



St Hugh's College, Oxford

From the Senior Tutor

August 2026

Dear Families, Parents, Carers, Guardians, and all those who support our students:

We are very happy to be welcoming a student close to you to St Hugh's College. Gaining a place is already a major milestone, and we are sure that there will be many more fine achievements to come. We are confident that 'your student' will have the opportunity to grow and thrive in our College community throughout their University life.

We appreciate that the moment when a cherished young person leaves for university is a significant one for those around them, too. It's normal and natural for you to have concerns as well as hopes. There are many things you can do to help them before they leave. Having conversations early with your student about looking after themselves, about managing their money and their time, about simple things like laundry or supplying a few basic recipes for when they have missed lunch or dinner in hall! You can also talk about coping strategies for the times when life throws up challenges. Anything you do in advance of their arrival in Oxford to promote their independence and resilience is time well spent on their behalf.

Once your student is in College, however, we are limited by law as to what we are able to share about them with families, parents, guardians, or others in their support networks. The College's [Student Privacy Notice](#) and the University's [Student Privacy Policy](#) both apply at all times. They mean that we cannot share information with you about your student without their consent. This can feel frustrating for loved ones who are concerned, but if a student is legally an adult and not considered to be at risk of serious harm to themselves or others, they must consent before any information about them is disclosed to anyone else at all.

They will be looked after, however. The College's [Health & Wellbeing](#) webpage outlines the support available at St Hugh's and the University of Oxford. Our support networks are strong and effective.

We both look forward to meeting all the new students when they arrive in October and to working with them closely throughout their degrees.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Robert Vilain
Senior Tutor

Jo Thompson
Student Support Coordinator