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|  | ST. JOHN’S COLLEGE  Oxford  OX1 3JP |

Dr Matthew Nicholls   
Senior Tutor

***Direct Line*** *(01865) 287183*[*senior.tutor@sjc.ox.ac.uk*](mailto:senior.tutor@sjc.ox.ac.uk)

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Dear student,

Welcome to St John’s. We are very glad that you are joining our academic community. Like most Oxford Colleges, St John’s is home to undergraduate and postgraduate students in a wide variety of subjects, as well as to academic and professional staff. All of us are here to enable the educational mission of the College, and we are pleased to welcome you to become part of that.

As Senior Tutor I have overall responsibility for teaching in the College. You have earned your place in College through a competitive process, and we are confident that you will thrive here. Your time here will give you the opportunity to study your chosen subject in depth. University study is different to your work at school, and your tutors will help you to navigate that transition. The College also puts in place plenty of support – the library, our wellbeing team, the academic skills advisors, my colleagues in our Academic Office, and more – to help you find your feet as you start, and throughout your time with us. Existing students in your subject area, and in the JCR, will also be able to offer advice.

You will hear more from me (and others) about that in Welcome Week, and about how to make the best academic start to your time at St John’s. There will be a lot of information given to you in that busy week; if I were to offer one piece of advice it would be: if in doubt – ask!

I look forward to meeting you.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Matthew Nicholls   
Senior Tutor