



Cherwell College Oxford

PRE-UNIVERSITY TUTORIAL COLLEGE

Sixth Form (A-Level) & (I)GCSE

www.cherwell-college.co.uk

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1. ABOUT THE COLLEGE

Based in the heart of the ancient university city of Oxford, Cherwell College is a leading independent co-educational boarding and day school for students aged between 12 and 19 years of age. The College specialises in pre-university education for students aiming to achieve the qualifications they need in order to progress onto higher education.

Since its foundation in 1972, Cherwell College has established and maintained a sound reputation based firmly upon its founding principles: treating the student as an individual; delivering first class teaching by a highly committed and dedicated staff; providing a learning environment that is positive, highly motivating, encourages industry and responsibility, yet is both enjoyable and highly rewarding.

Students work in an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding that encourages them to develop their abilities to the full, acquiring the self-confidence and self-discipline so valued by higher education institutions and enjoy a positive environment that encourages motivation and the ability to think independently.

The teaching facilities are comprised of four study centres, a short walking distance from each other in the heart of Oxford.

The College Administration & Study Centre is housed in St George's Mansion – a five story Edwardian building offering breath-taking views of the Dreaming Spires, a suite of tutorial and seminar rooms, a library, a common area and a café for students' use.

The Science Faculty is located at Frewin Court, adjacent to the Oxford Union, providing comprehensive laboratory facilities for students undertaking practical endorsement in science subjects. The Science Faculty has recently been expanded by the acquisition of an additional study centre. The new study block spans across four floors and comprises of spacious tutorial, seminar and supervised study rooms.

The Art Faculty is based at Cantay House, Park End Street and is equipped with all the necessary teaching materials required for students taking Fine Art, Textiles and Photography.





“I never teach my pupils. I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn.”

“It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge.”

Albert Einstein (Oxford Union speaker – 1933)



2. TEACHING EXCELLENCE & FULL-TIME ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

The College follows the Oxbridge tutorial method of teaching, where students enjoy small group classes supported by one-to-one tutorials – this is seen by many as the gold standard of UK education as students are able to have their unique needs met and engage deeply with their tutors and subject material.

The format of tuition is discussed at an interview stage and determined by the subject syllabus and the specific needs of the student. This combination of small group and individual tuition ensures comprehensive syllabus coverage, enhanced by student feedback and classroom discussion, while enabling each student to fully understand each topic, and to apply this understanding effectively under examination conditions.

Regular progress tests and mock examinations feature in the timetable, enabling students to hone their examination techniques and express their ideas clearly, concisely and under timed conditions. This is particularly important to those students where examination results have not always reflected their true academic potential.

Monthly reports, written by each subject tutor, allow parents to closely monitor academic and pastoral progress.

The blend of subject material being imparted on an individual basis, the interactive nature of the seminar, the broadening of understanding through the lecture classes and the development of an essay-writing technique in the trial examinations makes for the

perfectly prepared candidate for public examination.

The College offers a bespoke educational provision for full-time A-level and (I)GCSE academic programmes as follows:

- Full-time 2-year traditional A-level programme for students aged 16 y.o (younger applicants i.e. aged 15 y.o. may be considered if they can show the required academic ability to cope with the demands of the chosen programme);
- Full-time 2-year traditional GCSE programme for students aged 14 y.o;
- Intensive/fast-track 1-year A-level programme for students aged 17+ y.o;
- Intensive/fast-track 1-year (I)GCSE programme for students aged 15+ y.o;

The College strongly supports and believes in each individual's unique development, and strives to ensure that all our students achieve their fullest potential.





“The College Exceeds Expectations for the quality of education – all standards for educational oversight were met and quality is excellent”

ISI Report: April 2016

3. OXBRIDGE ENTRANCE

Oxford and Cambridge Universities have the most challenging entrance requirements:

- *Early deadline for university applications (October 15th);*
- *Interview;*
- *Copies of written work to be sent to the selected university college;*
- *Subject-specific tests (TSA, HAT; MAT; PAT).*

Careful preparation, particularly for the interview, is thus very important. Cherwell students receive full support throughout the application process including:

- *Advice on choice of college and degree course;*
- *Guidance in drafting personal statements for university applications;*

- *Advice on selecting and developing written work for submission;*
- *Providing preparation for university aptitude tests.*

Most importantly, the College provides full preparation for the interview stage of the process, helping students to move beyond A-level study, and approach the students' chosen specialist subjects from different academic viewpoints and in greater depth. Students undergo mock interviews with feedback, making clear which aspects were good and highlighting areas for improvement. In addition to the mock interview, the College also provides candidates with preparatory practice for tests that might be set during the interview.





4. RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE

The Russell Group Universities are the top 24 leading universities in the UK. The Russell Group offers an “Informed Choices” guide which provides students with information, advice and guidance about their A-level subject choices.

Choosing A-level (or equivalent) subjects carefully is really important – especially if a student has aspirations to study at a leading university. The “Informed Choices guide” offers advice on the admissions process and on the best subject combinations for a wide range of university courses as well as the best choices for students who want to keep their options open. Entry to Russell Group universities, in particular, can be highly competitive. Exam results are vitally important, but they are only one of the several elements which universities take into account when considering applicants.

Many courses at university build on knowledge gained from sixth form education. Universities need to make sure that

students have prepared themselves in the best way to cope with their course. Some university courses may require students to have studied a specific subject. Some subjects are valued more often than others and these subjects are sometimes referred to as facilitating subjects. Subjects that can be viewed as “facilitating” subjects include: Mathematics and Further Mathematics; English (literature); Physics; Biology; Chemistry; Geography; History; Languages (Classical and Modern).

As with Oxbridge Entrance preparation, Cherwell students receive fully-guided support throughout the application process to Russell Group and other UK universities.





5. THE OXFORD UNION

Since its foundation, Cherwell College has developed strong links with the oldest student-led debating society – The Oxford Union. The Union was founded in 1823 and is the world’s most prestigious debating society, with a reputation for bringing international guests and speakers to Oxford.

Unlike other student unions, the Oxford Union holds no political views and is a forum for debate and the discussion of controversial issues offering freedom of speech. Cherwell’s full-time students have the privilege to enrol as members of the Oxford Union and attend high profile debates, take part in weekly debating workshops and make use of the excellent library facilities.

The Oxford Union allows all members to borrow from the Library, which is housed in various rooms in the Oxford Union building, notably the Old Library, Poetry Room, Gladstone Room and Goodman Library, all of which provide quiet, pleasant places in which to work. More information on the Oxford Union can be found at www.oxford-union.org







6. ENRICHMENT

Enrichment programmes are an important part of the College life and consist of the following:

Professorial talks & lectures: aimed to provide students with thought-provoking discussions for an all-rounded academic development. Each year the College's programme of events includes talks by prominent economists, journalists and academics on various topics ranging from Science, Literature, Technology, AI, Law, Politics and Current Affairs at the colleges of the University of Oxford.

Debate workshops: aimed for interested students to explore the art of debating and public speaking – these bi-weekly introductory workshops are run each Michaelmas Term by experienced Oxford Union debaters specifically for Cherwell students. Those students who are interested in attending and honing their debating skills beyond Michaelmas Term also have an opportunity to join weekly workshops at the Oxford Union attended and run by undergraduate students.

Cultural tours & visits: a variety of school trips are run throughout the academic year and include educational tours to London, Warwick Castle, the Culham Centre for Fusion Energy, Cardiff Castle, Blenheim Palace as well as visits to local Oxford museums and theatres.

Sports: students have an option to become members of local gyms and pursue personalised fitness programmes. During the evenings after study, sporting activities such as

badminton, football, basketball, pool, chess and board games are available.

Student-led clubs: Throughout each academic year the College encourages interested students to establish Science, Literary, Languages and Current Affairs Clubs with weekly meetings and mid-termly presentations on a research topic/area of interest.

The Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award Scheme: As of summer 2019, Cherwell College Oxford proudly offers its students an opportunity to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award Scheme, which is an internationally recognised youth achievement award launched in 1954 by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh with a view to promote young people's all-round development, outside of the classroom environment.

The DofE programmes are offered at Bronze, Silver and Gold level depending on age group and duration. Each scheme consists of 4 core sections: Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition and Residential (at Gold level only).

The DofE Award Scheme is a fantastic opportunity to obtain formal recognition in a range of extra-curricular activities. Recognised achievement awards are viewed very highly by prospective universities and employers.



7. BOARDING

Cherwell College is proud to be one of the few boarding tutorial colleges in Oxford offering students its own campus of residential accommodation.

Cherwell's full-time and weekly boarders reside at Cherwell House - purpose-built student residential accommodation located within a short walking distance from the College's study centres. The boarding facilities comprise of 55 single en-suite study bedrooms with a residential welfare team responsible for the students' pastoral care and well-being.

The facilities include:

- *En-suite (single) student rooms;*
- *Dining room;*
- *Full-board catering (freshly prepared meals);*
- *Water coolers;*
- *Student common area;*
- *Laundry room;*
- *Medical room;*
- *Weekly housekeeping/cleaning (linen, bedding and towels supplied and cleaned weekly)*
- *Wi-Fi;*
- *Outside garden;*
- *Bike storage.*









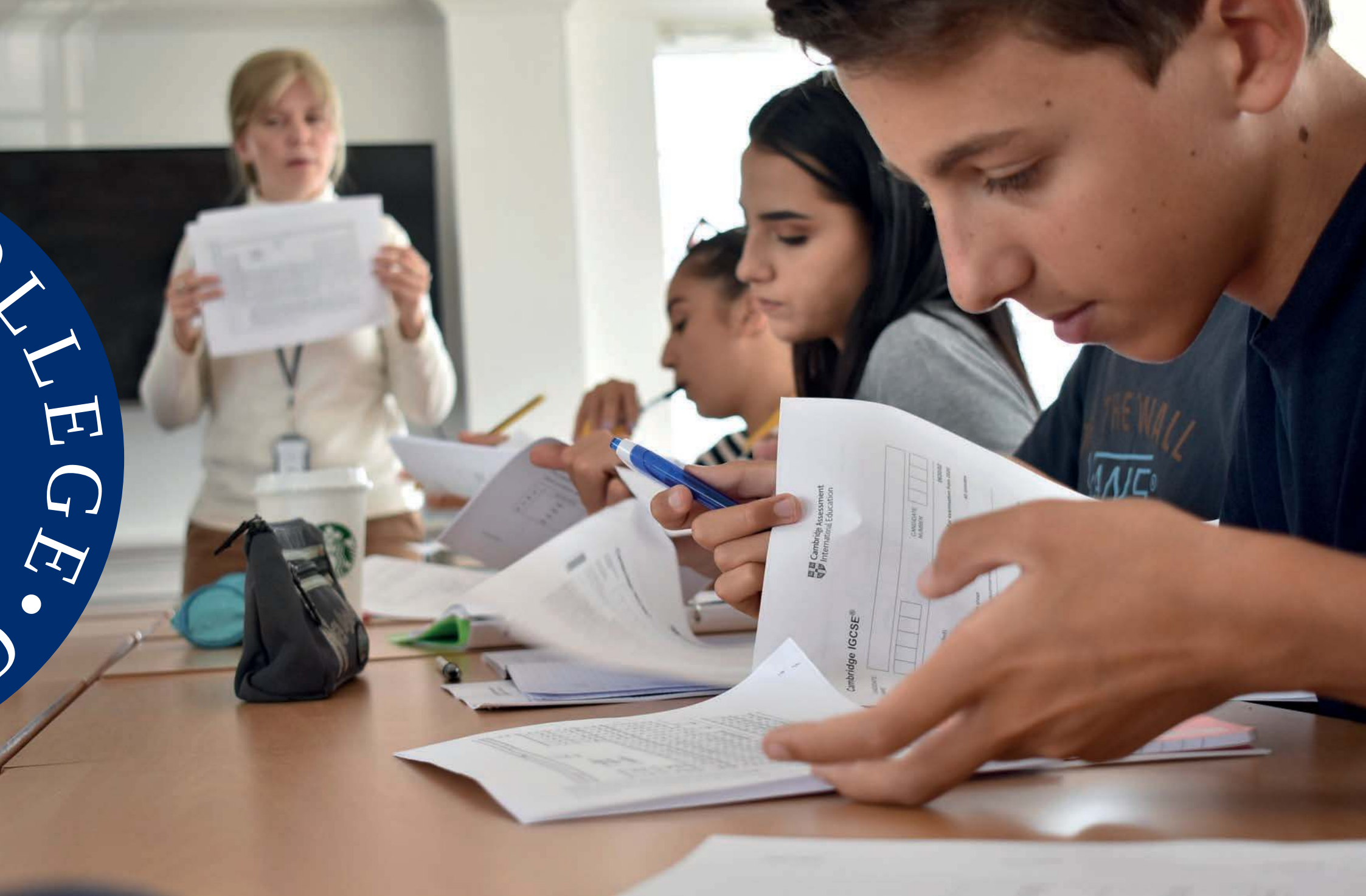
8. EASTER REVISION

As a result of increasing competition for the limited number of top places, universities are demanding ever higher grades from applicants. Cherwell College recognises that in order to produce the high standard of work, students may well need to go beyond their syllabus requirements

The College has successfully pioneered Easter Revision Courses for over 35 years, which have been designed specifically to provide an intensive regime of examination preparation and study skills for those students wishing to achieve the best possible grades in forthcoming public examinations. The course involves intensive tuition comprising: small group and/or individual tuition together with seminars, exam techniques and mock examinations.

Easter Revision Courses are intense, personalised, and exam focussed, run over a 3-week period during March/April each year.





9. RETAKES

One-year retake courses: Where a student has fallen short of their targets by more than one grade, the issue is usually a combination of insufficient understanding of the content and it is advisable to revisit and review the entire syllabus, systematically addressing areas for improvement and rebuilding confidence through careful explanation of the key topics. In some cases, the student may decide to switch to a new examination board which may offer benefits more suited to their individual learning styles, whether this be a greater emphasis on coursework or a greater choice of optional topics more closely aligned to the student's interests. One-year courses offer the additional benefit of enabling the College to oversee and support the university reapplication which is of particular benefit to students applying to competitive courses such as Architecture, Law or Medicine.

One or two-term booster courses: Some students only need to re-sit specific units to secure their target grades and in these cases a short retake course, focusing primarily on examination technique and practice, will often be sufficient, enabling students to concentrate on specific areas for improvement in the subjects they are resitting.

Hence, the College offers a bespoke educational provision for A-level and (I)GCSE retake courses as follows:

- **1-year (i.e. 3-term) A-level & (I)GCSE retake programmes;**
- **1 to 2-term A-level & (I)GCSE booster programmes;**





10. ADMISSIONS

If you are interested in applying to Cherwell College Oxford, you may do so by emailing to secretary@cherwell-college.co.uk or by submitting an enquiry form via our website (www.cherwell-college.co.uk) specifying your full name, date of birth, contact email address, contact telephone number, programme choice (*e.g. A-level, GCSE etc.*). A member of the College Admissions Team will then contact you to advise further on the application process and entry requirements for your chosen programme of study.







1. Administration & Study Centre

St George's Mansion, George Street,
Oxford OX1 2AR

2. Science Faculty

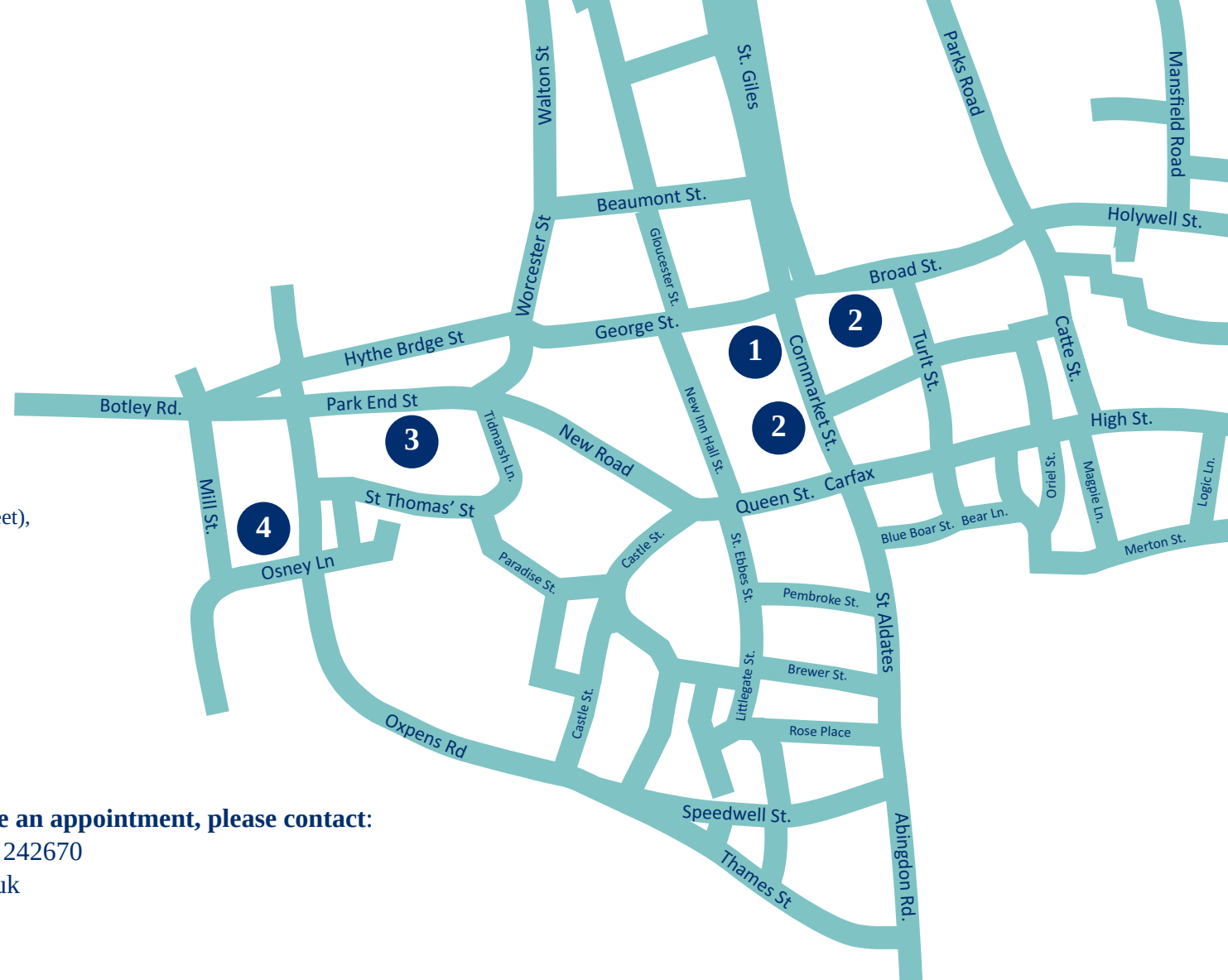
2 Frewin Court, Oxford OX1 3HZ
51 Cornmarket Street, OX1 3HA

3. Art Faculty

Cantay House, Park End Street,
Oxford OX1 1JD

4. Boarding Accommodation

Cherwell House, Osney Lane (off Mill Street),
Oxford OX1 1BZ



For further information or to arrange an appointment, please contact:

The College Secretary on +44 (0) 1865 242670

Email: secretary@cherwell-college.co.uk

www.cherwell-college.co.uk

SCHOOL FACTS & LOCATION:

School type: co-educational, boarding & day

Religion: non-denominational

Location: Oxford (Southern England)

Nearest Airports: Heathrow (56min drive); Luton (1hr 15min drive); Gatwick (2hr drive)

