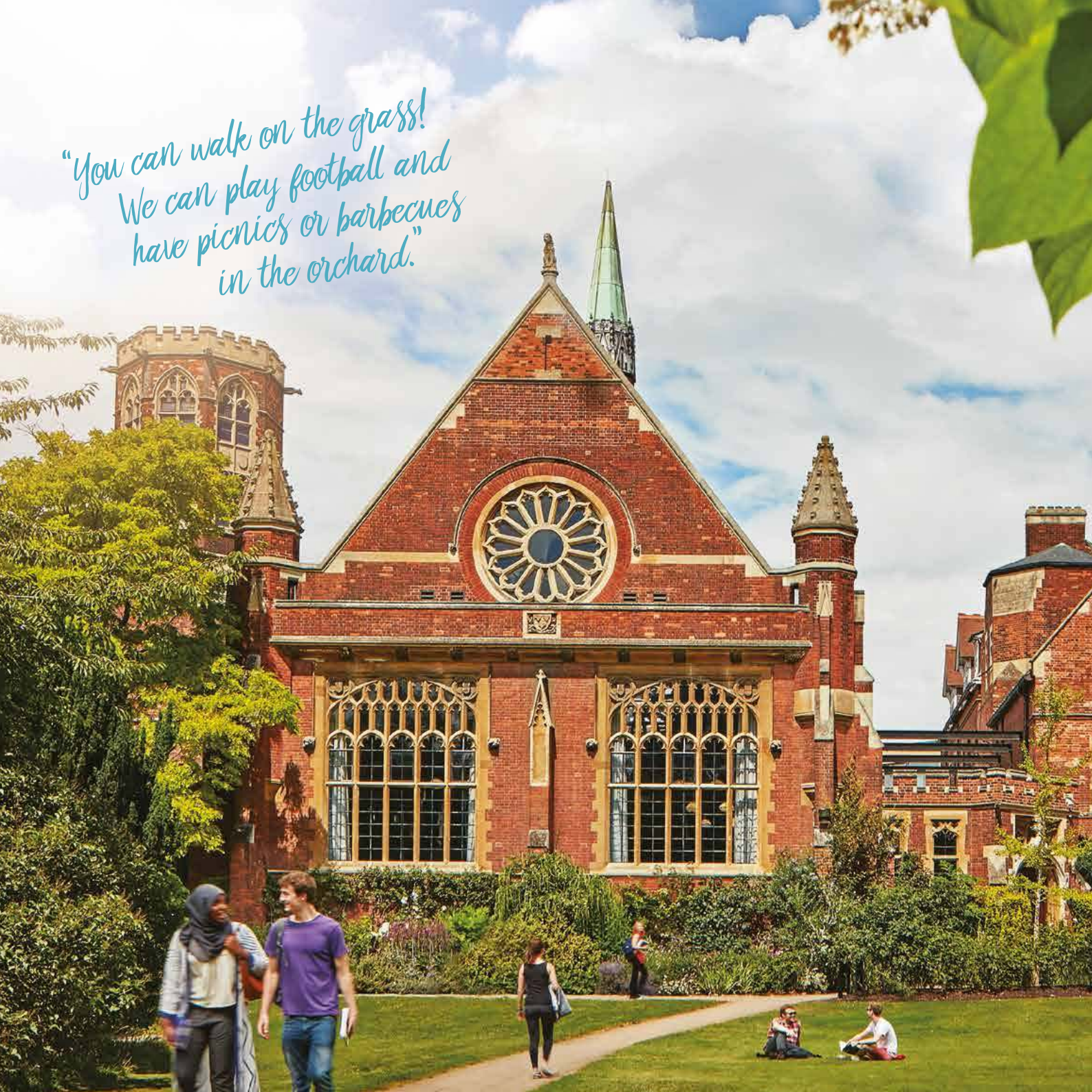




**HOMERTON COLLEGE**  
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE



*"You can walk on the grass!  
We can play football and  
have picnics or barbecues  
in the orchard."*





# Welcome to Home<sup>rton</sup>



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## Principal's message

What strikes you first are the gardens. Our 25 acre campus is one of the largest of the Cambridge Colleges, and boasts summer tennis courts, an orchard, a meadow and plenty of green space in which to walk and think.

Homerton has excellent accommodation (most of it en-suite and all of it on campus), a modern, light and airy College Library, and all the sports, music and drama that you would expect in the largest and newest Cambridge College. We take pride in being modern, progressive and inclusive, whilst still retaining the culture and traditions of the University. Our "formal halls" – candle-lit dinners in our beautiful Victorian Great Hall – are legendary.

And so you can find peace and quiet inside our gates. Step out into busy Cambridge, and a cinema, bowling alley, shops and a variety of restaurants are all within easy walking distance (as are Addenbrooke's Hospital and the biomedical campus), and the city centre is only a short bike ride away.

Our students excel not only in their studies, but in the whole range of activities that make university so exciting. This is a holistic education that will bring out all of your talents. We care about your success. Even after you have graduated you will always be a Homertonian – and our employability statistics are outstanding, even by Cambridge's standards.

We are often described as Cambridge's friendliest college, where you can walk on the grass. Come and walk with us.

**Professor Geoff Ward**  
Principal

# Studying at Homerton

Homerton's large, welcoming and peaceful campus is a great place to study. Every student is assigned to a Director of Studies (DoS) who is responsible for overseeing their academic development.

Directors of Studies will organise supervisors to help you with work, give study advice, host social events, and help you apply for placements and jobs. Your DoS is usually a Fellow of the College and is easy to get in touch with. As you progress through your course your DoS will build up a good knowledge of your individual strengths and needs, making them ever more able to advise you academically and to support your ambitions. All students attend the same lectures and practicals provided by their Faculty or Department, but supervisions, the small group teaching that is so central to being a student in Cambridge, are provided by your College and organised by your DoS.

So, why are supervisions so important? They offer a level of personal support that lectures, practicals and seminars can't provide. Sometimes supervisions are one-to-one meetings for you to discuss a project with an expert in the field. More usually, there are two, three or four students with a supervisor, facilitating exciting discussion. All students have, at least, one hour-long supervision on a recent topic every week, but you could have up to four.

Supervisions give you a chance to ask questions and to get feedback on recent work. They stretch you to think through what you have heard in lectures or have been reading about, and help you to develop your own thinking, understanding and presentational skills. Many of your supervisions in Homerton will be given by the College's own Fellows, but, as you become more specialised in your field, increasingly your DoS will look to the whole University to find additional respected experts on particular topics.

The supervision system results in a rich and exciting student experience with the rare opportunity to talk face-to-face and to discuss your work with world-leading experts.

As Directors of Studies look after academic life, so all students have a personal Tutor, another Fellow of Homerton, who can help with everything else. They are there to support you in any way they can.





# Admissions

Homerton admits students who are willing to take on the challenge of our academic courses. Further details of the admissions process and information about particular subjects can be found at:



[www.homerton.cam.ac.uk](http://www.homerton.cam.ac.uk)

or you can contact the admissions team at



[admissions@homerton.cam.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@homerton.cam.ac.uk)

We are looking for students who have performed outstandingly well in their academic studies to date and who have the enthusiasm, commitment, and potential to go much further. We will ask to see evidence of a strong desire to explore the chosen subject in detail and depth. We will expect a strong performance in any written assessments. When choosing our students we look at the whole picture, setting academic attainment in the context of background and opportunities.

We actively encourage applications from all social groups, from diverse educational backgrounds and from different regions and countries. Our only criterion is academic potential.

We will interview the vast majority of applicants. Interviews are the last part of the selection process (though no more important than other indicators) and after they are completed we use their results to supplement all of the other information that we have about you. We spend a substantial amount of time considering the strengths and weaknesses of each individual candidate, ensuring that we make fair and informed decisions.





HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

# Why Apply to Homerton?

Homerton is a large Cambridge College, one of the biggest in terms of undergraduate student numbers.

It is bustling and busy, with exciting and interesting activities always going on. If you join us you will find you make friends for life; with neighbours on your corridor, with people in the same subject, with those who share the same interests and have joined the same societies, and with those you just happened to sit next to at a Formal Hall – that's what a College is. There are some features, however, that we think make us stand out.

## **Our students**

Our student body is one of the most diverse in Cambridge. Every year Homerton welcomes academically able students, whatever their background might be. We have students here from every part of the UK, as well as from a wide range of countries from Europe and from further afield.

All that matters for getting a place is to excel academically, but, of course, if you're good at other things, then we are always willing to help you pursue your talents – so long as the work comes first!

We are delighted by the diversity of our students. Homerton is a friendly, open college, where students quickly settle in and begin to think of Homerton as 'home'.



# Cambridge's Friendliest College



*"The best thing about Homerton really is its people - staff and students. There's such a strong sense of community here. Within the student body, there's a real sense of 'we're all in this together' rather than competing with each other. I've not met anyone at Homerton who isn't super friendly, and it even has a university-wide reputation for being extremely welcoming! In my opinion, the people you are surrounded by will always be at the core of your university experience, and in that respect I can't think of anywhere that beats Homerton."*

**Amy**, 3rd year Linguistics student



Guaranteed  
Accommodation  
for all undergraduates  
throughout their  
course.



## Accommodation

Our student rooms are right here on site at Homerton. Most undergraduates live in either the two purpose-built student halls, West House and South Court, or in the older, Victorian, part of the College. All of these offer individual study bedrooms with en-suite facilities and access to a shared kitchen with a hob, microwave, toaster and fridge.

After the first year we have a few rooms with shared bathrooms that are a bit cheaper but all incoming students are guaranteed a room in West House. We also have enough rooms to ensure that all students have a guaranteed offer of on-site accommodation for the duration of their course.

Rooms are designed to work in as well as sleep so there is a desk, space for books and, of course, everything you need to get online. They are safe places,

with their own card key system for getting into your hall (so strangers can't!).

Homerton offers good value for money - there are no extra charges for high speed internet connection, or cleaning, or bedding and towels. We offer rooms for term time, without charging when students are away back home (as would be the case in the market outside). This makes Homerton and Cambridge a relatively inexpensive place to live for students.

The Porters' Lodge is open 24 hours a day and 7 days a week so there is always someone close to contact in case of worry. Our Porters are willing and able to help in any way they can: students will tell you the Porters are brilliantly supportive.



## Eating and Socialising

Colleges are communities and one vital part of this is eating together. Every day there is a cafeteria lunch and dinner with a diverse choice of food, and there's always breakfast in the Buttery, and a weekend brunch for late risers.

Once a week, we have "formal halls" in which dinner is served by candlelight. Fellows come dressed up in their academic gowns, but this is optional for you. Sometimes these 'Formals' are used by Tutors to invite their new students to meet them and each other. We eat in the splendid Great Hall, a grand vaulted Gothic space seen at its best when real owls fly over the heads of delighted diners at an annual special charity Formal Hall with a magical theme.

The Hall looks lovely by candlelight and it's also big enough to hold a whole year of students for grand ceremonial occasions such as the special events at the beginning (Matriculation Dinner) middle (Half-way Hall) and end (Graduands Dinner) of our students' time in Homerton.


Our students have a real say in setting the costs of accommodation and eating, working with us to keep the standards high and the costs low.

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### and more...

We also have a Buttery (for breakfast, snacks, hot drinks, sandwiches and cakes etc.), a Bar, where the JCR/Homerton Union of Students host events like pub quizzes, casino nights, and comedy sessions (as well as Sky TV to show all the major sports events), an on-site gym, and even a dance studio.





*"It's just the most buzzing,  
lively, friendly atmosphere,  
and I love being a part of it."*



# Facilities

## Library

Homerton Library is a bright, spacious, calm place to work. The building is modern and elegant with access to all of the material required for most subjects in the first years of your course (the rest will be found in Faculty libraries or in the University Library - to both of which our students have full access). We have a good and ever-growing collection of books with some very special collections, most notably a collection of children's literature of national importance – and regular use. The Library staff are happy to answer your questions about finding your way around reading lists and research requirements from your supervisors. The Library has good IT provision and is open 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

## IT

We have an IT suite for those who didn't want to bring their own computer, or who prefer not to work in their rooms. This has most of the software that you will need for work (and is the same as that used in Faculties and Departments). You can also plug in or use Wi-Fi from your own room and with your own laptop. The IT department are always ready to help you with technical problems. Please see our website for more detailed information about the services we offer.

## Gym

We have a well-equipped gym onsite, which is also open 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.





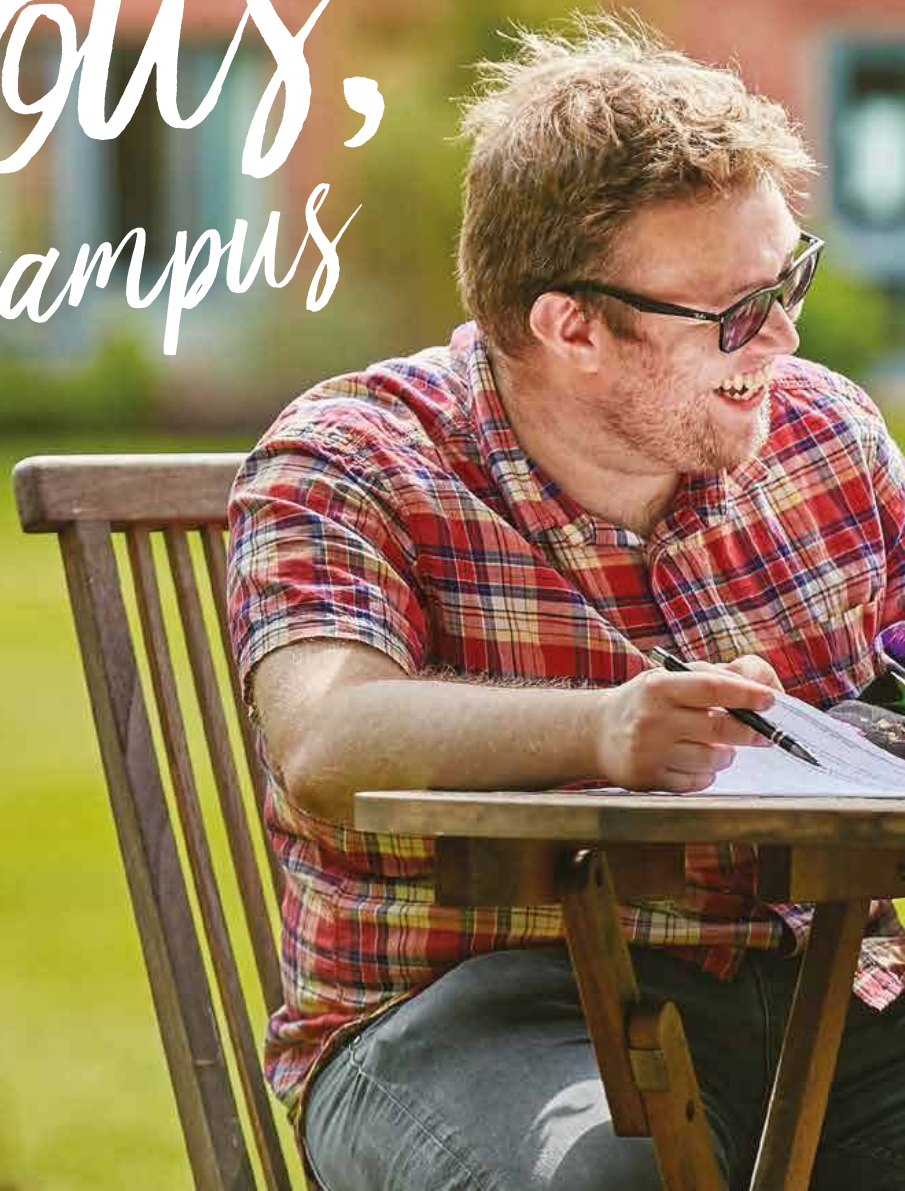
*A place to work,  
a place to workout*



# Bright, spacious, Green campus

*"Being a student at Homerton has been an amazing experience. For me, a typical day would start with exercise or a lie in, followed by morning lectures and a library trip to collect books for the week's essay. I find studying in Homerton pleasant because everything you need is around you and there is always someone you can find to take a break with!"*

**Rachel**, 3rd year Theology student



## Student Life at Homerton

Homerton is a lively community. Students here enjoy a great atmosphere, a wide variety of societies and an active students' union. Whether your interest lies in sport, student politics, art, drama or just socialising, you'll find people at Homerton to share it with. If there's something you want to do here that we don't already do, don't worry!

The Homerton Union of Students will be there to help you set up and organise new activities and societies. And if you want a place to relax after a day in the library, a sports match or a performance, Homerton's extensive grounds and gardens provide the ideal location to do so.

Homerton students also get involved in University-wide societies, meeting people from other colleges. Whatever your interest, there is probably a university society for it, and the students' union will point you in the right direction.

Here is just a snapshot:

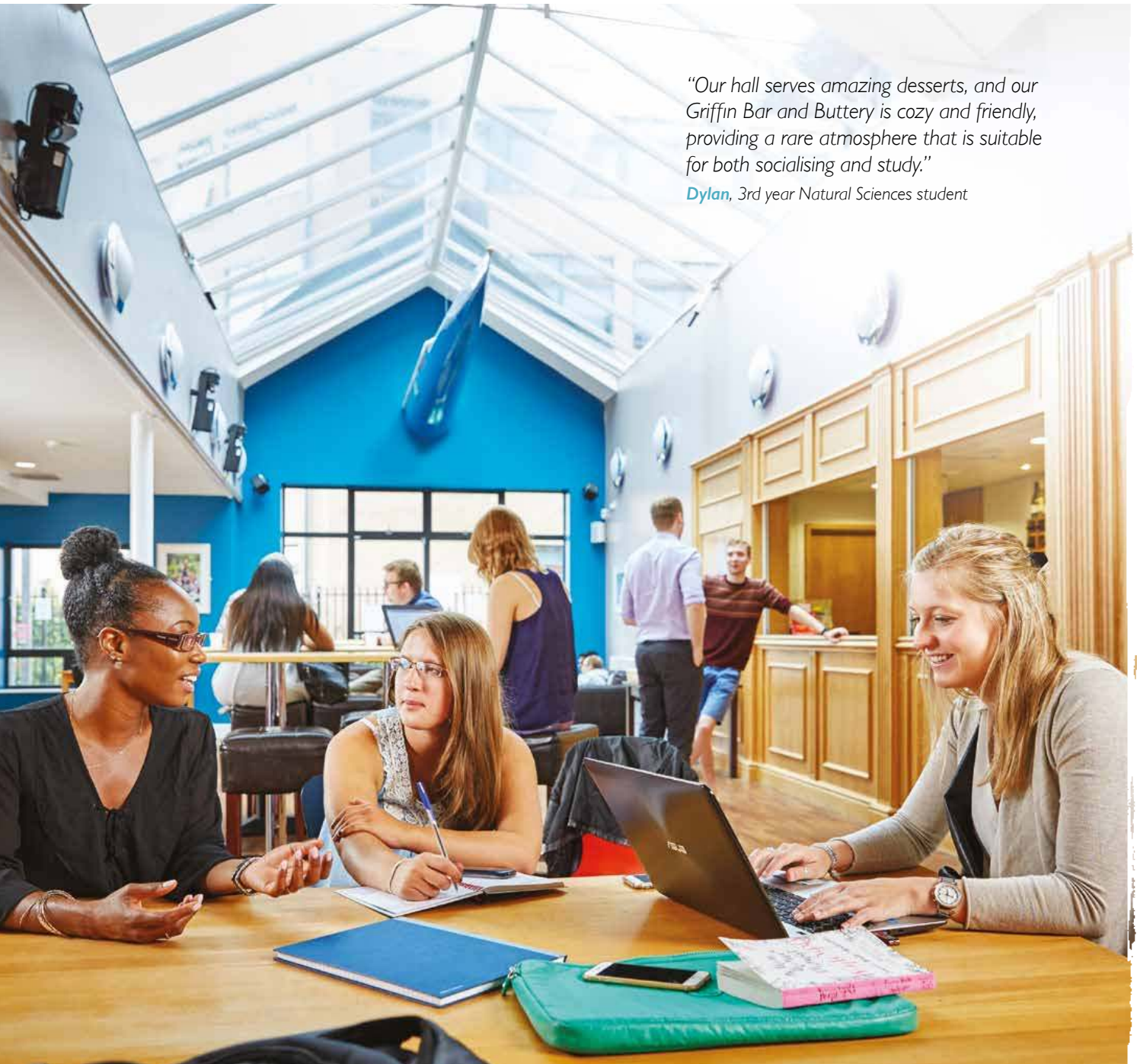
### Sport

Homerton has sports fields on campus, and is developing a brand new site, close to College, which will have all weather pitches, available for use all year round. Homerton has very active rowing, rugby, football, and hockey clubs (all for both men and women), and burgeoning tennis and lacrosse teams, too. We also do pretty well at Ultimate Frisbee and Quidditch.



*“Our hall serves amazing desserts, and our Griffin Bar and Buttery is cozy and friendly, providing a rare atmosphere that is suitable for both socialising and study.”*

*Dylan, 3rd year Natural Sciences student*



## Drama

Homerton has a strong drama scene and has its own drama society, the Homerton Amateur Theatre Society. HATS put on shows both in Homerton and in town, and have even taken plays up to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival for the past few years.

And of course, Homerton students are able to perform in University drama societies, and are extremely active in Footlights (the comedy society) and in the Amateur Dramatic Club (the ADC). This long standing University-wide club has its own theatre in the centre of town, and you will nearly always find a Homerton student in one of the productions there.

## Music

Homerton has a variety of music societies to suit every taste. The Charter Choir, created in celebration of gaining our College Charter in 2010, is the main College Choir. It has developed a very good and rising reputation in a Cambridge filled with excellent college choirs. We also have a non-audition choir. The College has an un-auditioned orchestra, a jazz band (HoJO) that regularly plays in the bar after Formal Halls, and the steel pan band 'Absolute Pandemonium'.



## In Brief



Modern, spacious and bright three storey library



Onsite sports pitches and courts



Music practice rooms



Fully equipped gym and dance studio

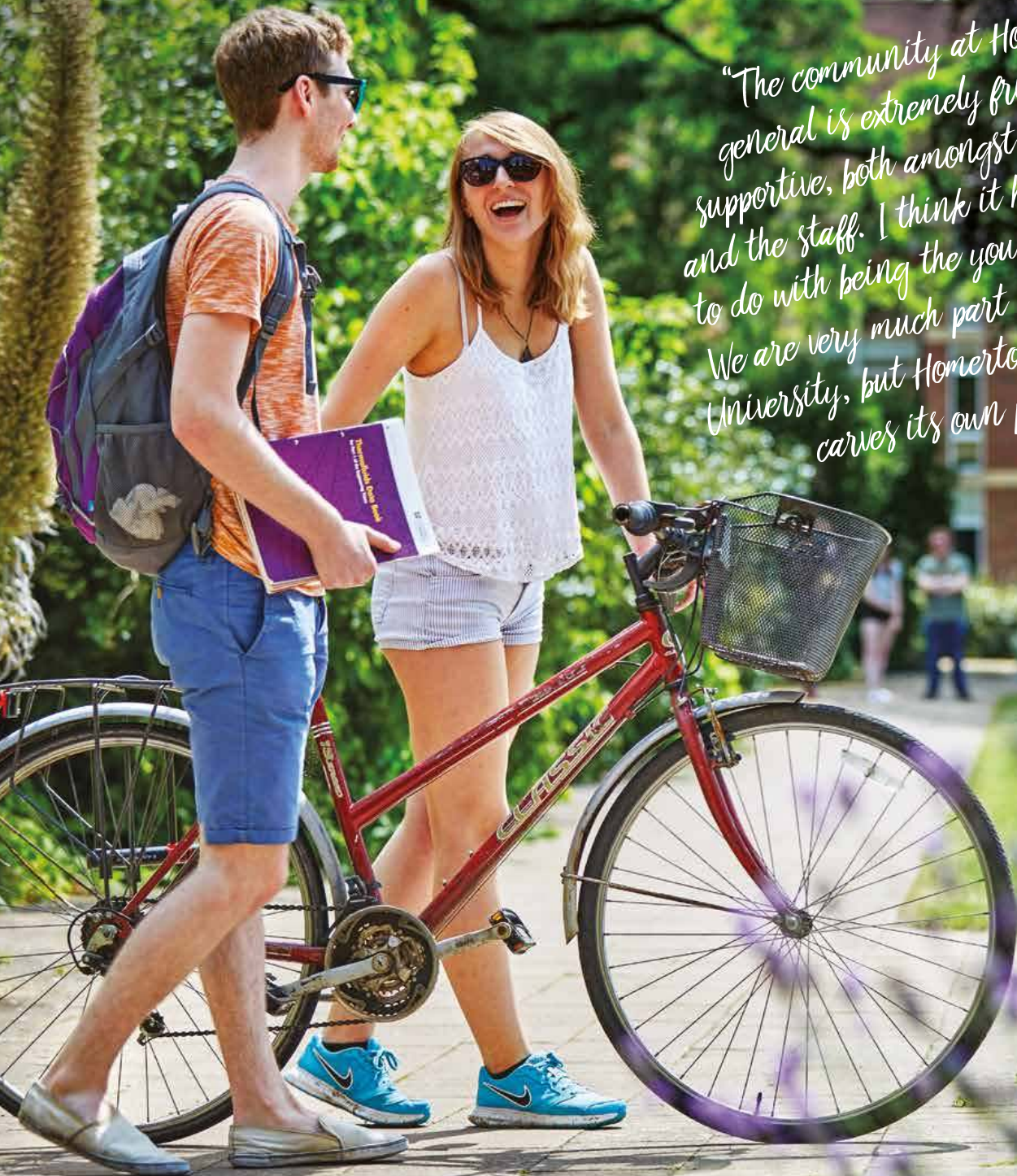


Hot lunch and dinner for students every day



Onsite auditorium and studio

*"The community at Homerton in general is extremely friendly and supportive, both amongst the students and the staff. I think it has something to do with being the youngest college. We are very much part of the wider University, but Homerton definitely carves its own path."*



# Support and Welfare

Colleges provide you with a Tutor. Your Tutor is there as a friend and a helping hand if you need it in all kinds of pastoral matters. They are usually chosen from different academic backgrounds and if possible are a different gender from your DoS, so that you always feel you have got somebody you can approach whatever the problem.

The Tutorial system is one of the reasons we manage to keep our students (the highest retention rate in the country) and see them through to a degree. Homerton also has a Dean (in charge of making sure the rules are kept - and with 700 or so living here we need some rules!), a trained counsellor, in case of more difficult personal problems, and an onsite Student Health Advisor (qualified nurse). All Colleges offer academic and personal support to their students. At Homerton we like to think we do it very well - without ramming help down your throats if you don't want it.

Help is also available through the Homerton Union of Students, whose welfare officers are often the first port of call for troubled students. The union also organises a special mentoring system that starts before you even arrive at Cambridge. You will be allocated student "parents" who will welcome you to the college, show you around, and give advice.

We also have officers of the College, from the Porters to the Principal, who are keen to make it as easy as possible for you to shine and do the best that you can in your chosen field. If you want to read under a tree in our orchard and wait, Newton-like, for an apple to drop; or if you want to work on a project with other students (and therefore need a place to argue); or if you just want to sit in your room and puzzle out a thorny equation, then we will do our best to make that possible and productive.





# Life after Homerton

When you graduate, and leave the College and the University, you never cease to be a member of the College. We are always delighted when former students return to see us and tell us how their life is progressing.

Homerton has regular events for former students to come back to, including a very popular dinner the year after you graduate. While you have been a student here, your Tutors will have encouraged you to visit and make use of the University's Careers Service. Homerton students overall have a superb record: 96% are employed or in further study within 6 months of graduating. Getting a degree from Cambridge pays off not just in terms of starting salary, but in terms of real choice about which career you want. It is a cause of great satisfaction to the College when our students go on to thrive in the big world outside - or indeed carry on academically at this or another university, stretching the frontiers of knowledge. Either way, you will always be welcome in Homerton.

We hope that you have enjoyed reading about Homerton, and might consider coming to spend some time with us. We are always delighted to hear from potential applicants. You can come and visit us on our open days, or simply drop by to have a look around. If you have any questions about the admissions process, or would like to speak to one of our academics, please do get in touch.





# HOMERTON COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

## Homerton College

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