Freshers’ Pre-Arrival Pack and Guidance for Arrivals 2017

Warmest congratulations, first of all, on your examination results! All of us in Sidney – the Master and Fellows, the staff and your fellow students – look forward to welcoming you to College soon. In the meantime, this Freshers’ Pre-Arrival Pack will help you prepare for joining us in October: please take time to read its content carefully, and take action when required. You will make Freshers’ Week much more enjoyable by dealing with as much administration as possible in advance! Regular updates and on-line forms will also be available to you on-line from 1st September, via the dedicated Freshers’ pages on the college website at www.sid.cam.ac.uk/freshers. Above all, register and activate your University email account (Hermes) as soon as you are invited to do so, as all future university/College correspondence will be via Hermes addresses only and these will need to be monitored.

ARRIVAL DATES AND TIMES

UK students may arrive between 12 noon and 8pm on Friday 29th September, or on Saturday 30th September between 9.30am and 12.30pm at the time given in your Parking Permit. Most people will find Saturday the most convenient day to travel, but we are able to offer a limited number of arrivals on Friday which may help some families. Please be aware, however, that there are no official Freshers’ events until Saturday afternoon, and that College cannot provide accommodation for those travelling with you, wishing to stay overnight. Arrival times have been staggered, due to the space constraints of our car park. Please use the enclosed Parking Permit and aim to arrive at the start of the period given.

International students and those with specific pre-term commitments (e.g. choir, instrumental award auditions) may arrive earlier if permitted: please email tutorial@sid.cam.ac.uk as soon as possible and by Friday 8th September at the latest with your proposed arrival date and reason for your request. You will not require a Parking Permit for early arrival.

ON ARRIVAL

After helping you to unload your car, student helpers will point you in the direction of the Porters’ Lodge where you will receive Student Information Packs and room keys. Your car must leave the college car park immediately to make room for other arrivals. Directions to Cambridge car parks are available at:

- https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/parking
STUDENT INFORMATION PACK

All Freshers must collect a Student Information Pack on arrival. Freshers arriving prior to the 30th September should collect their packs and room keys from the Tutorial Office between 9am and 5pm. Freshers arriving outside of these hours or on Saturday must visit the Porters’ Lodge between.

A personalised Timetable for your first week in residence, with details of your individual appointments and official College events you need to attend, will be included in the Student Information Pack along with your University Card.

FRESHERS’ TEA PARTY, Saturday 30th September 2:30pm

On Saturday afternoon, an informal Garden Party in Cloister Court will introduce you and your family to the Sidney community. Please refer to the enclosed invitation for this event and confirm your attendance using the on-line form, so that catering arrangements can be put in place for all those coming.

At the end of the party, the second and third year students in your subject will take you for a tour of the college, followed by a meal.

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR COURSE

As the new term approaches, both the College and departmental websites carry advice and information for new students – it pays to become familiar with these websites, as well as with those of the College’s and University’s student union, in advance of your arrival.

If you have any questions about coming into residence at Sidney, please do not hesitate to contact the Tutorial Office (01223 338844 or tutorial@sid.cam.ac.uk). In addition, the College operates a ‘parenting’ system, with current Sidney students being a point of contact with College for upcoming students (normally, your ‘parent’ will be doing the same subject as you). Your college parents will be writing to you shortly and they are also excellent people to ask about what to expect.

I look forward to meeting you soon and welcoming you to Sidney,

With very best wishes,

Max Beber, Senior Tutor