



THE COTTESLOE SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM

Be Open Day Ready

UNIVERSITY OPEN DAYS

Your Preparation Guide



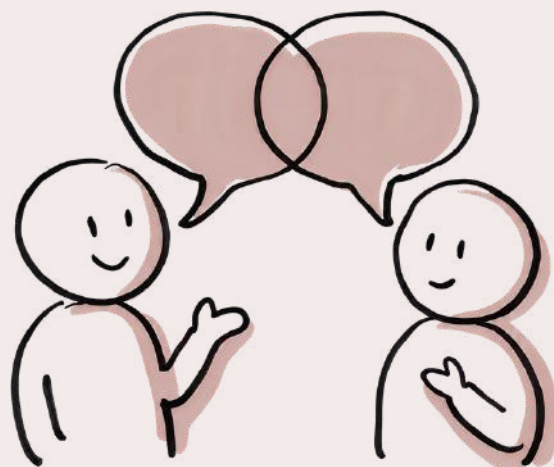
Before You Go

Research & PLAN

- Book accommodation & travel
- Register for specific talks & tours
- Research the course content
- Finalise your itinerary

QUESTIONS TO ASK TUTORs & ACADEMICS

- What is the university atmosphere like?
- How is the local area?
- Are the facilities good?
- Is the accommodation recommended?



QUESTIONS TO ASK CURRENT STUDENTS

- What are the best modules?
- How is the course assessed?
- What support is available?
- Tell me about graduate careers

REMINDED

Pro Tip: Take photos and quick videos of each accommodation option and campus area you visit. After visiting three or four universities, campuses start to blur together!



YOUR CHECKLIST FOR THE DAY

- Comfortable walking shoes
- List of questions & a pen
- Backpack for prospectuses
- Fully charged phone





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QUESTIONS TO ASK UNIVERSITY OPEN DAYS



Who You're Talking To	Key Questions to Ask
Course Lecturers and Tutors	• How is the course assessed (exams, coursework, group projects)? • Are there placement, study abroad, or internship opportunities? • What are the typical contact hours vs. independent study expectations?
Current Student Ambassadors	• What made you choose this university over others? • What is the local nightlife, safety, and community vibe like? • How easy was it to make friends during your first year?
Accommodation and Life in Halls	• Are first-year students guaranteed university housing? • What is included in the rent (Wi-Fi, bills, gym membership)? • What are the transport links between halls and lectures? • Which halls of residence are the most social, and which ones are quieter? • Is there anything about your first-year accommodation you wish you had known before moving in? • How easy is it to get around campus and into town without a car? • Is it common for students to stay on campus over the weekend, or does the place empty out?
Academics and Daily Workload	• How many hours a week do you actually spend in lectures and seminars versus independent study? • How approachable and supportive are the lecturers when you're struggling with an assignment? • Is it easy to find a spot in the library during assessment periods, or does it get crammed?
Social Life and Extracurriculars	• What was the easiest way you found to make friends outside your course and halls? • How active are the societies and sports clubs, and how much time do they take up? • What is the local area like for nightlife, eating out, or non-drinking activities?
Money and Student Budgeting	• Is it easy to find flexible part-time jobs on campus or nearby that fit around lectures? • How pricey is daily student life around here; groceries, transport, nights out? • Are there any unexpected course costs, like expensive textbooks, printing, or specialist equipment?
Unfiltered "Gut Check" Questions	• What made you choose this university over your other options? • If you could change one thing about this uni, what would it be? • What surprised you the most about starting your first year here?