

August 2023

Dear Families, Carers, Guardians and all those in your new student's support network

We are really happy to be welcoming your student to St John's College, Oxford. Their achievement is a milestone and they have done so well to gain a place. We hope they will grow and thrive in our College community and throughout their University life.

We appreciate what a big moment it is when your student leaves to go to university and it is normal and natural for you to have concerns as well as great hopes for them. There are many things you can do to help them before they leave. Having conversations early with your student about looking after themselves, managing their money and time and coping strategies for the times when life throws up challenges is incredibly helpful. Anything you do before your student leaves to come up to Oxford to promote their independence and resilience is time well spent.

Once your student is in College, sharing information about them – including with the people in their support networks (families, carers and guardians) – is governed by the University [Student Privacy Policy](#). We hope you can find time to read the information particularly about sharing personal information.

At College level, in most cases, we cannot share information with you about your student without their consent. We have to protect the student's autonomy and respect their wishes. This can be hard to accept and difficult for all concerned in the moment but, if your student is legally an adult and not considered to be at risk of serious harm to themselves or others, they have to consent to any information about them being disclosed.

If your student has any questions as they get ready to come up to Oxford for their first Michaelmas Term, please do encourage them to look on the College or University websites or make a phone appointment with me (information on the New Students website) to see if I can help them find the answers.

I look forward to meeting all new students.

Hanne Clark

Head of Student Wellbeing