Pre-arrival
CATS Cambridge
Everything you need to know 2018-19
Studying in the UK has given me a good opportunity to delve deeper into my subject. CATS provides a lot of opportunities to visit universities and talk to the professors. We also have the opportunity to visit the Cambridge University Science Festival and learn more about our subjects.

Chung Yin Matthew Yeung
Studied: A-Levels at CATS Cambridge
Welcome to Cambridge

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Welcome to CATS Cambridge

Where inspirational tradition meets global innovation in one of the UK’s most beautiful cities.

It is a privilege to be a part of the life-changing journey students at CATS Cambridge make, and with a new, purpose-built, state-of-the-art school, we are delighted to offer you some of the best learning facilities in the UK, with first-class welfare support and the highest academic standards.

Our College will help you focus on success and seize opportunities. We encourage ambition, recognise potential and give you the opportunity to stretch your abilities in an atmosphere that is safe and supportive.

Whatever your intended career is, we will provide a unique level of support, including extra help when you need it, as well as professional expertise in university placement and careers guidance.

Cambridge is a beautiful, friendly city steeped in history, renowned as a centre of learning for over 800 years. We look forward to welcoming you to CATS Cambridge.

Craig Wilson
DPhil MChem PGCE
Principal, CATS Cambridge
Great location
The modern CATS Cambridge campus is located near the city centre, close to the prestigious University of Cambridge and the beautiful River Cam – allowing you to enjoy everything Cambridge has to offer.

Purpose-built facility
Our large purpose-built campus is designed to give you the best environment for both studying and living in the city of Cambridge providing everything you need to succeed both personally and educationally.

State-of-the-art facilities
Our campus has amazing facilities to give you a state-of-the-art learning experience. Shared social areas make you feel at home, while flexible learning spaces encourage collaboration and academic excellence within the classroom.

En-suite boarding bedrooms
Our boarding facilities provide you with a home-from-home, with single en-suite rooms on campus ensuring that you are comfortable.

Independent living facilities for over 18s
We offer catered or self-catered accommodation for over 18s at Varsity House, a short walk from campus, allowing you to be more independent and preparing you for life at university.

Graded ‘Excellent’
CATS Cambridge is regularly inspected by the UK Independent Schools Inspectorate, and achieves outstanding results. In the last inspection the campus was graded ‘Excellent’ in five out of nine areas including boarding, and achieved ‘Good’ in all other areas.
**Dates to remember...**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Before 5 January</td>
<td>Please do not arrive before Saturday 3 January</td>
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| 5-6 January | **Go directly to the college**  
You must arrive at CATS Cambridge on Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 January. |
| 7 January  | Monday 7 of January will be the start of your induction programme. |
Before you travel

Before you arrive, email admissions@catseducation.com to tell us what date you will arrive.

Your flight details:
Email us the information as soon as you have booked your flights.

If you need a taxi from the airport:
Email us at least 48 hours before you arrive. Include your flight details in the email. We will add the cost of this taxi to your next invoice.

For all future arrivals you will need to pay cash or use your ‘float account’ (see page 12).

If you can’t arrive between these dates and times, you must email admissions@catseducation.com

Getting a taxi from the airport means that you will not get lost and that you will arrive at the correct address.
Visas

International students coming to study in the UK normally require a visa. Even if you can visit the UK without a visa, you may still need a visa to study here. If you travel without a valid visa, you may not be able to enter the UK.

To find out how to apply for a visa, please visit - www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa

If you have any questions about your visa, please contact the Admissions team or visit - www.catseducation.com/admissions/uk-admissions/visa-guide

Applying for a student visa
You will need a CAS Statement (Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies) CAS Statements support applications for Tier 4 visas. If you need a Tier 4 visa, you should have already received CAS from us.

A Confirmation of Enrolment
Students who join us on a Short-Term Study visa need a Confirmation of Enrolment. We also send a Confirmation of Enrolment to students who do not require any visa at all.

About the Tier 4 Visa
If your Tier 4 visa is for more than six months, you will only be granted entry clearance for one month.

After this month, you will need a Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) to leave and enter the UK. This permit will be valid for the duration of your visa, and you will need to collect it on arrival in the UK. The College will help you with this.

If you have not received your CAS Statement or Confirmation of Enrolment please tell us as soon as possible.
Insurance

‘Student Cover’ has been created in partnership with Endsleigh, the UK’s largest student insurance provider, and is specifically designed to meet your needs while studying with us – from the time you set off to the moment you arrive back home.

You are covered for:

**Electronic devices**  
Cover for electronic devices and possessions for the duration of your course and while travelling to and from the UK.

**Course fees**  
If you have to cancel your course, cut it short or repeat it due to accident or sickness, we will reimburse your prepaid course fees.

**Cancellation and curtailment**  
If you have to cancel or curtail your study due to accident, illness or sickness, you can claim back the costs of prepaid travel and accommodation expenses.

**Medical**  
Medical cover including emergency medical and dental treatment costs.  
Repatriation to your home country if you are seriously ill or injured.  
Bringing a relative to your location to visit following a medical emergency.

**What medical does not cover**  
The first £50 of each and every claim per incident claimed for by each beneficiary, except for claims under personal liability, personal accident and legal expenses, where no excess applies.

You are not covered for:

**Your personal belongings**
Money

Your College fees are for tuition, welfare, activities and accommodation only.

If you have catered accommodation
Your meals will also be included in the costs. Please note that you will not be entitled to a refund if you miss meals.

Accommodation
During Christmas vacation, the Boarding Houses close completely and we are unable to accommodate students.

Students may stay in the Boarding Houses during the half-term holidays and there is no charge. There is a weekly charge for students who remain over the Easter vacation. You will need to tell us at the start of the term notice.

Additional finances
You will need additional finances to pay for the ongoing costs of your education. This includes expenses such as:
- Trips
- Books
- Taxis
- College Photographs.

You may either cover these costs from your personal finances, or through a ‘float account’ managed by the College.

You or your parents can fund this account as necessary, and the College can then give you an agreed amount of pocket money each week.

A float account is managed by the College. It’s designed to help students look after their money, and can also be used to help cover College expenses.

You should have received a float account registration form from the Admissions Team. If you’d like to set up a float account, please do this before you arrive.

There is a fee of £25 per term for the float account service.

Self-catered students
Can buy food and drink during the day. If you’d like to regularly eat one or more meals in the College, you will need to pay for the whole term’s meals in advance at the beginning of term.

The Finance Officer will be able to help you with this.

For full details please visit -
www.catseducation.com/admissions/fees
What to bring with you

Documentation

Passport and Proofs:
- Passport (with visa if required)
- Proof of your financial support
- Proof of any study fees that you’ve already paid

CAS and Supporting Documents:
- CAS (confirmation of acceptance for studies) statement
- Originals (not photocopies) of the supporting documents for your visa application, plus evidence of finances used for your visa. These will be listed on your CAS Statement

Enrolment:
- Confirmation of Enrolment
- Proof of last IELTS/English IGCSE qualification

Consent to Travel:
- A letter, completed by your parents or guardians

A bank draft or cheque for your college fees:
- If you have already paid your fees, please bring evidence, i.e. bank transfer documentation.

Four passport-size photographs:
For rules about passport photos visit - [www.gov.uk/photos-for-passports/photo-requirements](http://www.gov.uk/photos-for-passports/photo-requirements)

A UK power adaptor for your electronic items:
For more information regarding adaptors visit - [www.worldstandards.eu/electricity/plugs-and-sockets](http://www.worldstandards.eu/electricity/plugs-and-sockets)

Personal belongings

Spending money:
- For your arrival and first two weeks at College, most students will need around £100. If you are self-catered you will need around £250. You will also need money for textbook purchases, however this will be easier if you have a float account set up.

Clothing:
- Appropriate for all weather conditions. For more information about UK weather please visit [www.bbc.co.uk/weather](http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather)

Towels and essential toiletries:
- Please remember not to pack too much, as storage will be limited in your room.

Any medication that you are taking:
- Please turn to the ‘Important Information’ page (page 22) for more information

You will not need:

Bed linen
- This will be provided in your Boarding House.

Large amounts of cash
- Do not carry this on you, or in your personal belongings.

Certain food items
- Do not bring any meat or dairy products. It is illegal to import these to the UK.
Flying to the UK

If you need help, phone the College on: +44 (0)1223 314 431
Monday to Friday between 08.30 and 18.00 or call the emergency number +44 (0)7860 586 528.

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**Immigration control**
If you are aged 16 or under, you may not be allowed to leave immigration until the person meeting you has been located. If you have booked a taxi transfer, make sure you have the information with you.

**Baggage reclaim**
After passport control, follow the arrival signs to the baggage reclaim area and check the information screens to find the correct carousel.

**Customs**
When you reach Customs, you may be interviewed by a Customs Official to ensure you are a genuine student in the UK. They will ask you some basic questions, such as ‘Where is your College?’ and ‘Why do you want to study in the UK?’

You will need to walk down one of three channels at Customs:

- Students from European countries should use the **Blue Channel**.
- Students from all other countries should use the **Green Channel**.
- Students who have anything to declare, use the **Red Channel**.

If you are bringing a bank draft or cheque for College fees of over £8,800 then you must go through the **Red Channel** and declare it. For this reason, it is easier to pay fees by bank transfer before you come.

**Arrivals**
If you arranged for a taxi to meet you, you will find your driver in the Arrivals area as you leave Customs.

The driver holds a board showing their passenger’s name. Look out for your name or the CATS logo.

If you cannot see your name go to Airport Information, ask them to help you find your driver. Wait there until your driver arrives.

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If you are unsure whether you should use the Red Channel please visit -
www.visitbritain. co.uk/about-britain/practical-information
Your first day

On your first day you will meet your Personal Tutor and other students in your Personal Tutor Group. There will be lots of activities in the first week to help you get to know everyone.

Tour the college and city
Take a guided tour of the College facilities and get to know your way around Cambridge

Get connected
Receive Information on IT, including how to log on to the College network and also how to open a bank account. {We can help with this}

Say hello
to your fellow students, College staff and the Curriculum team to confirm your course/subjects and get your timetable. You will also be introduced to the Finance team to give them evidence of payment of fees.

Register your details
with Student Services, the local doctor and the Police if necessary {students from certain countries only}

Collect your permit
Collect your Biometric Residence Permit {students with Tier 4 visas only} and your College ID card for entrance to College facilities and proof of entitlement to meals.

Tests
We also hold tests within the first few weeks of term:

A Mathematics test
Mathematics students only

An English test
Non-native English speakers only

A test from Durham University
This is for all students, and it helps us set your target grades in all your subjects.
Extra Curricular Activities

We encourage you to join at least one and ideally two of the extra-curricular activities at CATS Cambridge. This gives you a break from your studies and can add to your UCAS application. With a wide range of sports and activities available every week, there is something of interest for all students.

The Sports & Activities Team will introduce themselves during your first week with us, and they will give you an overview of all the clubs, events and overseas trips on offer this year.

It’s more about joining in than winning and features some unusual events like bungee running, giant jenga and ultimate Frisbee.

Clubs
You have the opportunity to join around 40 sports and activity clubs which run each week. These are all free to CATS Cambridge students.

Leisure Activities & Events
We run activities in and around Cambridge each month. In the boarding house you will also find pool tables, table tennis and foosball tables in the Common Room to enjoy with your friends.

Duke of Edinburgh (DofE)
DofE is very highly regarded by universities as it shows your team work and leadership skills.

Overseas Trips
During the year you have the opportunity to travel to various destinations both for fun and to see some of the culture.
Extra Curricular Activities
Important information

Homesickness
Everyone enjoys the excitement of starting at CATS Cambridge, but as time goes by, you may start to miss home.

This is normal, and there are simple things you can do to help yourself adjust to College life.

We recommend:

- Taking part in activities organised by the College to make friends with other students.
- Staying in touch with home via email or telephone.
- Bringing photographs or ornaments from home to decorate your room.
- Most importantly of all, though, it’s really important to talk about how you’re feeling. Your Personal Tutor, House Parent or the Welfare team will always be happy to listen and offer advice.

Remember, almost everyone feels homesick at some stage but help will always be close at hand.

Healthcare
Students can go to the College Nurse for most healthcare needs.

The Nurse will see you if you are ill or have minor injuries, to provide healthcare advice, and decide if you need to see a doctor.

Medication
If you bring any medication into the UK, also carry a letter (translated into English) from your doctor explaining what the medicine is, and what it is for. Similarly, if you are undergoing any long-term medical treatment, you should also bring a letter from your doctor, counsellor, or hospital specialist. This letter can be shown to a relevant UK specialist if further treatment is needed.

Email: medical@catscambridge.com before leaving to establish whether the medication you are taking is licensed for use in the UK, and to inform the College of any medical conditions. Students may also arrange to speak to the College Nurse directly. If you wear glasses or contact lenses, we also recommend that you bring a copy of your prescription.

UK medical services include:
Consulting a GP (doctor)
Most other GP services, such as visiting a clinic for a Non-emergency treatment in a hospital.

Even if you qualify for these free NHS services, you may still wish to take out private medical insurance. Sometimes it can take several days to get an appointment with an NHS GP, and there are long waiting lists for non-emergency NHS services. Some students will require insurance for certain medical services.

Under the National Health Service (NHS), all students are entitled to free emergency hospital treatment in an Accident & Emergency department.
You do not need medical insurance for emergency care. The NHS also provides a full range of free, non-urgent healthcare services, but these services are only available to some students, depending on the terms of your visa. Private medical insurance could give you much quicker access to treatment if you need it.

**Students on Tier 4 visas**

If you come to the UK on a Tier 4 visa, the cost of free NHS healthcare will be included in the cost of your visa application. This is called the ‘Immigration Health Surcharge’, and it gives you free access to the full range of free services provided by the NHS.

Certain healthcare costs are not covered by the NHS. All students will have to pay for these at the point of delivery.

**These include:**

- The prescription charge. Although the medicines themselves are free, each prescription is charged at £8.40 per item
- Certain GP services such as travel vaccinations
- Dental Treatment

Please note: The £8.40 prescription charge is only for NHS patients – this includes you if you become an NHS patient under the terms of your Tier 4 visa. Prescription charges for private patients are considerably more.

**Students on a Short-Term Study visa**

A Short-Term Study visa does not entitle you to free healthcare on the NHS. This means that you will need private medical insurance.

If you do not have private medical insurance, and you require non-urgent healthcare, you will be required to pay at the point of service. This can be extremely expensive, so it is very important to arrange your insurance before coming to the UK.

You should ensure that this insurance covers all additional costs that might result from illness, such as a flight home.

**Students on EU Nationals**

EU nationals on courses lasting less than six months. If your home country is a member of the European Union, you will need a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) to receive free NHS healthcare. You must obtain your EHIC before leaving home.

If you have an EU passport, but you normally live outside the EU, you will usually have to pay for healthcare in the UK. In this case, you should take out private medical insurance.
College Rules

You will find CATS Cambridge a stimulating and challenging environment. It is a college, not a school. The structures are designed to create a relaxed and informal atmosphere. Because of this, you are required to accept considerable responsibility and exhibit a mature attitude to all things.

Attendance
You must go to all lessons. You must also take any tests and examinations required. If you need to miss a lesson or part of a lesson, you must have the permission of your subject teacher. It is your responsibility to ensure that you arrive in time for the beginning of term, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

You must do any work set by your teachers. Work should be done on time, and as best as you can. If you cannot do work on time, you must talk to the relevant subject teacher. They will want to know why the work has not been done. It may be possible to agree a new date for the work to be completed by.

Smoking
Under UK law CATS Cambridge is a smoke free campus, this includes E-Cigarettes. Smoking is only allowed in designated smoking areas.

Smoking is also illegal in the UK if you are under 16. It is also illegal for any person under the age of 18 to purchase cigarettes in the UK and is an offence to buy or sell cigarettes or alcohol to anyone under 18.

Drugs and substance misuse
UK law forbids the use and/or supply of illegal substances. We have a duty to inform and educate all students concerning the consequences of the use of illegal substances and alcohol abuse.

We acknowledge the importance of our guidance role concerning the welfare of students, and will always endeavour to encourage those in need of help to come forward. We will provide help to identify sources of appropriate personal support and increase understanding of related health and social issues.

We will ensure that parents/guardians are informed and involved as appropriate. Drugs are not allowed under any circumstances. The Principal may expel or suspend anyone caught in possession of, or having taken drugs, allowing you to return only under strict conditions.

These may include:

Participating in drug counselling and education programmes as deemed appropriate by the College. Costs may be incurred for this.

Regular drug testing, with any positive result almost certainly resulting in immediate permanent exclusion.
Get in touch

CATS Cambridge
1 High Street
Chesterton
Cambridge
CB4 1NQ

Campus Number
+44 (0)1223 314 431

Emergency Number
+44 (0)7860 586 528

www.catseducation.com