

Oxbridge Preparation Day Programme 2018

A one-day intensive application, admissions test and interview preparation day led by an Oxbridge Applications consultant and a team of Oxford and Cambridge graduate tutors.

Please note that registration will take place between 09.30 – 09.50

Time	Programme	Details
09.50 – 10.15	Introduction & summary of the Oxbridge application process	Our Oxbridge-educated consultant will guide students on what the admissions tutors are really looking for and how to stand out in the application process. Using our own research, we will briefly discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deciding on the course that is right for you • Taking responsibility for your learning and your application • The application process and key deadlines • What makes Oxford and Cambridge so different • Dispelling myths about Oxbridge
10.15-10.30	Break	
10.30 – 12.15	Tackling Questions Workshop	Students will be split into groups according to their course group and, guided by our subject-specialist Oxbridge graduate tutors, will look at material relating to their subject area. Our tutors will pose questions which challenge students' ability and lateral thinking skills. Students will take it in turn to give answers to the group. The group will then give feedback on that answer, highlighting both good points and things to improve upon. Factors to consider are: Was the answer logical and easy to follow? Did the student apply knowledge as well as demonstrate academic potential? If relevant, was there a valid argument/ clear conclusion/ formula used? Did the student give examples/ make references and back up their points/ theories? Did the explanation make sense? Was it interesting and innovative? Examples will be given as to how questions can be answered, both on paper and in front of the class.
12.15 - 13.00	Lunch	
13.00 – 16.00	Mock Interview/ Former Admissions Tutor Talk/ Interview Skills Focus Group	In the afternoon, students will be split into group A and B. Group B's timetable will be as follows: 13.00 - 14.30: Students will receive a 40-minute talk from Former Admissions Tutor Barry Webb. He will talk about what admissions tutors are looking for and how to really wow them in the interview. There will then be a 30-minute Interview Skills Focus Group with our Senior Consultant. To round off, there will be a 10-minute question and answer session with our Senior Consultant, answering any questions students have about the application process or the universities themselves. 14.30 – 16.00: Students will receive a one-to-one, 20-minute, subject-specific mock interview with full verbal and written feedback.

	<p>Students may be asked to comment on a text, article, source, graph or image, depending on the subject they wish to apply for. Students are assessed on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest in and aptitude for their subject • Ability to respond to new ideas <p>When students are not being interviewed in this session, they will have the chance to have a good read of the materials provided and practice their interview skills with our range of circuit activities, varying from lead debates in contemporary discussion topics to the chance to try out past paper questions.</p> <p>Group A's timetable: 13.00 -14.30: Mock interviews (see above) 14.30 – 16.00: Barry Webb talk (see above)</p>
16.10 - 16.30	Plenary
<p>Materials provided - Each student will receive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Course Report, for example, History at Oxford. This includes an outline of their chosen course, a case-study of a student who has read that course, recommended reading lists and examples of real past questions interviews OR an applying to Oxbridge handbook 'So You Want To Go To Oxbridge: Tell Me About A Banana' 2. An Oxbridge Preparation Day Workbook, filled with practical exercises to hone interview, personal statement and academic discussion skills. There will be time to complete this booklet on the day, and students are encouraged to continue with the exercises in their own time. 	