



WORCESTER COLLEGE MCR

The handbook – digested

Welcome to Worcester! We know you've already been bombarded with information about Oxford, Worcester and your course, most usefully in the form of the college Graduate Handbook, your invaluable guide to life here. However, if you're new to Oxford, or even to the UK, there are going to be a few things that you'll want to know in your first days and weeks here, without wading through pages of facts, rules and directions. That's why the MCR committee has put together this useful mini-guide to get you through your first few days in Worcester. Pin it on your notice board, keep it in your pocket, and you'll always know what to do or who to ask. Please find/email one of the committee if you have any more questions!

THE MCR (Middle Common Room)

A place (bar, TV room, pool table) and a group of people (all the graduates in college). Find the MCR on your maps as soon as possible – it will be the hub of social activity in Freshers' Week. The MCR committee runs events throughout term. You'll already have a term card, but here's a quick run-down of what it all means:

Brunch – free food and newspapers in the MCR for a relaxed Sunday morning, every Sunday in term, 11.30am.

Bar nights – every Tuesday in term from 9pm, the MCR bar opens for cheap drinks and a great place to catch up.

Movie nights – every Thursday evening during termtime, watch a film and eat pizza upstairs in the MCR.

GDC – Graduate Dining Club: a formal dinner for which the MCR provides free wine and port. Buy your tickets in the Buttery up to a week before.

Guest dinner – particularly special formal twice a term, to which you can invite two guests. Tickets are bought in the Buttery.

Exchange dinners – formal swaps with graduates from other colleges: we eat at their hall one week, and return the favour the following week. Tickets are bought directly from the social secretaries.

Bops – parties, often with a theme. Worcester holds one MCR bop a term, but we are invited to other college bops too.

The MCR is always open for members to use at any time – the tea and coffee is kept stocked up, so help yourselves!

***Normally communication about events will be by email, but for the first week or so there will be notices in the MCR*

*for anyone whose email is not yet set up – keep an eye out for changes and additions! The social calendar is also available on our website. ***

FOOD

Informal hall is every night from 6-6.30pm, and consists of a two course, self-service meal, paid for on your access card (top this up at the Lodge). Formal hall, at 7.15pm Tue-Thu, and 7.30pm on Sunday, is a formal three course meal served by college staff. This must be booked in advance (by 10.30am on the day) in the Buttery, giving any special dietary requirements. Gowns are worn, and you have to dress formally (suits and ties for men, smart clothes for women, no denim). Students can bring their own wine, and guests can be booked in for a slightly higher price. Breakfast (8.15-9am; 9-10am on Sun) and lunch (12.00-1.30pm) are paid for using access cards.

THE BAR

Found in the Pump Quad, the bar is open to all students, graduate and undergraduate, every night during term time. Serving all the usual alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, at very low prices, it's a great place to socialise with the rest of college. Big sports events are shown on the projector screen, and 'bops' also take place here.

BEING GREEN

Every college kitchen is provided with 2 recycling boxes: green for glass, newspaper & white paper and blue for plastic bottles, cans, card & coloured paper. These need to be left outside on a specified day (see leaflets from council) to be collected. We have also supplied reusable bags to houses to help you minimise the number of plastic bags used when shopping.

THE LODGE

The Lodge is the domain of the college's friendly porters. They welcome guests, collect and sort post and provide information, so make friends with them quickly! If anything breaks in your college house, go to the Lodge and write it in the maintenance book. If you lock yourself out, they have a spare key that you can sign out. If you are sent a large package that won't fit into your pigeon hole, it will be kept at the Lodge for you. They also provide Ethernet cables (on receipt of a deposit), although all other IT questions should be addressed to the MCR IT rep or the college's IT staff (mcr-support@worc.ox.ac.uk).

OUTSIDE WORCESTER

Anything to do with the academic side of life generally comes from your department/or and your supervisor. Find out the name of the department's Graduate Administrator, as they should be able to answer most of your questions. Lecture lists are usually online, as is information about exams and assessments (also in departmental handbooks). Your invaluable first port-of-call for all this is: http://www.ox.ac.uk/current_students/.

ACCESS & CODES

College access card (white): for access to college and the MCR and payment for food.

University ID or 'Bod' Card: library and identification card.

Oxford Single Sign-On username & password: for access to your email and online resources (sent in Freshers' pack).

OLIS: library service for reserving/ renewing books (user name = barcode on Bod Card, password = date of birth, as ddmmmyyyy).

OSS ID Number: the other number on your Bod Card, for exam entry and other paperwork.

College computer username and password: for logging onto college computers.

USEFUL CONTACTS

Worcester

Porters' Lodge: 01865 2 78300 (just 78300 from internal phones)

MCR President: jamie.frost@worc.ox.ac.uk 07910 135041

MCR Secretary: tomi.johnson@worc.ox.ac.uk

Social Secretaries: jim.fouracre@worc.ox.ac.uk,

antonios.kouroutakis@worc.ox.ac.uk

Graduate Officer: cath.fraser@worc.ox.ac.uk

Taxis: City Taxis: 01865 201 201

Radio Taxis: 01865 242 424

Welfare

Nightline: 01865 270 270

NHS Direct: 0845 4647

Alec Turnbull Family Planning Clinic: 01865 456 666

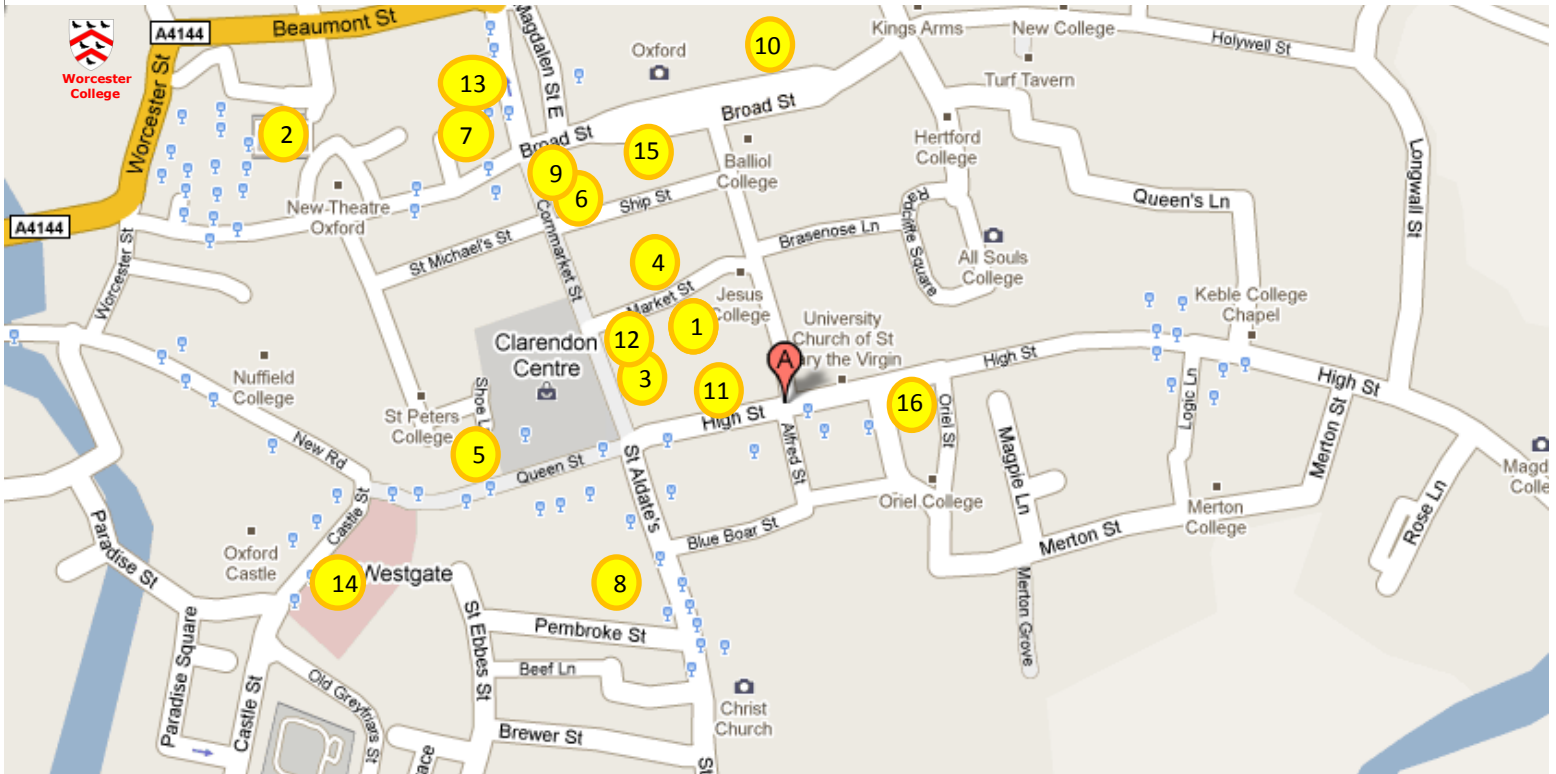
College nurse: anne.harpin@worc.ox.ac.uk

8.30-11.30 am in termtime, staircase 11, room 4



*** Our new website: <http://mcr.worc.ox.ac.uk> contains lots of other helpful info. ***

Where to go to get what you need



Markets

- 1) Covered Market
- 2) Gloucester Green (food every Wednesday am, farmers' market every alternate Thursday)

Pharmacy and Toiletries

- 3) Boots
- 4) Superdrug

Homeware

- 5) Argos
- 6) Boswells
- 7) Debenhams

- 8) Post Office

Bookshops

- 9) Waterstones
- 10) Blackwells

Stationery

- 11) Ryman's
- 12) WHSmith

Supermarkets

- 13) Tesco Metro and Sainsbury Local
- 14) Sainsbury

Academic Dress (gown, bowtie, etc.)

- 15) The Varsity Shop
- 16) Oxford University Shop



- 17) Tesco
- 18) Co-op
- 19) Post office

- 20) Train station
- 21) Bus station
- 22) Oxford University Sports Centre