

Marc Foxhall, Target and Access Officer

Experience

Over the past year I've helped out at assorted school visits and open days, as well as volunteering for both the Mentoring and Shadowing schemes. I am also an editor for InsideUni, a website designed to de-mystify the interview process, especially for those without any Oxbridge connections.

Manifesto

Making the Class Act role a part of welfare, not T&A-Currently, targeting people from Class Act backgrounds (working class, low income, first generation university ect) already form a significant proportion of the college's T&A work, and I believe that a specific Class Act officer would not be able to improve this (without excluding other minority groups we work with). However students from Class Act backgrounds are not covered by any of welfare roles that other access groups have (such as BME and LGBT), so I would therefore campaign to keep two general T&A officers and consult on creating a welfare role instead

Offer classes on Cambridge entrance exams to potential applicants who can't otherwise access them-Although the entrance exams are designed to be difficult for everyone, some (such as STEP for maths) place applicants at a large disadvantage if they are unable to receive any school support for them.

Have a T&A suggestions box- Having this would allow anyone (not just the committee) to contribute ideas to improve the programs we run. We could also hold discussions on issues if there was sufficient interest. One example of a suggestion I have heard is whether or not we should consider targeting minority groups from outside of the UK for outreach programs.

Zayn Richards, Target and Access Officer

Experience

- Previously held positions of authority – I was Head Boy at my school
- I am a delegeat
- Currently involved in Access work for Isoc and Buddhist soc
- I am aware of the importance of outreach and I really want to make a difference
- Friendly individual who is open to anyone's suggestions
- Proud Fitz student who wants to see re-emphasis on the importance of T&A work

Manifesto

- Greater student involvement in outreach – instead of outreach being predominantly the preserve of the Schools Liaison Officer, I want to see more student participation. Students could help deliver assemblies, alongside the SLO, or could conduct their own school visits, for example.
- Taster days for all subjects – at the moment, we only have subject taster days for a few subjects. I want to encourage every subject here at Fitz to offer a taster day for students from Access backgrounds.
- Rethinking our definition of T&A – while the emphasis on targeting state-school students and students from low socioeconomic brackets is important, we must not forget to also focus our efforts on students from other Access backgrounds, such as those who are disabled, LGBT+, international or from a minority ethnic or religious group.
- Making the admissions process more transparent – I want to see more information and resources available on the college website so that all prospective students know what to expect. What to read, how to prepare and recordings of interviews are just some of the ideas I have in mind.
- Helping T&A students to adjust – Cambridge can be daunting for those from Access backgrounds. I would organise more T&A social events and I would reform the current college family system so that first-year students could request a parent from a similar background to them