



October 2023

Dear New College first year;

As Tutor for Admissions, I welcome you most warmly to New College!

I sincerely hope that your arrival at Oxford, your introduction to your fellow students, your tutors, and your first pieces of academic work prove to be positive experiences. Starting at University is exciting, sometimes it can be stressful, it's supposed to be challenging. Our hope is to provide you with a safe and stimulating environment in which to begin your University experience.

In my role as Tutor for Admissions, I oversaw your interview and confirmation processes. My last responsibility—before turning my attention to next year's cohort—is to oversee arrangements for your freshers' induction week. I hope you will join me in extending grateful thanks to the students from the Junior and Middle Common Rooms who are helping with the events, and to all the staff who have worked hard organising this programme. We are also particularly grateful to the domestic team, for whom the start of the new academic year is a massive undertaking. If you have any questions in these first couple of days, the JCR helpdesk are your first point of contact. If they can't advise you, the staff of the academic administration team are available at the top of Staircase 4 in the front quad, and you can contact me by emailing andrew.counter@new.ox.ac.uk. As the week goes on you will meet all the staff and academics who have responsibility for your academic progress and welfare.

My formal responsibility for you as freshers ends after Wednesday and the Freshers' Dinner, and I look forward to meeting many of you in person there. I hope that most of you will also get to meet your tutors at this event, in most cases for the very first time following our switch to online admissions interviews. I hope this marks the beginning of a successful term's work on your degree course. Meanwhile, we're all here to offer you any help you need with your induction into New College and the University of Oxford.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Andrew Counter
Tutor for Admissions