



St John's College
Oxford

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

We are 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 comes up to Oxford 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 with you is governed by the University [Student Privacy Policy](#). We hope you can find time to read the information particularly about sharing personal information. If you contact us with welfare concerns for your student, College cannot generally share any information with you about your student without their consent. For this reason, it is a good idea to reach an agreement with your student before they leave about contact with home so they understand you will naturally be worried if you can't reach them. University life is busy and new students can often forget to respond to calls and messages especially at the start of their first term. This can escalate into great concern for those at home and if College is contacted, your concern may initiate a welfare check. It can be hard to accept that in most cases, College cannot share the outcome of a welfare check with you but, if your student is legally an adult and not considered to be at risk of serious harm to themselves or others, they must consent to any information about them being disclosed.

I look forward to meeting all the new students. Best wishes to all of you for a lovely summer.

Kind regards

Hanne Clark
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St John's College