

MIA FOR ACCESS OFFICER 2019

My main motivation for running for access officer this year comes from my own experience of being the only offer holder at my school, one which was not able to adequately support my application process. The **only** reason I was able to even consider applying to Oxbridge, let alone secure an offer, was that I'd been approached by amazing access schemes like The Brilliant Club and Project Access. This is why I think I would be particularly suited to the role – I have first-hand experience of **just how significant** access and outreach can be, and though Peterhouse is very involved in these I can see ways in which the college and the students could become even more involved in these and more! Another reason why I think I would be suited for the role is my recent experience of being a fresher – beginning your university career at Cambridge as a state school student is inevitably nerve-racking and often emotional experience and this learning curve must be even more supported than it already is in order to make Peterhouse **even more** of a friendly, all-inclusive and happy place to be!



- I am friendly and easy to talk to, meaning I would be comfortable working with existing students and applicants alike
- I have lots of experience working with young people, from primary to secondary ages
- I have lots of free time (history degree lol) so would be able to commit lots of effort to the role
- I regularly go back to my school to do talks and workshops regarding higher education application, so would be great at this aspect of the role
- Peterhouse has been incredibly supportive of me and I would love this opportunity to give back!

WHAT I WANT TO DO

- I want to carry on the good work of Sam in organising things like the CUSU shadowing scheme and Project Access in Peterhouse
- I want to organise more ongoing support for students coming from disadvantaged backgrounds once they've arrived at Phouse, such as an awareness workshop during freshers and regularly touching base with students during Michaelmas to create myself as a friendly face and point of call if they ever want to chat – I imagine that many experiences I've had will be valuable in easing their worries
- I want to create more ways for existing students to become involved in access and outreach, such as partaking in offer holders' days, school visits and pairing with offer holders
- I want to increase conversation between access, BME, LGBT, disabilities and welfare officers as I am aware that access manifests itself differently for each of these groups
- I want to work more on the Peterhouse media channels as these are incredibly useful for applicants and offer holders – I want to do this by perhaps posting a weekly student profile on @peterhouselife
- I want to work with the admissions office and student liaison office to create more and improve existing outreach schemes



This is me visiting Cambridge on a Medwards outreach scheme during year 13 – don't I look happy and inspired! Mia for Access Officer 2k19 wooooo