



OUTREACH REPORT 2019



AUGUST 2019

**Corpus Christi College
University of Oxford**

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Introduction

Widening Access and Corpus

The past year has been an exciting one as the College continues to develop and embed access into its daily life and long-term vision. Governing Body approved the College's first formal Outreach Strategy and the Tutor for Admissions role has now expanded to become Tutor for Admissions and Access. Two new collaborative and sustained contact programmes have been developed to launch in October 2019; read more about 'Being Human' and 'Derby Scholars' in Programme Development, p. 10. In the meantime, the College continues to support North West schools in particular, in accordance with the university's regionalisation scheme for outreach.



Corpus Christi's Outreach Officer speaks at our annual Year 13 Interview Workshop event, hosted by Corpus and run in collaboration with Brasenose College and a range of other colleges and departments.

All colleges are part of the university's regionalisation scheme, which ensures all regions and local authorities in England, Wales and Northern Ireland have a designated link Oxford college. The regionalisation scheme is designed to simplify communication between UK schools and the university, offering schools a 'first port of call' when contacting the university regarding advice, visits, and requests for speakers. Besides hosting inbound visits from their schools, college Outreach Officers visit their link area schools to run talks and workshops, offering information and guidance on higher education and Oxford.

Outreach Strategy

A long-term vision

Corpus Christi produced its first Outreach Strategy this year, which was approved by Governing Body in June 2019. The strategy summarises key research regarding effective models of access, outlined the College's long-term aims and objectives and detailed the ways in which the College will be moving towards a more structured, data-driven and extensive programme of outreach.

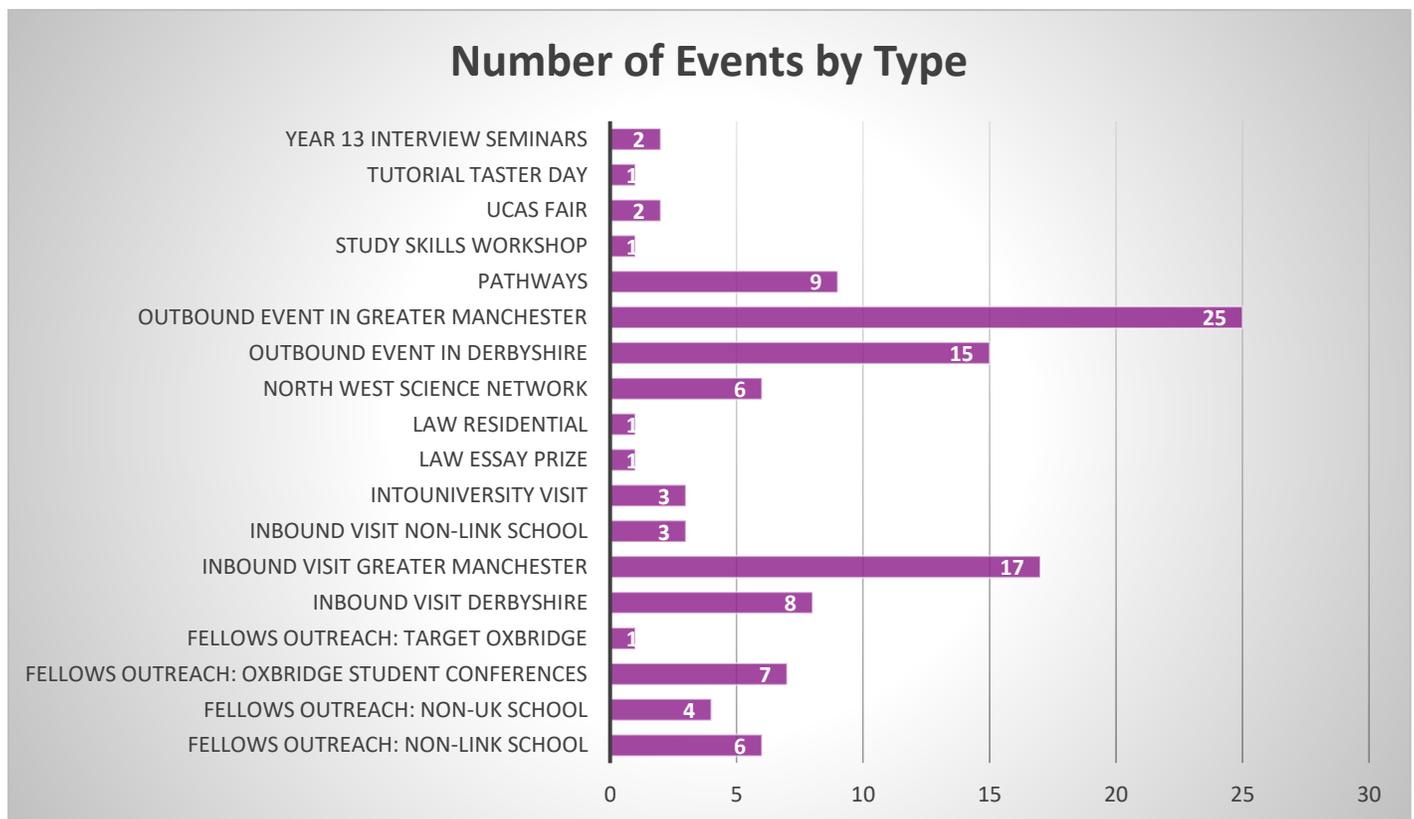
2019/20 Strategy: An Overview

- The strategy summarised our existing provision and outlined the 2019/20 expanded programme of events.
- The strategy included a targeting method for both work in link schools and events where individuals apply, including a prioritisation system for link schools.
 - *Why?* This increasingly data-driven approach aims to ensure we are focusing our access efforts and expenditure on high-achieving but disadvantaged and underrepresented students and schools.
- A travel bursary for students applying to our events and high priority schools coming to visit forms part of the approved strategy.
- In connection with the outreach strategy, the budget for outreach has been revised and significantly increased for 2019/20.
- Robust evaluation practices and an explanation of the evaluation method to be used for future events was included.
 - *Why?* To ensure that all programmes are evaluated effectively, and to ensure the College will take an increasingly data-driven approach to improving existing provision and implementing new programmes.
- The strategy included financial analysis and a breakdown of where widening access, widening participation and recruitment budget is being spent, together with a proposal for redistribution of funding to ensure the vast majority of expenditure will be allocated to programmes that support widening access to Oxford.

School Engagement

Working in our link areas and beyond

In the academic year 2018/19, Corpus delivered **112 events**, interacting with students from **369 UK state schools**. This represents approximately 8% of the UK's total number of state secondary schools and FE colleges (<https://www.besa.org.uk/key-uk-education-statistics/>). A breakdown of the events by type can be found below. Excluding tours, just over **one third (34%)** of our events were hosted at Corpus and **42%** in our link regions.



Left: Trained student volunteers run a carousel of interactive subject tasters to give Manchester students an insight into their subjects.
Right: Summer school students attend a tutorial.



The North West Science Network

Corpus's flagship sustained STEMM enrichment programme

Now in its sixth year, the North West Science Network continues to reach a large number of students in Manchester, Crewe and the surrounding areas. The scheme consists of a series of locally-hosted lectures at the twin hubs of Xaverian College (Manchester) and South Cheshire College (Crewe), a laboratory visit set up by Prof Nellist (the scheme's academic lead), a 'Maths in Science' spring programme delivered in the North West and a STEMM summer school at Corpus.

WHAT WAS THE MOST VALUABLE THING YOU'LL TAKE AWAY FROM THIS WEEK?

"...Oxford isn't as scary as I think, and research is a very viable career pathway"

"...The motivation to do well and the confidence to be ambitious"

"...Learning how all of the different branches of science interlink and finding new ways to approach problems"

2019 Summer School Participant Data



Above: The College Outreach Officer greets students on the first day of the summer school.

The responses of **74%** of students (20 out of 27) showed some difference in the subjects they were considering after the summer school, whether from considering several subjects to narrowing down to one, or by the inclusion of an additional subject they are now also considering.

STEMM Summer School Participants

Of the 27 summer school participants,

89% would be the **first generation of their family to go to university**

33.3% were or had been **eligible for Free School Meals**

All participants met at least two of our other selection criteria, which relate to postcode data (ACORN and POLAR4) and other individual criteria that relate to underrepresented groups, largely in relation to university access targets.

Outreach Data

Digitizing our data collection has increased and improved our ability to monitor the success of our events and reach of participants

Approaches to Evaluation

There are three principle ways in which Corpus evaluates its programmes.

- **Online Feedback forms** We collect qualitative data that informs us on the student and teacher experience of our Day Visits, run twice weekly during term time, and our in-school workshops
- **Before and After** With more prolonged interventions, such as our North West Science Network, students are asked a number of questions before the event which are repeated in the post-event evaluation forms, to enable us to measure impact more effectively
- **Tracking student progression** Events and students are recorded on the Higher Education Access Tracker, which enables us to track student participant progression to higher education

Student Data

For day visits to the College, workshops in schools, residential and sustained contact programmes, participants register for the event, which enables the College to review the range of students we are working with. Data was recorded for 1159 state school students, a 26% increase from 2017/18 (907 students) and an 89% increase from 2016/17 (122 students).

With the new targeting system proposed in the Outreach Strategy, we anticipate that in the future the proportion of students from underrepresented backgrounds will form a greater majority of the students we are interacting with on our outreach programmes.

This year, we collected data for 1159 students, but the number of known values vary; students can opt for 'prefer not to say'/'unknown'.

Student Participant Data

A summary of the students we worked with in 2018/19 who completed participant forms

Gender

Female	Male	Other
60.1 %	39.4 %	0.5 %

Based on 1008 known values

First Generation HE

Yes	No
39.7 %	60.3 %

Based on 1003 known values

In Local Authority Care / Care Leaver

Yes	No
0.8 %	99.2 %

Based on 1056 known values

Ethnicity

Arab	Asian, Asian British	Black, Black British	Mixed with Black heritage	Other Mixed	Other White	Chinese	Other Asian/Other Ethnic Background	White British and White Irish
1.4 %	15.3 %	6.2 %	2.0 %	3.7%	4.6%	2.0 %	2.5%	62.4%

Based on 1076 known values

Acorn Category

Acorn is a UK wide sociodemographic classification providing information on different types of people according to where they live. It encompasses social components, population and consumer behaviour divided into 6 categories. The scale is 1 – 5 from the most affluent to the least. The overall average proportion of students participating in activities living in an ACORN Category 4 or 5 area (who would under the previous system receive an ACORN Access Flag in admissions) is 35.4%.

ACORN CATEGORY	TOTAL
1	30.9%
2	6.4%
3	24.8%
4	16.9%
5	18.5%
6	2.2%

Based on 1037 known values

Live in a Low Participation in HE Neighborhood (POLARV3)

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5
16.1 %	17.7 %	17.9 %	28.1 %	28.1%

Based on 1037 known values

The overall average proportion of students participating in activities living in a POLAR 3 Quintile 1 or Quintile 2 area (who would under the previous system receive a POLAR Access Flag in admissions) is 33.8%.

Number out of 4 Deprivation Indicators (IMD, EST, IDACI, POLAR V3)

Using postcode profiling to identify disadvantaged students, this table shows the level of disadvantage that the students are likely to experience. The greater the number of indicators, the more disadvantaged the area in which the student lives will be. 4 indicators mean that students are classified as disadvantaged using all 4 disadvantaged indicators. These are POLAR (explained above); IMD (Index of Multiple Deprivation); EST (Education, Skills, and Training Deprivation); and IDACI (Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index).

4 Indicators	3 Indicators	2 Indicators	1 Indicators	None
20.3 %	12.1 %	8.2 %	12.0 %	47.4 %

Based on 1037 known values

The overall proportion of students taking part in University of Oxford - Corpus Christi College activities who are classified as disadvantaged in at least one indicator is 52.6%.

Programme Development

Sustained academic support and enrichment programmes are being rolled out for 2019/20

Ancient Worlds Programme. 'Being Human' is being rolled out over the next academic year, a development from the Ancient Worlds Programme pilot spearheaded by Dr Sam Gartland. Corpus Christi College is collaborating with the Faculty of Classics and Worcester College to work with two cohorts of Year 12 students, one in Manchester, one in Huddersfield. There will be five seminar discussions led by Oxford academics; all five are run both in Manchester and in Huddersfield from November to February. In March, there will be a three-day residential in Oxford, and in June, a Personal Statement and University Application Support event. There will be an additional event in the September of Year 13 for those aspiring to study a Classics related degree at Oxbridge. Students apply as individuals for the whole programme, and Classics and Worcester have agreed to select students in accordance with the Access Event Selection Criteria as described in Corpus's Outreach Strategy.

Derby Scholars and Derby Teacher Conference

The University of Derby and Corpus Christi College have been in conversation in relation to Derby becoming an Opportunity Area. (The government has identified twelve 'social mobility coldspots', each of which will receive in total £6 million under the Opportunity Area programme. For further details see the following: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/social-mobility-and-opportunity-areas>). The Tutor for Admissions and Access, Senior Tutor and Outreach Officer ran an Oxbridge Teacher's Conference in July hosted by the University of Derby. The outcome of this and ongoing discussion has been a proposal for a 'Derby Scholars' programme, a sustained contact programme and support network to support disadvantaged high achievers across the city. The proposed pilot will consist of a Year 9 and Year 12 cohort. Sessions will largely be based at the University of Derby with support from Corpus staff and will include visits to Oxford.

The Junior Common Room

The integral role of Corpus students in our outreach work

We would like to highlight the invaluable role played by the JCR in the access work of the College and the high proportion of students participating in access events. In total, by the end of Hilary Term, sixty Corpus undergraduates had undergone training as either Access Volunteers or Subject Ambassadors and had volunteered or worked on at least one access event. A number of Corpus students are involved in access work in their departments and in other access initiatives, such as mentoring disadvantaged students in East Oxford with the access charity IntoUniversity.



Above: Corpus STEMM ambassadors at the North West Science Network Summer School.

The College's Subject Ambassadors play an invaluable role in the admissions and outreach work of the College. These students are the face of the College over Open Days and the interview period. Their biographies and photos are on the website, together with their subject ambassador email addresses. Many prospective students and current offer holders are encouraged and supported by this opportunity to contact current students studying their subject of interest to ask them questions about their life at Oxford.

Note of thanks

The outreach work of Corpus Christi College would not be possible without the work and support of a wide range of contributors, partners and supporters. We are immensely grateful for the hard work of College staff and students, and the continued collaborative support of the wider university community.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks and express our gratitude to the invaluable philanthropic support we receive, particularly from the College's alumni, without whose support the extent and scope of our outreach would not be possible.

Suzie Jackson

Outreach Officer and Admissions Administrator

E: admissions.office@ccc.ox.ac.uk



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Fiona Burgess