

Access and Outreach at St John's College

Information for Staff and Postgraduate Students who would like to get involved

Why get involved?

- Support young people from under-represented backgrounds to realise their academic potential
- Gain a greater understanding of the range of backgrounds young people apply from
- Opportunities to share best practice with teachers and other educational professionals
- Improve your career prospects – universities and research councils often consider engagement in widening participation activities when considering job applications and grant proposals
- Demonstrate research impact and increase the profile of your subject area
- Paid opportunities available

Email access@sjc.ox.ac.uk if you would like to join our mailing list and keep updated about forthcoming opportunities.

You can find more information on the College's access activities at: <https://www.sjc.ox.ac.uk/study/working-schools/>.



Pupil experience:
'My favourite part was attending the seminars with the tutors. The freedom to articulate our points of view and general discussion was amazing and very different from school, which was exciting! I felt that I could vocalise my opinions with confidence. It was not an intimidating environment at all.'

Feedback from teacher:

'It was a really fantastic day. Before we came, only two put their hands up to being really interested in Oxford - now they're texting their mums to say how much they're loving it! Hopefully some of our students will now think seriously about applying in two years' time.'



Exploration Days

The College regularly hosts groups of state school pupils from our link regions. We need tutors to provide academic taster sessions to give pupils a taste of what it is like being a student at Oxford.



Study Days

The Access and Outreach Office encourage tutors to run subject study days in the College. High-performing students attend talks and workshops, discover more about their chosen course and find out what tutors are looking for.

Inspire Programme

The Inspire Programme is a series of events and online contact for pupils in Years 9-13 from non-selective state schools in Ealing and Harrow. We invite tutors to run academic taster sessions in both London and Oxford.

Essay Competitions

Essay competitions give pupils the opportunity to write an essay in their chosen subject area, encouraging academic curiosity and providing an occasion for independent research. Entrants are usually invited to attend a study day at the College.

Inspire Digital

Many of our tutors provide content in the form of articles, interviews and quizzes for our digital platform Inspire 360.

Working with Teachers

The College works with state school teachers and education professionals both here in Oxford and our link regions. When possible, we like to give teachers the opportunity to meet tutors working in the same subject area.



Applications Workshops

Providing guidance to Years 12-13 pupils on post-A-level options and how to prepare for an application to a highly-selective university. Includes sessions on personal statements and demystifying interviews.

What we do?

Every year, St John's staff and students work with thousands of pupils who are thinking about applying to university. In focussing our activities primarily on pupils from non-selective state schools in our link regions of Ealing, Harrow, Brighton and Hove, East and West Sussex, the College shows its commitment to supporting the most able students regardless of background.

Who we are we?

*Fellow for Access
- Dr Sandra Campbell*

*Access and Outreach Officer
- Dr Ruth MacDonald*

*Assistant Access and Outreach Officer
- Alex Lawrence*

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