Welcome to Homerton College, and welcome to Cambridge!

Congratulations, and welcome. All those years of hard work have paid off. Before long you’ll be crossing the Cambridge threshold, and you’ll be a student at one of the best universities in the world!

I’m Miranda and I’m the President of your student union for the coming year. I studied Modern and Medieval Languages at Homerton, and graduated in July. This year I work for you and the College full time. The Homerton Union of Students (HUS) committee exists to ensure that you have as comfortable and enjoyable a time as possible here these next few years. As well as welcoming and looking after you and the rest of Homerton’s students, we run outreach programmes, societies, bops, academic feedback, the May Ball, formal dinners and much more.

We have created this guide to give you a taste of life at Cambridge, to offer a brief introduction on what to expect when you arrive, and some things you might want to think about beforehand. Most importantly, it also gives you a plan of your Freshers’ Week! It was written to be comprehensive and readable, but if there is anything at all you are not sure about, please feel free to email me or anyone else on the HUS team. We are here to help. You can find our contact details later in the guide.

It’s a cliché, but there really is something for everyone at Cambridge. There is a club and society for every conceivable interest and there is always something going on. Homerton itself is a great College to be at. It is an informal, welcoming, and progressive academic community with modern accommodation in expansive and beautiful grounds. Whether it was the only College you ever considered applying to, or if - like me - you had never heard of it until being pulled out of the pool, you will have a brilliant time. On your graduation day, I guarantee that you will say you wouldn’t rather have been anywhere else. I hope that very soon it will begin to feel like home.

Enjoy the rest of your holidays, and take the chance to peruse the guide. It’s packed full of valuable information about arriving and your next few years here in Homerton.

To make sure you stay up to date, join the Homerton College JCR 2017-18 group on Facebook here https://www.facebook.com/groups/344076652699888/. Also, download the Homerton JCR app. It’s free, just search “Homerton” in AppStore or Google Play. We look forward to meeting you all soon!

Miranda Hewkin Smith
President, Homerton Union of Students
Hi I’m Miranda, the HUS President for 2017-18. I studied Modern & Medieval Languages at Homerton, and graduated in July 2017. I now run the union full-time, with the help of an amazing team and Office Manager. I can usually be found in the office, although I will also have lots of meetings with staff across the College and the University as a point of liaison between staff and students. My goal is to make life at Homerton the best experience possible for students!

Hi, I’m Ricky, a third year geographer, and HUS Vice President Internal. When taking a break from the rigours of volcanism and the impacts of austerity, I’m attempting to catch a lacrosse ball, or as Carragher once wisely stated, proving that any fullback is little more than a failed winger, or a failed centreback. An avid lover of any night out, I apologise in advance if you see my attempts to dance through third year. As VPI, I’m really around just to try and help the wider team, and ideally you, if I possibly can, so don’t hesitate to get in touch with anything and everything!

Hey I’m Becca - a 3rd year Economist and your Treasurer for 2017-18. What I like most about Cambridge? Shopping, cycling and the food (If you haven’t already tried out Punt Yard, please do. Who can say no to yard long pizzas with views of the River Cam?) I’ve really enjoyed doing Homerton Ladies Netball and Zumba classes in my time at Homerton so far. I’d like to see more netballers in College. And Zumba is just fab - come along and ya hips won’t lie boys n girls. You’re most likely to find me in places where there’s food/drink aka in the buttery eating muffins, Van of Life or drinking espresso martinis (I prefer my coffee in cocktails). Don’t hesitate to come find me or drop me a message if you have something to ask!

Services
Hi I’m Gabs, a second year doing German and Spanish. I love Homerton and I want everyone to love it just as much as I do, so I’m here to make sure you have everything you need to feel at home right from the start of Michaelmas, all the way up to my favourite week of the year, May Week! You’ll most likely find me in the buttery, which is where I tend to do all my work and spend my Upay token money within the first two weeks of term. So if you see me around Homerton or Sidge, come say hi!

Target & Access Officer
Hey I’m Georgia, I study History so you’ll mostly find me surrounded by a fortress of books in one of the Sidg libraries or in the buttery scoffing a brownie. The best thing about Cambridge for me is the people, the Hom crowd in particular are such a great bunch and I learn something new from literally every conversation I have. I know Cam can be a bit daunting sometimes so if you ever feel overwhelmed or just fancy a chat, hit me up :)

The HUS, or Homerton Union of Students, is here to work for you! We represent you within College and the university, organise student events, and make sure you’re getting on okay. We’ll be around on Travel Day to help you move in, and will be coordinating the different Freshers’ Week events. So, hello from us, this year’s HUS Exec!
Billy Blackburn

Ents Officer

Hey, I’m Billy, one of your two Ents officers in charge of bops, themed formals and hopefully lots more events throughout the year. I’m a 2nd year ASNC, and part of both the Heroes’ mixed lacrosse team and the Homerton Pool Society. When I’m not struggling to understand early medieval history, I’m likely to be found either watching sport or hanging out in the Buttery. Homerton’s got the best social community of any college I’ve seen – if you’ve got any questions, or ideas for college events, please message me or Tisha anytime!

Tisha Salmon

Ents Officer

Hey everyone, my name is Tisha and I am your Ents rep this year along with Billy. I hope you’re all excited for Fresher’s week – we definitely are and can’t wait to put on some awesome events for you all. First of all, congrats in getting in and secondly welcome to Homerton! Although it may all seem daunting, Homerton is a chilled environment with super friendly people so one less thing to worry about. Along with my role as Ents officer, you will find me either frantically writing last minute essays in the buttry or on the dance floor of Life. I am also the Varsity Ski trip Homerton rep, so if you want to know about having the best week of your life skiing in the French Alps with your Uni mates hit me up. Or subject related I study Education with History, so any Education or History questions welcomed. All I can say is have fun, get involved and be excited for Fresher’s 2017!

Tamsin Golding-Yee

Publicity & Communications Officer

Hey I’m Tamsin, your Communications officer for next year, meaning I’m responsible for the diffusion and collaboration of information around college, as well as designing and advertising publications that promote what’s happening in Homerton, to both internal and external audiences. If you have any ideas or suggestions for anything related to my role or like art then please get in touch! You’ll find me trying to keep up with the boujee art historian lifestyle, which includes frequent brunching, life drawing and cutting my signature shapes at a Turf or Haze night.

Luke McGee

Academic Affairs & Liaisons Officer

I’m Luke and I’m you’re academic affairs officer this year at Homerton. I’m here for any academic or family issues you may have as well as acting a link between you and the complicated educational system here. Feel free to say hi and if you have any academic concerns or issues please get in touch.

Phoebe Rimmer

Sponsorship & Careers Officer

I’m a third year studying geography and your Sponsorship and Careers officer. I’ve had an incredible two years at Homerton and am so sad to be entering my final year (am very jealous of the fresher’s!). Cambridge has so many fantastic opportunities and I’ve loved being part of CUTAZZ dance society while in Cambridge. In my free time I enjoy going out (Cindies and Sunday life), dancing and generally socialising. In college you are most likely to find me stood around somewhere chatting. Please come and find me/ drop me an email if you need anything!

Nathan Johns

Sports Officer

Hey Guys! I’m Nathan, I study Classics and I’ll be your sports officer for this year. As you can probably guess from the job-title, I’m a sports nut! I row and play cricket but love watching them all! You’re most likely to find me singing in the choir, in the boathouse/in the nets at Fenner’s or playing pool in the buttery. So if you want to join a college team, set one up, or even to have a chat about anything to do with sport (it’s a great procrastination method!) then I’m you’re man, please come find me!

Phoebe Rimmer
Hey hey, my name’s Liv, a second year English student and this year’s Female Welfare Officer. I’m so keen to get to know you all and am really approachable, so please stop and say hi if you see me around college. I can’t stress enough that Oscar and I are always here no matter how large or small your issue may be, even if you just need a hug. You can probably find me in the buttery with one of Xenel’s iced coffees in my hand, trying and failing to translate Medieval literature. If you have any Welfare ideas or fancy a chat just come and find me!!

THE HUS WELFARE TEAM

The HUS runs a student welfare service and have two elected student welfare officers, Liv and Oscar. They are available to help you with any problems you may have during your time at university and if they can’t help themselves, they will know who to refer you to. They are available to talk to you every day through the confidential HUS welfare phone – 07876317717 – but you can also email them at either hus-female@homerton.cam.ac.uk or hus-male@homerton.cam.ac.uk. They can also put you in touch with Homerton’s own counselling service, or the University-wide one via our College Nurse.

Physical health: If you have any queries relating to your physical health, we will do our best to advise you. We also have a nurse that is employed by College and, on arrival, you will sign up with a local GP.

Sexual health: We provide condoms, pregnancy tests and Chlamydia tests. You can text the welfare phone and we will put them into your pigeonholes. We also have information relating to sexual health and contact details which you can use.

Consent Workshops: These will be run by members of the HUS team on the Saturday of Freshers’ Week.

Please ring us if you have a problem and feel like you want to talk to someone, we’re happy to listen and we never want anyone to feel embarrassed! You can also email us at the above addresses, and you’ll be seeing us around College, so do come and say hi! We wish you all the best for your first year at Homerton and hope that you will stay happy and healthy!

Female Welfare Officer

Hey hey, my name’s Liv, a second year English student and this year’s Female Welfare Officer. I’m so keen to get to know you all and am really approachable, so please stop and say hi if you see me around college. I can’t stress enough that Oscar and I are always here no matter how large or small your issue may be, even if you just need a hug. You can probably find me in the buttery with one of Xenel’s iced coffees in my hand, trying and failing to translate Medieval literature. If you have any Welfare ideas or fancy a chat just come and find me!!
Hi I’m Oscar, I study NatSci and alongside Liv, I’m here to help offer welfare support to you throughout the year to deal with any obstacles you face over the year whatever they may be. I’ll always be happy to talk things over with you, and point you in the direction of the right services. We’ll be organising numerous, varied welfare events to make sure you always feel supported at Homerton, but please come and give feedback so that we can improve the welfare support as much as possible!

**STUDENT UNION CONTACT LIST**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>Miranda Hewkin Smith</td>
<td>President</td>
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<td>Ricky Hibble</td>
<td>Vice-President Internal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ben McGuigan</td>
<td>Vice-President External</td>
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<tr>
<td>Becca Lennard</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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<td>Gabriela Martin</td>
<td>Services Officer</td>
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<td>Tamsin Golding-Yee</td>
<td>Publicity &amp; Communications Officer</td>
<td>hus-comms</td>
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<td>Georgia Lavin</td>
<td>Target &amp; Access Officer</td>
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<td>Billy Blackburn</td>
<td>Ents Officer</td>
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<td>Tisha Salmon</td>
<td>Ents Officer</td>
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<td>Nathan Johns</td>
<td>Sports Officer</td>
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<td>Liv Norris</td>
<td>Female Welfare Officer</td>
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<td>Oscar Wilson</td>
<td>Male Welfare Officer</td>
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<td>Luke McGee</td>
<td>Academic Affairs &amp; Liaison Officer</td>
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<td>Phoebe Rimmer</td>
<td>Sponsorship &amp; Careers Officer</td>
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WHAT DO THE HUS DO?

The HUS is an elected body of 13 who are responsible for representing the Homerton student body to both the College and the wider university. We are unique in Cambridge in having a sabbatical President and an Office Manager; we have a substantial budget, and a large degree of autonomy. We have one of the largest and most dedicated student unions of all the colleges in Cambridge – we urge you to make the most of it!

We meet on a weekly basis to discuss any issues that have arisen, to organise events such as bops and to generally check in on the progress of the term. We also have designated hours in which we work in the office during the week.

As an elected Students’ Union we are very keen to represent you and any causes you may have when we interact with the college. For example, if someone is unhappy at the provision of supervisions for their topic, there is no faster and more effective way to get the issue raised with College than by going through the HUS. Members of the HUS Exec are on several College committees, including the Educational Policy Committee and College Council, and can feed back such issues to Fellows and Staff directly. Otherwise, our members also meet up more informally with College Staff; as an example, the President meets with the Senior Tutor on weekly basis.

There are plenty of ways for you to take things up with us. You can mention issues to us whenever you see us in the corridor, you can come into the office, you can attend our open meetings and you can run for positions on the HUS executive later in the year. We have no problem with being approached about any issue, at any time – that is why we have been elected, so take advantage of it! If you have, for example, an idea for a new society and want support to set it up, we can provide it!

This year we want to engage with the student body more than ever before, so we urge you to come and see us, even if it’s just for a friendly chat.

Also, to keep up with more of what the HUS does, download the Homerton JCR app. It's free, just search “Homerton” in AppStore or Google Play!
**International Officer**

Hi! My name is Allie and I'm your International Officer this year. I'm in my third year studying English. You can find me around Cambridge looking for cool places to read and fluffy dogs to cuddle. Come say hi if you see me around college - I know how scary the first few days (or weeks) of uni can be so don't hesitate to ask me about any embarrassing concerns or talk to me if you find yourself awkwardly standing alone in a foreign (ha) place.

**LGBT Officer**

Hi! I'm Aidan and I'll be one of your LGBT+ officers this year. Our job is to represent the views of LGBT+ students in Homerton and put on events like pre-drinks and film nights. I'm hoping to bring LGBT+ students together and foster a stronger sense of community within the already friendly and welcoming atmosphere at Homerton. If you can't find me in the library attempting to understand Geography (it's not just colouring in, I swear), I'll probably be embarrassing myself on the dancefloor in Life. Feel free to stop me around college and say hi!

**Women's Officer**

I am a second year Education with English and Drama student and this year's Women's Officer. In my role I ensure that the views of self-defining women and non-binary students are reflected to college and throughout the HUS JCR's work. I am also working on creating safe spaces for students within college where people can feel protected and accepted. I will be accessible in these spaces or around college to provide access to information concerning physical health, contraception, counselling services, mental health advice, college procedures or just a general catch up over a cuppa! I can usually be found procrastinating in the Buttery, at the ADC or Corpus Playroom, or on the dancefloor of Haze, Turf and Junction events.

**BME Officer**

Hey! I'm Rhoel, an MMLer studying Spanish and Portuguese, and I'll be your BME Officer for this academic year! My role primarily revolves around the welfare of BME students and to ensure that their thoughts and ideas are well represented within Homerton's JCR. I am also here to report any incidents of discrimination or harassment that BME students might face and guarantee that such issues are addressed. Homerton is a very welcoming college with a diverse student community, but if you have any concerns or wish to contact me, you'll most definitely see me around college (when I'm not at Nando's or Chicken Rush) or you can email me at raapt2@cam.ac.uk.

**Disabilities Officer**

Hi! I'm Rosa and I'm excited to be your disabilities officer for this year! My role involves ensuring the voices of disabled students are heard throughout the college and wider university and addressing any concerns or worries you might have about life at Cambridge. Coming to university can be intimidating and this can be especially true from a disabled person’s point of view so please feel free to contact me if things are getting tough. Homerton is a hugely welcoming and friendly place but if you need any help throughout fresher’s week and beyond, you can find me in the buttery desperately trying to finish an essay or alternately email me at reb81@cam.ac.uk.

**AIDAN THOMAS**

Hi I'm Aidan and I'll be one of your LGBT+ officers this year. Our job is to represent the views of LGBT+ students in Homerton and put on events like pre-drinks and film nights. I'm hoping to bring LGBT+ students together and foster a stronger sense of community within the already friendly and welcoming atmosphere at Homerton. If you can't find me in the library attempting to understand Geography (it's not just colouring in, I swear), I'll probably be embarrassing myself on the dancefloor in Life. Feel free to stop me around college and say hi!

**AALIYAH BATES**

Hi I'm Aaliyah, a second year EDE student, and I'm one of your LGBT+ co-opt for this year! Alongside Aiden, I'll be representing the views of Homerton's LGBT+ students, and bringing the community together through various events I'll help to organise. Feel free to drop me a fb message or catch me around college for a chat, and let me know if you'd like to join the (secret) Homerton LGBT+ fb group Xx

**BELLA OREFFO**

I am a second year Education with English and Drama student and this year's Women's Officer. In my role I ensure that the views of self-defining women and non-binary students are reflected to college and throughout the HUS JCR's work. I am also working on creating safe spaces for students within college where people can feel protected and accepted. I will be accessible in these spaces or around college to provide access to information concerning physical health, contraception, counselling services, mental health advice, college procedures or just a general catch up over a cuppa! I can usually be found procrastinating in the Buttery, at the ADC or Corpus Playroom, or on the dancefloor of Haze, Turf and Junction events.

**RHOEL TUPAZ**

Hey! I'm Rhoel, an MMLer studying Spanish and Portuguese, and I'll be your BME Officer for this academic year! My role primarily revolves around the welfare of BME students and to ensure that their thoughts and ideas are well represented within Homerton's JCR. I am also here to report any incidents of discrimination or harassment that BME students might face and guarantee that such issues are addressed. Homerton is a very welcoming college with a diverse student community, but if you have any concerns or wish to contact me, you'll most definitely see me around college (when I'm not at Nando's or Chicken Rush) or you can email me at raapt2@cam.ac.uk.

**ALLIE MAYERS**

Hi! My name is Allie and I'm your International Officer this year. I'm in my third year studying English. You can find me around Cambridge looking for cool places to read and fluffy dogs to cuddle. Come say hi if you see me around college - I know how scary the first few days (or weeks) of uni can be so don't hesitate to ask me about any embarrassing concerns or talk to me if you find yourself awkwardly standing alone in a foreign (ha) place.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>College</th>
<th>HUS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>See separate College itinerary for timings</td>
<td>Meet &amp; Greet (8pm in the Great Hall)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 27th September</td>
<td>College Registration, Financial Registration &amp; Matriculation, Introductory Tutor Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 28th September</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; info talk, Fire, Safety &amp; Security talk, Fire drill walkthrough, Library Tours, GP Registration</td>
<td>Meet the HUS (5pm in the Auditorium), Pub Crawl (theme TBC) (8pm in Buttery), Film Night (film TBC) (9pm in Buttery)</td>
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<td>Friday 29th September</td>
<td>Academia Session, Library Tours</td>
<td>Trivia Quiz (8pm in Buttery)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 30th September</td>
<td>Complimentary Breakfast, Wellbeing Programme, Fun Fitness Session with Liberte Fitness (sign up on arrival day at HUS info desk)</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Crafts (3pm in Buttery), Smoothie-ology (7pm in Buttery)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 1st October</td>
<td>Subject picnics (12pm on West House lawn/Great Hall if wet), Sports Day (2pm on Football Pitch), Café Crawl (2pm in Buttery)</td>
<td>College Family Dinner (your College parents will contact you to organise this), Gather in Spoons after Family Dinner</td>
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<td>Monday 2nd October</td>
<td>Compulsory Meeting for NatSci, ChemEng via NatSci, Maths w/ Phys, CompSci</td>
<td>diversiTEA: Drop in and say hi to your fantastic co-opts and Welfare team for a private chat about anything Welfare, LGBT+, Women, BME, International or Disability related! (2pm-4pm in the Fellow's Dining Room)</td>
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<td>Library Tours, One-to-One Meetings with DoSes, One-to-One Meetings with Tutors</td>
<td>Bowling: Be sure to sign up and pay by Monday afternoon to guarantee your place! (Meet in Porters' Lodge at 8pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 3rd October</td>
<td>One-to-One Meetings with DoSes, One-to-One Meetings with Tutors, Matriculation Photograph, Matriculation Dinner</td>
<td>Trip to Botanical Gardens (don't forget your university card!) followed by guided walk to CUSU Freshers' Fayre (Meet at Porters' Lodge at 1pm) Guided walk to CUSU Freshers' Fayre (Meet at Porters' Lodge at 2pm)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Guided walk/cycle to departments by Subject Reps followed by CUSU Freshers' Fayre (organised by Subject Reps)</td>
<td>Matriculation Photograph &amp; Dinner See separate College itinerary for timings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 4th October</td>
<td>Compulsory Meeting for NatSci, ChemEng via NatSci, Maths w/ Phys, CompSci (4pm)</td>
<td>Guided walk to CUSU Freshers' Fayre (Meet at Porters' Lodge at 1pm) Wii Sports &amp; other games (8pm in MCR in Morley House - a HUS member will direct you) Cindies Club Night (10pm onwards)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 5th October</td>
<td>LECTURES BEGIN</td>
<td>Casino Night (7pm in the Buttery)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 7th October</td>
<td>HUS Societies' Fayre (12.30pm - 3.30pm in the Auditorium)</td>
<td>Film Night (film TBC) (8pm in Skillicorn Room) BOP (Theme: DISNEY!) (9.30pm - 1.30am in Great Hall)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 9th October</td>
<td>Cycle Safety Seminar (5pm in Skillicorn)</td>
<td>Sign up here: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/outspoken-training-cycle-safety-seminar-tickets-36224294841">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/outspoken-training-cycle-safety-seminar-tickets-36224294841</a></td>
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**Lexicon**
- diversiTEA: Drop in and say hi to your fantastic co-opts and Welfare team for a private chat about anything Welfare, LGBT+, Women, BME, International or Disability related!
- Bowling: Be sure to sign up and pay by Monday afternoon to guarantee your place!
- Trip to Botanical Gardens (don't forget your university card!) followed by guided walk to CUSU Freshers' Fayre (Meet at Porters' Lodge at 1pm)
- Guided walk to CUSU Freshers' Fayre (Meet at Porters' Lodge at 2pm)
- Wii Sports & other games (8pm in MCR in Morley House - a HUS member will direct you)
- Cindies Club Night (10pm onwards)
The bathroom is a wet room with a shower, toilet and sink, cabinet for toiletries and a shelf and mirror above the sink. The rooms themselves have a desk and chair, three shelves and a strip lamp above the desk, a bed, a bedside table, a noticeboard for pinning things on, two lockable drawers under the bed, six drawers and a cupboard, plus two wardrobes. There’s also a full-length mirror inside the bathroom and there are loads of power sockets so don’t worry about bringing multi plug extension cables. There’s also a TV aerial point (you’ll need a TV licence if you want to use this) and a room phone for making free calls to anyone else in College (it can also make external calls if you buy a voucher).

As the rooms are used by conference guests in the holidays, you’ll have to empty your room at the end of each term. You can leave some stuff in the two lockable drawers under your bed and the lockable drawer under the desk, and if you can’t take everything home then the HUS offer holiday storage, but we do have to charge for it. It’s worth bearing this in mind before you bring your entire sound system, plasma TV, collection of antique furniture or anything else that you might struggle to get home or fit into a drawer at the end of term!

West House will be your new home! It might not be as imposing as some of the other Colleges’ grand old buildings, but it’s fairly new and has just been refurbished, so you can be sure that the (under-floor!) heating works, the windows are double-glazed, and the showers will be flowing. What’s more, all the rooms are en-suite - a luxury those other Colleges cannot boast! Another bonus is that its design makes it really easy to get to know everyone, as you can’t walk in and out without bumping into someone.

Rooms are cleaned once a week by our lovely cleaners, but you have to keep it tidy! The cleaners will also empty your bin and give you a new toilet roll. Even better, if you leave your dirty towel by your door on linen-change day, it will be magically exchanged for a clean one, and the same is true with bedding. Unfortunately, you can’t stick posters and pictures all over your walls, but you can hang them from the picture rail or pin them to the notice board (if you damage the walls with blu-tac or tape you might be charged).
WHAT SHOULD I BRING?

West House also has a Gyp Room (a small kitchenette) for each 10 or so people, with a fridge, a kettle, microwave, electric hob and toaster. There is no freezer or oven which can be limiting, but the facilities are perfect for things like pasta, curry, omelettes, sandwiches – be creative! You also get your own lockable cupboard to keep pesky food thieves off your snacks. It’s rare, but it can happen, so keep your cupboard locked!

Unfortunately, there is no furniture in the kitchen, so students tend to either stand and eat at the counter in the kitchen where they can talk to others while they cook, or eat at their desk in their room.

There are no utensils for you to use, so you’ll have to bring your own pots, pans, cutlery, plates, bowls, etc. The nearest shops are Sainsbury’s, Tesco and the Co-op, all only a five minute walk away. They aren’t super-stores, but are more than enough for most student needs, unless you’re planning to be the next Jamie Oliver!

If you want a proper soak after a difficult day in the library, there is also a shared bathroom with a bath in your corridor. Bubbly!

Aside from cutlery, there are several essentials that you should bring - some more important than others! Hangers for your wardrobe is one thing that’s easy to forget, but you’ll soon miss them if you do. The same is true of kitchen utensils – cutlery, plates, and pans - so be sure to remember.

Less important, but still worth considering, are your own exciting duvet covers (not necessary, but for some people this is a nice personal touch) and towels too if you like (some say the College towels are a tad small). Extra towels are especially useful if you are going to be sporty. Don’t forget, however, that this will only create more laundry for yourself! West House has a laundry area behind the lifts on the ground floor, with 4 machines and 4 tumble dryers - but you need to provide your own washing powder and fabric conditioner. Make sure you bring spare change for the machines too! It also has ironing boards and irons, though it’s rare to see people using them!

Very few people do not have a laptop (almost all your work will have to be emailed to your supervisors), and many also have a cheap printer - though for a small fee you can always print stuff out at the library. A warm coat (Cambridge can be quite chilly), and a suit or other smart attire for formals (you will need these for Matriculation Dinner if nothing else!). A few cupboard essentials are useful as well - things that you’d use lots like salt, oil, pasta, rice etc. Other things it may be good to consider are an alarm, chequebook, and some form of photo ID. Finally, a doorstop is a great way to help make friends on your corridor in the first few weeks!

WHAT SHOULDN’T I BRING?

- DON’T bring your own furniture – there simply isn’t room for anything else!
- DON’T bring candles or anything that poses a fire risk! Homerton is highly conscious of fire safety and you could land yourself in trouble.
- DON’T bring anything big and bulky that you might find hard to store/get back home again at the end of term (although, the HUS does offer a paid storage service for the vacation periods).
DOWNLOAD THE HUS JCR APP!!!

The HUS app will be an important way to be updated with what is going on during Freshers Week, on top of joining the HUS JCR Facebook page. Get notifications when events are happening, browse the newsfeed, and see weekly hall menus. Simply search “Homerton JCR” in the Google Play or App store and download it to your phone. The app will also be great for staying in the loop all-year round at Homerton!

Join over 3000 other Oxbridge students at over 3000m this December in the Alps for a week of snow, après and chart-toppers - all in one package that includes transport to and from the UK! Whether you’re a complete beginner, looking to perfect your skills, or just ski or snowboard with friends - it’s the week of a lifetime. Don’t worry about your ability - for the 25% of participants strapping their boots on for the first time this is the best and cheapest way to start and lessons are available at all abilities along with free off-piste, freestyle and race workshops for the more advanced. But we’re not just talking snow - we’ll be kicking off and closing the week with two HUGE parties which have in recent years seen the likes of Calvin Harris, Tinie Tempah and Chase & Status. Of course, you can also expect huge après and unique mid-week events ranging from comedy nights, mountain meals and the Blues races to a massive indoor pool party complete with music and drinks.

Sold? If you are already starting to feel as excited as we are for booking day, we want to hear from you! We need a Freshers’ Rep from each college to help us build the hype and encourage as many freshers as possible to get involved! All reps will get a free Varsity rep t-shirt and be the first to hear about things like act line-ups and events.

Want to be the centre of this? Head to www.varsitytrip.com/fresher-reps for more info. See our Facebook page and Instagram for more releases as term approaches!

VARSITY TRIP 2017
2 - 9 DECEMBER || TIGNES
THE WORLD’S OLDEST AND LARGEST UNIVERSITY SKI TRIP SINCE 1922
UNIVERSITY CARD
You will receive your university card when you register with the Tutorial Office on Travel Day, and this will get you in all the electronic doors around College. It also functions as an EPOS card, which means that you can use it to pay for food in the Griffin Buttery or the Great Hall. Each term, it will have £190 automatically uploaded onto it. You can top up funds at www.upay.co.uk as well as on the Upay Chilli app which is available for download on the AppStore or Google Play. Your card can also be used to borrow books from the College and faculty libraries.

THE PORTERS
Affectionately known as the PLodge, the Porters’ Lodge is located in the Mary Allen Building. It is home to Homerton’s Porters who can help you with whatever problems you might encounter, at any time of the day or night. If anything goes wrong, they should always be your first port of call for advice. They are able to organise things like emergency taxis to the GP surgery if you are in need. Our Head Porter, Gordon, will introduce himself in Freshers’ Week.

THE LIBRARY
The library is a lovely open space to work in if you wish to. It is located right next to the Porters’ Lodge, and is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week for you to work in and borrow books from. Staff are there on weekdays, but the self-service terminal means you can grab any books you need at any time. You can have 15 volumes out at any one time for two week loan periods, and longer over vacations. You will have a library induction in Freshers’ Week to get you better acquainted with the system.

PIGEON HOLES
Every Homerton student has a pigeon hole with their name on it, located in the Mary Allen Building. All of your mail will be delivered here, while parcels can be collected from the Porters when you receive a green slip in your pigeon hole. CUSU (Cambridge University Student Union – the university-wide union) run a free mail service between Colleges and departments. Alternatively, if you need to post something with Royal Mail, come into the HUS Office during opening hours and we can help you out with stamps.
Homerton’s gym has also recently been refurbished. Membership costs £50 for the entire academic year, with reduced rates if you join later in the year. The gym is well-equipped with three cross-trainers, two treadmills, two bikes, and a selection of weights, as well as other facilities like a changing room and shower.

The new HUS office is located in the Cavendish building, just around the corner from the Principal’s Office. It’s a good place to ask for advice about any issues you may be having. The HUS operates a very reasonably priced shop where you can buy everything from stamps, pads and rulers to birthday cards, paperweights and snow-globes. People often congregate in here at lunchtime to eat and socialise.

The JCR is situated in the Griffin Buttery and Bar, and is a room in College for everyone to relax in. It was recently refurbished and has sofas, a pool table, 2 large screen TVs (one with Sky Sports and one with BT Sport). Although you can’t take your own alcohol in during working hours, the Griffin Bar is open until 11pm every day except Sunday, and is among the cheapest non-student-run bars in Cambridge! People often congregate here to watch sport at weekends, and the HUS often runs popular events in the JCR throughout the year.

There are computers available to use in the Lower Study Room in the Cavendish building (just around the corner from the HUS), as well as there being plenty of computers in the Library for student use. You will get your own use account to access the computers, with a plethora of programs including Microsoft Office, SPSS and Adobe Photoshop. During exam term, several extra rooms are available in the Mary Allen Building to use as Quiet and Silent Study Rooms.
The Griffin is also a buttery during the day, where you can buy tea, coffee, cakes and hot snacks (paninis are a must!), while you chill out on the sofas and bar stools. You can purchase breakfast between 7:30am and 9am on weekdays. In the evening it becomes the College bar, with prices of a pint starting at a mere £2.60. When this shuts it exclusively becomes the JCR, open 24/7. In the JCR, we also have a subscription to Sky Sports, with Premier League football and other big events being shown regularly.

Formal Hall takes place in the Great Hall every Tuesday at 7:30pm, and is a three course, silver service dinner. The dress code is formal attire, and unlike most of the older Colleges, there is no obligation to wear a gown (although many people choose to do so!). There are also special formals held throughout the year, such as the legendary Harry Potter Formal – complete with real owls flying around the Hall! You can book tickets until 2pm on the Friday preceding the Formal via the Upay Chilli App or on www.upay.co.uk.

The Great Hall serves hot lunch (12-1.30pm) and dinner (5-7.30pm) every weekday, as well as a full-English breakfast for weekend brunch, and sometimes a roast dinner for Sunday lunch. You’ll also come here for formal hall, so whatever your dining preference you’ll get to eat in one of Cambridge’s biggest and most beautiful dining halls.
At Homerton, there are many opportunities to get involved with sport, and we have a strong sporting tradition. Our Boat Club, for example, has had hugely successful bumps campaigns in recent years. They also just broke a World Record as part of a fundraiser for a new boat!

In addition to our newly renovated gym, we have excellent onsite facilities including a football pitch and dance studio – both of which can be booked from the Porters’ Lodge. During the summer we have two grass tennis courts and a flat lawn which can be used for croquet. We’re also right next to Hills Road Sports Centre, where you can book basketball and netball courts, badminton and year-round hard tennis courts at a discounted student rate.

There is a great variety of teams at Homerton. The College has a selection of teams which range in ability for all of the traditional sports such as football, netball, rugby, hockey and rowing. We’ve also got teams in less conventional sports such as Ultimate Frisbee. In recent years, Homerton has had great success in sport, with Homertonians representing the University in the Boat Race, rugby, football and netball squads. Be sure to come to the Homerton Societies’ Fayre to sign up for a team! You can also contact the Sports Officer, Nathan Johns, to find out more. Even if Homerton doesn’t have its own team or club for your sport, the university as a whole probably will – so be sure to visit the CUSU Freshers’ Fair during Freshers’ Week!
As well as sport there is a wide range of other societies which you may want to join. Homerton has a thriving theatre society (HATS), an allotment society and the discussion group ‘The King’s Head Society’, among many others. There is also a burgeoning musical scene at Homerton, with a College Orchestra, a Jazz Orchestra, two choirs (one of which is auditioned), and even our own steel pan band. You will find out more at the Homerton Societies’ Fayre on Saturday 9th October. If there is a society that you feel is missing from College life, just drop either Miranda or Ricky an email and they can help you set one up!

**MUSIC**

The Homerton College Music Society (HCMS), puts on concerts and events throughout the year, featuring both Homerton’s own musical talent and performers from other Colleges or outside the University. Homerton has a large range of groups to become involved in, including the Homerton Orchestra, HoJO (Homerton Jazz Orchestra), the Homerton Singers (a non-auditioned choir open to anyone with an interest in singing) and Absolute Pandemonium, Homerton’s steel pan group. There groups, along with the Homerton College Charter Choir, feature in both the Michaelmas and Lent Term concerts; events not to be missed! We also have recitals from various performers during the year, and social events such as the Annual HCMS Dinner, and the Garden Party at the end of Easter term. To find out more about music at Homerton and any upcoming HCMS events, visit their stall at the Homerton Societies’ Fayre.

**THEATRE**

Homerton Annual Theatrical Society (HATS) puts on plays each term. Anyone can audition for a part or to get involved backstage. Be sure to stop by their stall at the Societies’ Fayre!
All Cambridge Colleges pride themselves on how they take care of their students, and Homerton is no exception. Here are just some of the groups of people you'll encounter during your study:

DIRECTOR OF STUDIES (DoS)
Your DoS is the academic in charge of your course who will advise you throughout the year with paper choices, organising supervisions and answering any academic questions you might have.

TUTOR
Your Tutor is the Fellow (a Cambridge term for academic working at your College) responsible for your non-academic welfare issues. They can help you out with any problems, be they financial, social or anything else! At some point during the year they will also take you and your tutor group to a free formal – not bad at all!

COLLEGE FAMILIES
You should soon be contacted by your College parents, but if you aren’t, make sure to get in touch with Luke so he can get on their case! Your parents are there to look out for you when you arrive. There is also a slot in Freshers’ Week where we’ve asked the College parents to arrange a meal or something similar!

SUBJECT REPS
Subject reps are Homerton students in second or final year who are appointed to help you with any queries you might have about your course. They might also organise a social or formal for all the people at Homerton on your course, which is a great way to meet everybody!

And as an aside… UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE!
Homerton featured on University Challenge in both 2011 and 2012, performing well both times. The 2011 team even beat Durham University, reaching the Quarter-Finals in the process! They also made headlines in the Press for being hard-done-by when a question was answered correctly by one of the team, but was told their answer was wrong. We will be holding trials for this year’s team at the end of Michaelmas term. Get swotting, and wear a leather vest at your own discretion…
What is there to do in Homerton?

**Go to the Griffin** – Our buttery/bar is a great place to hang out at the end of the day! There will be regular Friday events too, so come and relax with a pint and take part in a trivia quiz or Wii sports competition! We’ve even got a pool table and quiz machine! This also doubles as the JCR in the evening, open 24/7.

**Lie on the Lawn** – Unlike many Colleges, we can walk on our grass! There’s plenty of room for sports on the football pitch (and dedicated tennis courts in the summer), or just chilling out and topping up your tan.

**Unwind in the Orchard** – Hidden behind West House is a relaxing spot full of apple trees – our very own orchard. Lovely in summer, especially gathered around the BBQ area!

What is there to do around Homerton?

Five minutes’ walk up the road is a great Leisure Park with loads to do including a cinema, bowling alley and The Junction, which holds events such as live music, club nights and comedy shows. There are also plenty of restaurants – Nando’s, Bella Italia, Frankie & Benny’s, Subway, Chiquito’s, Five Guys and Lucky Star Chinese Buffet! To top it all off, there’s also a Tesco, Sainsbury’s and Co-op if you want to buy food and prepare it in your Gyp Room.

If I want to go to a pub?

Aside from punting, Cambridge is famous for its pubs. Our nearest are the Earl of Derby (which does a delicious brunch), the Flying Pig (with great live music) and the Rock – but venture into town and you’ll find loads more, including the Eagle, where Watson and Crick announced the discovery of the structure of DNA in 1953.

Clubbing?

**Cindies** (real name Ballare) – The home of cheese, but the kind of cheese everone loves. Perfect for sipping/downing VKs and listening to a playlist you’ve heard a thousand times before.

**Life** (real name Kuda) – A surprisingly enjoyable sweatbox, with some great drinks deals.

**Fez** – Hailing itself the edgiest club in Cambridge, it’s not quite Shoreditch, but it has a really good atmosphere with areas for dancing as well as for lounging.

**Lola Lo** – A luau-themed club, Lola Lo has proved a big hit up and down the country. This is the only club in Cambridge to have a covered outside area!
CUSU
CUSU is the overarching students’ union of the University. Every Cambridge student is automatically a member of CUSU, which works to bring together students from all Colleges and departments to campaign for changes and to listen to student concerns. They also provide services and welfare support for the benefit of students. CUSU is responsible for organising the annual Freshers’ Fayre held at Parker’s Piece.

RAISING AND GIVING
RAG is the ‘Raising and Giving’ society for the University. RAG puts the FUN back into charity FUNdraising through its crazy one-off events and initiatives, raising money for various local, national and international charitable causes. Heard of the Jailbreak hitchhike? RAG challenges you to get as far away from Cambridge as possible in 36 hours. Catch: You can’t use any money to do it! The record is Sydney, Australia. (Yes it actually happened!) Other events include the widely popular Blind Date event in February, LOST and RAG Week. In all, RAG makes nearly £200,000 annually for charity; help us make this year bigger and better than ever! For more information or to get involved, visit www.cambridgerag.org.uk or email reps@cambridgerag.org.uk.

VARSITY
Each year some 3000 Oxbridge students head to the Alps for the ultimate snow sports holiday. This year for the extremely reasonable base price of £359, you can head to Tignes, whose main resort sits at 2100m, guaranteeing sublime pistes. Already getting your ski jacket ready? Check out https://www.varsitytrip.com/ for more information.
STUDENT JOURNALISM

The University has several student news publications, all offering slightly different things. Varsity, the oldest, is ideal for more serious journalism & and artsy stuff. The Cambridge Student is also similar in this regard. The Tab is Cambridge’s equivalent to a tabloid, and is by far the most read thanks largely to its tongue-in-cheek articles and infamous comment section. Not for the faint-hearted!
Cam FM is the student radio station of Cambridge University, and broadcasts for over 80 hours a week. Its coverage of the rowing races in Lent and Easter terms is particularly good.

THE UNION

The Cambridge Union Society, commonly referred to simply as ‘the Cambridge Union’ or ‘the Union’, is a debating society and social hub. It was founded in 1815, and is the oldest continually operating debating society in the world. Two years ago they celebrated their 200th birthday with a lavish party! They have a packed term-card, featuring debates and speakers from all professions and walks of life. Recent speakers include American politician Bernie Sanders, Hollywood actor Robert Downey Jr., and Cambridge alumnus, comedian Stephen Fry. You have to pay for membership, but it’s well worth it if you’re into this sort of thing!

THE ADC THEATRE

The ADC is Cambridge’s student-run theatre, which puts on regular performances in term-time. Anyone can get involved, and often there is a strong Homerton contingent. Many famous names have once graced its stage as undergraduates. Who knows – you could be the next! Watch out for their performances from Freshers’ Week onwards. The HUS can help you buy tickets.

Highlights through the year include the famous Footlights Pantomime (which sells out very early in Michaelmas Term!) and Smokers, as well as the impressive array of original student productions.
Cambridge is in many ways paradoxical. It is both innovative and also a stickler for tradition. Because of this, it’s useful to understand some of its history, and Homerton’s place within it.

So much has been written that there’s simply too much to discuss in such a short space – needless to say, Cambridge is the second-oldest University in the English-speaking world (founded c. 1209), and regularly tops the world rankings as one of the best Universities on the planet! Its alumni have, over the centuries, made strides in almost all areas of life. You’ll already know some of them – Newton, Darwin, Pepys, Milton, Cromwell, Wittgenstein, Keynes... it can feel a little overwhelming at times. Yet Cambridge is not a prisoner of its past, but instead seeks to recognise and build upon the achievements of its former members.

The University itself is made up of 31 autonomous Colleges plus all the various faculties where academics and students come together to work in their respective fields. This set-up is highly unusual, and creates a surreally competitive atmosphere between Colleges alongside a communal Cambridge spirit. In a way you’ll leave here with a sort of dual nationality, as both a Homertonian and as a Cantabrigian. This may seem a little odd at first, but you’ll soon get used to it!

Homerton College, your new home for the next three or four years, has what is perhaps the most unusual history of any College. The institution has evolved so much over the years that people are unsure where the ‘old’ College ends and the ‘new’ one begins (the College’s foundation has previously been listed as such different dates as 1695, 1768, 1850, 1894 and 1976!)

Homerton began its life as a dissenting academy in 17th century London which taught a more modern curriculum than that offered at the more traditional universities of Oxford or Cambridge. Eventually, the King’s Head Society (a group of laymen named after the pub at which they met; now commemorated by a discussion group in College of the same name) bought a mansion in Homerton, Hackney (hence our name!), where they built upon the work of the existing College. The institution boasted several members of distinction who were close friends of important figures like Samuel Johnson (author of the first English dictionary).

In 1850 Homerton Academy was re-founded to concentrate on the study of education itself, and in 1882 former students of the College created Leyton Orient Football Club – a fact acknowledged by an annual match between our football team and that of the Leyton Orient supporters club.

In 1894 the College decided to purchase the estate of an old College in Cambridge after seven Homerton students tragically died from illnesses contracted at their London location. We’ve been here ever since.

After eighty years of educational teaching in Cambridge, Homerton was eventually accepted as an Approved Society of the University in 1976. Finally, after over three hundred years of academic teaching, Homerton was awarded its Royal Charter in 2010 as a full College of the University. About time, if you ask me!

Today, Homerton has one of the largest undergraduate populations, and is untypical in that so many students live on site for all three years – at most other College it is only for one. The impact of this is that the College has a cross-year communal spirit, hence it is sometimes called ‘the friendliest College’ of the University. Alas, when you tell people you go to Homerton, you may also hear things like “Oh, isn’t that a teacher training College?”, but you’ll just have to get used to correcting them – Cambridge has a very long memory.

Homerton may have changed its face many times over the years, but if it has one consistency it is the down-to-earth nature of its students. It was the same in the late nineteenth century (indeed, we were known for it!), and it is just as true today. You’ll meet all sorts at Homerton, but regardless of who you are or where you’ve come from, you’ll always have a home here, and you’ll always be ‘one of us’. Once a Homertonian, always a Homertonian.
A GUIDE TO CAMBRIDGE SLANG

Some of the phrases that Cambridge/Homerton students use can be baffling at first. Here's a dictionary to help de-mystify some of the lingo:

**Bop** – basically a school disco with alcohol. Homerton holds six of them throughout the year and they are unmissable College events. Your first experience (and trust us, it is an experience) will be in Freshers’ Week. Get ready. Get excited.

**Buttery** – a fancy way of saying ‘café’. The Griffin is the buttery at Homerton, selling sandwiches and snacks in the day. In the evening it magically transforms into the College bar and common room. “The buttery is rarely shuttery” – in other words, it’s open between 8am and 7pm.

**Cantab** – short from ‘Cantabrigian’, it simply means you are a member of the University. Once you graduate, you get to put this after your name.

**Cindies** – known to non-students (and plenty of taxi drivers!) as Ballare, this is a Cambridge clubbing institution. Whereas the world outside the club has gracefully matured, Cindies still listens exclusively to cheesy pop – no wonder the students refuse to accept that it hasn’t been that in several decades!

**DoS** – Director of Studies, they can help you out with academic issues.

**Ents** – simply short for ‘entertainment’.

**Formal** – a posh candlelit meal in College with a formal dress code. Colleges hold them at different times, so there’ll be plenty of opportunities to compare formals across the University. We hold one every Tuesday. Many students choose to wear gowns, but this is not obligatory at Homerton.

**Mathmo** – someone who studies maths.

**NatSci** – term used to describe both the Natural Sciences course and a student on this course (pronounced Nat-Ski)

**Life** – another Cambridge club which hasn’t gone by this name for many years. It’s ‘proper’ name is Kuda, but if you say that to veteran students, they might not know what you’re on about!

**PLodge** – short for Porters’ Lodge, or the reception area of a College.

**Stash** – the kit you get for being associated with a society. Essential for the promotion of a play or team spirit in a College sport!

**Swap** – a special type of meal organised by students, often held at formals or at certain venues in town. It usually involves two groups of students from different Colleges coming together to partake drinking games and general tomfoolery!
Emergency Services:
- Cambridgeshire Police (nearest police station is Parkside at Parker’s Piece): 01480 456111

Medical & Support:
- Doctors’ surgery (nearest surgery is Woodlands Surgery on Bateman Street): 01223 697600

Dentists:
- (nearest dentist is Hills Road Dental Practice): 01223 240061
- There is also the University's own NHS Dental Practice on Trumpington Street: 01223 332860

HUS Welfare Phone: 078763 17717 (UNDERGRADUATE TERM TIME ONLY)

Cambridge Linkline: (support & information service, run by students): 01223 744444

Food:
- Tesco at Cambridge Leisure Park, opening hours: 06:00 – 23:00
- Sainsbury’s at Cambridge Leisure Park, opening hours: 07:00 – 23:00
- Co-operative at Cambridge Leisure Park, opening hours 07:00 – 22:00
- Dominos Pizza (vouchers are often left in pigeonholes) - 01223 355155

Taxis:
- Panther Taxis: 01223 715715 (Panther have also recently released an app, which can be used just like Uber to locate, book and pay for taxis!)
- Camcab: 01223 704704