

July 2023

**Congratulations on gaining your place at Murray Edwards College!** We look forward to welcoming you in October.

There is a great deal of information in this letter, please make sure you read to the end.

You have, or will soon, receive an email from the University Information Services (UIS), entitled 'Student Registration'. It is important that you follow the instructions and complete the student registration exercise. If you haven't received the email by 13 September, please make sure that it has not gone into your junk mailbox; if it isn't there, please let us know.

At the end of the student registration process, you will be given your Cambridge email address and UIS password. Information about this is available at <https://help.uis.cam.ac.uk/new-starters/it-for-students/getting-started>.

You will also receive an invitation, sent to your @cam email address, to access the College Moodle site. Your Tutor and DoS will use this to make appointments to see you. The email will contain a link to the site – please do login.

On our [Freshers' pages](#) on the College website, you will find lots of information about the College and coming to Cambridge. Amongst other things, you will find:

- Helpful information prepared by the Student Accounts Office, which will help you understand both how your fees are paid, and how and when you will receive College bills: we would strongly recommend that you read this carefully. It is important to plan your budget in advance so that you know what to expect once you arrive. .
- Information about how to use the online payment system (EPOS) to put funds on your University Card in order to pay for meals in College. You will need your new UIS password to do this but you won't need the actual card (you will receive this when you arrive). You may be able to add funds after 30 September, but don't worry if you're not able to do so – it will depend on whether all of the necessary data is on the College's IT systems; if you can't, you will be able to do it when you arrive.

We do encourage you to check the website frequently before your arrival as we will continue to add new documents over the next few weeks.

Students are required to wear academic gowns at various formal occasions. They are also normally worn at Formal Halls, both in this College and in other Colleges you may visit for a Formal Hall. We recommend that you buy one for use while you're a student here. You can sell the gown when you

leave: the MCR may have some second-hand ones. Gowns may also be bought from either Ede and Ravenscroft or [Ryder and Amies](#) (online).

Within a few of days of arrival, you will have a meeting with your Postgraduate Tutor: it is very important that you meet them.

If you haven't already got one, all students will be asked to open a UK bank account. To do this, you may need a letter from the College. There is information on webpages about requesting a letter but please note that we are not able to produce them until you are in residence.

### **International Students**

The International Student Office has some very useful web pages and we recommend that you visit their [Arriving page](#) and follow the various links you will find there. Of particular interest are

- [the International Student Guide: very helpful guide](#);
- [the immigration page](#): the 'go-to' place for up-to-date visa and arrival information.

If your visa application is successful, you will be issued with a 30-day Entry Permit in your passport, which will enable you to enter the UK. Your actual visa, in the form of a Biometric Residence Permit (BRP), must be collected on arrival in the UK. Please read the detailed information outlined on the ISO [Collecting your BRP page](#). We will send you more information about this later.

Please read the information about [police registration](#) and, if necessary, follow the link to book an appointment to register.

Those with Student Visas should read the [Student Visa Responsibilities](#) guide.

The [International Student Office](#) usually arranges events especially for international students and I am sure they will contact you directly about this.

### **Disabilities**

The College and the University work in close conjunction to offer support to students with any kind of disability, and the University's Disability Resource Centre (ADRC) has a dedicated team of experts who can provide support, advice and guidance for disabled students and students with specific learning difficulties. With your permission, we can liaise with the ADRC to create a support plan that meets your needs.

If you declared a disability in your application, the information has been passed to the ADRC. If the ADRC has written to you but you have not replied, we would strongly recommend that you do so as soon as possible: the sooner they hear from you, the sooner they can put any necessary measures in place for you.

If you have a disability which you did not declare or have recently received a diagnosis, please contact the [ADRC](#). The ADRC can be very busy at this time of year so it is recommended that you contact them as soon as possible so that measures to help you can be put in place early in the term.

**ID checks**

We are required to check the identity of all new students. Please would you send a scan of the photo page of your passport to [Tutorial](#) by as soon as you can.

UK students who do not have a passport may instead send a copy of one of the following:

- A full birth or adoption certificate issued in the UK, Channel Islands or the Isle of Man,
- Current photo-card driving licence, full or provisional, issued in the UK,
- Deed of change of name,
- Certificate of naturalisation or registration as a British Citizen.

Please bring the original with you when you come to Cambridge as we are required to check them.

**College-Specific Information**

For general College information, policies and procedures, we strongly advise that you read the College website and, in particular, the [Academic Life](#) section, which gives details of the academic structures within the College and the University.

University Information for Cambridge students may be found at: <http://www.cam.ac.uk/current-students>.

Again, congratulations and we look forward to meeting you very soon.

Best wishes

Murray Edwards' Tutorial Team