



EMMANUEL COLLEGE
ST ANDREW'S STREET
CAMBRIDGE
CB2 3AP
UK

Cassia Hare
MA VetMB AFHEA DAVCP MRCVS
Director of Studies in Veterinary Medicine

Email: chzh2@cam.ac.uk

Dear Vet Freshers,

Congratulations on earning your place at Cambridge! I am very much looking forward to seeing you at Emmanuel at the start of term but in the meantime, wanted to introduce myself and provide a little information about the College teaching programme and what to expect when you arrive.

I will be both your Director of Studies (DoS, responsible for overseeing your academic progress and supervisions) and Veterinary School Clinical Supervisor (VSCS, responsible for overseeing your professional development including EMS placements). I am a Cambridge graduate myself (although from Sidney Sussex College, back in 2014) and now work as a specialist in Clinical Pathology at the Vet School. At Emma, I work closely with the Directors of Studies in Preclinical Medicine, Dr David Inwald and Dr Richard Barnes, as well as Dr Penny Watson, a Veterinary Internal Medicine Specialist and Emeritus Fellow who was DoS at Emmanuel for many years. All of them will become familiar and friendly faces around college and bring a wealth of experience across different areas.

Much of the teaching over the first two years of the course is shared with the medics, and you will be supported by a team of supervisors who over the first year, include Dr Bill Broadhurst (MIMS – Biochemistry) and Drs Inwald and Barnes (HOM- Physiology). Anatomy is of course taught separately(!) and is supervised by Prof David Bainbridge, who you may have met already at one of the Open or Offer Holder days. Supervisions are one of the aspects that make the Cambridge experience unique and as with many things, you get out what you put in. I have no doubt that you will make the best use of these and other academic opportunities available to you. Further information on the course and key aspects of professionalism are covered in the Veterinary Students Handbook – please make sure to read this before you join us. We will chat further about College teaching and how best to hit the ground running at the start of term.

When you arrive at Emma, you will be well looked after and have a busy but enjoyable orientation and Freshers week, in which you will meet me, your pastoral Tutor and your colleagues. There will be plenty of opportunities to sign up for activities at the Freshers Fairs and whilst the Veterinary course has one of the most demanding timetables amongst undergraduates, I encourage you to make time to do things you enjoy outside of work too. Being able to balance your time in this way is a key skill that will stand you in good stead for your future careers and there is lots of support available should you need it. The first couple of weeks is likely to feel like a bit of a whirlwind, so if there is anything you are worried about, please don't hesitate to talk to us – we are here to help, we won't judge and we have all been there!

Please don't hesitate to contact me by email (chzh2@cam.ac.uk) if there is anything you would like to chat about before October and otherwise, I will look forward to seeing you then.

Best wishes,

Cassia