



**DISCOVER
DOWNING**



DOWNING
COLLEGE
CAMBRIDGE

Find your future





Contents

- 3 Welcome from the Master
- 4 Downing's Fellows
- 6 Study at Downing
- 8 Supporting you
- 10 Life at Downing
- 12 Accommodation
- 13 Eating at Downing
- 15 Finances
- 16 Pomona Scholarship
- 18 Admissions steps
- 20 College tour





Welcome

"As a former student of the College, I know what a transformative place Downing is. It changed my life by introducing me to world-class teaching, wonderful friends and so many different opportunities and experiences with which I would never have thought about engaging before coming to Cambridge.

Downing is an especially friendly College. We take academic study and achievement very seriously and work hard to ensure that all of our students are properly supported in their studies. But it is also important to us that our students get the most out of their time at Cambridge, whether it is by participating in the creative arts, sports and physical activity and the various clubs and societies which make Downing such a vibrant community. As Master of Downing, I am honoured to lead the community and support the interests and achievements of everybody who lives and works here."

**Professor Graham Virgo,
Master of Downing College**

Downing's Fellows

Our Fellowship underpin academic life at Downing. Their dedication and expertise across a wide range of disciplines, cultures, and careers is paramount to enriching the student experience.



"I learn so much from my students. Their boundless energy, curiosity, and enthusiasm remake the world anew. Teaching and learning in supervisions is a two-way conversation; an encounter whose impact we carry with us long after we leave the classroom."

Dr Sarah Kennedy
RJ Owens Fellow in English

"Downing is a very special place to teach. There is a strong sense of community and a real feeling that we are all – students and supervisors – working together to help students achieve their very best."

Dr Michael Ashby
College Associate Professor in Economics



“Teaching the next generation of scientists has been the most rewarding part of my academic career. Curious and talented scholars form the lifeblood of many scientific research programmes, and I have been privileged to be able to support Downing’s physical scientists at the start of their academic journeys.”

Professor Chris Haniff
Professorial Fellow & Director of Studies in Physics



“Studying the Arts and the Humanities is a multifaceted and enriching experience. At Downing, we have experts across various disciplines who provide students with the opportunity to explore a wide range of materials and critical approaches. Whether immersing themselves in history, philosophy, archaeology, literature, or languages, our Downing students not only deepen their understanding of the past but also gain the tools to interrogate its enduring value for the present and beyond.”

Dr Giulia Maltagliati
College Associate Professor in Classics





Study at Downing

Downing is an inclusive and welcoming place that encourages bright students from all backgrounds to apply. We accept students with talent and commitment in all undergraduate subjects offered at Cambridge. Our highly respected teaching staff are dedicated to helping you realise your full academic potential, with academics at the forefront of their respective fields.

Teaching is divided between the College and the University. The College is where you will have your supervisions — this is small-group teaching where students receive personalised teaching from an expert academic. Lectures, seminars, and classes take place in Faculties and Departments around the city.

~135

Undergraduates
admitted
each year

478

Undergraduates
at Downing
in total

>50

Fellows make
up our in-college
teaching

Supporting you

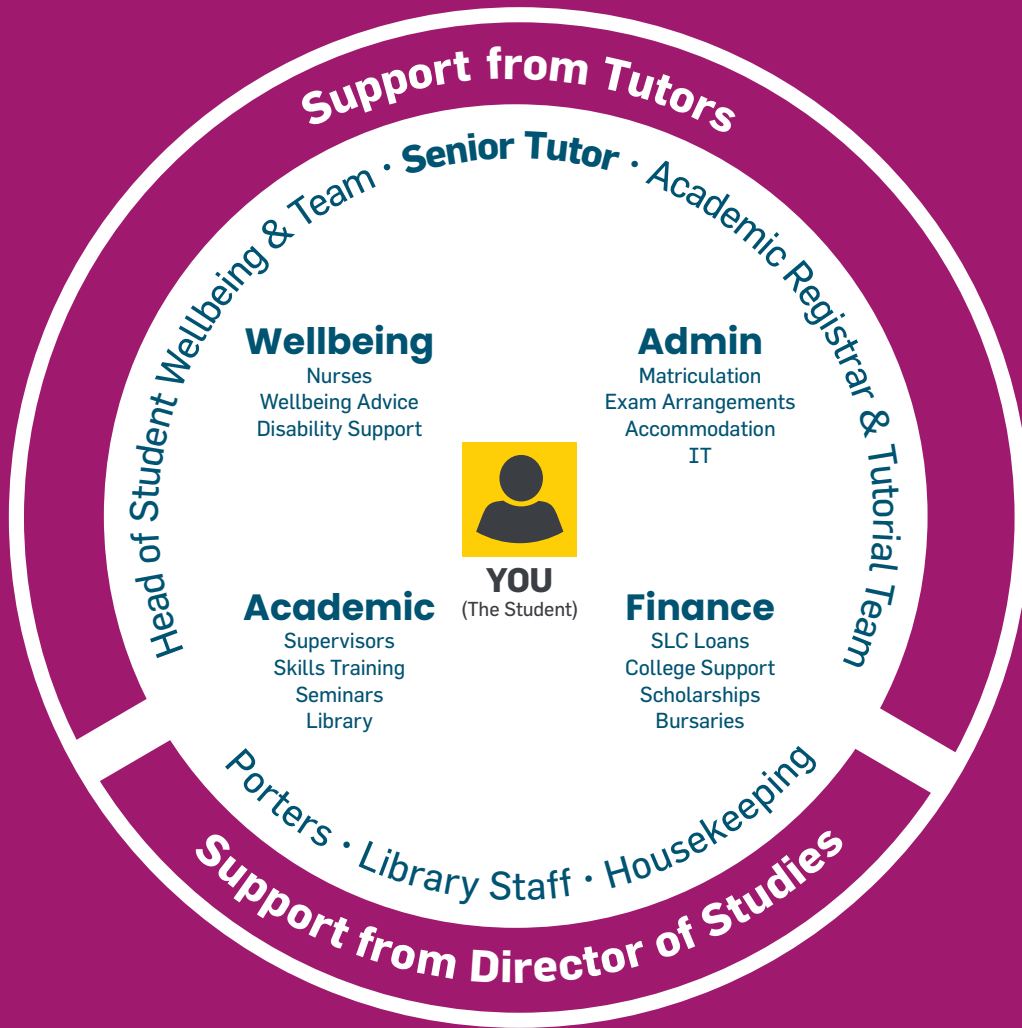
Every student is assigned a Director of Studies and a Tutor. Directors of Studies are scholars in your academic subject. They guide and support your academic progress, as well as oversee supervision arrangements. Your Tutor is a scholar who offers non-subject-specific support and pastoral care. They provide advice and signpost your way to the most appropriate sources of support within the College.

Support to Study

Alongside your Tutor, the fully accessible Wellbeing Centre is available to support, improve, and protect students' wellbeing. Led by the Head of Student Wellbeing, the team includes a Student Wellbeing Advisor, two Student Health Practitioners and a physiotherapist. They take a holistic, proactive and preventative approach to wellbeing and pastoral care and are available for chats and check-ins. Students are also invited to regular wellbeing events and activities. Our Porters are also available 24/7 and are first aid trained.

Academic Support

Downing College offers a huge amount of individual pastoral and academic support for each student. There are many people who are able to help you in College depending on your needs.



Life at Downing

Downing is an inspiring place to live and study. We have a welcoming and thriving academic community, enhanced by our communal spaces, facilities and College societies. Downing is home to many student-run societies, both academic and non-academic.

Downing is the College for the Creative Arts. Facilitated by our choir, theatre, art gallery, practice rooms, as well as our own student-edited literary journal (known as *The Leaves*), there are many creative extracurricular opportunities on offer. Downing's sporting community, meanwhile, thrives within the College's extensive grounds and boathouse. Our Active Students Programme encourages students to participate in the wide variety of sporting activities available at Cambridge.



Our student societies include:

Chapel Choir

BAME Society

Brammer Society

Danby Society

Jazz Band

Football

Maitland Historical Society

Millett Classics Society

Rugby

Ultimate Frisbee

Whitby Medical Society

Highlighted above are just a few of the societies in Downing.

There are many more to suit all tastes!

Academic

The Cranworth Law Society

“Cranworth facilitates events and opportunities for law and non-law students at Downing interested in a career in law. My favourite memory within Cranworth has definitely been our annual London trip, in which we visit Downing alumni at institutions such as the UK Supreme Court.”

Emma (Law)

Arts

Downing Dramatic Society

“One of the biggest events in the Downing Calendar is the Freshers’ Play. It’s a great opportunity for new students to participate in a play whether on or backstage. It’s always an absolute pleasure to watch and a great opportunity for aspiring creatives.”

Reuben (Medicine)

Sports

Downing Women’s Football Team

“I love how Downing’s College level sport societies let you try sports out for the first time, as the atmosphere is really chill and friendly. Having its own women’s football team is a massive benefit.”

Rachel (Natural Sciences)

Accommodation

We are really proud of our accommodation. Students are guaranteed accommodation for three years of undergraduate study. This is, unusually for Cambridge, all located on the main College site. Around half of Downing's rooms contain ensembles and can meet reasonable adjustments according to access needs. Rooms have access to shared kitchens and free laundry facilities.

Downing has a transparent pricing structure for accommodation, with all bills included ensuring that living in College is accessible to you. Each of our student rooms are banded in price to reflect their size, features, and facilities.





Eating at Downing

As well as having access to a kitchen in their accommodation, students can choose to eat in the Dining Hall or the Lord Butterfield Café, all at affordable prices. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served in the Dining Hall Monday to Friday, whilst brunch and dinner is available Saturday and Sunday. With a range of options including vegetarian, vegan, kosher and halal, there is something for everybody.

The College also serves a three-course meal several times a week, known as Formal Hall. On special occasions, students can attend themed Formals celebrating a variety of community holidays, events and traditions.



“Being surrounded by such extensive green space, and being within a short walk of anyone in College, living in Downing is just an amazing experience.”

Connor
(Human, Social and
Political Sciences)



Examples of Funding Support

→ College Scholarships and Prizes

→ Funding for Sports

→ Course Materials Reimbursement

→ Dedicated Support Funds (BAME and LGBT+)

→ Cambridge Bursary Scheme

→ Sheikh Family Scholarship

→ Travel Bursaries

→ University-Wide or External Funding Bodies

Finances

Support is available to help finance your studies, whether you are from the UK or overseas. We can help you navigate the options available from the University, Faculties and Departments, the College and external funding bodies.



Pomona Scholar

Each year, a fully-funded scholarship is awarded to an undergraduate offer-holder at Downing, granting them the opportunity to study for a year at Pomona College, a Liberal Arts College in Claremont, California. Their programme enables students to choose from 47 majors in the arts, humanities, social sciences and natural sciences before beginning their course at Cambridge.

"The opportunities that were available at Pomona were really incredible both academically and personally. I would absolutely recommend applying for the Pomona scholarship as it has been one of the most incredible opportunities of my life."

Katy
(2023-2024 Pomona Scholar, History)

“I chose Downing because of the atmosphere of the place when you walked in, and it just felt so warm and welcoming.”

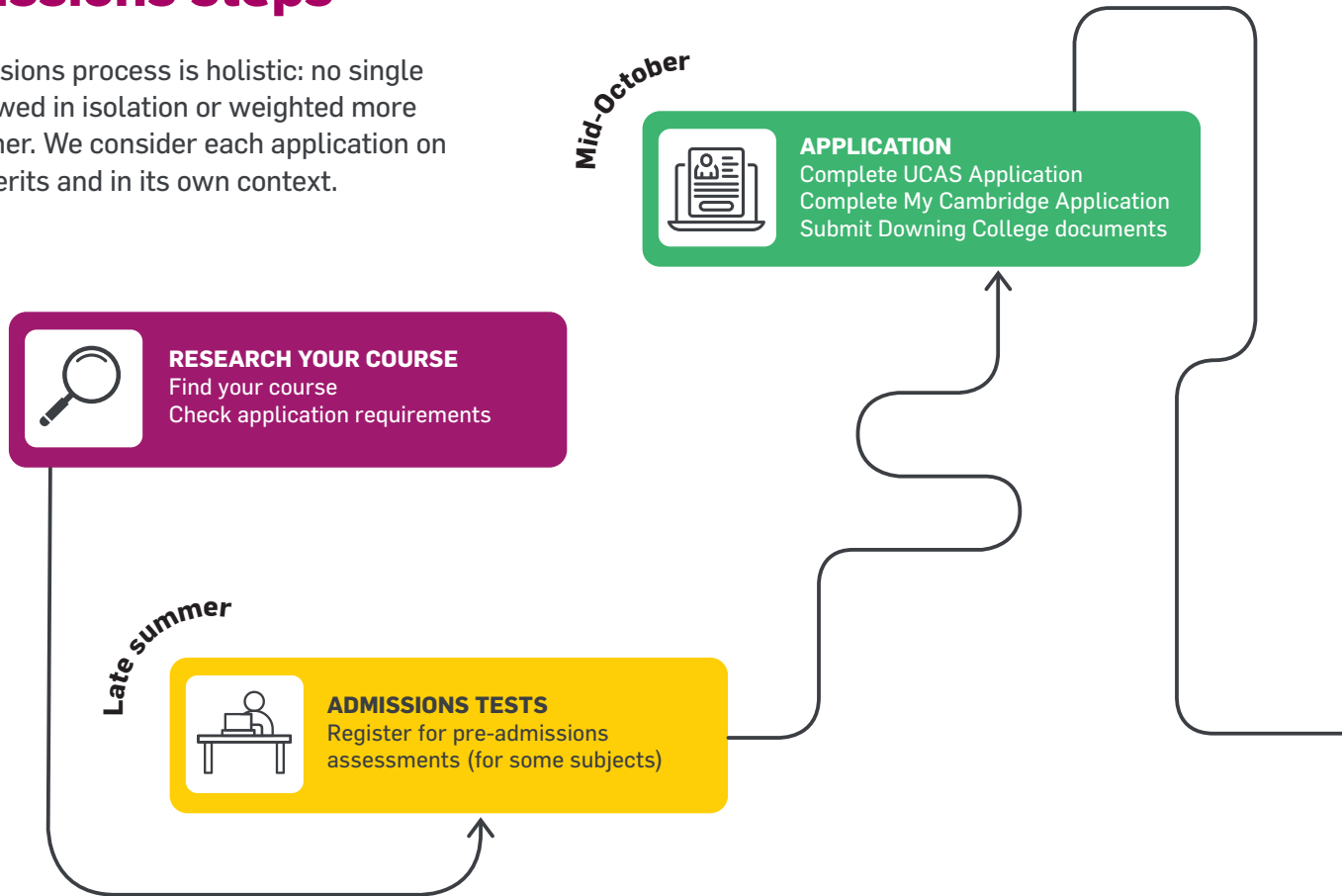
Darshini David OBE
(2001)

BBC Chief Economics
Correspondent and
Downing Honorary Fellow



Admissions steps

Our admissions process is holistic: no single part is viewed in isolation or weighted more than another. We consider each application on its own merits and in its own context.



December



INTERVIEWS

Prepare for interview (from start of your application)
Receive invitation to interview
Attend College interview

January



OFFERS RELEASED

Offer made
Submit Offer Holder documents
Apply for Pomona Scholarship

Early spring



FUNDING

Apply for funding opportunities
for fees and maintenance



PLACE CONFIRMED

Receive pre-course
reading material
Receive Freshers' information
Register as a student
GET PACKING!

College tour

The best way to discover what life is like at Downing College is to come along and visit. Our map signposts various areas of interest, from the Butterfield Café, to the gym and tennis courts. Other highlights include:

The Maitland Robinson Library: One of 149 libraries across Cambridge, but exclusive to Downing students. The library is open 24/7 and has core texts for all courses.

College Chapel: The light and airy Chapel is a beautiful space open to those of all faiths and of none. As well as being a place for prayer and worship, the Chapel hosts musical events and social programmes.

Howard Theatre: Downing's own purpose-built theatre, where many students run productions each year.

The Heong Gallery: Opened in 2016, the gallery hosts a calendar of changing exhibitions of modern and contemporary art.



DOWNING COLLEGE

Cambridge CB2 1DQ
(01223) 334800

CONTACT US

Tutorial and Admissions
admissions@dow.cam.ac.uk
[www.dow.cam.ac.uk/
undergraduate study](http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/undergraduate-study)



**DOWNING
COLLEGE
CAMBRIDGE**

