



Grey College

Durham University

August 2026

Dear Grey College Student,

On behalf of everyone here at Grey College, many congratulations on your recent examination successes! We are excited that you will be joining our College community in September and look forward to welcoming you. Whether you will be living in College accommodation, in the City or at home you can be sure of a warm welcome from our staff and students- we are here to ensure that you will soon feel you belong.

Working with our incredible student leaders, we have planned your induction and a wide range of different activities during Welcome and Orientation (Freshers) Week to help you to make friends and get the most from College life. Whether you are outgoing or prefer quieter things, there will be something for you.

Grey College is, above all, a supportive and inclusive community, formed from students at all levels of their studies, together with academic, professional and local members, visiting scholars, and core College staff. It will be the centre of your life as a student at Durham where you will belong, make friends, get involved and develop personally. Your College will help and support you throughout your time in Durham.

College offers formal dinners, our Opportunities Programme, events, student grants and welfare support, all underpinning our living and learning ethos. In addition, you will find our dynamic Junior Common Room, run by students for students, offers an incredible range of clubs and societies, from sports, through music and the arts, to volunteering and cultural activities. This is on top of everything on offer in the broader University. We call this our Wider Student Experience, and I encourage you to get involved in new and familiar activities so that you make the most of all on offer at Grey College.

Our motto is 'Ascending by degrees' which to me means growing, developing and reaching your potential. I look forward welcoming and meeting you in person, and seeing you flourish and thrive over the coming year!

Yours in anticipation,

Professor Sonia Virdee
Principal, Grey College

