



September Dear teacher,

I would like to draw your attention to some opportunities and events taking place across the University.

At Queen's

The Access Platform

We have launched a [brand new feature](#) to help prospective applicants get an authentic sense of what it's like to study at Oxford. Using this new tool, your students will be able to get in direct contact with our current undergraduates, by asking questions, direct messaging and even booking phone calls. This could be particularly useful over the coming weeks, as your students seek advice about making their applications.

Please encourage them to use the platform to ask their questions of undergraduates who have successfully gained places at Oxford.

Open Days

Queen's will be taking part in the University Open Days on Friday 14th September. You can see a timetable of our events [on our website](#). There is no need to book for any of the events we are holding at Queen's, but some colleges and departments are running events requiring booking. You can find more information about the Open Days as well as the 2018 Open Days guide [here](#).

Keble College are offering free accommodation to prospective applicants on the night of Thursday 13th September for those who are unable to travel to the Open Day in one day. You can contact [Nicole Boothman](#) at Keble for more information. Merton College are offering support with travel expenses to Oxford, more information [here](#).

Visits to schools

This September, October, and November I will be visiting schools across our link areas to speak to groups of students on a variety of topics. If you would like to arrange a visit to your school, please do [get in touch](#).

Depending on the year group of the students, talks and workshops may cover:

- The pros and cons of going to university
- Choosing A-levels
- Choosing degree courses
- Student finance
- Student life
- Applying to university
- Applying to Oxford/Oxbridge
- Personal statement workshops
- Interview preparation workshops
- Careers

Visits to Queen's

If you would like to bring a group for a visit to Queen's in October or early November, or early next year, please [get in touch](#). Visits to the college generally include:

- Introductory workshops, usually covering some of the above topics
- A tour of College
- Lunch in Hall
- Student life Q&A with undergraduates
- Walking tour of Oxford
- Museum visit

Academic taster sessions can also be arranged on request.

Around the University

Explore

Explore is an innovative digital outreach portal from the University of Oxford. As the 'Home of Big Questions' it aims to engage those from 11 to 18 years with debates and ideas that go beyond what is covered in the classroom. Big questions tackle complex ideas across a wide range of subjects and draw on the latest research undertaken at Oxford. Explore aims to realise aspirations, promote broader thinking and stimulate intellectual curiosity.

You can use Explore resources to support your work in the classroom, or recommend it to your students as a way of exploring their subjects and preparing for university-style thinking.

Oxford Muslim Access Conference

The Oxford University Islamic Society is holding a conference to encourage and aid Muslim students in their applications to Oxford & other prestigious universities. **The conference will be held at Newham Collegiate Sixth Form Centre in London, on Saturday 22nd September 2018.**

In particular, the conference will address the realities of being a Muslim at Oxford, dispelling common myths and offering advice on personal statements, entrance exams and interviews. We hope the conference will be a valuable opportunity for students to gain an insight in to life at Oxford but also raise aspirations for accessing the country's top institutions. In particular, an extensive team of student volunteers will be on hand to share their own experiences from a range of subjects including Medicine, Engineering, PPE, Law, History and many others. Moreover, Oxford University admissions staff will be present to offer advice on the application process.

Students can sign up on the society's [website](#), the deadline for which is Friday 7th September. It is possible this deadline will be extended, depending upon the number of applications received. Queries should be directed to ouisoc.outreach@gmail.com.

I do hope that you will take advantage of some of these opportunities by encouraging your students to get involved.

All the very best,

Orockanyo Nsoatabe
Schools Liaison, Outreach and Recruitment Officer