bookcases made from medieval lecterns. Although none of the original collection remains, the library holds a hugely significant collection of over 30,000 early printed books and manuscripts dating from the 12th to 19th century. The Old Library isn't open for students to study in, but it is open for exhibitions and booked visits to view certain manuscripts

LIBRARY SERVICES

ONLINE LIBRARY SERVICES

The university has an online library catalogue that allows you to view all of the books, journals, and articles available across the university, both physically and online. If you want access to an e-book, the Queens' library is able to facilitate this! They can also scan books from their collections if you are at home and want access to a book over the holidays

LIBRARY EVENTS

The library runs a variety of events throughout the year. This includes referencing and research workshops for students every term, free tea, coffee, and biscuits every other day during exam term, and Old Library workshops

OTHER STUDY SPACES AROUND COLLEGE

There are permanent study spaces for students around college. These include a variety of loud and quiet study spaces of varying sizes. This includes a computer study room, bookable conference rooms, and a loud study space next to our Fitzpatrick Hall that backs onto our rooftop garden! During Easter Exam term, plenty of study spaces open up across both sides of college; this includes our dining hall, various meeting spaces across college, and the lawn outside of plodge!



WHAT DO STUDENTS THINK?

According to the entirely student-run Big QJCR Survey 2022 (42% turnout).

92% of students agree or strongly agree that "Queens' is a good college"

82% of students agree or strongly agree that "Queens' is a welcoming college"

87% of students agree or strongly agree that "there are lots of student-run activities at Queens"

92% say they feel happy at Queens'

What are the best and worst things?

- Queens' is almost perfectly located on the edge of the city centre, close to the shops, but also to departments, faculties, and green spaces
- **Queens' library space is smaller and older than other colleges' libraries**
- Queens' has a dedicated professional welfare team
- **Queens' students don't have regular catch-ups with tutors (i.e. fellows of other subjects) as is commonplace in other colleges**
- Queens' is among the most picturesque and beautiful colleges
- **Queens' sports ground is a long walk from college (roughly 25 minutes)**
- Queens' cafe is lovely - lots of space to sit and work! The food's great too!
- **Queens' main site gyp rooms don't have ovens, and few have freezers**
- Queens' has one of the biggest and best food halls in Cambridge, and students come from other colleges to taste our brunch
- **Queens' students pay for their rooms for 9 months, so we pay more in rent than people at other colleges, who leave for all the vacations**
- Queens' is a river college, with riverside lawns and punts for hire
- **Queens' is not one of the three colleges with a swimming pool**
- Queens' squash courts and gym are free to use.
- **Second years often live off-site at the Owlstone , like second years at many other colleges.**
- Queens' is one of the largest and friendliest colleges! It's very easy to make friends!

Want to find out more about different subjects?

[Check out Queens' subject videos here!!](#)

Example timetable: sociable first year history student (night owl & rower)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
09:00	LECTURE	(Rowing before 9)	HAP reading	Sleep	LECTURE	Sleep	Sleep
10:00	Supervision reading	LECTURE		Essay writing	Supervision prep		Rowing outing
11:00	LECTURE	LECTURE	Themes and Sources class		SUPERVISION		
12:00	Lunch - Sidge	Lunch - Sidge		Lunch	Lunch	Brunch	
13:00	LECTURE	Supervision reading	Lunch	Essay writing	Pick up new books from library	Tidy room	Brunch
14:00	Nap		LECTURE		Food shop/errands	Coffee with a friend	Supervision reading
15:00	Laundry/errands		Netflix		HAP reading		
16:00	Supervision reading		Essay planning		HAP seminar	Gym	
17:00				Essay deadline			
18:00	Dinner - Buttery	Dinner - Buttery	Swap/social	Dinner	Dinner	Cambridge Union talk	Dinner
19:00	Chill in QBar	Food shop		Relaxing with friends/social	Themes and Sources reading		Supervision reading
20:00	Supervision reading	Supervision reading				Dinner	
21:00					Social/going out	Pub (Dangerspoons)	Film night
22:00		Pool in Qbar	Cindie's				

Example timetable: year 1/2 geography student & rower

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
09:00	Supervision reading	Sleeping in	(pre-9am) early morning rowing outing	Supervision reading	(pre-9am) early morning rowing outing	Essay writing	Sleeping in
10:00			Essay writing		Weekly shop		
11:00		Essay planning			Essay planning		Brunch
12:00	LECTURES	LECTURE	LECTURE		LECTURE	Rowing outing	Chill
13:00		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		
14:00			Essay writing	Supervision reading	LAB SESSION (practical, GIS or statistics)	Lunch	Rowing outing
15:00	Lunch	Essay writing				Chill	
16:00	Supervision		Coffee catch-up			JCR committee meeting	Supervision reading
17:00	Relax with friends	Erg session and weights	Supervision reading	Erg session and weights	Supervision		
18:00					Essay writing	Essay writing	
19:00	Dinner	Cook with friends	Formal dinner	Cook with friends			Dinner
20:00	Supervision reading	Essay writing		Relax with friends	Dinner	Dinner in town	Laundry
21:00			Pre-drinks			Social	Relax with friends
22:00			Cindie's		Van of Life		

Example timetable: year 1/2 computer science student and university rugby player

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
09:00	pre-9am rugby	Lecture	sleep in	Lecture	sleep in	9am rugby	sleep in	
10:00	Lecture	Group project	Lecture	Group project	Lecture	Food Shop	Breakfast	
11:00	Lecture	Group project	Lecture	Group project	Lecture	Lunch	Supo work	
12:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Supo work	
13:00	Supo work	Supo work	Rugby Match	Supo Work	Labs	Chill	Supo work	
14:00	Supo	Supo		Supo		Supo Work	Supo Work	Laundry
15:00	Chill	Chill		Supo Work		Supo		Chill
16:00	Rugby	Rugby	CompSci meet	Supo	Rugby	Supo Work	Supo work	
17:00	Make/Eat Tea	Make/Eat Tea		Food Shop			Meal at Rugby	Make/Eat Tea
18:00	Formal	Formal	Formal	Make/Eat Tea	Meal at Rugby	Pizza & Board games w/ friends	Supo work	
19:00	Chill	Chill	Bar	Chill	Chill		Supo work	
20:00	Sleep	Sleep	Sleep	Sleep	Film	Film	Film	

Example timetable: year 1/2 maths and rowing student

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
09:00	Sleep	Sleep	pre-9am rowing	Sleep	pre-9am rowing	Sleep	Sleep in
10:00	Lectures	Lectures	Lectures	Lectures	Lectures	Lectures	Brunch
11:00	Go over lecture notes	Rowing	Laundry				
12:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Rowing
13:00	Example class	Example class	Food shop	Supo work	Supo work	Supo work	Supo work
14:00	Supo work	Errands	Supo	Erg session & weights	Supo	Supo work	Supo work
15:00		Erg session & weights	Supo work	Erg session & weights	Supo	Supo work	Supo work
16:00		Dinner - buttery	Maths Society talk	Cooking/dinner	Chill	Cook with friends	Buttery
17:00	Cooking/dinner	Supo work	Formal	Relax with friends	Bar food	Film night	Supo work
18:00	Relax with friends		Bar/cindies	Relax with friends	Qbar/bop		Relax with friends
19:00							
20:00							
21:00							
22:00							

Example timetable: sociable year 1/2 engineering student

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
09:00	Study for supervisions	LECTURES	LECTURES	LECTURES	LAB SESSION	Sleeping in	Study for supervisions
10:00	LECTURES	LAB SESSION	LECTURE	Meeting friends for coffee	LECTURES	Brunch	Brunch
11:00	Lunch - Buttery or similar?					Study for supervisions	Sports
12:00	Study for supervisions	Study for supervisions	Chilled group study	Study for supervisions	LAB SESSION	Shopping	Work on a lab report
13:00	Supervision	Supervision	Playing squash	Supervision	Walk or cycle ride	Study for supervisions	Work on a lab report
14:00	Buttery	Shopping & errands	Buttery	Buttery	Cooking with friends	Buttery	Formal
15:00	Study for supervisions	Cooking	University society event	Computing work	College 'Bop' party		Formal
16:00	Study for supervisions	Queens' Bar Quiz??		Film night			Formal
17:00	Playing sqash						QBar
18:00							
19:00							
20:00							
21:00							
22:00							

Example timetable: first year law student

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
09:00	Supervision work	Supervision work	Supervision work	Supervision work	LECTURES	Sleeping in		
10:00	LECTURE	LECTURES	LECTURE	LECTURES	Supervision work	Brunch		
11:00	Supervision work					LECTURE	LECTURE	
12:00	LECTURE	Lunch - Faculty	Supervision work	LECTURE		Mooting	Weekly Shop	
13:00	Lunch - Buttery	LECTURE	Lunch - Buttery					
14:00	Supervision work	Supervision work	Supervision work	Supervision work	Supervision work	Netflix/Reading for fun	Supervision work	
15:00		SUPERVISION		SUPERVISION				
16:00		Supervision work		Squash/Sport		Squash/Sport		
17:00								
18:00	Dinner - Buttery							
19:00	Supervision work	Laundry/errands	Language Class (I'm learning Italian!)	Reading for fun		Supervision work	Supervision work	
20:00	Society Event	JCR Bar Quiz	Cambridge Union Debate	Law Society Social Event	Chilling with friends or going out			
21:00	Chill in Qbar		Chill in QBar			Chill in QBar	Chill in QBar	
22:00	Netflix before bed					ADC Lateshow		

Example timetable: year 1 medicine student (and rower)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
pre 09		Rowing		Rowing		Sleep	Sleep
09:00	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture		
10:00	Practical/Dissection	Going over lecture notes	Practical/Dissection	Going over lecture notes	Going over lecture notes		
11:00						Rowing	Brunch
12:00		Lecture	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture		
13:00	Lunch/Cooking	Lunch/Cooking	Lunch/Cooking	Lunch/Cooking	Lunch/Cooking	Brunch	
14:00	Relaxing	Relaxing	Relaxing	Practical/Dissection	Relaxing		Rowing
15:00	Supo Prep	Supo Prep	Lecture		Supo Prep	Supo Prep/ Essay Writing	
16:00			Supo Prep	Supo Prep			Supo Prep/ Essay Writing
17:00		Erg session					
18:00	Supervision		Supervision		Supervision		
19:00	Cooking/Buttery Tea	Cooking/Buttery Tea	Cooking/Buttery Tea	Cooking/Buttery Tea	Cooking/Buttery Tea	Cooking/Buttery Tea	Cooking/Buttery Tea
20:00				Erg Session		Chill Time	Chill Time
21:00							
22:00							



Please note: these are example timetables. They reflect individuals who have specific interests and societies. Some students, even within the same subjects, have very different timetables reflecting their own habits, work ethic/ability, and activities.

USEFUL LINKS

If you're interested in learning more about studying at the University of Cambridge, we recommend that you check out the University of Cambridge undergraduate study page (<https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/>) for access to:

- The University of Cambridge Prospectus
- Subject lists and detailed entry requirements
- Open day information

You can find out more about life at Queens' on the [Queens' website](#), and there's tons of useful videos on the [Queens' YouTube channel](#).

You can find out more about Queens' life by watching videos made by Queens' students:

- Zebulon Goriely - [YouTube channel - videos](#)
- Holly Gabrielle - [YouTube channel](#)
- Seth Daood - [YouTube channel](#)
- Jake Wright - [YouTube channel](#)
- [QJCR YouTube] - [YouTube channel](#)

Other useful links:

- [Cambridge Student's Union's 'Apply to Cambridge' website](#)
- [Suggestions for 'super-curricular activities'](#)
- [Discover Downing Cambridge resources](#)
- [\[Resources for students from Wales\]](#)

Twitter accounts to follow:

- Queens' admissions: @QAdmissions
- Queens' College: @QueensCam
- Cambridge admissions: @BeCambridge

Contacts:

- Queens' Schools Liaison Officer: slo@queens.cam.ac.uk
- Queens' JCR Access Officer: jcr-access@queens.cam.ac.uk
- Queens' Admissions: admissions@queens.cam.ac.uk

Good luck in your applications, wherever you apply!

This alternative prospectus was updated in Easter 2023, so some things may have changed since then. Check the date of any material you read or watch!

