

Oxbridge application

Helen Humphreys



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1. Churchill College, Cambridge
2. Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge
3. King's College, Cambridge
4. St Hilda's College, Oxford
5. University College, Oxford

Why might a student wish to apply to Oxford or Cambridge?

- The oldest and most eminent universities in the UK
- Cutting edge research, resources and teaching facilities.
- Teaching conducted by world leading experts in the field.
- A particular teaching and learning style.
- Extraordinary sports, drama and music facilities
- Collegiate system – Oxford has over 30 and Cambridge 29 undergraduate colleges. A home from home!
- Connections, networking.

What are Oxbridge looking for?

- high grades : Oxford between AAA and A*A*A* depending on your course. For Cambridge A*AA (Humanities) and A*A*A (Sciences) is needed.
- success in admission tests, where applicable
- a real, genuine and heartfelt interest in their subject and an inquisitive approach
- more than just the ability to read and regurgitate information – critical thinkers needed
- to be able to open up and to talk intelligently at interview-field questions, solve problems (especially in Maths and Science applications) and think on your feet

Foundation Year

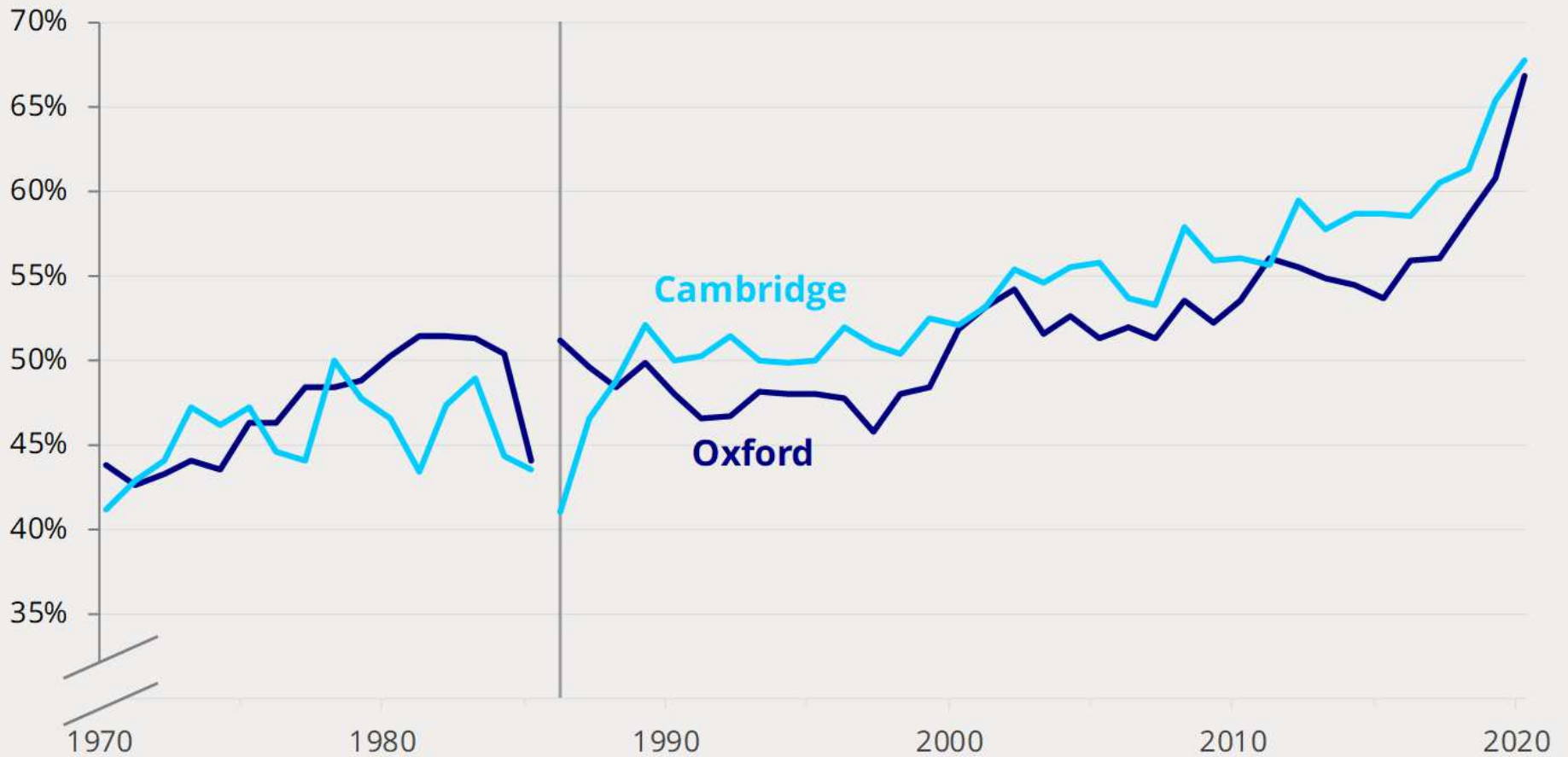
- Oxford and Cambridge now offer a Foundation year course as a pre cursor to a degree
- Successful completion leads to a place on a full degree course
- One-year fully-funded foundation programme for UK state school students with significant academic potential, who have experienced severe personal disadvantage and/or disrupted education

How do Oxford and Cambridge identify suitable candidates?

- Academic achievement (GCSE grades + predicted A level grades)
- College UCAS Reference
- Personal statement
- Admissions tests
- Submission of written work from your A level course
- Interview(s)
- Contextual data (Supplementary Application Questionnaire at Cambridge)

Increase in state school entry to Oxbridge over the last two decades

Proportion of undergraduates accepted from state schools



Current situation at Esher

2024 applications

- 11 offers
- 4 from Oxford : Maths, Music, Biochemistry (2)
- 7 from Cambridge: History, English, Psychology, Philosophy, Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Human Social and Political Sciences (HSPS)

How do we support students here at Esher?

- High Achievers Programme September 6.1 year onwards
- Summer term workshops on the application process
- Small subject-specific groups led by a subject mentor in summer term of 6.1 year
- 1:1 support for personal statement writing
- 1:1s with subject mentor and Oxbridge Co-ordinator in Autumn term 6.2 year
- Mock assessments and interviews in the autumn term
- Interview bootcamp with Reigate College
- Post offer mentoring



6.1 Students

Main Channels

- General
- Exams
- IT Services
- Learning Resources Centre
- News and Announcements
- PDP
- Progression Guidance
- Student Union
- Student Welfare
- Study Skills

University Enrichment Opportunities



1. History Skills Workshops

History have a number of free online skills workshops scheduled for the autumn term. Students can book directly via the History website - <https://history.web.ox.ac.uk/online-history-skills-workshops>

Workshops include:

- History Research Skills

[see more](#)



Online History Skills Workshops

The History Faculty offers free online History Skills Workshops to state secondary school, sixth form and FE...

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HH Reply

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University Study Days - Oxford University

6.1 Students

An opportunity to apply for a study day at New College, Oxford University. Open to all students who have an academic profile in line with studying at Oxford.

Study Days at Univ are one-day events hosted in College for around 60 Year 12 students. They are generally multi-subject. The participants do not necessarily need to be set on the courses in question, but they do need to have an appropriate academic profile to make a credible application to Oxford. The majority of the content in the Study Day will be delivered by a number of Univ's academic tutors, or graduate students, and usually comprises a mixture of lectures and group work, occasionally facilitated by current Univ undergraduates in that subject.

[see more](#)



Fill | University College Study Day Applicati...

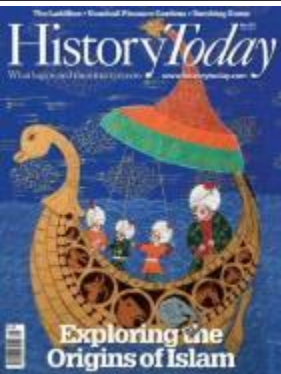
University College Oxford are now receiving applications to our Year 12* Study Days for 2024. Please use the form...

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Super-curricular activities

Explore beyond your subject

Keep a journal to analyse & reflect



Open Days

Oxford

- 26th and 27th June and Friday 20th September.
- Register on the Oxford website from around late April

Cambridge

- 4th and 5th July
- Register on the Cambridge website from around late April

What can you do as parents?

- Support, encourage and help your child source wider research and reading around their subject - nourish the nerd in them!
- Ask your child about their research, give them opportunities to discuss it with you.
- Accompany on open days
- Source and print practice papers of the University Admissions Tests
- During the summer, help them sit papers under test conditions.

What is your plan B?

- Application is highly competitive
- National offer rate is approximately 1 offer for every 6 applicants
- Esher current offer rate this year is 1 offer for every 4 applicants
- **STUDENTS NEED A PLAN B- MUST BE HAPPY TO GIVE IT A GO AND ACCEPT REJECTION IF IT COMES!**
- The process itself is useful for the future

Useful websites

- [Engineering and Science Admissions Test \(ESAT\) | Undergraduate Study \(cam.ac.uk\)](#)
- [Test of Mathematics for University Admission \(TMUA\) | Undergraduate Study \(cam.ac.uk\)](#)
- [Dates and deadlines | LNAT](#)
- [UCAT Test Dates | UCAT Consortium](#)
- [2024 entry Tests Centre timeline - PRINT.pdf \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)
- [Admissions tests | University of Oxford](#)

If you think Oxford or Cambridge could be a realistic choice for you, we will support you all the way through.

If you don't have a go, you will never know!

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Expression of interest form

