Important Information for Candidates Invited to Interview

We look forward to welcoming you to University College (Univ) for your interview, and will do our best to ensure that things go as smoothly as possible. These notes contain some practical advice for your stay and for preparing for the experience. Do read them carefully.

When you come to Oxford for your interview, you may be interviewed by more than one college; the aim is to give everyone as fair a chance as possible of securing a place at Oxford. Details will be available from Univ during the interview days.

There are likely to be long waiting periods between interviews and we strongly recommend that candidates bring some school work and a book with them to keep themselves occupied.

Staying in Oxford

When you are in Oxford for interviews, Univ will provide accommodation and meals without charge. All Univ candidates will be given private single rooms on the main College site. Most rooms will have shared bathroom facilities. All candidates should report to the University College Lodge on arrival in Oxford; one of our student helpers will then show you to your room.

If you have any special room requirements (such as those arising from a disability or medical condition) please contact the Admissions Manager as soon as possible at admissions@univ.ox.ac.uk or by phone on 01865 276677.

All candidates are welcome to stay at Univ for the nights required as detailed in the interview invite letter. If necessary, candidates who have a long way to travel may stay in College accommodation for 1 night before the ‘report by’ date. So, for example, because candidates for Classical Archaeology and Ancient History must report by 9.00 am Thursday 10 December and may be required until 6.00 pm on Friday 11 December, they can stay in College on the following nights: Wednesday 9, Thursday 10.

Unfortunately it is not possible to reserve accommodation for any additional nights because all of our rooms will be required for other interview candidates. If you need to arrange accommodation for additional nights in Oxford, you may like to consider the Youth Hostel next to Oxford train station (http://www.yha.org.uk/hostel/oxford); alternative options are listed on Oxford Rooms (http://www.oxfordrooms.co.uk) and Dailyinfo (http://www.dailyinfo.co.uk).

Candidates will be expected to check out of their room as soon as they have been informed that they are no longer required. If this is going to be a problem (e.g. if it is late in the day when you are informed that you are free to leave and you have missed the last bus/train) please contact us on the day.

Candidates should not leave Oxford until they have been told they are no longer required.

Travelling to Oxford

Full details of how to get to Oxford are available on the following website: http://www.ox.ac.uk/visitors/maps-and-directions

If possible we recommend that those students travelling within the UK purchase flexible travel tickets. If this is not possible, you should book your return journey after the ‘may be required until’ time (if applicable). For most subjects we will not be able to tell you in advance when you will be free to leave Oxford.

If you are an overseas candidate travelling by air, please email the Admissions Manager (admissions@univ.ox.ac.uk) with the name of your destination airport, flight arrival date/time, and flight number.
Candidates arriving in Oxford on *The Airline* coach service (a direct service from Heathrow and Gatwick) or on the *Oxford Tube/X90* (coach services linking Oxford to central London) should get off the coach at High Street (Queen’s Lane stop). The coach stops directly outside the entrance to Univ. You should ask the driver to stop at Queen’s Lane.

**Confirming your arrival details**

All candidates must complete the online *Applicants’ Arrival Form* available at [https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/direct/eval-evaluation/11763](https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/direct/eval-evaluation/11763). Please use this form to tell us on which date you will arrive, and which meals you will require on that date. This will help us to ensure that your room will be ready, and that meals will be available.

Remember that the College can only provide accommodation from the night before the ‘required by’ date and the night before the ‘may be required until’ date (or the ‘must stay until’ date if your subject does not have a ‘may be required’ until date).

We would like to be able to recognise you when you come to stay with us in Oxford. For this reason all interview candidates must send a passport-style photo by email to ad.assist@univ.ox.ac.uk as soon as possible after receiving their invitation. Some candidates may be able to take a photo using their mobile phones; others may want to scan a photo and send it as an attachment to an email.

**Preparing for the interviews**

All interview candidates are advised to consult the guide to ‘Interviews at Oxford’, available at [http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate_courses/applying_to_oxford/interviews/index.html](http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate_courses/applying_to_oxford/interviews/index.html).

Videos of sample interviews and sample interview questions can also be viewed via the above link, but please remember that all interviews are different!

It is also a good idea to re-read your personal statement and any written work that you have submitted – the interviewers may ask you about these in the interview.

When you arrive in Oxford you will meet our friendly Univ student helpers; all of our student helpers have experienced the interviews first-hand and will be happy to chat to you about their own experiences.

**What to bring with you to Oxford**

- A book and some school work
- A mobile phone and a charger (we may need to contact you at short notice to arrange additional interviews)
- **Important phone numbers**
  - Univ Admissions Office - 01865 276677 (Call the admissions office if your arrival is delayed for any reason)
  - Univ Lodge - 01865 276602 (Call the Lodge if you have any trouble finding Univ)
- **Comfortable clothes for the interview** (We recommend that candidates attending interviews wear clothes in which they feel comfortable. It is not necessary to wear a suit to the interview, and many of the Univ tutors will not wear a suit for the interview)
- **An overnight bag** (bed linen and towels will be provided by the College)
- **Medication** (if you require medication remember to bring enough with you to Oxford)
CHECKLIST

☐ Book travel tickets (flexible if possible)
☐ Complete the online Applicants’ Arrival Form
☐ Send a photo to the Admissions Office by email to adassist@univ.ox.ac.uk
☐ Read the 'Interviews at Oxford' guide
☐ Pack your mobile phone and charger!

We look forward to welcoming you to Univ soon!