

ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

WELCOME PACK & CHECKLIST



Principals Welcome Letter

We are absolutely delighted to welcome you to St John's. St John's is a college with a rich and dynamic history, which looks to the future with excitement and enthusiasm.

With around 850 students and over 100 staff St John's brings together a wide range of experiences, life-stories and world views. This is a place where well over 7000 people have studied, grown and been inspired to make the world a better place. Whatever course or degree that you are studying – know that at St John's, global challenges and local opportunities in the Twenty First Century are faced boldly and creatively.

There is something for everyone here. Check out the many student societies, our sports teams who achieve far beyond expectations, the Chapel Choir and Bailey Theatre Company who have outstanding reputations and we take diversity within our community seriously. We are a college that is rooted in Christianity but open to all. We strive at St John's to have a safe place that will allow each member of the college to grow, learn and make meaningful friendships.

We are a community that values curiosity, gratitude and kindness. We aim for excellence in our work and academic endeavours. We hope that you will flourish as a whole person at St John's.

Having studied here as a post-graduate I was happy to return several decades later as your Principal. I'm looking forward to meeting and working with you in the months and years to come. We also have much to learn as a College and we will continue to evolve in many ways in the coming years. We are so pleased that you will be a part of this process and that you are joining the unique community of St John's College.

Professor Jolyon Mitchell



Welcome Letter from SJCR President & Head Freps

Life at St. John's is more than lectures and essays. The student-run Common Room offers events, sports, societies, volunteering, and more to enrich your time here. Getting involved helped me meet amazing people, gain new skills, and try things I never imagined.

We know university life can be challenging, so we have a peer support team and student funds to help you thrive.

Welcome Week is just around the corner, with a fantastic team of volunteers planning a wide range of events—there's something for everyone.

It's okay to be nervous, but remember: you deserve to be here. Take a deep breath, be proud of your achievements, and get ready for your next chapter at St John's!

All the best,
Oliver

SJCR President



Hi everyone, and congratulations on your acceptance to St John's College!

We're Hengrong (Accounting & Finance) and Mira (English Literature), your Head Freps for this year.

Along with our amazing team of over 20 Freshers' Representatives in bright red jumpers, we'll be running your 🎉🌟Decades at John's🌟🎉 Freshers' Week!

Freshers' Week is your chance to meet new people, settle into college life, and start exploring all that John's and Durham have to offer. We may be one of the smallest colleges, but our close-knit community is what makes us so special.

University life can be daunting, but it's also an incredible opportunity—so try new things! Join sports, societies, and events, meet as many people as you can, and make the most of every moment.

We've been working hard all summer to make this week fun, welcoming, and unforgettable. If you have any questions or need help, come find us or email johns.freshers@durham.ac.uk. We can't wait to meet you—welcome to John's!



John's Love,
💙🌿Mira and Hengrong🌿💙

Checklist

Details and Action Required

When to get done by?

Tell us of any health/support needs (if applicable)

If you have a particular support need you would like us to be aware of, contact the College on johns.studentsupport@durham.ac.uk.

If you have a disability, complete the Disability Disclosure form: [Disability Disclosure form for Undergraduate Applicants](#)

You can also contact [Durham University Disability support](#) on disabilitysupportapplicants@durham.ac.uk

As soon as possible!

Medical registration

One of your top priorities is to register with doctors at a local medical practice so that you can access healthcare in Durham.

All new students can register with the Claypath and University Medical Group. You can pre-register prior to your arrival: [Student Pre-Registration – Claypath and University Medical Group \(durhamstudenthealth.co.uk\)](#)

Please see [information on recommended vaccinations](#) before your arrival to Durham.

There are other medical practices in Durham, which can be found at: [Find a GP in County Durham](#)

As soon as possible!

Registration Part 1: Enrolment

Complete enrolment. For instructions on how to do so, please see the enrolment information. here: [Enrolling with the University](#)

By the beginning of Welcome Week at the latest!

Registration Part 2: Verification of Identity

All new students are required to complete [verification](#) at college, providing proof of their identity. Ensure you bring one of the following:

- current Passport
- current UK Driving Licence
- current European Identity Card
- UK students who do not have either of these forms of identification may supply their original Birth Certificate.

Complete Registration Part 1 and 2 prior to collecting your Campus Card from college Reception which you need for access to key services.

All new students will be able to complete verification of identity in College Reception from Wednesday 24 September onwards.

Registration Part 3: Collect Campus Card from College Reception

Campus cards will only be available to collect if you have completed enrolment.

Registration Part 4: (international students only) Complete [right to study check](#) within 2 weeks of arriving in the UK

Consent matters

Durham University is committed to promoting a culture in which sexual violence is not tolerated and will be addressed. It is **mandatory** for all new students to complete [the consent matters online course](#) via Oracle Learning before participation in clubs, societies or committees.

All students are also encouraged to complete the [Respect, Values and Behaviours online training](#).

Access to Oracle Learn will be available to you upon completion of your University registration.

The University's Sexual Misconduct and Violence Policy and Procedure can be found [here](#).

Complete the course before your arrival at college or by the end of Welcome & Orientation Week **at the latest**.

Update emergency contact information

We ask that you keep your emergency contact information updated at all times using [Banner Self-Service - Durham University](#)

As soon as possible!

Student Induction planner

You can start planning your Welcome Week by using our online [Student Induction Planner](#). This will show you all of the welcome activities from both your college and your department.

If you already have your Durham log in details, simply log in and your planner will automatically populate with your events. If you don't yet have a log in, simply select '**St John's College**' and choose your department from the options.

St John's College Key Information Form

Please complete the following '[St John's College key information form](#)' by 21 September. This form includes information on:

- Health, medical and dietary requirements
- St John's Common Room (SJCR) Membership
- Freshers' week activities
- College life

Please complete this by Sunday 21 September at 23.59pm.

TIMELINE



SEPTEMBER

5

**Arrival information
email sent with
booking form**

21

**Deadline to
complete St
John's College key
information form**

24

**Arrival day
begins for
international
students**

25-26

**Early arrival for
eligible students**

28

Arrivals Sunday

29

**Welcome &
Orientation
week begins!**

Arrival Information



EARLY INDUCTION ARRIVALS

Students who are eligible for Disability Support's Early Arrival Programme can arrive in college from **25-26 September**. If you have signed up to be part of this, College will contact you separately with arrival information.

You will also be able to meet with a member of Student Support (either Jasmine or Indre) at **11am on Thursday 25 September** in the Vice Principal's Office.

OVERSEAS STUDENTS ONLY

The International Office organises a coach transfer service as part of their '[Meet and Greet Service](#)'. International students will need to book online to register for this service.

If you have queries regarding [visa applications](#), requirements or PBS checking, please see the webpage [here](#) for further details.



HOME/UK STUDENTS living in College will be able to book an available time slot for arrival on **Sunday 28 September**. This day will be busy in Durham and access by car to all the Colleges on the Durham peninsula is controlled by timed parking permits.

We will send you the arrival time booking form for Arrivals Weekend **around 5 September**.

Finance, Fees & Funding

RESIDENCE CHARGES & TUITION FEES

The residence charges are paid directly to St John's College and not the University. You can view instructions from our College Finance team on ways to pay the college residence fees: [how to pay St John's College residence charges](#).

The residence charges for catered college accommodation can be viewed here: [Undergraduate College Residence Charges 25-26](#).

ADDITIONAL CHARGES

We provide a list of additional charges which you can opt in to. These include:

Gym membership
Linen packs
Meal costs for student living out of college

You can view the full list here: [Additional Charges](#).



SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES

Read through the information about available [scholarships and bursaries](#) you can apply for at St John's College! We have a wide range of funds such as:

- Law Book Bursary
- Student Opportunities Fund

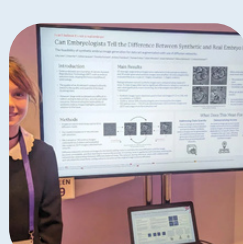
- [St John's College Chapel Choral & Organ Scholarships](#)

You can apply once you have your Durham University log in details.

The University also have information on Undergraduate scholarship and funding opportunities:

<https://www.dur.ac.uk/study/scholarships/undergraduate/>

You can also view some articles written by successful applicants of the Student Opportunities fund here: [St John's Opportunities Fund Blog Posts](#)



MANAGING YOUR FINANCES

Make sure you've planned your finances for the full duration of your degree.

It's important to have your financial arrangements in place before term begins. You'll find detailed guidance here, including:

- What steps you need to take to get financially ready
- Information on financial support that may be available to you throughout your time at university.

Explore the relevant information here: [Government Funding](#)

SJCR SIGN UP

You join up to the St John's Common Room (SJCR) by completing the following form:

[SJCR membership form sign up](#)

If you have any issues or questions you can email johns.treasurer@durham.ac.uk

Support & Wellbeing



SUPPORT WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY

Durham University also offers wider support with various services such as:

- Disability Support
- Counselling and Mental Health
- Financial support
- Faith support

Information can be found [here](#) on all the support services available within the University.



Jasmine Baker-Sones



COLLEGE SUPPORT TEAM

The College support team can help offer support and advise on a range of issues and signpost to services within the University such as disability support, counselling and mental health services,

You can email johns.studentsupport@durham.ac.uk with your query or to [book](#) an in person or online appointment to meet with either Jasmine Baker-Sones (Student Support & Enrichment Officer) or Indre Kennedy (Assistant Principal)

We ask all new students to meet with a member of our team in person during the first two weeks of term. This initial meeting is an important part of your transition to university life, giving us a chance to learn about your interests and goals, and to introduce you to the support and services available. Please book a time that works best for you here: [Welcome Week Introductory Meeting](#).

If you would like to speak to Jasmine or Indre online before arriving to College to discuss any support needs you can book a meeting here: [Online Support Meeting](#).



Indre Kennedy



ACADEMIC SUPPORT

There is a dedicated [student support officer \(SSO\)](#) in every academic department. They can meet during office hours to help you with any academic related concerns.

The [Academic Skills centre](#) offers a wide range of services centred around support and help with academic skills and development such as academic writing and time management for example. Students can book a one-to-one appointment with an adviser for help and support.

PEER TO PEER SUPPORT

Within the St John's Common Room (SJCR) there is a welfare team which can offer peer support. The following webpage can provide further information on the team: [Welfare and Representation](#).



St John's Common Room

Almost all John's students are members of the St John's Common Room (SJCR). We are *run by students, for students*, to support and enrich your time in John's.

Registered Charity Number 1205859

Enrichment

We run sports and societies, free for members, and run St John's largest events, from Bailey Ball to Freshers' Week, to inter-college sports events and our College Celebration day, which enrich the student experience here. SJCR members can even start their own sports or societies if they feel something is missing!

Development

SJCR Members can vote in elections and run for positions from Freshers' Reps to Peer supporters, sports & society captains/presidents to our events and finance committees, to the SJCR Executive! There are over 100 volunteer positions in the SJCR and many different ways to get involved. We provide the opportunity for you to develop and gain skills alongside your degree whilst at St John's, improving both your CV and employability!



Support

The SJCR's very purpose is to support you. We run peer-support sessions, provide free welfare supplies, and run a series of "Stress-less" events to help you relax in exam season. The SJCR also offers various student funds which provide financial support. One of our funds helps cover the costs of our ball tickets. In addition, our direction and spending is governed by students, so if you have an idea for a way to improve the SJCR or something we ought to be doing, then there's a good chance we can make it happen!

Representation

The SJCR represents its members through a range of elected positions. These can be specific such as our People of Colour Rep and our Interfaith Rep, all the way to the SJCR President who sits on university level committees to represent all SJCR members. The President is the only full-time position, with all others filled by student volunteers.

Subsidiary Common Rooms

Within the SJCR is an MCR, specifically serving postgraduates and mature students, and a CCR, specifically serving Cranmer Hall students. Each has its own executive and resources to better represent and support these specific groups within John's.

Become a Member Now!

To get involved in all the SJCR has to offer, and to allow us to support you while at John's, all members pay a one off membership fee. This gives you cheaper ticket prices for all events, free membership in all sports & societies, and the ability to run for positions and vote in elections.

SJCR members can save £85 each year! Follow the link or QR code to find out more and sign-up to be a member!



stjohnscommonroom.org.uk

College Life



COLLEGE GYM

Being a member of St John's college means you are eligible to join the college gym for £40 a year.

Information about the gym and how to join can be found here: [St John's College gym](#).

COLLEGE LIBRARY

Every member of St John's College is a member of the college library. The modern facility which is open 24/7 during term includes two floors of resources with around 80 study spaces, 6 computers and printing facilities.

Library staff will also be holding a 'pop-up library' in college reception on **Tuesday 30 September**. This is an opportunity to borrow books or ask questions.

For more information on the resources and facilities available please see [here](#) or you can take a [look at our welcome video](#).



COLLEGE BAR

The college bar is run by Johnians for Johnians and is famous throughout Durham. Tucked away in the cellars of College, our main bar is small but full of character and it's a favourite among students. There's also the Upstairs Bar for when the cellar bar gets busy.



FORMALS

At St John's College we hold a variety of formals across the academic year. From traditional gowned formals, non-gowned themed formals and mega formals!

You can read about student experiences and past formals here: [Formals](#).

You will be asked in your key information form if you would like to purchase a gown



FIRST GENERATION SCHOLARS

Students who are the [first in their family to attend University](#), a Russell Group University or are from a 'non-traditional' student background are welcome to sign up to be a part of the FGS group. Information on the St John's First Generation Scholars Group can be found [here](#).

You can sign via the St John's Key Information Form which will be sent to you in early September.

RESIDENT TUTORS

We're your Resident Tutors for 2025-26 — Felipe, Pei Jun, Magdalena, and Amelia — and we're really looking forward to meeting you all soon!

We'll be your main point of contact in case of any emergencies that happen overnight, between 11:00pm and 8:00am (until 9:00am on weekends). We're also here to make your life at John's better by organising events and activities throughout the year.

If you have any ideas or things you'd like to see happen while you're here, please text us (and follow us)

[@johns.residenttutors](#)





STUDENTS LIVING OUTSIDE OF COLLEGE

As a member of St John's College living outside of college, you'll still have access to a wide range of college facilities and support

- You can purchase meal tickets to eat in college.
- Book rooms to study in using the [booking form](#)
- Use the [college library](#) in the LRC, your campus card will automatically have access.

For further information you can view our welcome pages here:

[Welcome to students living out of college.](#)



We look forward to welcoming you all to College in September!

If you have any questions in the meantime please contact johns.secretary@durham.ac.uk

We will also share updates on social media – check out @StJohnsDurham on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)

