

SUPPORT FOR Schools

## INTRODUCTION

### Why Oxbridge Applications?

### We Stand the Test of Time:

Since 1999, Oxbridge Applications has been the foremost authority in guiding students through the Oxbridge application process, having worked with over 70,000 students across more than 120 nations, and forging strong alliances with over 400 prestigious schools worldwide, including Marlborough College, Rugby School, and Wellington College, among others.

### **Unmatched Expertise and Resources:**

Our services are designed and delivered by highly experienced in-house consultants and external freelance tutors, all of whom hold top degrees from Oxford or Cambridge, and many who hold further degrees in their respective fields. We use the latest testing software, CANVAS, which is also used by Oxford University, among hundreds of other universities worldwide, and create our own mock admission test papers and other teaching materials to the latest specifications. Part of Dukes Education since 2016, home to a range of exceptional schools and consultancies, we can draw on the resources of our sister consultancies such as InvestIN, The Medic Portal, and A List US College Counselling to provide end-toend solutions.



Alicia Luba Global Sales Director BA Oxon



Owen Walding Head of UK Schools and Relationships BA Cantab



Hayley Bendle Head of International Schools and Relationships



Theo Boyce Head of Operations BA Cantab

### **Proven Results:**

On average, participants in our Admissions Test Courses see a 20% improvement in scores, while those engaged in our long-term services enjoy a success rate exceeding 50%. This efficacy is echoed in the doubled Oxbridge admission rates among many of our enduring school partnerships.

Our commitment goes beyond mere results; we integrate seamlessly into existing educational frameworks, offering feedback and strategies to enhance the overall support system. This dedication to excellence and partnership is why schools choose to collaborate with us year after year, trusting in our shared vision for their students' highest aspirations.



"At Cardiff Sixth Form College, one of the cornerstones of our provision is that we 'demand and deliver excellence'. Our partnership with Oxbridge Applications is a wonderful example of this, with expert guidance provided for our students and expert training provided for our staff in the pursuit of the highest university ambitions."

GARETH COLLIER, PRINCIPAL, CARDIFF SIXTH FORM COLLEGE



## PRESENTATIONS AND SEMINARS

The process of applying to Oxford and Cambridge can be complex. As part of our school partnerships, we offer hour-long presentations and seminars to support schools and students with a range of different topics.

Please enquire with our Schools Team for our availability and personal recommendations on which seminar topics might best support your school's cohort of applicants, or to discuss a bespoke offering.

## Aspiring to Oxbridge (£295)

Students and parents are invited to attend a 1-hour presentation given online or inperson by the Oxbridge Applications team. The talk explores what makes living and studying at Oxbridge unique, what the process of applying to Oxbridge involves, as well as how to be strategic throughout in order to maximise success. It is also an opportunity for students to ask questions directly to our expert team members. This talk is typically given to year 12 students in their first term or early in their application year.

## Choosing your A Levels for Oxbridge (£295)

Selecting the right A-Levels (or equivalent) is key to make sure students are eligible and competitive applicants for their chosen Oxbridge pathway, or to ensure they are keeping all potential pathways open. Particular subject combinations and subject requirements are important to be aware of when making choices, as well as analysing trends from admissions data to see which subjects have underlying importance. This talk, directed towards Y10 and Y11 students, will explore all of these areas in order to help students make the right decisions at this critical juncture.



"WE WANTED TO WRITE TO THANK YOU FOR RUNNING SUCH A BRILLIANT DAY – FEEDBACK HAS BEEN EFFUSIVELY POSITIVE FROM ALL CONCERNED AND WE WERE THRILLED."

### RUGBY SCHOOL



## PRESENTATIONS AND SEMINARS

### How to write an Oxbridge Personal Statement (£295)

Personal Statements are at the heart of a competitive application, and so this talk explores how to write the best possible Oxbridge Personal Statement by explaining the structure and content that help applicants truly stand out. Students will learn how best to present their academic achievements, what supercurriculars Oxbridge are looking for, and how to tailor their Personal Statement to their chosen course.

### **Developing Oxbridge Interview Skills (£295)**

Each undergraduate applicant at Oxford and Cambridge is required to interview prior to being made an offer, in order to determine whether they are suitable for the course. There are a variety of aspects and qualities that tutors are looking for in students, beyond simply being the best or smartest, and it is important to ensure students are focusing on these criteria when preparing for interviews. This talk will provide students with the key factors to focus on to ensure their communication skills are at the level required for the interviews, to help give them the tools to impress admissions tutors.

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"OXBRIDGE APPLICATIONS HAVE OFFERED AN **INVALUABLE** SERVICE MARLBOROUGH SUPPLEMENTING COLLEGE'S IN PROGRAMME OF PREPARATION FOR OXBRIDGE ADMISSIONS TESTS AND INTERVIEWS. THEIR BESPOKE APPROACH IS FLEXIBLE BUT ROBUST, AND HAS OFFERED OUR PUPILS GREATER EXPOSURE TO ADMISSIONS TEST PAPERS AND INTERVIEWS. THE QUALITY OF TUTORS ALWAYS IMPRESSES THEIR OUR PUPILS, WHOSE FEEDBACK IS CONSISTENTLY POSITIVE."

ANDREW OXBURGH, HEAD OF OXBRIDGE, MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE

# TEACHER TRAINING

## **Teacher Training Programme (£995)**

We equip teachers with the skills, knowledge and materials to provide guidance to university applicants in-house. Our Teacher Training Programme costs  $\pounds$ 995 and we offer unlimited places on the course.

- A two-hour online workshop for your teachers covering the A-level choices for Oxbridge, the admissions process timeline, teacher references, supporting your students to write a good personal statement, admissions test preparation, and what to look for when mock interviewing your students.
- Digital access to our full-suite of 74 Course Reports (RRP *£*100 each) which include past interview questions and reading recommendations for every course on offer at Oxford and Cambridge.
- Digital access to our books and research. We equip teachers with the skills, knowledge and materials to provide guidance to university applicants in-house.

### HE/Careers Fair (free)

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We are always delighted to attend Higher Education and Careers Fairs put on by schools. Please contact our Schools Team for our availability. This is best organised early in the year as we often become very busy later on in the year.

"I have used Oxbridge Applications with many students over the years and have found them to be excellent. They have contributed to innovations in our Oxbridge support which has seen our Oxbridge offers at Surbiton High triple in recent years when most independent schools are seeing their offers go in the opposite direction. I am happy to use their services year after year."

> TERRY MCDERMOTT, DIRECTOR OF CAREERS AND GUIDANCE; HEAD OF OXBRIDGE, SURBITON HIGH SCHOOL



# CONSULTATIONS

### Private Consultations (£185 per student)

A Private Consultation is a strategy and advisory session for an hour with a senior Oxbridge Applications Consultant. This is for students in Year 12 to help decide their subject pathway, or Year 11 to help decide their A-Level pathway.

In each Private Consultation we cover:

- Working with each student to identify their strengths and help them to decide which pathway may suit them the best, including guidance on:
  - How the Oxford Course differs from the Cambridge Course.
  - How the application statistics for these pathways differ.
  - How the different pre-tests work (for example, Oxford uses the TSA for E&M whereas Cambridge uses the TMUA for Economics).
- If appropriate, we will also give the student a gentle early mock interview, to help them understand what they may need to work on specifically, and how they could approach further preparation.
- We also advise how this would then shape their other 4 university choices for UCAS and counsel on these.

We leave the students with a plan for their applications, reading and other supercurricular suggestions for their Course, and the additional resources of our Course Reports and Oxbridge book to take home.

Feedback on students and advice given during Private Consultations can be shared with relevant school contacts to help aid school support.



### **Personal Statement Consultations (£185 per student)**

Consultations are one-to-one hour-long sessions for each student to go over their individual Personal Statements in detail, with a Senior Oxbridge Applications Consultant. This will allow them to have bespoke, specific verbal and written feedback on all parts of their statement, with advice provided on all aspects - how to improve the structure, content, phrasing, and balance.

This can take place before the summer, to give students direction for drafting revisions, or in September, to leave students with a month to perfect their statements before submission.

### **Subject Extension classes**

*£*345 per student for 4 sessions *£*495 per student for 6 sessions *£*645 per student for 8 sessions

Targeted seminars in small groups of students applying for closely related subjects equip students with the thinking and research skills necessary to bridge the gap between school and undergraduate study, and challenge them to engage with key topics from their chosen area of study through analysis and interpretation of relevant, undergraduate-level academic material, as well as working on their own independent skills.

While Subject Extension classes help students to build material and subject engagement which is helpful for all top Russell Group applicants in writing their personal statements and understanding their chosen courses in more depth.

Subject Extension classes can be tailored in liaison with the school to achieve specific goals or to fill gaps in their syllabus - for instance, where students are not studying A Levels and need supplementary guidance on material not covered in an admission test specification, or where a school may be unable to support with further exploration of certain subject areas.



## Admissions Test Preparation

### Admissions Test Day (£195 per student, minimum 15 students\*)

This day allows students to develop the skills needed to succeed in their admissions test, while also sitting a specially designed Oxbridge Applications Mock Paper, which will be marked for them. An example day would run as follows:

- 9:15-9:25am | Student Welcome Talk Introductory talk by a senior consultant, explaining the format of the day and the purpose of Oxbridge admissions tests
- 9:30am End of Test | Mock Test to be sat by students on Canvas a custom-designed mock admissions test via our online portal
- 12:30 13:30 | Lunch
- 13:30 15:00 | Admissions Test Skills Workshop Group, test-specific skills tutorials exploring exam strategy, test skills and common test themes
- 15:00 15:15 | Break
- 15:15 16:15 | Mock Test Review Workshop Group, test-specific workshop going through students' performance in the morning test and common sticking points
- After the Event | Students receive individual feedback on their test performance

We focus on the following Admissions Tests on these days:

- UCAT (University Clinical Aptitude Test), Medical Schools including Oxford and Cambridge
- LNAT (Law National Aptitude Test), Law Schools including Oxford and Cambridge
- ESAT (Engineering and Science Admissions Test), Cambridge and Imperial College
- TMUA (Test of Mathematics for University Admission), Cambridge and Imperial College
- TSA (Thinking Skills Assessment), Oxford
- MAT (Mathematics Aptitude Test), Oxford
- PAT (Physics Aptitude Test), Oxford
- ELAT (English Literature Admissions Test), Oxford and Cambridge
- HAA (History Admissions Assessment), Cambridge
- HAT (History Aptitude Test), Oxford
- CAT (Classics Aptitude Test), Oxford

We cover all other admissions tests through one-to-one tutoring, given the individualspecific nature of these assessments. We can make discounted arrangements for these simply let us know.

\*For schools with under 15 students, we can host you at one of our Open Test Preparation Days held in June and October. Please ask for details.



### 4 Week Admissions Test Course £395 per student (Minimum of 4 students per workshop group\*)

The course consists of four x 60 minute sessions focused on Admissions Test Skills preparation, typically split across four weeks. This allows for a tailored approach that can be adjusted each week to fit the students' needs.

Students will sit four specially designed Oxbridge Applications Mock Papers, and their marks will be tracked across the length of the course, in order to give them bespoke feedback based on their progress.

Students often benefit from having the course split before and after the summer holiday, allowing themselves time to practise over the break to action feedback.

\*For schools with a smaller number, or preparing for tests we do not cover, we can offer one-to-one tuition at a discounted rate.

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"We have been really happy with the way Oxbridge Applications have helped to guide our students through the demands of the application process, providing high quality feedback and support at all stages."

RUTH LEXTON, HEAD OF OXBRIDGE, WELLINGTON COLLEGE

## **INTERVIEW PREPARATION**

### Interview Preparation Day £195 per student (Minimum of 15 students\*)

This day aims to build students' confidence and skills needed for interviews and brush up on their subject knowledge. This is a full day intensive course consisting of interview practice, subject knowledge tutorials, and a welcome talk by a senior consultant. Students will have two mock interviews, each with verbal and written feedback. An example day would run as follows:

- 9:30-10:00 | Student Welcome Talk Introductory talk by a senior consultant, explaining the format of the day and the purpose of Oxbridge interviews
- 10:15-11:45 | Tutorial Sessions Group, subject-specific skills tutorials going through communication skills, tackling unseen material, and interview strategy
- 12-13:00 | Lunch
- 13:00 Onwards | 30-minute Mock Interviews students participate in two full-length, one-to-one mock interviews with two different subject-matched Oxbridge tutors, with full verbal and written feedback

\*For schools with under 15 students, we can host you at one of our Open Interview Preparation Days held in November. Please ask for details.

### 4 Week Interview Preparation Course (£395 per student)

These are four x 30 minute one-to-one mock interviews per student with verbal and written feedback, and sessions are held once a week for four weeks at a regular time that suits students' schedules. Students receive full feedback after each mock interview, allowing them to work on particular habits or skills to accelerate their progress.

All prices are for online delivery, unless otherwise stated.

Please ask for a quote for in-person delivery.

To make arrangements, or for further details, please email schools@dukesplus.com or call +44 (0)20 7499 2394

## TIMELINE OF SUPPORT

Our school support program offers unparalleled flexibility, allowing events to be scheduled at any time during the year and tailored to complement each school's unique timeline, needs, and objectives. While each school's needs are different, here's how the elements could fit together across a year working with Oxbridge Applications:

### JANUARY

Aspiring to Oxbridge talk: Students are introduced to what studying at Oxbridge is like, what the application process is, and how to consider application strategy.

### FEBRUARY

Strategic Consultations: Senior consultants sit down with applicants to discuss their course and university pathways and the strategy behind these choices.

### MARCH

Teacher Training: In-person workshop with teachers going through how best to support Oxbridge applicants, detailed application strategy, and recent changes to application processes.

#### April to May

Teacher Training: In-person workshop with teachers going through how best to support Oxbridge applicants, detailed application strategy, and recent changes to application processes.

#### JUNE

Admissions Test Day: Students are introduced to the relevant admissions test, sit a full mock paper and learn test skills and identify their specific strengths and weaknesses.

### JULY TO SEPTEMBER

Admissions Test Course: In 2 sessions before and 2 after the summer holidays, students sit 4 unique mock tests and receive feedback on their performance and progress to ensure they are confident and well-equipped to sit admission tests in October.

#### September

Personal Statement Consultations: Students sit down for review sessions with senior consultants, going through the content, layout, and phrasing of their personal statement draft.

#### October

Interview Preparation Day: Over a full-day event, students are introduced to the strategy behind Oxbridge interviews, learn subject-specific interview skills, and participate in *2* subject-specific Oxbridge interviews.

#### November

Interview Preparation Course: Throughout the month students participate in 4 mock Oxbridge Interviews and receive full feedback on their performance so they are fully prepared for their interviews in December.



NNS TOGETHER WE'RE EXTRAORDINARY



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