Welcome to Trinity!

Hiya! My name is Grace, I’m an English student here and also the Access and Admissions Officer for Trinity College’s Student Union. You’re reading this letter because you’ve been invited for an interview here at Trinity - congratulations! Some people love the idea of an interview whilst others find it incredibly daunting (I think I was a mix of the two!). Whatever you’re feeling, our group of friendly student helpers, easily identifiable by their festive red hats, will be around all week to make you as comfortable as possible. We’re there to help you get where you need to go, whether that’s to a test, your room for the night or just for lunch, and we’re also dotted around in case you want to chat.

Current students will be in the JCR between 9am and 7pm daily. You are more than welcome to go there and hang out, meet other interview candidates, or ask any questions you might have about living and studying at Trinity (or just to eat the biscuits). To find the JCR, enter I staircase in Great Court, turn left and go up the stairs – if you have any trouble, the Porters will be able to direct you. Beneath the JCR is the College Café, which has loads of seating, food, drinks and a very relaxed atmosphere.

For those of you staying in College overnight, we will also be showing films in the JCR every day at 8pm to help you take your mind off things. Meals are also provided free of charge during your interview visit, and there will be student helpers available to take you to hall. We will be meeting at Great Gate at the following times:

- **Breakfast:** 8.15am; 8.40am
- **Lunch:** 12.15pm; 12.45pm
- **Dinner:** 6.00pm; 6.30pm* (*6.15 pm on 9 & 11 December)

When it comes to interview preparation there is no right or wrong way – do whatever makes you feel most comfortable. Some people will only feel happy if they have been preparing until the very last minute, while others prefer the chance to relax and calm themselves down beforehand.

Trinity is a gorgeous place to live and work, as well as being full of lovely and interesting people, but it can seem intimidating at first. It is really important to keep in mind that Trinity has expressed interest in you as an applicant, and wants to encourage you to do your best. Don’t worry if you can’t immediately answer every question, they’re meant to be challenging, and the interviewers know that you might be nervous. Take a moment, ask for help or clarification if you need it and think out loud. The interviewer mainly wants to understand how you think and learn. Also remember that it is often impossible to judge how an interview has gone, so try not to over-analyse it afterwards.

The interview process is ultimately a positive experience from which we hope you will take a lot, and hopefully even enjoy, whatever the end result. It gives you a glimpse of what teaching at Cambridge is like, and a chance to talk about a subject that interests you with an academic who shares that passion.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Admissions Office before you arrive. We are here to make sure your interview experience is as useful and enjoyable as possible.

Good luck!

Grace Glevey
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