

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE



EMMANUEL College



# Welcome to EMMANUEL


Emmanuel College is usually referred to in Cambridge as 'Emma', and we have a reputation for friendliness and informality as well as for academic excellence.

We are proud not just of our students' exam results, but also for their other achievements in the rest of their time here. Our central aim is to provide the most supportive environment we can for our students. Whether you are visiting the College in person, or reading this prospectus a long way from Cambridge, we invite you here to learn more about life and work at Emmanuel.

We very much hope that you can imagine yourself here, and welcome you to apply.

Welcome to Emmanuel	02
Why Emmanuel	04
Your life at Emmanuel	06
Education at Emmanuel	10
Applying to Emmanuel	12
Glossary	14





Emmanuel is one of the larger colleges, occupying peaceful and extensive grounds right in the heart of Cambridge. Our students are academically ambitious, but are also encouraged to participate and excel in a host of other activities, such as sport, music and drama.

All students studying at the University of Cambridge have to be a member of a College. If you wish to apply to a particular College, you should try and find out as much as you can about it beforehand – by reading a prospectus like this, by consulting the college website, and (if possible) by visiting on an Open Day. Alternatively it is possible to make an 'open' application and have your application assigned randomly to a College. Either way, please note that there is no special academic advantage associated with an individual college; all offer the same excellent educational opportunities, and most of the teaching takes place within the University Departments. Colleges support this learning by offering more personal tuition through a system of 'supervisions'. They also usually form a student's primary community.



Emmanuel is committed to providing a welcoming atmosphere in which every student – whatever their background – can pursue both academic and personal goals.

We have a large number of Fellows offering a wide range of expertise in their specialist subjects, and who are all dedicated to maintaining our students' outstanding academic examination results. At the same time, we want to give students space to make their own way, academically and socially. We encourage them in whatever ambitions they pursue, during and after their time here, because they remain members of the College forever.

We hope that we can give you a flavour of this in the rest of this prospectus.

Emmanuel is known as much for its friendly reputation as for its consistently high academic results. When last asked, students from across the University voted Emmanuel as the college they would pick, if they had to choose to be a member of a college other than their own.

## THE COLLEGE

Founded in 1584, Emmanuel today houses 450 undergraduates, 90 fellows, and around 150 graduate students. It is on the larger side in terms of student numbers, but despite being located on one of the busiest streets in Cambridge, Emmanuel has a peaceful and friendly atmosphere, with beautiful lawns, superb buildings ancient and modern, a swimming pool, and several ponds, home to gigantic fish, and to the ducks that have become the unofficial mascots of the College.

## STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

We guarantee accommodation for each year of your course. First years live in either North Court or South Court. Second and third years have a wide choice of rooms, in houses a short distance from the college, or in rooms in East Court, New Court and Old Court. Most have shared bathrooms and self-catering facilities, but increasing numbers of rooms are en suite. All have fast internet access, fridges as well as all the normal furniture, and with cleaning services included. Even better, we are the only College in Cambridge to offer a (free) laundry service!

## FOOD AND DRINK

Corridors have limited self-catering facilities, so most people choose to eat their meals in hall. We cater for vegetarians, vegans, and other dietary requirements. Most hall meals are self-service, but you also have the option of 'formal hall', which is a sit-down meal you pay for in advance, and a great (and cheap!) alternative to eating out at a restaurant, very popular for special occasions like birthdays.

The College is in the heart of town, with cafes, restaurants, pubs, newsagents and supermarkets right on our doorstep. For sweets and nibbles, ECSU also runs a shop, and there are vending machines and the College bar for snack emergencies.

## COMMUNITY LIFE

Emmanuel has a wealth of facilities for relaxation, social events, and spare time. We have one of the best-loved student bars, run by students, and among the cheapest in Cambridge. It is large enough to host regular DJ nights and live bands, and to show sports events on the projector screen. It is open during the day as an informal place to work, drink coffee or play table football. The Junior Combination Room (JCR) is a quiet alternative – a relaxed, spacious room with squashy sofas, a large TV, and a selection of games.



The Queen's Building contains a large auditorium which students use for plays, concerts, films, and guest lectures. The Emmanuel College Film Society shows films every week, free of charge, and REDS (the Revived Emmanuel Dramatic Society) stages plays at least once a term either in the theatre or in the grounds. We also have a darkroom for photographers, and an art room for anyone wanting to get creative.

In Easter Term, there is the open-air swimming pool to look forward to (even if it is just for sunbathing), plus tennis or croquet in the Paddock. In recent years, 'stress-busting' events have also been arranged, such as yoga, t'ai chi, quality time with guide-dog puppies, and, for the more energetic, zumba and a bouncy castle!

## MUSIC

Music is a vital part of life at Emmanuel. The Music Society puts on concerts and recitals throughout the year, and there are Instrumental Awards, Organ Scholarships, Choral Awards and funds for tuition available to support students. An organ, two grand pianos, several upright pianos and a harpsichord are available for students to play, and there are rehearsal rooms that you can book too. There are always student bands and DJs at Emmanuel, and there is plenty of opportunity to showcase your talent in the bar.

## SPORT

Emmanuel's sporting facilities are excellent. Squash courts, a fitness suite, a table-tennis room and the swimming pool can all be found on the College site, as well as tennis courts and a croquet lawn in the Easter term. Our sportsground is on the western side of the city, a few minutes away by bike, with facilities for cricket, football, hockey, netball, rugby and tennis. We also have a superb boathouse, with its own gym. Many Emmanuel students become involved with College or University sport, and those who excel are eligible for financial support (though we encourage sport for fitness and fun as well as for glory!).

## HELP AND SUPPORT

Cambridge is unusual in the level of support it provides. Your Director of Studies (DoS) oversees your academic progress, whilst your Tutor provides more general support and guidance. Other resources accessible within College include a Counsellor, the College Nurse, the Dean, a dedicated Advisor to Women Students, and a Tutor with special responsibility for Disabilities (currently the Senior Tutor). Tutors work closely with representatives from the Emmanuel College Student Union (ECSU) to make sure that you settle in in Freshers' Week and enjoy the rest of your time here. The Porters are also always available in the Porters' Lodge and, in addition to making an excellent cup of tea, they can always find assistance for you if you need it, particularly in an emergency.

If you prefer to look outside the College for support there are central University facilities such as the Counselling Service, the University Dental Service, the University Disability Resource Centre, the Careers Service and the University of Cambridge Student Union, which has a full time Welfare Officer, an Academic Affairs Officer and a Women's Officer. All of these resources are available confidentially on self-referral.

## RELIGIOUS LIFE

Within the University all religious groups are catered for. Emmanuel Chapel, one of the great works of Sir Christopher Wren, is used regularly for services led by the Dean. The College regularly plays host to meetings of all faiths and communities, and we also have a reflection room for multi-faith worship, prayer, and contemplation.

We believe the atmosphere at Emmanuel is not something that can be easily replicated, with all the right facilities, but also the people who make it special. We invite you to come and see for yourself!



The colleges provide the hub to the personal contact that is the distinguishing factor that marks out education at the University of Cambridge.

Emmanuel's personal approach starts when we select students and continues throughout the duration of their courses. Undergraduates are generally in residence in the College for three ten-week periods each year, which embrace the three eight-week University terms in which teaching and examinations are concentrated. The pace of learning is intense and courses' contents can challenge even the most talented students; but we use our experience to try to select students who we believe can meet that challenge. A lot is packed into the weeks of teaching and we respond by tailoring teaching and ensuring that student and teacher work together much more closely than is the case at most other universities. All students



are allocated a Director of Studies (DoS), a specialist academic (and at Emmanuel in most cases a Fellow of the College), whose responsibility is to oversee students' progress over their courses and to organise college teaching.

Besides going to lectures and – for science students – lab classes, which are organised centrally by the University and are attended together by students from all the different colleges, Cambridge undergraduates attend supervisions (one-hour sessions when students, either alone or more commonly in small groups, meet an academic specialist in their subjects). Supervisions are organised by DoSs and form the core of college teaching. In supervisions it is possible to discuss in more detail work covered elsewhere and to extend learning beyond lectures and lab classes. Normally students will have weekly supervisions corresponding to topics covered by their university course that year. Students usually prepare work for supervisions and each supervisor writes a report on each student's progress each term. This helps DoSs and Tutors to monitor students' progress. At Emmanuel we have one of the largest active teaching Fellowships; and because the College believes it important to support a wide range of subjects, it also has teaching Fellows in many smaller subjects. The proportion of undergraduates



reading a particular subject at Emmanuel reflects closely the proportion of the student body in the University as a whole. Funds are available to aid students in their studies (for example for appropriate courses for field work, language courses or perhaps to work in a foreign research laboratory or library over the summer).

An important aspect of a Cambridge undergraduate education is that the collegiate system means that students meet and live with individuals who are studying subjects far-removed from their own and who may also come from backgrounds far-removed from their own. Emmanuel is a mid-sized college (admitting around 150 undergraduates each year), which means that it is big enough to provide diversity in its student body, but small enough to create a feeling of community and friendliness.

Students often bring their own computers to Cambridge and all undergraduate rooms have connections for high-speed internet access and Emmanuel also has well-equipped computer rooms (connected with networked teaching resources provided by the University) with up-to-date computers, scanners and printers.

As well as having access to many libraries run by the University, Emmanuel students are also able to use the large recently-rebuilt and modernised College library, which stocks core textbooks needed for all students' courses. DoSs each year make sure that the library purchases up-to-date textbooks and periodicals related to degree reading lists. Students are encouraged to make purchasing suggestions as well.



Emmanuel prospers on diversity. It provides an environment in which academically able students, from whatever background, can be happy and flourish.

### VISITING THE COLLEGE

If you want to find out a little more about Cambridge, your prospective course and the College then there are several things you can do. The best way to have all your questions answered and to get a real feel for the place is to come on one of our regular Admissions Open Days. The details are posted online at: [www.emma.cam.ac.uk](http://www.emma.cam.ac.uk) and [www.cam.ac.uk](http://www.cam.ac.uk). In addition, the College website has a number of short video clips that may be of interest about student life and interviews. The University website contains detailed information about the courses on offer and the specific requirements, if any, for admission to those courses. We accept that not everyone can manage to come

on one of our official Open Days and so we will try to meet students who, for good reason, want to visit at other times. These informal visits should be arranged through the College's Admissions Officer.

All enquiries should be addressed in the first instance to the Admissions Officer:

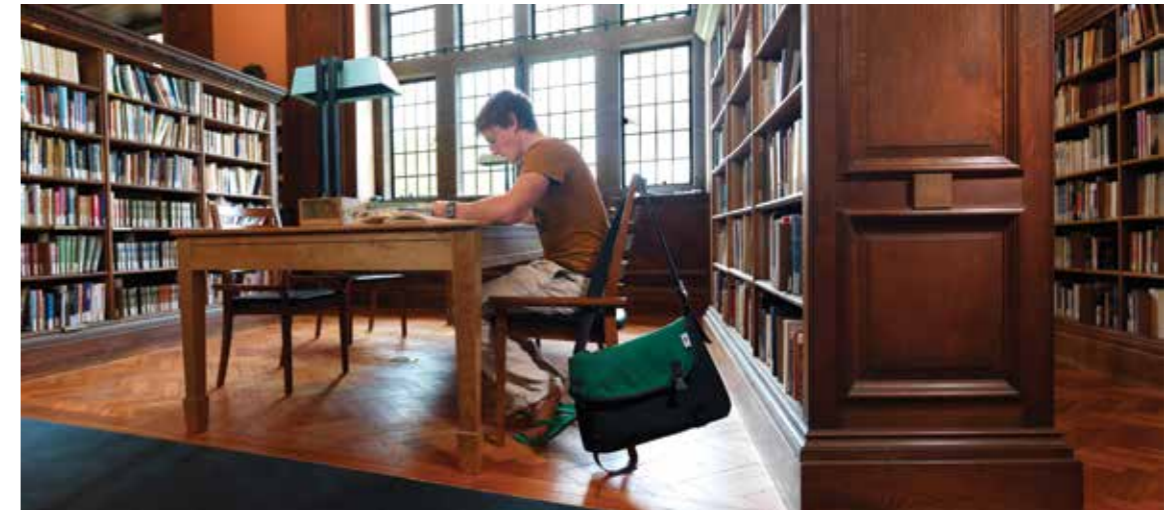
Email: [admissions@emma.cam.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@emma.cam.ac.uk) or

Tel: +44 (0) 1223 334290.

Matters of University, rather than College, admissions policy should be directed to the Cambridge Admissions Office (CAO):

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

Tel: +44 (0) 1223 333308.



### APPLICATIONS, INTERVIEWS AND OFFERS

We treat each applicant as an individual and make our offers based on all the information available to us. We will make our selection based principally on our assessment of your academic potential and we do have a great deal of information available to us. We have your application form, with your past academic record, your school reference, personal statement, any written work you may have been asked to submit and admissions tests (see the subject pages on the College's website).

Each subject interviews in slightly different ways but the general pattern is for two interviews of about 20–30 minutes each, with the interviewers working in pairs. All the interviewers will have been trained to try to help you perform to the best of your ability. Interviews take place in the first half of December in the year in which you apply and decisions are sent to candidates in January.

The majority of our students take 'A' levels, but many also take Advanced Highers, the International and French Baccalaureates, the Abitur or Advanced Placement Examinations. We are happy to consider applications from students of any country provided that they have a strong academic background.

Candidates with disabilities are strongly advised to disclose their disability and discuss it with us before they apply. It is always helpful to know the requirements of disabled students and discuss with them whether the adjustments the College is able to make are adequate to meet their needs. It is also helps us to make suitable arrangements in order not to disadvantage students at interview.

In this glossary we have tried to explain and put into context some of the unfamiliar words that relate to admission to or life at Emmanuel.

**ADMISSIONS TUTOR:** a Fellow responsible for co-ordinating the selection of students for admission to the College.

**BEDDER:** short for a bedmaker (although paradoxically they no longer make students' beds). Students are responsible for keeping their rooms tidy, and bedmakers are employed to clean common areas.

**DIRECTOR OF STUDIES:** a Fellow of a College who is responsible for arranging supervision teaching in a particular subject, and for overseeing the academic progress of individual students.

**ECSU:** Emmanuel College Students' Union represents the collective interests of the College's graduate and undergraduate students. It also arranges facilities, activities and entertainments, and allocates funds to College clubs and societies.

**FELLOW:** a senior member of the College with responsibilities in teaching, research, admissions and administration.

**GOVERNING BODY:** the Master and Fellows, who are collectively responsible for the policy and administration of the College.

**GRADUATE STUDENT:** a student who has already taken a degree.

**GYP ROOM:** shared facilities for cooking and washing up, located near to student rooms.

**JCR:** refers to both the Junior Combination Room, a room used by undergraduates for quiet leisure activities, social functions, and for watching TV or DVDs. It also refers to the student body responsible for representing the undergraduates with the College.

**JUNIOR MEMBER:** either an undergraduate and graduate student of the College.

**MASTER:** the head of the College and the chair of the Governing Body.

**MCR:** refers to both the Middle Combination Room, a room used by graduates for quiet leisure activities. It also refers to the student body responsible for representing the graduates within the College.

**PORTER:** the porters are responsible for security and for keeping order within college. They are based in the Porters' Lodge (or 'plodge') and offer information and assistance to students and visitors throughout the day and also at night.

**SUPERVISION:** small-group teaching provided by a College, and which supports the lectures, seminars and practical classes organised by the University as a whole.

**SUPERVISOR:** the teacher conducting a supervision and who is responsible for your work in a particular part of your course.

**TERM:** the academic year is divided into three teaching terms of eight weeks: *Michaelmas* (October to December), *Lent* (January to March), and *Easter* (April to June).

**TRIPOS:** The historical name given to the University examinations. For most subjects, the Tripos is divided into two halves (Part I and Part II) spread over three years of study.

**TUTOR:** a Fellow with particular responsibility for the welfare and general progress of students throughout their time in College.

**UNDERGRADUATE:** a student who has not yet completed a degree at any university or similar institution.

Design and print management: H2 Associates (Cambridge) Limited.  
Photography: Stephen Bond, Keith Hepple

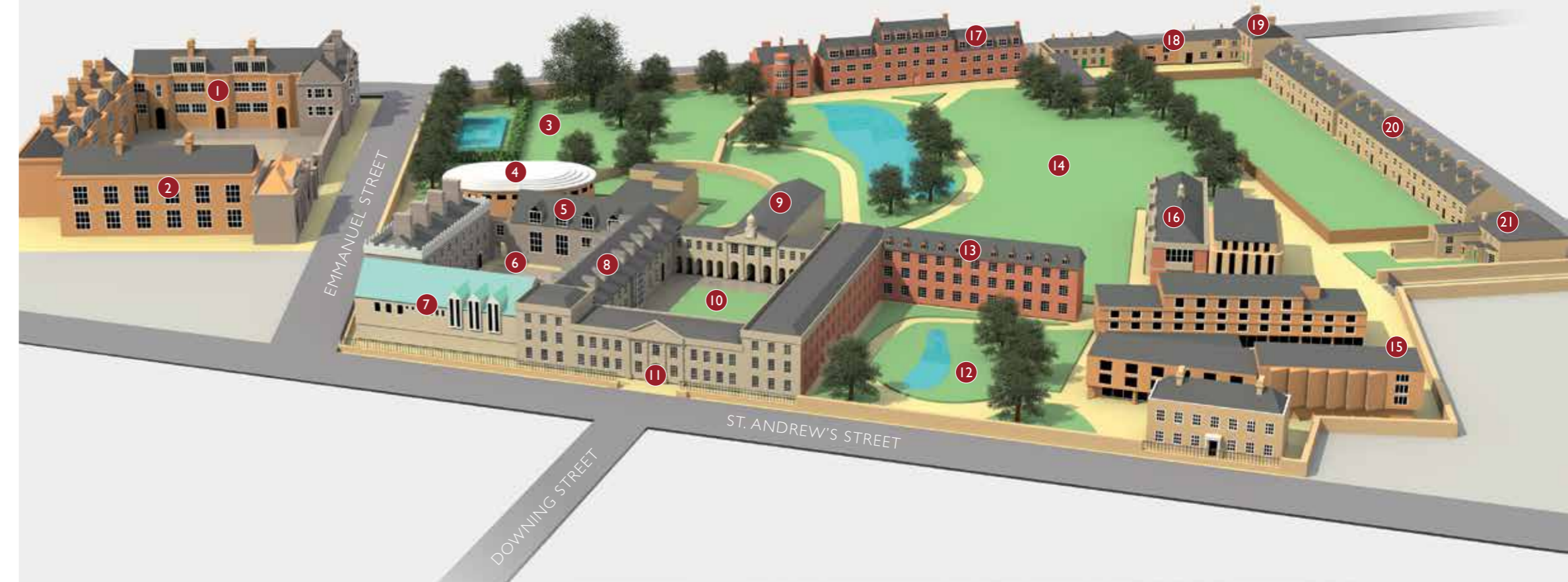
Printed on Chlorine-free FSC certified paper with vegetable-based ink



## EMMANUEL COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

### KEY TO COLLEGE GROUNDS

- |                    |                             |                     |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1 North Court      | 7 Upper Hall & Gardner Room | 12 Chapman's Garden | 18 East Court   |
| 2 Cloister Block   | 8 Hall                      | 13 Old Court        | 19 Park Lodge   |
| 3 Fellows' Garden  | 9 Chapel                    | 14 The Paddock      | 20 Park Terrace |
| 4 Queen's Building | 10 Front Court              | 15 South Court      | 21 Camden House |
| 5 Old Library      | 11 Porters' Lodge           | 16 Library          |                 |
| 6 New Court        |                             | 17 Hostel           |                 |







**Emmanuel College**  
St. Andrew's Street  
Cambridge  
CB2 3AP United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)1223 334290  
Email: [admissions@emma.cam.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@emma.cam.ac.uk)  
[www.emma.cam.ac.uk](http://www.emma.cam.ac.uk)

