

CHRIST'S COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE



Yes you'll be living  
here soon

# FRESHERS' GUIDE 2023

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This booklet will offer a range of information about life at Christ's and as a Cambridge student to help familiarise yourself with your new home for the coming years!

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THE GREAT  
GATE  
(AKA the front of Christ's!)

In your freshers pack you should find a range of information about what to expect when living at Christ's and Cambridge. Whilst you may have already seen some of this information in the tutorial office's own handbook, our booklet is written by us and offers you a student's perspective into everything you need to know about living, studying and having fun at Cambridge! After all, this is your new home away from home!

# WELCOME TO CAMBRIDGE!

*A Message from your first Year Reps*



**HUGE CONGRATULATIONS** on meeting your offers for Cambridge!! We want to start off with the warmest of welcomes to Christ's (aka the best college in every way) and to Cambridge!

We are Isabelle and Qinglan, your First Year Representatives (or as we like to call ourselves, Freps). We are very excited for you to be here and to meet you all soon! We are both second-year lawyers but please don't let that mean anything, other than that we will make sure your first week as Cambridge students is infinitely more enjoyable than our textbooks :)) Just kidding -- we, much like our peers, enjoy our degree, and are confident you will as well! We're both of international backgrounds; Isabelle is from the Cayman Islands and lived in Trinidad and Tobago (but she's also a Brit from Surrey). Qinglan was born and raised in Beijing (and has lived in London, Jerusalem and Malta!).

We have planned an amazing Freshers' Week for you with a range of activities that will appeal to everyone. Some things you can look forward to are picnics, punting, and scavenger hunts throughout the city as well as a few club nights and opportunities to get to know older years and freshers from other colleges better! However please be aware that you are not under any pressure to participate in the events if you believe they are outside your comfort zone or if you feel uncomfortable at any time! We want you all to feel as welcomed as possible and therefore you should only do things you are happy engaging in!

**QINGLAN**

(@qinglan.dql)  
(@issi\_mohammed)



You will soon start to find that your year group becomes your friends and the college becomes your home. Christ's will feature in many of your Cambridge memories and we hope that you all come to love this college as much as we do! We also understand that moving to university is a new experience for many reasons (remember it was not long ago we were in your position) and we are always here to help you with anything you might need before and after your arrival to Cambridge. If you have any questions, or problems or just want to talk, please don't hesitate to contact us anytime for any reason! (Although we do feel you may be fed up of hearing from us by the end of Freshers' Week).

**Prep love,  
Isabelle and Qinglan**

WELCOME FROM

# THE JCR PRESIDENT



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Hello! Congratulations to you all on your fantastic results! My name is Ossie and I am a third-year historian and the JCR President at Christ's College.

The JCR is the college's committee of elected student representatives, like a student union. We are responsible for representing your interests and ensuring you settle into Christ's smoothly. Starting university can be a daunting process, so the whole JCR is here to support you through it. The JCR has been working hard on planning an exciting Freshers' Week with loads of activities for you all!

Christ's is a very welcoming community, and (although it sounds cliché) even if it doesn't feel like it initially, it will quickly feel like your home. Time really does fly, as it feels like five minutes ago that I was preparing to start at Christ's, so always take the time to make the most of it.

Feel free to get in touch with any questions or concerns, or to just have a chat. I know I speak for the whole JCR when I say how much we are looking forward to meeting you all in person in October!

See you soon,

*Ossie*



# BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

The countdown begins

Here are some key things to note before you move in!

## FOOD AT COLLEGE



Christ's is catered 7 days a week. The college offers lunch and dinner in Upper Hall from Monday to Friday as well as brunch and dinner on the weekend. Because of this, you don't have to spend too much money on cooking equipment before moving in (unless you prefer to cook), however, food is available in college at subsidised prices. Upper Hall is just a fancy term for the cafeteria in which these meals are served. There is a plethora of choices and cuisines, and we have a range of tasty options for vegans and vegetarians too. You can pay for food in Upper Hall with your Camcard (your University Card), which is given to you when you arrive. Your Camcard is credited with money which you pay in your college bill at the beginning of each term (so you do not need to bring extra money for this). Formal Hall bookings are done via the Christ's Intranet (which will become familiar when you start Cambridge) and added to your college bill at the end of term. Alternatively, the Buttery also offers breakfast in the mornings and a variety of snacks and food throughout its opening hours.

## BIKES



Bikes are useful for getting around Cambridge for lectures, lab visits, shops (such as Aldi or Lidl), sporting events, or supervisions which can take place in other colleges. Christ's is very central so having a bike is not at all essential; many people don't have a bike (including ourselves!), but if your subject's building is a bit further afield (e.g. West Cambridge), bringing a bike may be a good idea. Many people choose to buy secondhand bikes because it's cheaper and can be resold when they graduate. We have bike racks and storage space at Christ's so your bikes are safe within college, but please buy a good bike lock, helmet, and bike lights to stay safe on the roads!! You will also need to get a bike tag from the porters in order to park in college.

## MATRICULATION GOWNS



Every student is required to buy a gown, which you wear for matriculation and for things like Formal Dinner. Each college has a specific gown which you can buy once in Cambridge. However, we strongly advise for you to preorder the gowns in order to buy it at a subsidised price (£20 vs £40). You can do this by emailing the Porters at [porters@christs.cam.ac.uk](mailto:porters@christs.cam.ac.uk).

## BEDDING



The college supplies each room with its own mattress, pillows, and duvet. However, bedsheets, duvet covers, and mattress covers are not provided, so please bring your own! Most rooms in Christ's contain single beds but a few (in Staircase 4 especially) have double beds so look out for that when checking your assigned room. In addition, the college also provides chairs, bins, toilet paper, and lamps.



what a room can look like when filled  
with one hundred balloons

# Here are some more key things to note before you move in!

## MONEY

Make sure you have enough money to last the first few days of term, as Student Finance loans may take a little longer to be paid into your account. It could be a good idea to budget and download a banking app onto your phone to transfer money easily (e.g. to your friends for food, nights out, etc.), as well as to attach your bank card to your phone (e.g. Apple Pay).

For home students, your tuition fees are paid automatically from Student Finance to the university. The college will ask you to pay rent and other expenses in a single fee at the start of every term. Each term, the college includes a fixed charge; this is to cover your catering costs. Within college, you can pay with your camcard rather than a bank card in Upper Hall, the Buttery, to book air mattresses, guest rooms, etc. What all these things are will be explained later on in the college facilities section. If you have money leftover from the fixed charge by the end of term, college will refund you. Alternatively, if you spent more than anticipated, college will ask you to pay the extra amount the following term. Essentially the difference will be either paid back to you if positive or paid by you the following term if negative.

## INDUCTION HOBS

Christ's does not provide completely self-catered accommodation as the college encourages you to eat in Upper Hall (the cafeteria). However, each room comes with a kitchenette shared among anything from 2-12 students. These kitchenettes do not contain an oven but have other useful appliances such as induction hobs, a fridge, microwave, toaster, and kettle, as well as cupboards and drawers. It is possible to cook, but you must bring your own equipment and it must be induction-compliant. However, please avoid cooking food that creates a lot of smoke as it may trigger the fire alarm, and be mindful about keeping the kitchenette clean after each use.

## REGISTERING WITH A GP

There are a few GPs you can register with in Cambridge including Newnham Walk Surgery and Bridge Street Surgery, but college will tell you more detailed information about this. There is also our new College Nurse (Ana) who you will meet in Freshers' Week and she can help you with this too!

## GETTING FACEBOOK

Yes, we realise we're not millennials, but Facebook is the way Cambridge communicates internally. Societies, JCRs, and students in general use Facebook to promote events and joke about Cambridge on a page called Camfess. So if you don't already have Facebook, you should definitely create an account!

# BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

The count down continues



# FRESHERS' WEEK

At the start of every year, college and the JCR host Freshers' Week and International Freshers' Week to help you guys settle down in Cambridge and meet other freshers! We have a week packed with all kinds of events prepared for you! The next slide is the timetable, detailing both compulsory and optional events. It's important to remember that you are under no pressure whatsoever to participate in events or engage in activities you are uncomfortable with. This is especially the case when it comes to drinking and clubbing. There are many optional events and if you miss an event, don't worry, there will still be many opportunities throughout the year (and your following years at Cambridge) to socialise and make friends!

## WHAT IS MATRICULATION?

During freshers' week, you will have a series of matriculation events: the matriculation dinner, matriculation photo, and matriculation registration. Matriculation is essentially a fancy way of saying you are now officially a member of Christ's College, joining the centuries-long line of alumni (such as Charles Darwin, John Milton, and Julius Oppenheimer!!). In the future, if college posts about you on social media, or you are mentioned in a publication, you will have a little (m.2023) next to your name referring to your year of matriculation. Also, please note for all matriculation events, you must be in formal attire with a college gown.

### Matriculation Dinner

This is a three-course meal in Formal Hall. You will be sitting with other freshers and fellows. A Latin passage will be read aloud at the start (which you will quickly realise happens at every formal) and the whole event will give you serious Harry Potter vibes.



### Signing of College Matriculation Register

There is a very very thick book containing the signatures of all students who have attended Christ's (including Darwin's signature!). You will sign your name and place of birth in the book almost like a rite of passage!



### Matriculation Photo

There will be two separate photos for undergrads and postgrads. Students will be lined up in height order. There will also be an optional individual matriculation photo, which you can view and purchase later if you wish to.

# FRESHERS' WEEK TIMETABLE

NOTE: If an event is written in **BOLD & UNDERLINED**, it is a mandatory event!

## Saturday 30th

- 9:00-** Welcome  
**13:00** Hub in Lloyd Room, Third Court

- 14:00-** Afternoon meeting with your Tutor (see your letter for exact time)

- 15:00-** Meet the JCR  
**17:00** Picnic in the Fellows Garden

- 17:00-** JCR Welfare  
**17:45** Talk in the Yusuf Hamied Theatre

- 19:00-** Welcome  
**21:00** Dinner (casual wear) in Formal Hall

- 21:00** Initial Impressions Mixer (dress as 1st letter of your name) in Function Room

## Sunday 1st

- 9:00-** Optional Individual Matriculation Photos, First Court

- 11:30-** Group Matriculation Photo in Fellows Garden (gown & formal attire)

- 13:00-** Buy/Pick up Club Wristbands in the Buttery

- 14:00-** Academic Events in Yusuf Hamied Theatre

- 18:00-** Freshers' Chapel Service

- 19:00-** Board Games and Socialising at Board Games Café (or the JCR) meet at plodge for 18:45)

- 21:00-** Pub Visit (for more socialising)  
**23:00**

## Monday 2nd

- 9:00** Probable meeting time with DoS (exact time/location to be emailed)

- 12:00-** Signing of College  
**13:30** Matriculation Register in Portrait Room (surnames A-K)

- 13:30-** Signing of College  
**15:00** Matriculation Register (surnames L-Z)

- 15:15-** College Welfare and Nurse's Talk in Yusuf Hamied Theatre

- 16:30-** LGBTQ+ Arts &  
**18:00** Crafts in the JCR (with Kas!)

- 19:00-** Tutor's Pre-Dinner  
**19:30** Social (location on invitation)

- 19:30-** Matriculation  
**21:00** Dinner (gown & formal attire)

- 21:00** Cambridge & Christ's Quiz in the Buttery

- Club** Freshers Assemble **night!** Revolution

**NOTE: We will meet in the Buttery around 22:30 to show you guys where the clubs are each club night!**

## Tuesday 3rd

**10:30-** JCR Respect & Consent Workshop in the Yusuf Hamied Theatre

**10:00-** University  
**16:00** Fresher's Fair on Parker's Piece

**12:45-** Welfare Walk  
**13:45** and Drop in (meet at plodge)

**14:00-** Christ's  
**16:00** Freshers' Fair in Plumb Auditorium

**16:00-** Discover  
**18:00** Cambridge Scavenger Hunt (meet at Hobson St Car Park for 16:00)

**18:00-** College Family Dinner (organised by your college parents)

**21:00** Karaoke in the Buttery

**Club night!** Lola Lo Tuesday at Lola's

## Wednesday 4th

**10:00-** University  
**16:00** Fresher's Fair on Parker's Piece

**12:00-** Discover  
**14:00** Christ's Scavenger Hunt (meet in the buttery for 12:00)

**14:00-** Subject  
**17:00** Siblings Tour & Advice (arranged by your subject sibling)

**19:00-** Chill Sports  
**22:00** Night at Kelsey Kerridge Sports Centre (meet at Plodge for 18:50)

Rumbogie  
**Club Night!** Revolution (aka Wednesday Revs)

## Thursday 5th

**9:00-** LECTURES  
**12:00**

**14:00-** Punting (Meet  
**17:00** at Porter's Lodge for 13:30, or 14:00 depending on your time slot)

**19:00-** Cooking  
**21:00** Competition (Staircases team up and will be judged by JCR members; winner will be announced in Butterly at 21:00!)

OR

Dinner with Trinity College at Curry Kings (meet at Porter Lodge for 18:45)

**21:00** Club Night Pre-Party in TV Room/JCR

**Club Night!** Naughty Noughties at Vinyl

**NOTE: Please join the events you are comfortable with! There is no pressure to do anything you don't want to!!**

## Friday 6th

**9:00-** LECTURES

**12:00**

**14:00-** Team Sports at

**17:00** Christ's shared sports ground

OR

Cafe hopping (a tour of some of some of the best cafes in Cambridge)

Meet in the buttery at 14:00 for both

Sunset Picnic on

**18:00-** Castle Mound

**20:00** (bring drinks and snacks!) Meet at Plodge for 18:00

College-Wide Bop

**21:30-** (theme: When I

**1:00** grow up I want to be...) in the Function Room



## Saturday 7th

**11:00-** Crepes and

**13:00** Christ's Pieces Picnic (meet at Porter's Lodge for 11:00 to go buy crepes)

**15:00 onwards** Subject Social in the Fellows Garden (activities and food!)

**18:00 onwards** Disabled Students Social in the JCR (run by Juno!)

**20:00** Movie Night in TV Room (movie will be voted; we will provide snacks but feel free to bring your own!)



## Sunday 8th

**13:00-** Craft Social

**15:00** (bookmarks, room decor and more!) in the Function Room

Visit Fitzwilliam

**16:00-** Museum (its free!) Meet at Porter's Lodge for 15:45

Swap with

**19:00 onwards** Peterhouse (meet at porters)

Trip to Jack's & River Stroll (meet at Porter's Lodge for 19:00)

**20:00 onwards** End of Freshers' Week Social in the JCR/TV Room



Our Webmaster, Miles, has also added this timetable to the JCR website so that you can easily download every event to your phone or calendar! Just click on <https://thejcr.co.uk/get-involved/freshers>

# ITEMS TO BRING

## BEDROOM

- Bedsheets (x2)
- Pillowcases (amount depends on how many pillows you want but we'd say around two)
- Duvet cover
- Blanket
- Decorations such as lights, photos or pictures, posters (essentially things that you can put on a wall)
- Books (not necessarily textbooks)
- Mattress topper
- Storage containers
- Throw pillows (if you like lots of pillows as college give you two!)



The ultimate packing list as per the expert guidance of Finch and Baines (who is very hard to see)

## KITCHEN

- Tea towels (x2)
- Bowls (x2)
- Plates (x2)
- Pots and Pans (make sure they are induction safe)
- Mugs (as many as you want!!)
- Cutlery
- Chopping board
- Cutting knives
- Utensils to cook (if you plan to) such as a wooden spoon, cutting knife, etc.
- Strainer or sieve (very optional but useful for pasta and noodles)
- Reusable water bottle
- Water filter (optional, but many people dislike the tapwater in Cambridge)
- Sponge
- Food storage containers for leftovers

## DESK AREA

- Laptop
- USB or memory cards
- Headphones
- Desk lamp (though all rooms provide one, some have poor lighting)
- Stationery such as pens, pencils, highlighters, post it notes, etc
- Backpack (you'd be surprised how many people forget to bring a backpack)

## BATH/LAUNDRY

- Towels
- Body wash/soap/ shampoo & conditioner etc
- Toothbrush/toothpaste
- Antibacterial wipes/spray
- Laundry bag
- Laundry pods (this is very optional as the JCR provides free detergent)
- Drying rack (although there are dryers)
- Hangers

## MISCELLANEOUS

- Plasters
- Medication for a cold, e.g. Lemsip or Strepsils (very important for freshers' flu)
- Doorstop
- Sliders or something similar
- Thumb tacks (as every room has a cork board) to pin pictures, work, posters, etc.

Please use this list as merely a guide. You do not need to bring all of these items as most of them are down to personal preference! Remember not to overpack, you can always buy things as the term goes on. After all it is Cambridge we're living in, not the middle of nowhere!

who's who at college

# INTRODUCING CHRIST'S

## THE MASTER

Lord Simon McDonald ([sgm53@christs.cam.ac.uk](mailto:sgm53@christs.cam.ac.uk)) is the 39th Master of Christ's, and only joined us last year, having worked in the British Foreign Office. You will get to meet him during your first term, and he lives in the Master's Lodge in First Court. He is extremely friendly so do not hesitate to say hi when you see him. His responsibilities include presiding over the general welfare of the entire college community, as well as representing us on a collegiate, and university, level.

## DIRECTOR OF STUDIES (DoS)

Your DoS is a member of the college who is a specialist in your subject. They will be in charge of pairing you with supervisors, and may even supervise you themselves. Any academic worries or queries should be directed to your DoS, and they will be able advise you. You will have a meeting with them at the beginning of term, and at the end of every subsequent term to assess your progress.



## THE SENIOR TUTOR

Dr Tom Monie

([senior.tutor@christs.cam.ac.uk](mailto:senior.tutor@christs.cam.ac.uk)) recently became our Senior Tutor and is responsible for the day-to-day management of the college. If you have any concerns regarding welfare, social life, or just any issues in college, feel free to reach out to him.

Inside the  
Master's  
private garden  
which is on  
college  
grounds!



## PERSONAL TUTOR

Your Personal Tutor is an assigned member of college who does not specialise in your chosen subject. They can help with any pastoral, financial, or other worries you may have and meetings are always confidential. Even if you do not know the specific person you need to speak to, your Tutor can help clear this up. You will have meetings with your Tutor at the start and end of every term. But of course, you can also arrange a meeting with them (or any other tutor), or visit them during 'open tutorial hours'.

## THE PORTERS

The Porters' Lodge, AKA 'Plodge'

([porters.lodge@christs.cam.ac.uk](mailto:porters.lodge@christs.cam.ac.uk)) will have at least one Porter on duty 24/7 and they will be your first port of call for any problems. If you end up locked out of your room or just in need of a friendly chat, the Porters are always there for you. They are all super lovely! Extra points if you bring them food (when in doubt, bring pizza)!

A notable mention  
for the college cats:  
Finch and Baines!

THE JCR

# INTRODUCING CHRIST'S

All students at Christ's are represented by the Christ's College Student Union, the undergraduate wing of which is called the JCR. Not to be confused with the JCR (Junior Combination Room) which is a physical room within Christ's. The JCR we're referring to here is a group of elected students that represent the undergraduate student body and aim to improve college life in all aspects. There are different roles containing different responsibilities, with elections being held in late Michaelmas Term after publishing manifestos (an A4 page explaining the candidate's ambitions) and attending hustings (speech by the candidate and questions by other students). JCR positions are split into the core Executive Committee and Council positions. The Exec is part of the Council, and will deal with college on a day-to-day basis, but the Council as a whole makes decisions and represents students. As your Freps, we are also on the JCR Council and you will meet the rest of the JCR in Freshers' Week! They're a friendly bunch and are looking forward to meeting you all, but if you'd like to get in touch with any of the officers before you start Christ's just visit the JCR website at [thejcr.co.uk](http://thejcr.co.uk) to find out more information! The website is also a great hub to get any useful information you may need about the college.

## EXECUTIVE POSITIONS

### PRESIDENT:

**Ossie Visick**

([president@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:president@thejcr.co.uk))

### VICE PRESIDENT:

**Christina Lawrence**

([vicepresident@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:vicepresident@thejcr.co.uk))

### TREASURER:

**Skyler Roberts**

([treasurer@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@thejcr.co.uk))

### SECRETARY:

**Chiara Delpiano Cordeiro**

([secretary@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:secretary@thejcr.co.uk))

### WELFARE OFFICER:

**Julen Lippmann-Errasti**

([welfare-m@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:welfare-m@thejcr.co.uk))

### WELFARE OFFICER:

**Olivia Moynihan**

([welfare-f@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:welfare-f@thejcr.co.uk))



## COUNCIL POSITIONS

### EVENTS OFFICER:

**Neha Pauly** ([ents@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:ents@thejcr.co.uk))

### CLASS ACT OFFICER:

**Kai Briggs** ([classact@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:classact@thejcr.co.uk))

### FIRST-YEAR REPS:

**Qinglan Du & Isabelle Mohammed**

([firstyearrep@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:firstyearrep@thejcr.co.uk))

### DISABLED STUDENTS' OFFICER:

**Juno Buchan** ([dso@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:dso@thejcr.co.uk))

### ETHNIC DIVERSITY OFFICER:

**Ayo Akande** ([edo@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:edo@thejcr.co.uk))

### GREEN AND CHARITIES OFFICER: WEBMASTER:

**Rachel Doran** ([green@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:green@thejcr.co.uk)) **Miles Watson**

### WOMEN'S OFFICER:

**Ana-Maria Skaricic**

([womens@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:womens@thejcr.co.uk))

### INTERNATIONALS' OFFICER:

**Ju Yi Tai** ([intl@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:intl@thejcr.co.uk))

### ACCESS OFFICER:

**Georgie Van Dyke**

([access@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:access@thejcr.co.uk))

### CATERING & FACILITIES OFFICER:

**Mikolaj Rycek**

([facilities@thejcr.co.uk](mailto:facilities@thejcr.co.uk))

# THE COURTS OF CHRIST'S



1

## FIRST COURT

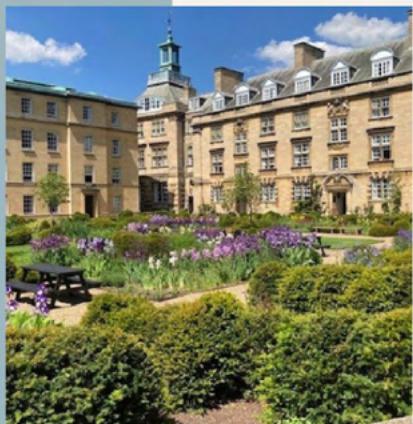
First Court has many facilities besides being the first court you see when you walk through the Great Gate. In this court you can find the Porters Lodge, Chapel, Buttery, and Library. It is the only court which features a round lawn and it is also the oldest part of college, being built in the 16th century!



2

## SECOND COURT

The walkway between First and Second Court is where you can find Formal Hall, where you'll all get a chance to dine in during Freshers' Week! Second Court also contains Upper Hall and you can find the Fellows' Building where many of your DoSes and Tutors live. It is also home to Finch and Baines, so keep a lookout for them wandering the gardens or hiding amongst the flora!



3

## THIRD COURT

Third Court is, in our opinion, the prettiest court in college. With its sunken garden and matching buildings on either side, it looks exactly like what comes to mind when one thinks of Cambridge. Third Court has mostly student accommodation but you can also find the Tutorial and Admissions Offices here too (on ground floor of the Y building)!



4

## NEW COURT

Unlike the rest of Christ's, New Court has a more modern look, having been built in the 1960s. Here, you can find the Darwin Garden (a nod to Christ's famous alumnus Charles Darwin) and the Yusuf Hamied Centre. In the latter, you can find the JCR, the TV Room, the Function Room, the gym, a squash court, some music rooms, and the Yusuf Hamied Theatre. New Court is also where most ensuite rooms are located, notably in the Lasdun Building, AKA 'The Typewriter' (because the building looks like...yep you guessed it! A typewriter!)



5

## YUSUF HAMIED COURT

This court was only built this year so it's extremely new! It will mainly be used for postgraduate accommodation, but it also contains the Fitzgerald Music Room and some space where events and seminars may be hosted.

*eat, sleep..study..repeat*

# FOOD, FOOD, AND MORE FOOD

## FORMAL HALL

Formal Hall is the college's early 16th-century dining hall where students can dine in typical 'Cambridge' (or Harry Potter) style. It is usually open every day of the week apart from Saturdays, and you are served a three-course meal for about £11. There are sometimes themed formals, such as for Charity, and Bridgemas (Christmas in late November because we're on break during actual Christmas but don't ask why it's called Bridgemas) and people also dine here for special events such as birthdays. Fellows also dine here at the high table. You should wear your gowns and formal wear (suits, dresses). Booking for Formal Hall is done online through the College Intranet (under Booking, then Meal Booking), before noon the day before and before noon on Thursday for Sunday booking.

Having a Formal Hall dinner



## UPPER HALL

Upper Hall is an informal and relaxed canteen-style dining area where many people choose to eat in college. It is a wonderful way to catch up with friends and become familiar with your year group (and other years too). Upper Hall is open for lunch and dinner from Monday to Friday, and serves good (quality and quantity) food for low, subsidised prices. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, combining breakfast and lunch. Dinner is also available for weekends. A typical meal will cost around £5, including UNLIMITED sides and salad, something we always take advantage of! Various other drinks and snacks (e.g. fruit, yoghurt, sandwiches, etc.) can also be purchased in Upper Hall using your Camcard as well as dessert for around £1 (the most important part of any meal, obviously). You can view meal times and menus on the homepage of the JCR website. There are also many options available that cater to a range of dietary requirements such as vegan and gluten-free.

## THE BUTTERY

The Buttery is a cafe and great study space by day, and a bar and even greater social space by night! It even has its own Costa machine offering subsidised drinks. During the day, you can also buy a choice of food and drink, including sandwiches and milkshakes! Apart from offering food, with its cozy atmosphere, dart board, and extremely comfy sofas, the Buttery is an excellent place to take a study break and relax with friends! The staff here are very friendly and are always introducing something new, such as the Halloween-themed drinks given to us (pictured left)!



*the best food is homemade*

# SUPERMARKETS

One of the many reasons Christ's is without a doubt the best college is its central location within Cambridge. We are within walking distance of many supermarkets if you fancy a shot at cooking (or if you're in a hurry to finish that essay or lab report and need to make something quick!) Here are the many supermarkets available to us:

## Sainsbury's (AKA 'Mainsbury's')

This is the main supermarket for students (yes, we realise the name isn't very inventive). It is just a few minutes walk away from college, opposite Sidney Sussex College (42-45 Sidney St). Sainsbury's offers a large range of food and household appliances at reasonable prices.



## Tesco Express

There are not one but two Tesco Expresses near Christ's! One is just outside college, easily accessible through the side entrance from Second Court (Unit 5&6, Christ's Lane), and the other, which is slightly bigger is only a minute's walk away (Unit 3, 5 Petty Cury)! Because both are express stores, they can be a bit more expensive than Sainsbury's but the Tesco meal deal might be a redeeming quality!

## Marks & Spencer

There is an M&S Foodhall a few minutes walk away next to Market Square (5 Market Hill), if you ever fancy something from there! As someone from the Tropics, Isabelle is frequently buying their piña colada drinks, a testament to M&S's wide selection. They also make lovely ready-made meals! However, M&S can be a little on the pricier side.



## Aldi & Lidl

Unfortunately, neither Aldi nor Lidl are as close to Christ's as the other supermarkets mentioned. However, a 20-minute walk to the Cambridge Retail Park means you will have access to their extremely low (and thus student-friendly) prices! Well worth the journey in our opinion! On a side note, while you're there, there's also a Pizza Hut that does really good buffets until 3 PM every day (Qinglan has been there more times than necessary).

*eat. sleep. study.. repeat*

# RESTAURANTS IN CAMBRIDGE

There are lots of restaurants in Cambridge, serving food from various different countries. For example, there's a Wasabi and Itsu just outside Christ's! Below is a very brief list of restaurants we believe deserve a shoutout for their amazing food, prices, and convenience to Christ's!

## CAMBRIDGE CREPES

**12 Sidney Street, CB2 3HG**

- There is a Christ's discount if you show your camcard.
- A one-minute walk from Christ's.
- The best customer service!! Super friendly!!
- Have a variety of delicious sweet and savoury crepes (we recommend strawberry and Nutella!).
- Tend to advertise deals on their Instagram ([@cambridgecrepes](https://www.instagram.com/cambridgecrepes)).



## JACK'S GELATO

**6 Benet Street, CB2 3QN**

**and 7 All Saints Passage, CB2 3LS**

- 
- Menu changes almost daily with a variety of unique flavours, including a surprise flavour.
  - Vegan options available.
  - Many students' favourite hangout place.
  - Skip the line by ordering via the displayed QR code.
  - Enter CHRISTS when ordering for student discount.
  - The JCR and other societies sometimes do Jack's giveaways.



## 72.CHINA

**72 Regent Street, CB2 1DP**

- Large selection of dishes.
- Authentic Chinese food (can be verified by Qinglan - a Chinese person).
- Decent prices (although still a lot pricier than in China)



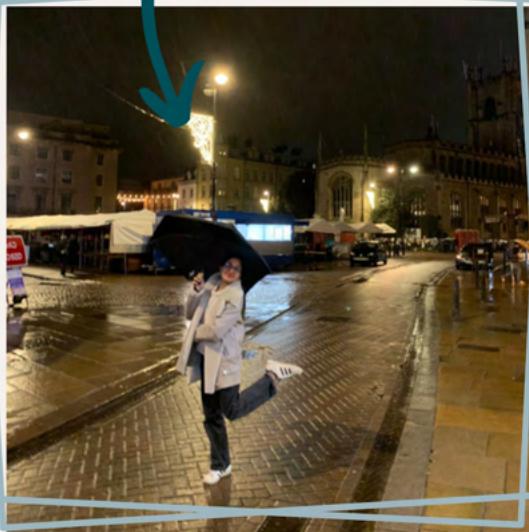
*Food glorious food*

# MORE RESTAURANTS IN CAMBRIDGE

## Nanna Mexico (29 Petty Cury)

- More commonly referred to as 'Nana Mex'.
- Offers student discounts.
- Monday deals (£6 for a meal and drink).
- Very close to Christ's - great to stop off at on the way back from lectures.
- Serves Halal chicken!

The market is a lot more quiet at night, especially if it's been raining!



## Market Square

- Located less than five minutes away from Christ's (depending on how fast you walk!).
- Offers a whole range of cuisines from different countries (e.g. Chinese, Greek, Malaysian, German...!).
- Some vendors are more expensive than others, but there should be something available for everyone's budget.
- Some stalls ONLY accept cash so make sure to come prepared with some cash!
- Can get extremely busy on the weekends with tourists (you'll come to realise that is a theme across Cambridge).
- At night, you can also find the 'Van of Life', serving as a popular place for a post-club meal!

## Aromi

### (1 Bene't St AND 3 Peas Hill)

- Offers really good Italian food (verified by an Italian themselves!).
- Has two locations!
- Recently started to offer pasta for on the go!
- Also has an ice cream shop.
- Sells a variety of really delicious pastries!



We promise this is the last one

# EVEN MORE RESTAURANTS IN CAMBRIDGE

## Pizza Pilgrims (59 Sidney St)

## Franco Manca (15 Market Hill)

- Both offer reasonably-priced pizza.
- Close to Christ's (Pizza Pilgrims is slightly closer).
- Also quite lively, so they have nice vibes!
- Because both can get very busy, you may have to reserve a table in advance!
- We're sure some of your college parents may bring you here so you might become quickly familiar with it!



## Giggling Squid

### (The Old Library, 2 Wheeler St)

- You may already know this Thai chain but the Cambridge branch is stunning!
- Lunch times are cheaper than dinner times!
- Can be slightly pricey depending on what you buy.

## Las Iguanas (Quayside, Bridge St)

- Located right next to the river Cam, so you can have a meal with a view!
- Offers a selection of Latin American foods.
- We highly recommend the nachos!
- Offers halal chicken



*Food for thought...?*

# FOOD ON THE GO

If you're looking for something more student-friendly (as in food that won't make your bank account cry) then here are some options that are great for on the go when you need to finish that essay due in a few hours or for when your bank account needs a break!

## **KFC (174 East Rd)**

## **POPEYES (3-4 Market Hill)**

- Both of these fast food chains offer cheap food, that is just minutes from Christ's!
- Fun fact: some of the second-year accommodation is located just above KFC.
- As a wise Christ's student once said "£3 for some chicken wings and a drink is beautiful in this economy", so great when your bank account needs a rest!
- The KFC is halal!!



## **ITSU (16-17 Sidney St)**

## **WASABI (23-23a Petty Cury)**

- Both Itsu and Wasabi are extremely close to Christ's (less than a two-minute walk).
- Itsu offers half price after 8:30 PM and Wasabi does the same after 9 PM, which are absolute lifesavers!
- However, that discount means that everything runs out pretty quickly!
- Tip: Some people start queuing up about 20 minutes before to choose what they want! (We know it's a bit much but half price sushi is not to be missed!)

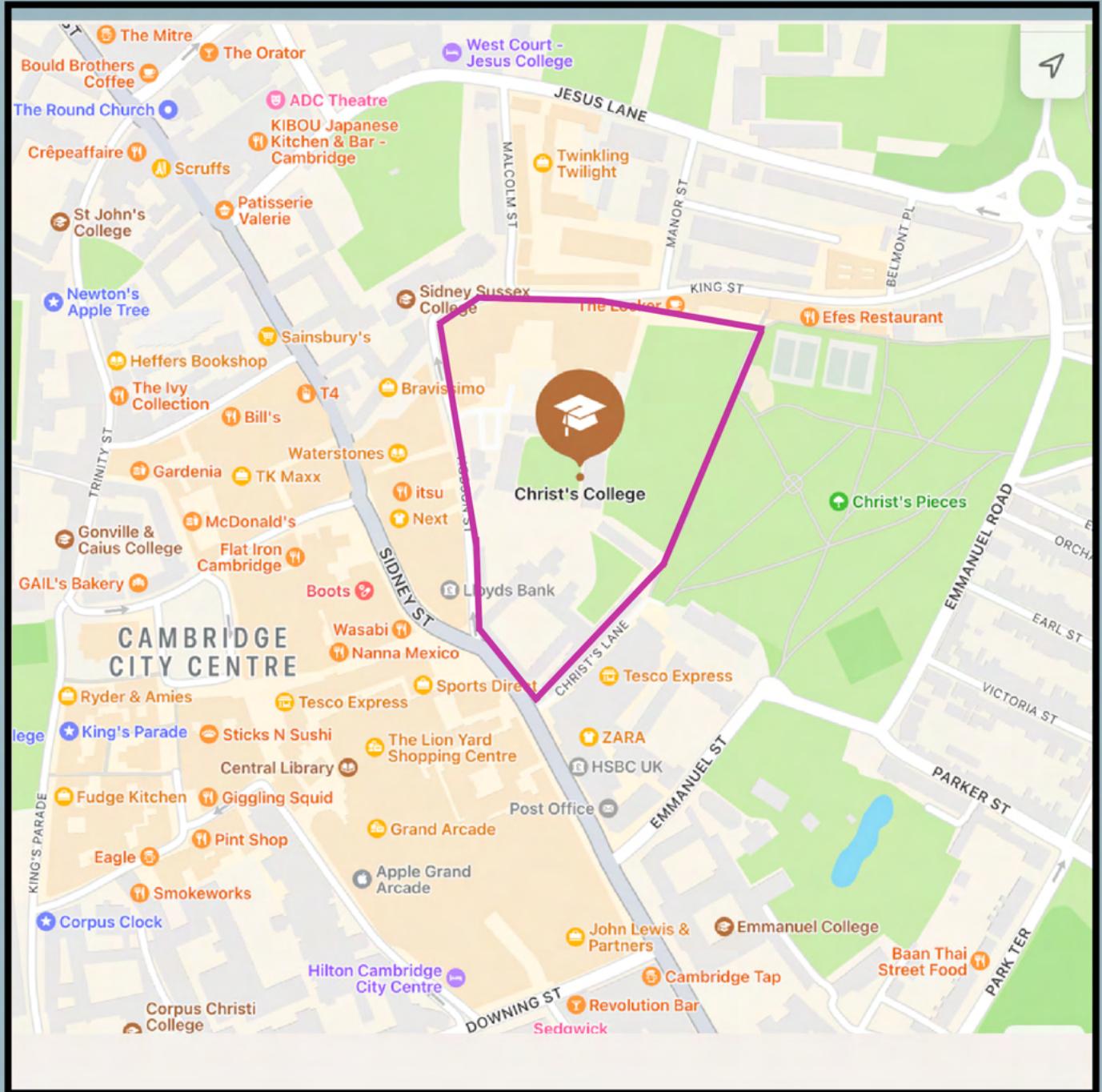
## **MCDONALD'S**

## **(9 Rose Cres)**

- There's not much to say about good ol' maccies other than if you're craving a late (and we mean very late) night snack, McDonald's is not too far from college and on some days is open until 3 AM!



# WHERE IS THE FOOD?



If you couldn't tell by the numerous slides, we take food seriously, whether it's at college, in a restaurant, or a meal made by us... and we promise there will only be 2 more slides about it! But here's a map of Christ's (outlined in pink) in relation to several key restaurants and supermarkets, many of which we've mentioned in this booklet so you can see exactly how close we are to everything!

# CAFÉS IN CAMBRIDGE

coffee because being a student is hard

Ahh yes...coffee, the fuel for every university student. Well maybe not every student, considering Isabelle has an infamous obsession with hot chocolate. But due to Christ's central location, there is an abundance of cafés and coffee shops that serve as a wonderful alternative to the library, a great place to catch up with friends, or to fill up on your coffee (or if you're like Isabelle and prefer hot chocolate or tea) addiction.

## Michaelhouse Cafe

[Michaelhouse Café, St Michael's Church, Trinity St](#)

- Serves a variety of sandwiches, soups and drinks.
- Located in an old church, so very 'Cambridgey' aesthetic.
- Can get busy at times so staff often make sure you've bought something.
- More on the expensive side.



## Bould Brothers Coffee

[16 Round Church St AND 88 Regent St](#)

- Really nice hot chocolate and pastries!!
- A bit on the small side but makes for a very cozy environment.
- Two stores: one on Jesus Lane and another on Regent Street.
- Slightly pricey, so maybe not an everyday visit.

## The Locker Cafe

[54 King St](#)

- Located on King Street, essentially backs onto Christ's!
- Have really nice eggs Benedict!
- Unfortunately, they also have a no laptop policy, so maybe not the best study place (still good to meet friends at).
- Extremely popular so very hard to find a spot.



## Benets Cafe

[21 King's Parade](#)

- Located on King's Parade (different from King Street).
- A great place to stop off on your way to or from lectures.
- Great views of King's Parade.
- Has upstairs seating with a chill vibe!

# CAFFÉS IN CAMBRIDGE

*No such thing as too many cafés*

## Cenu Cacao

### 20 King's Parade

- Also found on King's Parade.
- A bit small but very very cozy!
- They sell amazing hot chocolate which is made from actual chocolate they melt themselves! (and offer a variety of kinds, including vegan and sugar-free).
- Sells a range of chocolate treats.
- Extremely friendly service (despite the look on Isabelle's face).



### 28 Green St Knoops

- Located around five minutes from Christ's.
- Really cozy and nice vibes.
- Sells a range of hot chocolates ranging from milk to dark, originating from Venezuela to the Solomon Islands!
- Also very vegan-friendly!



## Fitzbillies

### 51-52 Trumpington St AND 36 Bridge St



- Two different locations (both approximately a 7-minute walk from Christ's).
- Very very popular and well-known for their brunch and Chelsea buns! (the one on Trumpington Street offers a wider selection of food).
- Often have to wait for seats so aim to arrive early!
- Over 100 years old so gives you some insight into the history and culture of Cambridge.

There are of course the usual coffee shops/chains that you may be more familiar with! All of these are located within a five-minute walk from Christ's (some as close as 30 seconds!) some of the usual are:

• Gail's

• Caffè Nero

• Starbucks

• Pret à Manger

• Greggs

• Waterstones



Qinglan after being dragged to Starbucks by Isabelle (note how badly they mispelt her name)

To access many of the following facilities you will need to use your camcard issued at the beginning of term. Camcards are used to borrow library books, access certain rooms around college, and buy food/drinks from the Buttery or Upper Hall. A base rate of circa £300 is paid at the beginning of Michaelmas Term and anything spent above the rate will be added to your bill for the next term, but money will be subtracted from your next term bill if you spend below the base rate. Also, please try not to lose your camcard as you will have to go to the Tutorial Office and pay £10 to get it replaced (spoken from experience sadly)! Fortunately, if your camcard is damaged, you can get it replaced for free!

## CHRIST'S LIBRARY (AKA 'CHLIBRARY'-please don't ask)



If you need some peace and quiet or a place to work without distractions, Christ's has an incredibly well-stocked library that is open 24/7 (although please make sure to sleep!). The Library is equipped with sockets, electronic borrowing machines, desktops, and a printer/photocopying room. Although you do have to pay for printing and photocopying by topping up your credit

(<https://help.uis.cam.ac.uk/service/printing/my-ds-print>), it is extremely subsidised and more economic than buying a printer yourself!

# COLLEGE FACILITIES

Work hard play hard



## JCR, TV ROOM & FUNCTION ROOM

These are the main social spaces in college and are all located in New Court. The JCR is equipped with sofas, board games, a TV, speakers, a pool/table tennis/air hockey table, and more. The TV room contains -you guessed it- a giant TV, as well as sofas. It draws crowds for big events such as Eurovision, but essentially anything to do with sport, video games, or politics. Students can also book out the JCR or TV rooms themselves via the Intranet to hold an event or just hang with friends! The Function Room is where college Bops and other socials are held. You'll get to see it in Freshers' Week at the Initials Mixer and college-wide bop!



## SWIMMING POOL

The Malcolm Bowie Bathing Pool is one of the few outdoor pools in Cambridge and also one of the oldest outdoor pools in Europe. It is located at the back of the Fellows' Garden and is open during the warmer weeks of Easter Term. During that time, it is open from 9 AM to 5 PM. Like many places, it can be accessed with your camcard.

## FELLOWS' GARDEN

Located through the gate in Second Court, the Fellows' Garden is a beautiful garden away from all the noise outside the college walls. It is brilliantly maintained through the hard work of the college gardeners and is a great place to get some fresh air or to study (or lie down as Qinglan is doing here...whilst Isabelle is blinded) under the sun.



## LAUNDRY ROOMS

The laundry room located at the bottom of Staircase P is fully equipped with washing machines, dryers, and an ironing room. It is the largest one in college. There are also several (smaller) laundry rooms scattered across New Court. All machines are free to use. The JCR provides free laundry powder but you are also welcome to use your own liquids/tablets. If you do not pick up your clothes on time, they may be removed from the machines so make sure to take a bag with you for them to be left in. Also, please remember to clean the dryer filters after each use.

## YUSUF HAMIED THEATRE

The Yusuf Hamied Theatre is, funnily enough, located in the Yusuf Hamied Theatre in New Court. It is mainly used by Christ's Amateur Dramatics Society (CADS) and Christ's Film Society. It is used to host the Christ's Panto at the end of Michaelmas. There may also be talks hosted by academics throughout the year.

## MUSIC PRACTICE ROOM

Located in the basement of the Yusuf Hamied Centre, the music room is equipped with a variety of instruments including a piano, keyboard, and drum kit. It is closed during much of Easter Term due to exams. There is also a larger music room in Fourth Court, known as the Fitzgerald Music Room, named after former Christ's fellow Bill Fitzgerald.

## GYM & SQUASH COURT

Also located in the basement of the Yusuf Hamied Centre, Christ's has a gym free to all Christ's students (following an induction) and is equipped with treadmills, bikes, cross-trainers and various cable machines. However, there are no free weights available. The Squash Court is located just next to the gym, with equipment available to collect from (and return to) the Plodge. We recommend squash as a great way to take a break from studying! We also believe it is best played lying down, as Kai demonstrates to Isabelle



# HOW TO...

## ...BOOK A ROOM



Students are allowed to book a variety of rooms around Christ's, ranging from the music practice room to the JCR (the room, not the committee; sorry for the confusion). On the Christ's Intranet (<https://intranet.christs.cam.ac.uk>), there is an online room booking system. This will allow any student to book a room when it is free, however, it is possible that certain events may override your booking. In these cases, please get in touch with the Catering and Facilities Officer.



## ...GET INTO COLLEGE AFTER DARK

The best way to get into college at night is through the Hobson Street, Christ's Lane, or King Street gates using your Camcard. However, It is also possible to gain access to Christ's even when the Great Gate is closed at night thanks to our wonderful Porters. All you need to do is press the doorbell on the left of the gate. The same goes for leaving college. You will need a porter to unlock the Great Gate if you choose to go that way.

## ...EMPTY YOUR RUBBISH BIN



At Christ's, we are very fortunate to have bedders (cleaners) who empty our rubbish and recycling bins every weekday and clean our rooms once a week. The bedders at Christ's are very friendly and you will get to know them throughout the year. Bins will usually be collected between 9 AM and 11 AM, but if you do not want to be disturbed during that time please leave your bins outside your door or place a sign on your door.



## ...RECYCLE

In addition to the recycling bins in your room, every college kitchen room and corridor will also have its own recycling bins and food waste bins. Just take a look at Finch, standing guard of the plants in the Fellows' Garden, her attempt (we assume) to ensure Christ's is as green as possible - although we question this seemingly eco-friendly persona, as she can often be seen hunting birds and squirrels...

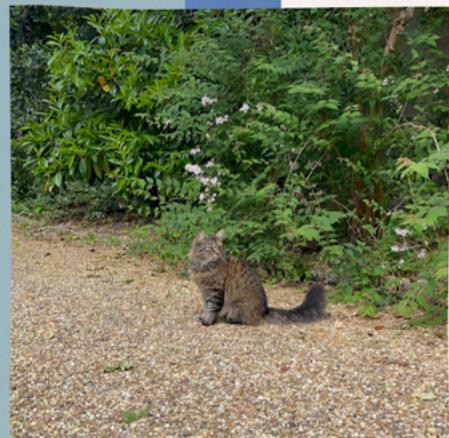


## ...GET SOMETHING FIXED OR REPORT A FAULT

If you have a blown light bulb or a broken bed (or a leaking tap in Qinglan's case), just report it online on the college Intranet (<https://intranet.christs.cam.ac.uk/fault-reporting>), or if the matter is urgent please consult the Porters. Someone from maintenance will soon come by to fix the problem.



The JCR



*Yeah Christ's! (it's a rowing thing we're sorry)*

# CLUBS & SOCIETIES



Here you can see Finch participating in her own tree-climbing society (reserved solely for cats, unfortunately). Luckily there is a wide variety of clubs and societies at Christ's you can get involved in! Wherever your interest lies, there is bound to be a society for you. And if there is not, you can always start your own! Below is a list of Christ's societies; the names and emails of people in charge can be found on the JCR website (<https://thejcr.co.uk/get-involved/societies>). In addition to these, you can also join university-wide societies, a comprehensive list of which can be found on <https://www.societies.cam.ac.uk/>.

Name of Club/Society	Name of Club/Society
Access Society (Christ's Reps)	Feminist Society
Art Society	Hippolytans
Badminton Club	History Society
Basketball	Hockey
Board Games Society	Hot Wheelz Society
Boat Club (Rowing)	Law Society
Bookworms	Lawn Tennis
Card Game Society	Marguerites
Christ's Amateur Dramatic Society	Maths Society
Christian Union (w/ Sidney Sussex)	Medical Society
Climbing Club	Men's Football
Cricket Club	Men's Rugby Football
Darts Corporation	Mixed Lacrosse
Darwin Society	Music Society
Engineering Society	Netball

# CLUBS AND SOCIETIES ON CAMPUS

Name of Club/Society
Nollywood Society
Organic Synthesis Society
Squash
Swimming
Table Tennis
The Discos
Volleyball
Wine Society



Here is one of our rowing teams out on the River Cam



Christ's College featuring on University Challenge (a TV show where students are asked obscure questions about anything)!

The Art Society is a great way to express your creativity, even if you've never been 'good' at art!



# ACADEMICS



## WHAT ARE SUPERVISIONS?

Studying at Cambridge is notoriously different from many other universities, given that teaching is split between both college-organised supervisions and faculty-run lectures and labs. Your faculty will cover the basis of your degree's content, whereas supervisions are much more in-depth and challenging, allowing you to spend time with an expert in their field in small groups (usually around 2-4 students). Supervisions can be daunting at first, and it can often take a few to gain some confidence, but they very quickly become more relaxed as you get to know your supervisors. Supervisions can be very thought-provoking and enjoyable as you hear many new ideas and interpretations from your peers and supervisors. Supervisions really push you to think outside the box and the limits of what you have been used to at school.

## TIPS FOR THE FUTURE

Due to the small and intimate nature of supervisions, you will be able to receive detailed and personal feedback on your work and progress, and will often be expected to write and submit one essay per week (for arts and humanities students) or a completed set of questions/problems (for STEM students). However, it's probably best to be up-to-date and on top of all the lecture material of your course as a minimum requirement (these can catch up on you - trust us, we've been there).



Sometimes you will need to travel to other colleges for supervisions (come rain or shine ...), as Christ's may not have an expert in a specific area of your degree. This is actually a great way of seeing other colleges and experiencing different teaching styles. Try to make the most of your supervisions, as they are a very 'Cambridge-y' experience! Supervisions are meant to be challenging and supervisors can be critical, but no supervisor has the right to belittle or demean you or your academic work. If you encounter any problems or issues with supervisions, then contact your DoS/Tutor/anybody you trust and feel comfortable with to let them know.

On our way back from a supervision and you can't tell, but it is pouring with rain and we are not near college

Us lawyers after a supervision, this time at Christ's



## FINALLY...

Above all, our advice is to work with each other! The best way to be ready for a supervision is if you all understand at least some of the reading or problems. And if you find a way to divide this up or discuss it prior, you will find that you can all offer different ideas and perspectives on the material - this is beneficial for everyone, and means you can get the most out of the supervision time that you have :)

*Oh the places you'll go*

# OTHER LOCATIONS IN CAMBRIDGE

## SIDGWICK SITE

This is roughly a 15-minute walk from Christ's (made even quicker if you cut through King's College) or a 10-minute cycle. Here you will find most of the humanities' faculties including MML, History, English, Classics, Politics, Economics, Philosophy, and of course...Law!!



## NEW MUSEUMS SITE

This is often used to host large lectures, especially for the Sciences and sometimes Medicine or HSPS lectures. This site is located across the road from Downing Site and is around 10 minutes from Christ's if you walk.



## DOWNING SITE

This is a 7-minute walk from Christ's (located on Downing Street, near the Hilton Hotel) or a 3-minute cycle. Medics may find themselves here for their labs or lectures, however, this site is also used for some HSPS, Geography, and Natural Sciences lectures.

## DEPARTMENTS & FACULTIES

Whilst your lectures and supervisions will likely take place in a range of locations, it is very useful to know where your department's faculty is located. For many humanities courses, you will find your faculty at the Sidgwick Site, however other courses (such as Natural Sciences, Architecture, or Engineering) may have to look further afield for their departments. This can be found on Department websites or the Cambridge Interactive Map, and we are sure your subject siblings (which you will find out more about) will also show you where they are on the tours you will have during Freshers' Week.

## OTHER STUDY LOCATIONS

Everyone has their personal preferences when it comes to studying and, if you're like us, and would rather work somewhere other than a library (please enjoy this rare picture of us actually studying in a library, something we NEVER do) there is a great website called Spacefinder (<https://spacefinder.lib.cam.ac.uk/>) which finds other study spaces in Cambridge according to your preferred criteria. There is no shortage of nice work-friendly cafés in Cambridge, as we previously showed you!



## LABS

Labs are located around Cambridge, depending on your module choices, but sometimes may involve travelling a bit farther out. It is probably a good idea to bring/buy a bike if your subject involves travelling to labs. A lot of faculties, such as Computer Science, require students to be in West Cambridge which is quite far away.



## SPORTS PITCHES

As many colleges are located centrally where there is limited space, college sports pitches tend to be around a 20-30 minute walk away from the town centre.

However some sports teams may provide forms of transport such as taxis, bikes are more useful for getting to your matches/practices in good time, and also allow you to see more of the city! Christ's shares a sports pitch with St.Catharine's College, located at the end of South Green Road. It is a 9-minute cycle from Christ's (but you can also make the quite scenic walk as Isabelle has done which is around 20 minutes). You can use the space to play football, rugby, cricket, lawn tennis, tennis, netball, basketball, and hockey!

## LIBRARIES

Most of the books you need for your first year will be in the Christ's library. If you need, you can find more specialised books in your faculty's library.

There is a website called iDiscover (<https://libguides.cam.ac.uk/idiscover>) which is used to search for books online in all libraries and is extremely useful to access online material. You are free to use, and work in, any of the other faculty libraries, but you are not allowed to do so in other college libraries. If you're at a push, the University Library (UL) is a copyright library, meaning it has at least one copy of every book published in the United Kingdom!

# STASH! STASH! STASH!

## RYDER & AMIES

### 22 King's Parade

If you're looking for college or university stash (which means "merch"), then Ryder & Amies is the place to go! There are many shops in Cambridge that sell all kinds of stash, but Ryder & Amies is the official one and offers the most complete collection, including hoodies, jackets, puffers, notebooks, magnets, and more. It can be quite pricey but the quality is really good and definitely worth it! It's the perfect place to buy Cambridge-themed gifts for friends and family. The shop is located a 5-minute walk away from college, next to the market. You can also order online on <https://www.ryderamies.co.uk/>.



Examples of college puffers!

## JCR SUBSIDISED STASH

From October 14-21, the JCR will offer a discount for stash ordered from Redbird Supply. More information will be sent out closer to the time, but essentially you will be given a discount code and link to follow.

A very popular stash item you will soon notice everyone on the streets of Cambridge and across all colleges wears is the signature college puffer. It's a black puffer with your college logo on one side and initials embroidered on the other! Many students choose to use the JCR discount on buying a puffer, but how you use it is entirely up to you! Just make sure to place your order before the deadline and all stash will be distributed by the JCR before the end of Michaelmas Term.



## SPORTS & SOCIETIES STASH

Finally, different societies and sports clubs will have their own stash with their logo or name. For example, sports teams members wear the classic light blue quarter zip (because light blue is the university colour). If you intend to join a society and are interested in buying their stash, make sure to stay on the lookout for more info from them!

Example of a sports quarter zip

We like to move it move it

# TRAVELLING HERE, THERE, EVERYWHERE

## BIKES



We already mentioned bikes previously, but just to reemphasise, many students tend to use bikes around Cambridge (although neither of us owns one, so there is absolutely no pressure to buy one). There are many cycle paths and routes you can use to travel around the city. Unfortunately, bike theft is a significant problem, so we strongly advise you to buy a strong bike lock for your time here. If you wish to park your bike in college (there is a designated parking area next to staircase P and Y; also newly built parking spaces next to Staircase 4 and the Todd Building), make sure you visit the Pledge to get a blue Christ's plastic tag fixed to it. Many students also buy second-hand bikes because they are cheaper and you can always sell your bike after you graduate! A good store for that is Kingsway Cycles ([8 City Road, Cambridge CB1 1DP](#)) or just on Facebook.

## I. Buses

## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Cambridge has an extensive bus network, with one of the main stations located right next to Christ's, just outside the Second Court exit. The university has a designated bus called the U-Bus (<https://www.environment.admin.cam.ac.uk/travel/travel-bus>). It runs through many important locations, including Sidgwick site, the train station, West Cambridge, Queen's College, the Fitzwilliam Museum, the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, and more! When you board, just show them your camcard to get a single ticket for £1 and a day ticket for £2 (this will give you unlimited rides within one day). However, the closest U-bus station to Christ's is Pembroke Street, which is a 10-minute walk away.

## 2. Trains

The Cambridge train station is approximately a 20-minute walk from college (or you can access the taxi rank just opposite the Great Gate). Alternatively, bus routes 1 and 3 leave from Emmanuel College (Emmanuel Street Station) and take you directly to the train station. From the train station, direct trains to London and many other places run very frequently throughout the day. It is highly recommended to buy a 16-25 railcard (<https://www.16-25railcard.co.uk/>) for 3 years if you think you will often travel by train. Also please note that Santander offers a free railcard when you open a student account with them!



**The U-bus route map**

# HEALTH & SAFETY

*by Ana-Maria, the Women's Officer*

Hi everyone! Congratulations on receiving your offers and I'm looking forward to meeting you all this year. I'm Ana-Maria, a 3rd year HSPS-er, currently serving as the JCR's Women's Officer. My role is to ensure that Christ's is a safe and inclusive community for all genders, and I'm also in charge of running our sustainable period product schemes and organizing the provision of menstrual health supplies. This safety section applies to everyone, and below are some resources to help you stay safe and prepared during Freshers' Week!



## GENERAL TIPS FOR CLUBBING

Not all of you will go clubbing during Freshers' Week —and that's completely normal—but for those of you who do, here are some things to keep in mind before you go out!

- Watch your drinks! Use drink toppers and never leave your drinks unattended. While it's very rare, there have been instances of drink-spiking at Cambridge, and it's important to exercise caution.
- Stick together with friends while at the club, and make sure you don't leave alone. Always make sure someone knows where you are!
- Make sure you know where Christ's is! We're luckily very close to all clubs in Cambridge, but going home alone can still be intimidating if you don't know where you're going!
- Drink lots of water and eat before you go out!
- Charge your phone battery!

## CONTACTS TO REMEMBER

If something happens to you (e.g. you've been injured, spiked, assaulted, or any other emergency), here are the most important contacts to remember:



Police: In case of emergencies requiring police intervention, dial 999. (For international students especially, please take note of this number, as it might be different from at home!)



Porters: Call the porters or go to the Porter's Lodge at any time of night for immediate assistance. The Porter's Lodge is open 24/7, and there is always a porter available to help you. Make sure to add their phone number to your contacts—you can call them at any point, from anywhere, if you need help: 01223 334900.



The College Nurse (Ana): Our new college nurse Ana is another friendly face you may approach. She can help you with not only medical concerns, but also offer advice for other welfare and safety matters ([nurse@christs.cam.ac.uk](mailto:nurse@christs.cam.ac.uk)).

# Here are some possible scenarios where you might find yourself needing a porter!

- If you've been assaulted. The porters can help file a report, calm you down, make sure you get back to your room safely, and generally just support you until you're able to turn to other resources.
- If a friend (or yourself) drank too much and needs help getting back to their room, the porters can carry them to their room, open the door, and make sure they're safe/okay.
- If you or a friend has been spiked, the porters can get you medical assistance and file a report.
- If you've been injured, the porters can not only help you (they are first-aid-kit trained) but can also call you a taxi to go to A&E. For any international students like myself, A&E is the British term for the emergency room, it stands for Accidents and Emergency (and is, where you'd go if you broke an ankle on a night out, for example). The closest hospital to us is Addenbrooke's.

## WHO ELSE TO REACH OUT TO...

Tutor: You should go to your Tutor if you need to report something, need guidance, or need to be referred to counseling. Going to your Tutor doesn't mean that you HAVE to make a formal report, but if you want to, or just want to explore your options/resources, then your Tutor is available. All of the tutors at Christ's are absolutely lovely and supportive, and it's always good for your Tutor to be aware in advance of any incidents that might affect your personal or academic life.

JCR Officers: I'm here to support you (Ana-Maria). Though I'm technically the Women's Officer, absolutely anyone can feel free to message me if you think you'd benefit from a chat with me! If you're unsure about what to do, feel uncomfortable reporting something on your own, or just need someone to talk to, my email inbox ([ams315@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ams315@cam.ac.uk)) is always open! I can also direct you to other resources around Cambridge that you might find helpful. Our welfare officers, Julen and Olivia, are also great if you need a chat. Our First Year Reps Isabelle and Qinglan are always happy to help via phone or email!

University Support: Finally, there are plenty of resources available throughout the University. Depending on what you need help with, these links might be helpful:

**Sexual Harassment/Assault:**  
<https://www.studentsupport.cam.ac.uk/harassment-and-violence-support/advice-students>

**Physical Health Emergencies:**  
<https://www.studentsupport.cam.ac.uk/physical-health>

**Accessibility:**  
<https://www.studentsupport.cam.ac.uk/accessibility-and-disability>

There are of course many more, depending on what you're looking for—and if you have any trouble finding anything, shoot me an email. With safety in mind, I'm sure you'll all have an absolutely amazing freshers week! Have fun, good luck, and I'll see you all soon!

*Home sweet home*

# ACCOMMODATION

## BALLOT

By the time you're reading this, you will have already filled in your preferences for accommodation. But in the next few years, the process for selecting rooms will be different. There will be a ballot, which is selected at random. The ballot only includes students in your year and you will choose rooms according to the ballot order. This means if you're at the top of the ballot (woohoo!), you get to choose earlier and out of a larger pool of rooms among your cohort. You can choose to ballot with friends (up to 4 people together) so that you will be next to each other on the ballot and get to choose rooms at the same time. From your second year onwards, you will have the option of either living in college or in college-owned hostels outside. Each year, the ballot order is reversed in the name of fairness.

Additionally, there is the option of entering the early hostel ballot. This allows you to ballot with a group of friends for an offsite college-owned hostel. This allows you to confirm your accommodation earlier (as the name suggests) and also stay with the friends you want.



You can get some pretty lovely sunsets from your room!

## SCHOLARS' BALLOT

In Christ's, you are considered a scholar if you obtain a first in your end-of-year exams. This is the highest grade band (typically above 70%). As a scholar, you will be considered for the Scholars' Ballot. This comes after the regular ballot, which you will still have to fill out. If you end up scoring a first, you can switch your original room for another with better facilities and locations, for example, First Court and Second Court rooms. You may have a bigger bed, your own bathroom, more couches, you name it! However, if you entered the early hostel ballot, you will not be considered for the Scholars' Ballot if you ultimately score a first. The Scholars' Ballot has been a bit of a contentious issue in the past, so the JCR is repeatedly consulting students on whether the system should change. But in recent years, students have expressed that they want to keep the system.

Fun fact: or maybe just fact, but Christ's is the ONLY college across both Cambridge AND Oxford that still has the Scholars' Ballot.



# VACATION TIME & STORAGE SPACE

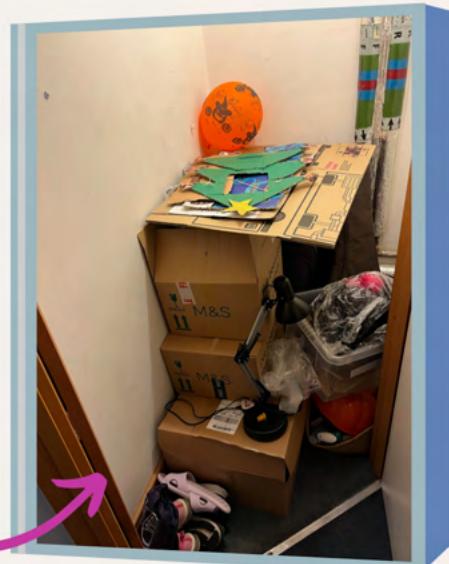
## Category A Rooms

At Christ's, rooms are divided into Categories A, B, C, and A\*. For Category A rooms, you must completely move out during the three vacations (Michaelmas, Easter, and summer). All New Court rooms are category A. This means none of your belongings can be left behind because your room will likely be rented out by college. But don't worry, you will be allocated a storage cupboard near your room with plenty of space. This storage room may be shared if you're in Staircase 4, or you will have your own if you're in Staircases 1, 2, and 3. They are also accessed in different ways. For Staircase 4, tapping your camcard gives you access to your storage room. For Staircases 1, 2, and 3, you must ask the Porters for a storage room key and leave your camcard with them until you return that key.

## Category B, C and A\* Rooms

For Category B rooms, those students remaining in the room over the holidays can leave their belongings inside. However, if they move out, they must store their belongings in a storage cupboard. Lastly, for Category C rooms (the lucky ones), you do not have to move out at all for Michaelmas and Easter vacations! Category A\* rooms essentially work like Category C during the Michaelmas Vacation, but like Category A during the Easter Vacation. But of course, over the summer, all Categories are required to move out because you will have a different room allocated to you the following term.

Example of a staircase 4 storage room



## Vacation Stay

If you want to stay in college over vacation, you will be allocated to a different room (typically in Blyth or Y). You will also have to pay additional rent of around £20 a day, which will be added to your college bill the following term.

If you have any questions about accommodation, feel free to reach out to Joanna Chase ([accommodation@christs.cam.ac.uk](mailto:accommodation@christs.cam.ac.uk))!

Another note on storage space — These storage spaces are only available for Michaelmas and Easter. Over the summer, they cannot be used! You must store things either in the Blyth attic (the top floor of Blyth Building, or rooms in staircase Z (AKA the Todd Building). There are small storage rooms in Blyth attic which are locked and given out by Porters on a first-come-first-served basis. If you have a lot of luggage, especially international students, please do not worry! There is plenty of storage space (Qinglan speaking from experience as she was one of the last people to leave college last year and has way more things than necessary).

# GLOSSARY

During your time in Cambridge, you will come across many terms that are not found in one's normal vocabulary. This glossary should help to familiarise you with some of these!

Term	Definition
ADC (Theatre)	The Amateur Dramatics Club, one of the larger student theatrical production groups OR the Amateur Dramatics Club Theatre located on Park Street.
ASNAC	The Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic degree, referring to the most mysterious of all the Triposes OR someone who studies that course.
Backs	Pleasant green area west of the river Cam, so called because it backs onto the riverside colleges, Queens, Kings, Trinity, Johns, etc.
Bedder	A cleaner to have who will also clean your room at least once a week and empty your bin daily on weekdays.
Black Tie	Formal wear you might have to use in Cambridge consisting of a dinner jacket, white dress shirt, bow tie and (optionally) a cummerbund or a dress or black skirt/trousers and white blouse.
Bop	A word meaning disco that, when used outside Cambridge, makes you sound quirky OR to dance furiously, drunkenly, ostentatiously or in a deeply misguided fashion especially when at a Bop.
Buttery	The main bar of a college; for Christ's, it is in First Court. A wonderful place.
Camcard	Plastic card similar in size and shape to a credit card, used to pay for food and drink in the Buttery and Upper Hall, entering and taking books out of the library, gaining access to some faculty areas, and often used as Student ID OR what Qinglan dressed up as for last Halloween.
Camfess	A Facebook page containing spectacular anonymous confessions from students across the University. Often refers to Christ's main qualities as either being top of the Tompkins Table (*round of applause and continuous cheer*) or having a central location.
CompSci	The degree course Computer Sciences OR someone who studies that course.
Crushbridge	A Facebook page where declarations of love/appreciation are anonymously posted by Cambridge students.
Econ	The degree course Economics OR someone who studies that course.

# GLOSSARY




Term	Definition
Engling	Someone who studies English.
Ents	Abbreviation for entertainment OR anything with music that takes itself too seriously to stoop to Bop status.
Exeat	Form giving you permission to leave college - not taken very seriously by many tutors except at the end of term.
Finch and Baines	A recent addition to college, Finch and Baines are our college cats. Some photos of them have been sprinkled throughout this guide. You will often find them walking around college, climbing trees, or occasionally chasing after squirrels (with little success).
Fine	Fining is another element of a typical Swap (see Swap). A fine is made by an individual at a Swap, its content concerning what another person present has done.
Fellow	A permanent member of the academic staff at Cambridge.
Fellows' Garden	A spacious outdoor environment open to members of the college during the week; can be used to study in Easter term or to relax if the weather is good.
Formal	Evening meal eaten in formal hall whilst wearing a gown and formal attire.
Grafton Centre	Shopping centre east of Christ's.
Hippos	Popular abbreviation of the Hippolytans – the selective women's sports society.
HSPS	The degree course Human, Social and Political Sciences.
JCR	Junior Common Room, located in the New Court Building OR a committee of students within a college, holding different roles and responsibilities.
Lib	Abbreviation of Library.
Life	Actual name 'Vinyl' but known universally to students as Life. A disco-esque, sweaty underground club with an unreasonably small dance floor situated less than fifteen seconds out of the side gate on Hobson Street. A favourite of Christ's students.
Margs	Popular abbreviation of The Marguerites – the selective men's sports society. Often host problematically alcohol-related events with the Hippos.
Mathmo	Someone who studies Mathematics.
May Ball	Lavish all-night affair put on in May Week by individual colleges, tickets often sold in pairs, dress is usually Black Tie or White Tie.

# GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
May Week	Period of a week or so in June characterised by drunkenness, debauchery and post-exam trauma. Contains several May Balls, Garden Parties and mistakes (please stay away from Addenbroke's, which is the main hospital in Cambridge).
Memebridge	A Facebook page of relatable, Cambridge-related memes. It may or may not have had its origins at Christ's College...
NatSci	The degree course Natural Sciences OR someone who studies that course.
New Court (aka Typewriter)	Thank Dennis Lasdun for this concrete curiosity at the rear end of Christ's, known by some as 'the Typewriter'. Home to many Freshers.
Oxford (AKA 'The Other Place')	Second-rate university to the west of London. Occasionally produces Prime Ministers.
Pigeon Hole (aka Pidge)	Better known as a Pidge - you will have a small slot in the Porter's Lodge with your name labelled on it. All your post can be found here. Bigger parcels will be delivered to the room at the bottom of staircase 4.
Porter	Porters are to be found in the Porters' Lodge and are often the best people to turn to for help with almost any issue (e.g. accidentally locked yourself out of your room - as Isabelle and Qinglan often do).
Porters' Lodge (aka Plodge)	Just inside the Great Gate where the Porters stay. Often referred to as the Plodge, it is open 24 hours a day.
Revs	Abbreviation of the club Revolution. Students often refer to the popular weekly club nights at Revolution as Wednesday Revs.
Scholar	When a student gets a first (above 70%) in yearly exams.
Sent Down	To be expelled from college. Rare.
Squash	Sweaty but spectacular racket game; the squash court is in the basement of Yusuf Hamied centre OR an event aimed at Freshers, normally with free drink and snacks, organised by a college or University society to promote what they do.
Supervision (aka Supo)	Small class teaching and discussion session - often abbreviated to supo.
Swap	A social event whereby a group of people from one college/society goes to dinner with another group from another college/team. Sometimes characterised by fancy dress.
The Tab	Online Cambridge tabloid paper. ( <a href="https://thetab.com/uk/cambridge/">https://thetab.com/uk/cambridge/</a> ).

# GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
Trailer of Life (AKA 'Van of Life')	Kebab, burger and chip vendor in Market Square that opens until 4 AM every night).
Tripos	Cambridge exam system.
Tutor	A fellow at Christ's responsible for your pastoral care.
UL	University Library - large building with a big brick tower containing an improbable number of books, located west of the river near the Sidgwick Site.
Upper Hall	College canteen that serves two meals a day (lunch and dinner on weekdays, brunch and dinner on weekends), paid using your Camcard. Opening times are posted just outside Upper Hall.
Varsity	One of the main student newspapers ( <a href="https://www.varsity.co.uk/">https://www.varsity.co.uk/</a> ) OR competitions that take place between Oxford and Cambridge in certain sports OR the annual non-competitive Varsity ski trip in December for both Oxford and Cambridge students.
White Tie	Formal dress consisting, for men, of a tailed coat, white wing collared dress shirt and white bow tie and, for women, evening dress. You'll probably never need this, apart from at some May Balls.

**Now let's put this vocabulary into practice:**



A (slightly larger version of a) camcard



Us at Wednesday Revs on the day we finished exams!



At a formal!

X marks the spot

# MAP OF CHRIST'S

*During opening hours, visitors are welcome to walk through the Courts and Grounds of the College but are requested NOT to enter any staircase and NOT to walk on the lawns.*



**YUSUF HAMIED COURT**  
 SEMINAR ROOMS 1–3  
 BILL FITZGERALD MUSIC ROOM  
 Gender neutral WC  
*Level entrance to the TODD BUILDING*

**TODD BUILDING**  
*Stepped entrance*  
 PLUMB AUDITORIUM  
 SOSNOW ROOM  
 AMENITY ROOM  
 SUPERVISION ROOMS  
 ACCOMMODATION OFFICE  
 CONFERENCE & EVENTS OFFICE

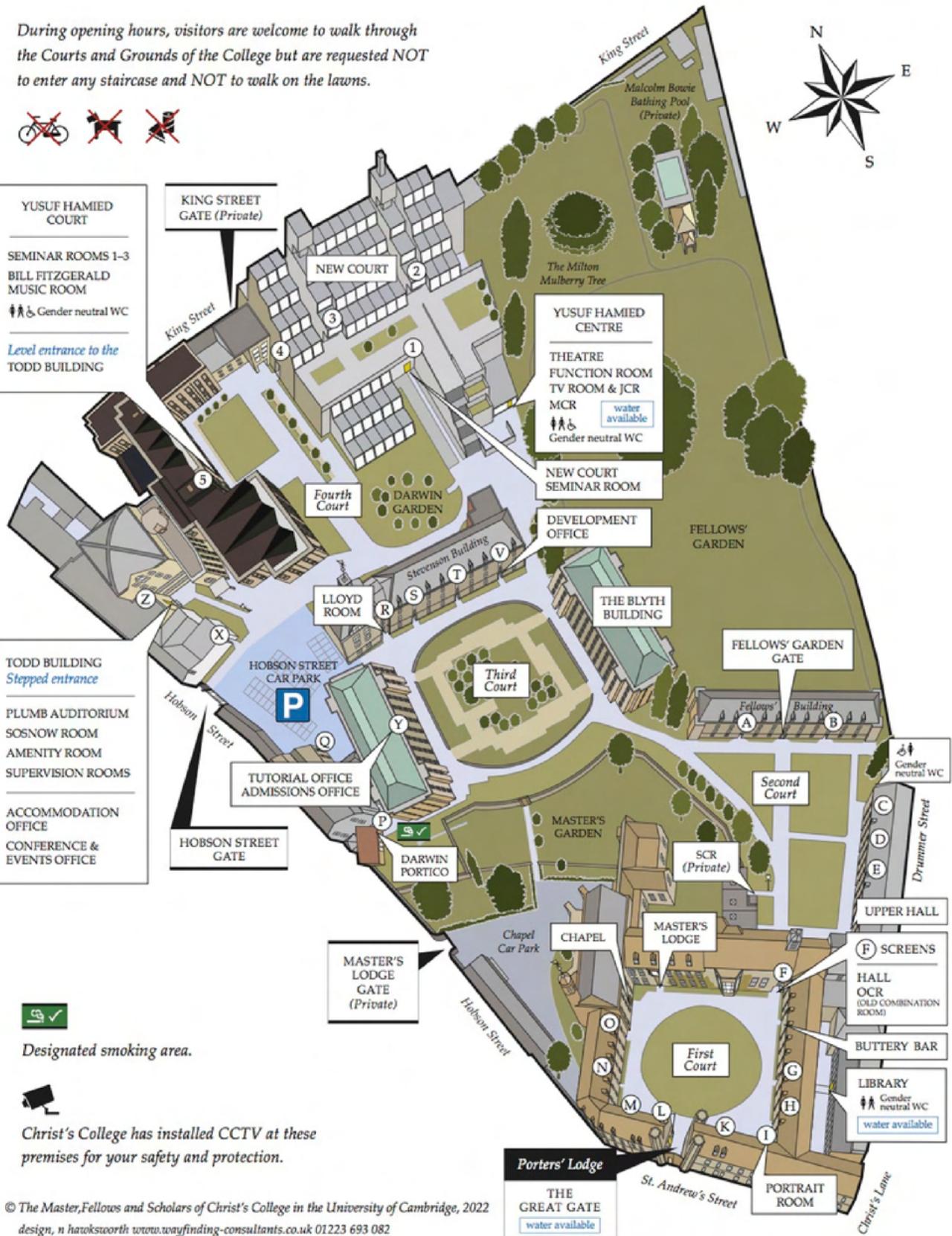


*Designated smoking area.*



*Christ's College has installed CCTV at these premises for your safety and protection.*

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 design, n hawksworth [www.wayfinding-consultants.co.uk](http://www.wayfinding-consultants.co.uk) 01223 693 082



SEE YOU SOON AT

