



St John's College
Oxford

STATEMENT

After the report of discriminatory language used by a member of staff towards a former student visiting St John's, the College launched an urgent investigation into the incident. This matter is now the subject of a disciplinary procedure that has not yet concluded.

A spokesperson for the College said:

'St John's College prides itself on being friendly and inclusive. The College deplores all forms of discrimination and is fully committed to ensuring the well-being of a diverse, equal and inclusive community. St John's College will ensure that if isolated incidents of discrimination occur, then they will be fully investigated and measures put in place to eliminate any re-occurrence. It would not be appropriate for the College to comment further at this stage. We will provide a statement once the disciplinary procedure has been concluded.'

How St John's College ensures inclusivity

The Governing Body appoints a Fellow for Equality, a Fellow for Ethnic Minorities and a Fellow for Women who oversee activities in College throughout the academic year to raise awareness of students and academic and non-academic staff to issues of diversity and inclusion. These range from online and face-to-face training courses to social events celebrating festivals and students' own cultures. This academic year the College is celebrating the 40th anniversary since the admission of women with a focus on equality and diversity and is implementing a new Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy with a dedicated project manager.

Beyond its current student body, the College's outreach strategy is innovative and ambitious. Through its [Inspire](#) programme the College seeks out potential and supports academic talent from the widest range of groups and settings. In autumn 2019 St John's has launched Pre-GCSE Inspire working with schools in Harrow and Ealing to help raise aspiration in students in Years 9 and 10.

22nd November 2019

Notes to Editors

For further information, please contact Ms Iris Burke, Bursary Manager

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St John's College

Established in 1555 as a constituent college of the University of Oxford, St John's College fosters excellence in education and research and is committed to equality and diversity. It is one of the largest among Oxford Colleges and offers tuition in nearly every subject studied at the University. Today, St John's is home to approximately 390 undergraduates, 250 graduate students, 100 fellows and 25 College lecturers. A vibrant international community, it fosters intellectual rigour, creativity, and independence in its students, teachers, and researchers. The College supports a range of research activities including discussions, seminars, workshops, public lectures and visiting scholar schemes. While scholarly publication is naturally at the heart of the College's research endeavours, the Fellowship is also committed to informing policy and public debate, and to teaching that is informed by research findings.

Through the College's work on access to all aspects of its day-to-day activities, the College has due regard for its legal commitments under the Equality Act to promote equality, diversity and inclusion. As examples, members of Governing Body and key College committees, and all staff involved in admissions or appointments undergo appropriate equality and diversity training.