

ST. CHAD'S COLLEGE JCR FRESHERS' HANDBOOK 2023



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WELCOME FROM THE JCR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

Hi everybody!

Firstly, congratulations on your results! 🎉 You have all done incredibly well to get this far, and should feel very proud of yourselves. We hope you're excited to come to Chad's - we certainly can't wait to meet you! For now, do familiarise yourselves with this handbook which has been put together by our Secretary, Maddie, to provide you with everything you need to know about starting at Durham and being a part of the JCR here at Chad's. To begin with, here's a brief introduction to us, so that you know who we are and what we do. We're Maddi (your President) and Milo (your Vice President) and you'll be seeing a fair bit of us in the coming weeks, and throughout your first year at Chad's.



MADDI

Hey everyone, I'm Maddi, and as JCR President I will be working to make your Chad's experience as positive as possible for as many people as possible. In order for me to do this, my role entails lots of meetings with lots of people...like other student leaders at Chad's, college staff, all of the other Durham presidents, Durham Uni staff, and much more.

Throughout it all, my job is to empower students and stand up for Chad's best interests, striving to do my best for this college that becomes a home away from home for so many of its students.

I myself am going into 3rd year, and my subject is Combined Honours in Social Sciences.

I have studied Anthropology, Sociology, Education, Criminology, and Classics throughout my two years here so far - none of which I had ever studied (and some of which I'd never even heard of!) before coming to Durham. This year, I'm honing in on Education and Sociology - so I'm always up for a discussion about practically anything!

During my time at Chad's I have tried 11 sports (an opportunity most uni students simply do not have!) - this year being most involved with basketball, football, and rugby, alongside co-captaining netball. So if you're keen to get involved in sport this year (I honestly can't recommend it enough, whether you're sporty or not) I'm sure I'll see you around!

During first year I was also part of Team Durham swimming, cycling and rowing so those more serious athletes among you please do feel free to reach out to me if you want to chat about any of that 😊

In second year I took on the role of Decorations Officer in Chad's Social Committee (you'll find out more about leadership opportunities at Chad's in due course, don't worry!) which involves lots of arts and crafts for social events. This enabled me to continue one of my favourite passions - art - whilst at uni. I've loved going to Durham Life Drawing society, so if I'm not playing sport you might find me there, sketching away... I've also loved being involved in Chad's Voices - a fun choir that welcomes singers of all capabilities (thankfully for me...) - another extracurricular activity I'd really recommend making the most of.

I can't wait to meet you all! ❤️

MILO

Hi everyone! I'm Milo, I'm a final-year Physics student from Farnham, Surrey. Super excited to meet you all soon and welcome you to St Chad's! 🙌 This summer, I've been busy helping to organise an awesome Freshers' Week for you jam-packed with fun activities. I've been at Chad's for three years now already and I honestly believe it's the happiest place in the world. Everyone here is so friendly and it's so easy to get involved in college life. In my time here, I've had a go at everything on offer, whether that's playing sports, art, music, drama and much more. There are countless social events too across the year including many formals, balls, and bops (big organised parties) which are super fun.

Starting university can be one of the most scary and exciting things you do. I personally remember feeling terrified in these weeks leading up to the start. However, I can promise you that everything will be fine, the people here are lovely and if you ever need help, I've assembled a fantastic group of freps (freshers' reps) to look after you, easily recognisable in their bright green t-shirts. If I had any advice, it would be to say yes to as many opportunities as you can, try new things out and if you don't like them, you can always quit later on. Uni is definitely one of those things where the more you put in, the more you get out.

So that's us - do keep an eye on your emails and St Chad's College Freshers 2023 Facebook page as that's where further updates and communications will be shared. We can't wait to meet you soon!

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE...

FRESHERS' SOCIAL MEDIA GROUPS



We really recommend that every student starting at Durham has a Facebook account. This isn't just for Freshers' Week - most uni sports, societies, and events are all coordinated over Facebook.

We have a group specifically set up for Chad's Freshers 2023, and joining it is a great way to find out more info, ask our students any questions, and get to know other people starting this year. It will also be used throughout Freshers' Week and later on, so please do join!

This group can be found by searching '**St Chad's College Freshers 2023**', or by following the link in our Instagram bio (@stchadsjcr).



There are lots of instagram accounts within college, but we recommend you follow our student-run account, **@stchadsjcr**.

On this account, there are highlights that will direct you to the profiles of lots of our sports teams, societies, committees and student representatives.

Feel free to DM this account with any questions too!

OTHER CONTACTS AND INFO



chads.admissions@durham.ac.uk - staff contact

chads.jcrpresident@durham.ac.uk - Maddi's contact

The college's website is a great place to find out more information before you arrive - including accommodation, financial concerns, bursaries, and college life.

www.stchads.ac.uk



WHAT TO PACK - OUR SUGGESTIONS

- duvet
- pillows
- sheets/bedding
- extra blanket
- towels
- bath mat
- shower caddy
- laundry basket
- photos/decorations
- smart/formal clothes
- fancy dress
- warm clothes
- sports clothes
- clothes hangers
- speaker
- sliders/flip flops
- dressing gown
- hot water bottle
- extension lead

On top of your everyday clothes, here are a few suggestions from our students for what to bring to uni.

MORE INFO:

If you're struggling to find room in your suitcase or are an international student, there is an option to buy a bedding pack from Chad's.

Please also remember to bring a **form of ID**. You will need valid proof of age e.g. driving licence, passport etc. for buying age-restricted products or entering certain venues.

REGISTERING WITH A DOCTOR

All new students can register with the **Claypath and University Medical Group** before arrival at www.campusdoctor.co.uk/durham by completing a quick and easy online form. You can still complete this online registration if you are an overseas student and don't already have an NHS number.

FINANCES

Here's a quick breakdown of some things you'll have to pay for:

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation prices can be found on the Chad's website at this address: <https://www.stchads.ac.uk/accommodation-costs/>. Before you arrive, you'll receive the full details about your room: shared or single, ensuite or shared bathroom, and 34 or 39 week let. All of these factors affect the accommodation prices, and the details of these prices can be found on the website.

There's more info on accommodation and roommates later in this handbook (p.16).

GOWNS



Every student in Chad's must own a gown. You'll need it for matriculation and every formal. A new one costs **£50**, and a second-hand one costs **£25**. Please bear in mind we have a limited number of second-hand gowns, so please contact the JCR treasurer, Alannah at alannah.v.doherty@durham.ac.uk if you would like one (priority will be given to those from lower income backgrounds).

You can pay for and collect your gown on Freshers' Sunday (24th September).

As JCR Treasurer, Alannah oversees how money is being spent within the JCR. She works with the treasurers for individual committees to budget for things such as sports, student wellbeing, and events.

ALANNAH



FRESHERS' WEEK WRISTBAND

The Freshers' Week wristband entitles you access to all the incredible events we'll be putting on throughout your Freshers' Week, so it's the best way to ensure you get the full Chad's experience.

It will be priced at **£62**. Included in the wristband is a variety of evening activities, such as quizzes, bingo and a wine and cheese evening. Every evening there will be either a night out or an activity staying in college (great for when you're feeling a bit tired or just want a more chilled-out night). We'll also be hosting some daytime activities such as a Durham scavenger hunt and sports in the garden so that you can get the absolute most out of your Freshers' Week. While it is optional to purchase the wristband, without it you won't be able to attend any events during the week, so it's pretty important!

Also, just in case you see any offers for alternative Durham Freshers' Week wristbands floating around online - **please ignore these!** They're likely a scam and the only way to get a legitimate and fantastic Freshers' Week wristband is through college.

Payment details for the wristband are included in the email this handbook was sent in, and they will be available to collect on the first day.

JCR MEMBERSHIP:

BATTELS

SPORTS LEVY

UNATTRIBUTABLE DAMAGES

£30

This is the cost to be part of the JCR. It goes towards all the fantastic social events across the year.

£15

This is how much it costs to play any sport in Chad's for the whole year.

£10

This annual additional payment is levied to all College residents for any damages for which no one in particular is to blame. Any surplus will be used to fund student activities.

Please note: these prices are based on last year's fees and are subject to change.

There are certain additional costs when living in college. These **do not need to be paid on your first day**, but it's worth being aware of them:

If you are in a position where you may be struggling financially, or have any concerns about the above, please contact

chads.support@durham.ac.uk to discuss options and solutions.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

Once you've arrived in Durham, there will be opportunities to apply for various scholarships and bursaries at Chad's. Here is a brief overview of these, but if you would like more detail about eligibility and how to apply, please go to <https://www.stchads.ac.uk/admissions/scholarships-bursaries/>

or contact:

chads.support@durham.ac.uk

DURHAM GRANT

The Durham Grant provides means-tested extra financial support. It is a non-repayable grant of up to £2,500. You do not have to apply for the grant, as it is automatically allocated based on your household income. If you are living in college this will be deducted from your accommodation costs. If you are living outside of college, such as in rented accommodation, this will be paid into your bank account.

More info can be found at:

<https://www.durham.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/fees-and-funding/durham-grant-scheme/>

ST CHAD'S COLLEGE STUDENT SUPPORT FUND

This fund exists to support the needs of students who are currently fully registered for undergraduate or postgraduate programmes at St Chad's. It is available to students who face specific and unexpected financial difficulties or emergency circumstances which require immediate financial support. In previous years, applicants have received funding to support short-term food costs, emergency travel or temporary accommodation. Awards are typically no more than £100 per application.

OPPORTUNITIES FUND

The fund seeks to enable students to participate in activities or initiatives that may otherwise be inaccessible to them. In the past the Opportunities Fund has supported a wide range of activities including cultural trips, training opportunities, and resources required for participation in a club or committee. Applications will be invited and can be received three times per academic year, in Michaelmas, Epiphany, and Easter Term. Awards will range from £50 to £150, and applicants will be asked to specify how much they are applying for.

INFO FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

VISA APPLICATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

You are applying for a *Student Visa*. You can find details about this at <https://www.gov.uk/student-visa>.

The cost of applying for the visa may vary over time, so please consult the website.

VISA APPOINTMENT

- Schedule your appointment as early as possible, as there are often delays beyond the standard 15 working day period. Alternatively, you have the option to choose the priority visa service, which aims to provide a response within 5 working days. However, there is no guarantee that your visa will be issued within this timeframe, and the priority service isn't always available.
- Bring all the required documents along with your visa confirmation, visa fee receipt, visa application centre service fee receipt, and a printout of any checklist you might have been provided with.
- To minimise waiting time, you should arrive early in the morning for your appointment.

VISA COLLECTION

- Please select your preferred method of notification (e.g., text, call) and collection (e.g., from a centre or by post). Keep in mind that opting for postal delivery may introduce additional potential delays.

OBTAINING YOUR BIOMETRIC RESIDENT PERMIT (BRP)

- Upon arriving in the UK, you need to obtain your full visa, known as the Biometric Residence Permit (BRP), within 10 days.
- You will be required to choose a location from which to collect your BRP as part of your visa application.
- Further information can be found at <https://www.durham.ac.uk/study/international/arrivals/visa-and-immigration-requirements-on-arrival/brp-collection/>.
- It is advisable to schedule your BRP collection appointment as soon as possible, as you can only register as a Durham University student after receiving your BRP.
- Always ensure to carry your BRP with you when leaving the UK, as it will be required for re-entry into the country.

OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

When you first arrive, setting up a bank account should be one of your priorities! There are plenty of options to choose from in the UK. Traditional high-street banks (e.g., **HSBC, Lloyds, NatWest**) are a good option, especially if you're new to the UK - having physical branches means you can find someone to guide you step-by-step. If you go with this, make sure that they have a branch in Durham. Online banks (e.g., Monzo, Revolut, Starling) are incredibly convenient and useful for budgeting. While you might want to have some spare physical cash, most students go cashless here - almost all shops accept contactless card payments.

PACKING LIST

- Passport and visa
- UKVI decision letter
- Durham Uni offer letter
- Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) statement
- Any insurance document
- Medical certificates, including vaccination records and tuberculosis test certificate (if applicable)
- Evidence of funding for your tuition fees and living costs, including sponsor letter (if applicable)
- IELTS certificate or other original English Language Test result (if applicable)
- Four passport-sized photographs

THINGS TO PACK IN YOUR HAND LUGGAGE

THINGS TO PACK IN YOUR SUITCASE

- Plug adaptors - the UK uses 240v plugs with three pins
- Home comforts - moving to a new country can be a huge change, so it can be nice to bring along things that remind you of home

MOVING IN FRESHERS' SUNDAY

This year, move-in day for UK-based students is **Sunday 24th September**. You'll be able to see a breakdown of the day in the Freshers' Week timetable on the next page, but here's a run through of what happens when you first arrive at the accommodation.

ACCESSING THE BAILEY

Please make sure you look over the details for arriving by car - these were included in the Pre-Arrival Handbook sent out by college staff.

THE CHAD'S WELCOME

Once on the Bailey, you really can't miss us. Traditionally, Chad's students will line the streets of the Bailey with pots, pans, and speakers - and then make as much noise as possible. Once your car is temporarily parked outside the college, you can go into Reception to collect the key to your room. Students will help you unload the car and carry all of your belongings to your new room.

Once this is done, we'd love to meet everyone out in the garden. Lunch will also be provided for you and any family and supporters!

A CLASSIC CHAD'S
WELCOME



MATRICULATION

You'll have two matriculation services in Freshers' Week, one for college and one for the university. Your college matriculation is on the first day, followed by a formal dinner (more info on these on **page 40!**). This is where you officially become a member of St. Chad's College. You have the ceremony in the college chapel, where you'll sign the official book of Chad's students.

YOUR FRESHERS' WEEK TIMETABLE



	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
09:00	ARRIVALS! Welcome to St Chad's!! We can't wait to meet you. Once you've settled in and unpacked, come to the garden to connect and make new friends. Freps will be around all day to show you around	BREAKFAST in the dining hall	BREAKFAST in the dining hall
10:00		College Induction and Welcome talk Starting in the Quad at 9	International Students Come to the Student Immigration Office in the Palatine Centre for Right to Study Checks and Biometric Resident Card collection. Ask our freps for directions!
11:00		ID Verification 10:30-13:30 If you're living-out this year, come to the SCR to meet the staff and freps 11:00-12:00	
12:00	LUNCH Come grab some pizza and chips from the quad. Food is also available for friends and family in the dining hall	Lunch Come to the Brewis Library with some form of ID (passport or driving license) for ID verification and campus card collection.	Petting Zoo Come to the garden to hang out with sheep, chickens, bunnies and goats of course
13:00			Academic Talks Your department will have emailed you if you have a talk today. It's important you go and freps can give you directions
14:00	GOWN COLLECTION 2 - 4 PM in the Quad	Dinner Come have normal dinner in the dining hall	Durham Scavenger Hunt Get to know Durham's hotspots as you make your way around the city, one clue at a time. Starting in the Cassidy Quad! Come whenever!
15:00			Sports and Activity Fair Head down to Maiden Castle for all things sports. This is your chance to sign up to represent Durham University in your favourite sport or join a society. Have a look around and see what you fancy.
16:00	If you have any questions throughout the day, don't hesitate to ask our freps!	College Matriculation in the Chapel. Remember to wear your gown	Dress as your Subject Formal starting at 19:30 A great chance to get to know other Chadsians doing your course, and to show off your fancy dress skills once more!
17:00			
18:00	Night Out Fab's Come with us to Fabio's to try their amazing cocktails and have a boogie. Feel free to come back anytime (2 min. walk)	Night In Jimmy's Join us for drinks in the bar before we head to one of the most well-known clubs in Durham - Jimmy Allens (AKA Jimmy's)	Ceilidh in the Quad Traditional Scottish dancing! A Chad's tradition that you're sure to love.
19:00			Night In Movie Night at John's Head over to our neighbours on the bailey for a cosy movie night.
20:00	Night In Paint + Sip Get in touch with your creative side with some relaxed painting and drinks making in the quad	Night Out Klute Another chance to experience one of Durham's most iconic clubs.	Night In Karaoke Join us in the bar to belt out your favourite tunes.
21:00			Night In Karaoke Join us in the bar to belt out your favourite tunes.
22:00			
23:00			

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
09:00	BREAKFAST in the dining hall	BREAKFAST in the dining hall	BREAKFAST in the dining hall	
10:00	University Freshers Fair 10:00-13:00 Head down to Maiden Castle to join new sports and societies! Sports and Games in the Garden Take a break and come to the garden for some chill sports and games. Lunch	Support, SMV and Consent Talks Library Tour (Quad) Important sessions in small groups in the Williams Library Library Tour (Quad) Please arrive promptly at your allocated time Library Tour (Quad) Freps will tell you which session to attend	Chill Come hang out with our freps in the quad, go on a walk or just sleep. Now is your chance to relax International Students If you missed it on Tuesday, now is your chance to get your checks done at the Student Immigration Office, Palatine Centre	
11:00				
12:00				
13:00	College Photograph Meet in the Quad at 13:15 Formal dress required with gowns	Lunch in the dining hall	Lunch in the dining hall	
14:00	University Matriculation Meet in the quad at 14:15 before we head to the cathedral for your official welcome to Durham University. Don't forget your gown!	Frep Tea Party Help yourself to free cake and hot drinks in the garden, with the opportunity to sit down with our freps to ask any and all burning questions. Relax for an hour	Sports and Games in the Garden Let your competitive side free or enjoy some more friendly competition in another chill way to hang out with your new friends.	
15:00	Matriculation Reception Celebrate with fellow chadsians in the quad and garden			
16:00				
17:00				
18:00	Dinner Come have normal dinner in the dining hall	Perspectives Community Meal Our first Perspectives talk of the year titled: <i>"Fitting in and Belonging at University"</i> followed by a meal in the dining hall. No gowns required	Dinner Come have normal dinner in the dining hall	
19:00				
20:00	Bar is open! Come down and socialise in the bar before the night activities start. Be sure to try our college drink - "the GOAT"	Bongo's Bingo Taking Bingo to another level, this unmissable event is sure to be a highlight, with a chance to win stellar prizes. Theme: Under the Sea Location: Quad	Wine and Cheese Join the Wine Cellar for a night in with a hand-picked wine and cheese taster menu. Get the most out of your fresher's wristband with the only free Wine and Cheese of the year!	
21:00	(you'll either love it or hate it)			
22:00	Night Out Lane 7 Enjoy bowling, beer pong, pool and more at Durham's own gaming centre.	Night In Murder Mystery Come together with your new friends to figure out clues and solve a dramatic murder!	Night Out Bohemia One of Durham's biggest clubs, you'll be sure to boogie the night away.	
23:00		Night Out Babylon A sports bar nightclub that is a Durham favourite for Wednesday nights.	Night In Campfire Enjoy a mug of hot chocolate under the stars as the week winds to a close.	
		Night In Games Night Come to the common room for a board games night with John's College, or step outside to practice your croquet skills.		

	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
09:00	BREAKFAST in the dining hall	BREAKFAST in the dining hall
10:00	Chill Take some time this morning to rest and re-charge before the bop this evening	Chill Now is a perfect time to get ready for lectures tomorrow
11:00		
12:00	Brunch Enjoy your first two brunches which includes a full English breakfast and pancakes	
13:00		
14:00		
15:00	Cookie Decorating & Hot Chocolate Come join the Wellbeing Committee for a chill afternoon in the quad	Chad's Freshers Fair Come to the quad to sign up for the amazing Chad's sports and societies!
16:00		
17:00		
18:00	Dinner Come have normal dinner in the dining hall	Dinner Sunday Roast
19:00		
20:00	FRESHERS BOP A Chad's favourite event - a glammed up school disco with fancy dress, when all the older Chadsians will return for the fun (it's going to be HUGE) Theme: BACK TO THE FUTURE Revisit the past or take a leap into the future with your fancy dress, as we travel through time at the first bop of the year!	REST
21:00		
22:00		
23:00		

EMMA



MILO

As **Vice-President (Milo)**, and **Social Secretary (Emma)**, it's our job to organise this week for you and we are really excited for you to experience it. We'll be around all week so please come say hello. Alongside us, we have also assembled a fantastic group of **freps (freshers' reps)** to help with anything throughout the week. They are easily recognisable in their bright green t-shirts and will look out for you. They're always available to answer any questions you have so please ask away if there's anything on your mind.

In the meantime, drop a message on the Facebook group or message us directly if you have any queries.

See you all soon! ❤️

ACCOMMODATION AND ROOMMATES

ROOMS IN CHAD'S

Being such an old college, no two rooms in Chad's are the same. We can't show you what a 'typical' room looks like, but we hope to give you a rough idea of what to expect.



Every room comes with:

- bed
- desk
- lamp
- wardrobe
- notice board
- bedside table

Before you arrive, you will find out about your room specifications, which means

a) whether you have a roommate and are in a shared room

b) whether you have an ensuite or shared bathroom

c) whether you have a single or double bed.



HAVING A ROOMMATE

Having a roommate can be a daunting prospect. We completely understand that for lots of people it's pretty intimidating, so we want to reassure you as much as possible. Having a roommate is a big part of the Chad's experience, and many people find a friend for life in their roommate. The form you completed is designed to match you with someone that has a compatible lifestyle, so even if you're not close friends, you can happily co-exist.

You won't find out who your roommate is in advance, and we do this to make sure everyone comes in with an open mind. In the worst case scenario, if you don't get on with your roommate, college will do their absolute best to find a solution.

Here are some real quotes from Chad's students about their experiences having a roommate:

Despite being apprehensive at first, I'm so grateful for my experience with a roommate. I was lucky in that we got on straight away but that doesn't mean there's not challenges (mostly due to privacy). However, these challenges allowed me to become a more tolerant and understanding person, which I'll always appreciate!

ALEX (JUST GRADUATED)

I only found out sharing rooms was a thing 2 weeks before coming to Chad's and was terrified.

However, as unbelievable as it sounds, it's fine and you just get used to it. If anything, it was nice having someone to go to dinner with and try new things with.

MILO (4TH YEAR)

Having a roommate was a great experience

I'm glad I've had, as I had never shared before. Even though me and my roommate weren't super close, we still got on well and the year went really smoothly for me :))

RUBY (2ND YEAR)

I was a bit nervous about having a roommate but ultimately it worked out really well. While we had to learn to live with each other, we became great friends and are now housemates for next year.

GEORGE (2ND YEAR)

Before arriving in Durham I had decided that I absolutely did not want to share a room. After moving in, I got to know Emma and gradually met her friends too, and realised that we got on really well. Fast forward two years and they're all still my closest friends.

ELLA (3RD YEAR)

It was scary at first and I was very nervous but it was one of the best things about living in college! It was great to have someone to do things with early on and help you through the first couple of weeks which can be tough. I ended up living with mine all 3 years!

MADDIE (JUST GRADUATED)

ALL ABOUT CHAD'S

THE JCR

The Junior Common Room (JCR) essentially refers to all the undergraduates in college - every first, second, and third year (and some fourth) are members.

We have JCR meetings usually four times a year, where you get to submit any issues or ideas you'd like to present, and the whole college vote on it - it's fun we promise, plus attendance is compulsory. The JCR funds the bar, the physical common room, all sports and societies, and every event in college. Our Junior Common Room (JCR) is one of the smallest and most vibrant student bodies within the University, and is run by an executive committee (**the exec**).

Just to make it more confusing, the term 'JCR' also refers to a physical common room that is open at all times and has things like a pool table, darts board, vending machine and TV inside.

The executive committee of the JCR (generally just referred to as '**the exec**') is a team of 11 Chad's undergrads that work together to run the college and the other committees: the social committee, the green committee, the wellbeing committee, the charities committee, the bar committee, the representatives committee, and many more which are outlined later in this handbook.

In February (a way away we know, but it comes around quickly!) you will be able to run for positions on any of the different committees, in what we call **husting season**. You will get a much more detailed and lengthy email from Liv closer to the time, but it's a fantastic opportunity to get more involved in college, give back to the JCR, and develop your CVs. Our advice is really throw yourself into it - there are so many committees, and don't be scared of a little friendly competition!

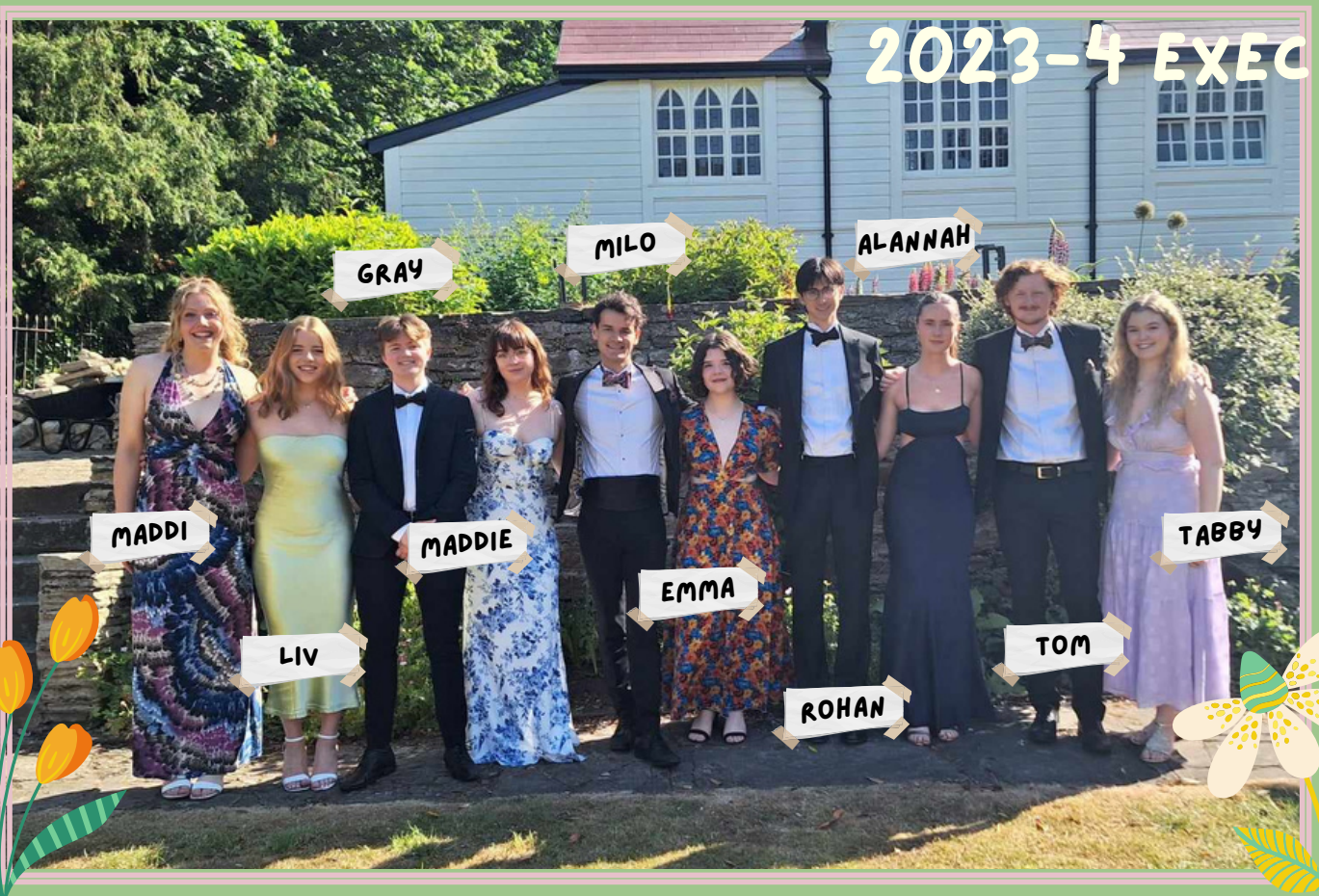


As **JCR Chair**, anything JCR related is Liv's responsibility. She runs the meetings and knows everything about the Constitution, which is the document that outlines the way the college functions.

THE EXEC

Here's the full list of this year's exec. Any one of the exec is a good person to speak to with any questions, before you arrive or at any point during the year. They're all members of the facebook group too, so please do get in touch.

JCR President:	Maddi A-G
Vice President:	Milo Coombs
Wellbeing Officer:	Tabby Somerset
Secretary:	Maddie Macey
Treasurer:	Alannah Doherty
Domestic Representative:	Gray Hailey
Bar President:	Charlotte Sikorski
Social Secretary:	Emma Shackleton
Junior College Representative:	Rohan Scott
Sports Officer:	Tom Heap
Chair:	Liv Bedford



SPORTS

One of the main advantages of Durham's college system (and this is multiplied by Chad's small size) is that it is very easy to get involved in a large number of sports, whether or not you have ever played them before.

Sports teams are very sociable and worrying about talent should never put you off getting stuck in. Try your hand at everything in Freshers' Week, including as many sports as you can; it will help you make friends, it'll keep you fit and it'll be fun! You can sign up to all of the sports your heart desires at the two Freshers' Fairs during your first week – the SU fair for university wide sport, and the **Chad's own Freshers' Fair on Sunday 1st Oct.**



TOM

THE ULTIMATE CHAD'S SPORTS LIST

Tom is the **Chad's Sports Officer** - affectionately nicknamed the 'Sports Monkey', and he's in charge of college sport for Chad's. He'll be around in Freshers' Week so if you have any sports-related questions, he's your man.



**WOMEN'S
NETBALL**

1. **Women's Hockey**
2. **Men's Hockey**
3. **Women's Cricket**
4. **Men's Cricket**
5. **Men's Netball**
6. **Women's Netball**
7. **Men's Rugby**
8. **Women's Rugby**
9. **Squash**
10. **Women's Football**
11. **Men's Football**
12. **Women's Basketball**
13. **Men's Basketball**
14. **Rounders**
15. **Darts**
16. **Ultimate Frisbee**
17. **Mixed Lacrosse**
18. **Climbing**
19. **Badminton**
20. **Swimming**
21. **Table tennis**
22. **Rowing**
23. **Running**
24. **Tennis**
25. **Pool**
26. **Croquet**
27. **Cheerleading**
28. **Volleyball**
29. **Futsal**

If there are any sports that you'd like to play but aren't on the list, you can always propose a new team at a JCR meeting!

If you're interested in sport be sure to check out **@teamchads** on Instagram where you can see what we get up to:



ROWING



St Chad's College Boat Club (SCCBC) is one of the most welcoming rowing clubs in the country. We have a boat shed five minutes from college and modern boats of every size.

We train on the Wear in Durham, a beautiful stretch of river (even if it is a little narrow), and aim for each rower to have 1-2 water sessions a week as well as a whole squad session on the rowing machines once a week.

We run our own college **learn to row scheme** over the first few weeks for people who've never rowed before. Sign-up for this will be at the Freshers' Sports fair, where we will be able to answer any questions you have.

Our recently renovated boathouse is home to a small fleet of new, lightweight racing boats and even a couple of historic fours that have been in the club for over fifty years. SCCBC continues to grow with more Chadsians taking up rowing and coxing each year.

The college racing scene in Durham is great, with time-trial head races in the winter and side-by-side regattas in the summer. These intercollegiate races happen on the Wear and cater for all levels, with the possibility of further racing around the North East against other local clubs.



Please come and find us at the college fair, where we'll be taking sign-ups for the learn to row course as well as for experienced rowers. We'd love to get as many of you as possible out on the water!

Follow **@stchadsboatclub** on Instagram for more info.

SOCIAL LIFE

At Chad's, all of the organisations are run by students. The **Social Committee (SocComm)** organises a detailed social events calendar for each term, with a range of events including bops and themed formals as well as specific events for each term; Christmas activities, beach trips in the summer, and the all-important Chad's Day.

As with all committees in Chad's, you will have the opportunity to run for a position on SocComm during **husting season**.

BOPS

Bops are big, organised parties within college. They're often themed, so a great excuse to break out the fancy dress, and a chance for all the year groups to get together. There's always a Freshers' Week Bop, and this year the theme is **back to the future**. This night is for everyone in college - not just freshers - so it's a good place to get to know the other years!

THEMED FORMALS

From Halloween to Chinese New Year to Pride Month, themed formals celebrate fun and important dates throughout the social calendar. On a whole, themed formals run the same as normal formals, but with added flair of decorations, music, and the occasional costume theme. As well as your official Matriculation Formal in Freshers' Week, you'll experience your first themed formal too (check the timetable for costume details!!).



SocComm is run by the **Social Secretary, Emma**, and 7 other students with roles on the committee.



Make sure you're following **@chadssoccomm** on Instagram for all info about social events!

As well as SocComm, there are many other societies and committees in college to get involved with.

SOCIETIES AND COMMITTEES

CHARITIES COMMITTEE

AKA 'CHARCOMM'



SARAH- CHARCOMM
CHAIR

As a committee, we put on a number of fundraising events for our chosen charity of the year. Last year, we raised money for a local social inclusion charity, Handcrafted Durham, raising over £3000. Our biggest event of the year is **Hope Ball**, an event held in college near the end of Michaelmas term. Tickets are affordable, typically including some food and a drink, alongside access to a number of bands and silent disco, with all the money going to charity.

Aside from Hope Ball, throughout this past year we have raised money through themed formals, an auction of promises made by members of college, and collaborations with other committees such as the Chad's Feminist Society. Charcomm also raises money through our beloved Toastie Bar which can be found in the Quad Bar on a few nights of the week. However, Charcomm also oversees volunteering in the community by running projects such as an Eco Club at a local primary school, and tea parties with members of Age UK.



LOCAL
VOLUNTEERING



HOPE BALL

Charcomm is a relaxed committee. We have open meetings every week which anyone in college is more than welcome at, and we just want to host fun events for good causes. Our charity of the year for 2023/24 is **RSACC, a local charity which supports those affected sexual violence in Durham and County Darlington**. So, we would love to see as many of you coming to meetings, attending our events, volunteering or buying toasties!

Here are all of our relevant socials, give us a follow for updates:

@stchadscharcomm
@chadsjohnsvolunteering
@chadstoasties

GREEN COMMITTEE

AKA 'GREENCOMM'

GreenComm is a relatively new committee that started in 2019. They are passionate about the environment and finding initiatives to engage students into recycling, learning about food waste and have global perspective talks on our environment.



GNOME DAY
2023

Every year they host **Gnome Day** in Easter term, which is kind of like a village fete that raises money for local wildlife charities. Anyone can get involved with GreenComm as they have regular open meetings throughout term. It's run by Ruby who will be living in college this year so you'll definitely see her around!

WINE CELLAR

The Wine Cellar is responsible for all things wine in Chad's. They open twice a week before formal for you to purchase red, white, or sparkling wine, and good quality non-alcoholic drinks at a reasonable price. The Cellar is accessed through a door in the foyer and is run by a committee of 7 people. Here, the Stewards will advise you on wine to complement the meal being served and might even have the record player on if you're lucky.

The Wine Committee (WineComm) also hosts various Wine and Cheese evenings throughout the year. They also collaborate with MusicComm for Wine and Jazz, where Chadsians go up and perform. They're always great fun and are relatively affordable!



Wine and Cheese event, 2023



TUVA

THOMAS

Cellar Keeper (Tuva) and
Sommelier (Thomas)

THE TOASTIE BAR

The Chads Toastie Bar opens three nights a week in the Quad and serves savoury and sweet toasties for very reasonable prices.

You can choose any fillings, from Sun-Dried Tomato to Marshmallows, and a range of sauces (which you can add for free). At the moment all ingredients are vegetarian friendly.

The Toastie Bar runs on volunteers, so we always appreciate anyone who's interested to get involved as little or as much as they'd like! At the start of term there'll be a google form sent out where people can put down their interest and when they'd like to do shifts. It's really easy to get the hang of being a chef and handling the till, and there's always a friendly vibe!

FEMINIST SOCIETY

AKA 'FEMSOC'



ASTRID - FEMSOC
PRESIDENT

St Chads FemSoc is a welcoming society for anyone who is interested in feminism or would like to meet some fellow feminists! We are an intersectional group, meaning we are inclusive of women of colour, disabled women and the LGBTQIA+ community. In the past we've hosted social events such as paint and sip, panel talks, life drawing, bar crawls and charitable parties. We also organise a month of awareness, focused on one particular issue in which we raise money for associated charities including in the past, Strut Safe and Let's Get Our Knickers in a Twist.

Follow [@st_chads_femsoc](https://www.instagram.com/st_chads_femsoc) for more details!

GREEN DOOR THEATRE

Green Door is our very own theatre company that puts on various plays throughout the year. At

Christmastime, they direct the college panto which turns gossip about the JCR exec into show - it's always very entertaining. This year, it's being run by Charlie and he'll be frepping, so if you're interested in Drama, have a chat with him!

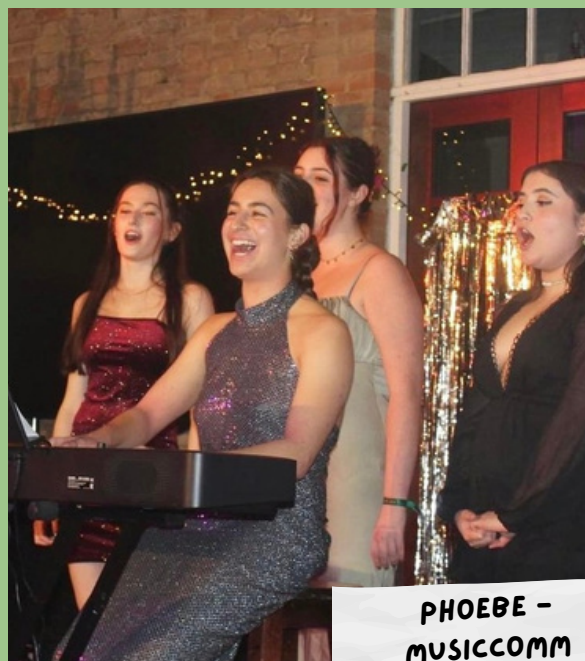


CHARLIE

MUSIC COMMITTEE

St Chad's Music Committee oversees and organises all of Chad's amazing ensembles, choirs, events and performances. Whether you are an accomplished musician or want to get involved for the first time, you will find like-minded people and will be welcome in our lively and fun music scene.

When you start university, as well as the university-wide music opportunities run by Music Durham, you will also be able to get involved with college music. This includes our un-auditioned pop choir Chad's Voices, our chamber choir Chad's Vocal Consort, St Chad's Chamber Orchestra, and Jazz Band. This is an amazing way to meet new people and be involved with fun projects in college.



PHOEBE -
MUSICCOMM
PRESIDENT

TOP TIP

Bring any instrument that you play or used to play - you don't want to join the students that spend the year complaining about how much they regret leaving it at home!!



After a 2-week free trial period, to be a member of Chad's Music and get involved in anything mentioned above, you will be required to pay the annual **£3 Music Levy**, which goes 100% towards running our rehearsals, events and showcases.

We cannot wait to welcome you into our Chad's Music family, either as a performer or audience member!

Follow us on instagram **@stchadsmusic** to make sure you don't miss anything!



THE BAR

The bar is one of the most popular places to socialise in Chad's, whether it's a quieter Sunday, a packed Wednesday, or Monday night darts, you can always pop down to the bar in the evening knowing you'll find a crowd of familiar faces. While one of the smaller college bars, it's one of the most popular (and the cheapest) in Durham.

Our bar is entirely student run, and is a paid job in college. There will be more information about how to get employed behind the bar shared at the beginning of the year! Additionally, there are voluntary committee roles on '**BarComm**'. From ordering stock to managing staff, these roles are filled by students. You can apply to be part of BarComm during **husting season**.

DARTS

Here at Chad's on a Monday night the bar is always busy with one of our darts teams representing us in the intercollegiate tournaments which run throughout the year. We have a men's first and second team as well as a women's team in the same league, so everyone can have fun and play darts at whatever level they want. Darts evenings are loud and fun and a great way to meet new people in your own college as well as others. Last year we also had a darts tournament, called '**Chaddy Pally**', to raise money for charity during Movember.

Come meet us at the **Chad's Freshers' Sports Fair** to sign up and ask the captains any questions you have.



Chaddy Pally 2023



CHARLOTTE

As **Bar President**, Charlotte is in charge of the whole bar. She and the rest of BarComm will be very familiar faces around college. They'll all be around in Freshers' Week too, so feel free to ask them any questions!



BARCOMM

We are planning to have a new tap lineup and a new selection of favourite drinks available from Freshers' Week. We are open to and actively encourage recommendations to try and accommodate Chad's people's favourite drinks, however unique or obscure it is! The bar is a bit of a collaborative effort throughout college, and this separates us from every other bar in Durham.

STUDENT STAFF



DARTS

Follow the bar @stchadsbar on Instagram for updates!

BEERFEST

One of the bar's most important events of the year is **Beerfest**, where a temporary bar is opened in Chad's garden and beer, cider, and wine are all served from mid-afternoon until late evening. Coming just after exam season, it's always a great day. There's often live music too, and most of college go on a night out together afterwards.

BARCOMM



WINECOMM'S STAND



LIVE MUSIC



EVENTS IN CHADS

CANDLEMAS BALL

Candlemas is arguably THE best night of the year. Taking place in February, Candlemas is a themed ball that takes place inside of college with previous themes including Alice in Wonderland, Dancing Through the Decades, and Greek Mythology (which are kept secret until the week before). Upon entering, the whole college is transformed with wonderful decorations, providing great photo opportunities as you enjoy a champagne reception. This is followed by an optional three course dinner, with live music and speeches from the organisers.



COMMITTEE
SPEECHES!

By far the most enjoyable part of the night (which goes on until 4:30am!) is the **ents**, which in previous years have included casino tables, karaoke, food stands, rodeo bulls, inflatables and more! You will have the chance to get involved with organising Candlemas either in your first year through '**minidecs**' (who make all the decorations) and through the actual committee in your later years. Every Chadsian is welcome to attend the ball, but be warned, the highly competitive sign up is held at 5am!

THE QUAD
TRANSFORMED



DINNER



SOME OF OUR
ENTS!



LIVE MUSIC



CHAD'S DAY

Chad's Day is one of the most recognisable events in the whole of Durham. You'll have seen the pictures of crowds all dressed in green plastered across our social media (and on the front of this handbook!) - and for good reason. It's a huge celebration of all things Chad's, organised by Emma and the rest of SocComm, where we all dress in green for a day of activities.

We start with a 7am Prosecco reception, before we head down the Bailey with our pots and pans to wake up the other colleges. We carry the President down the streets of Durham on a chair, have a big green Chad's service in Durham Cathedral at 10am, and spend the rest of the day playing games and making good use of the bar.

It's basically an all-day party, from 7am-2am, ending with a silent disco and normally a night out.

EMMA IN HER FIRST YEAR!



POWDER PAINTS



STREET PROCESSIONS



MATT, THE PREVIOUS JCR PRESIDENT



CHARITY FASHION SHOW (SCCCFS)

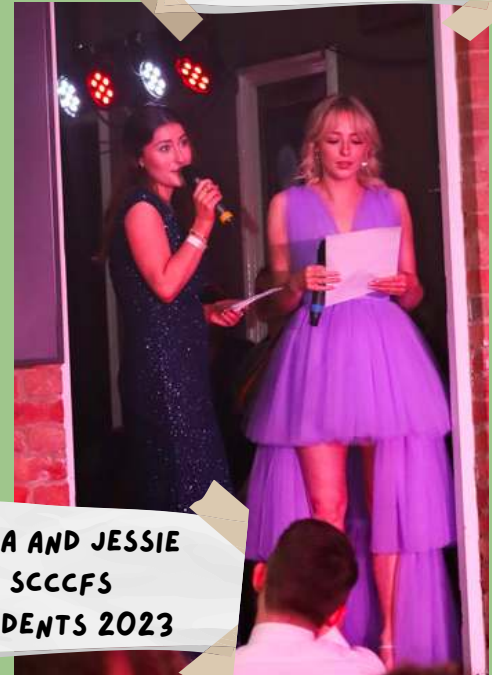
St Chad's College Charity Fashion Show (SCCCFS) is an awesome, Candlemas-level event that takes place in Easter term after exams. Get ready to watch 20 beautiful Chad's models strut their stuff whilst fire breathers, aerial artists, ballet dancers, drag queens entertain you in between the walks in the name of charity. Last year over **£10,000** was raised for Changing Lives, a local charity that supports disadvantaged children in Durham.

This is another amazing opportunity to get involved in college, either by modelling or as part of the organisation committee.



TWO OF OUR CHAD'S MODELS

CROWDS OF CHAD'S SUPPORTERS



AMELIA AND JESSIE - SCCCFS PRESIDENTS 2023



DRAG PERFORMANCES



SUMMER BALL

Coming in just after exam season in the summer, Chad's Summer Ball is a highly anticipated event in the social calendar. It's usually held at a venue away from Chad's, so we have more room for a three-course meal and big ents such as **fairground rides, fireworks, food ents like a chocolate fountain and a ceilidh dance!**

Starting with a drinks reception in Chad's garden, we continue the celebration into a three course meal at Beamish Hall, followed by a night of dancing and entertainment. It's a really fun night and coaches will take you back to Chad's at midnight and 01:00. It's then tradition to walk up Observatory Hill to watch the sunrise together as a college.

ONE OF OUR
ENTS!



THREE COURSE
DINNER



SUITED AND
BOOTED



FERRIS
WHEEL

STUDENT WELLBEING

Hi! A very warm welcome to Chad's from your Well-being Committee! Our team helps provide student support at Chad's, in such forms as providing drop-ins for students to come and chat, running campaigns focused on issues like mental health and sexual health, providing the JCR with menstrual and sexual health products (check out the wellbeing box for lots of stuff!) and running cool events like petting zoos, well-being walks and puzzles with hot chocolate. Our team is made of six students, the Well-being Officer, Tabby, two Assistant Officers, Lauren and Jacob, a Livers-Out Officer, Ysabel, and two campaigns officers, James and Martina.



TABBY

I'm Tabby, a third year law student from Canada and the UK and I'm thrilled to be your Well-being officer this year! This means that I lead the Well-being committee in college, so I organize the drop ins, plan events, and run campaigns with the help of all of our team! We're all happy to welcome you to Chad's this year and look forward to meeting you! My email is tabatha.somerset@durham.ac.uk, feel free to reach out if you have any questions!



JACOB



LAUREN

Hi, we're Jacob and Lauren, your two assistant wellbeing officers for the year. Jacob is a 3rd year biology student, and Lauren is a third year Religion, Society and Culture student. Our role is to assist Tabby wherever she needs help, as well as to run drop-ins for anyone who wants a chat :))

Contact details:

jacob.o'loughlin@durham.ac.uk
lauren.britchfield@durham.ac.uk

LIVER'S-OUT OFFICER:

Ysabel Sim

CAMPAIGNS OFFICERS:

James Bridges and Martina Giordano



WELLBEING
COMMITTEE

If you'd like to get in contact with us we have an email: chadsjcr.wellbeing@durham.ac.uk, an Instagram page: [@chadsjcrwellbeing](https://www.instagram.com/chadsjcrwellbeing) and a Facebook page: **St. Chad's JCR Well-being.**

STAFF CONTACTS FOR STUDENT SUPPORT



**VICTORIA BROWN, CHAD'S VICE-
PRINCIPAL**



**JEANNA SPENCER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
(STUDENT SUPPORT)**



**CHARLIE PEMBERTON, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
(WIDER STUDENT EXPERIENCE)**

These members of staff are the best contacts for student support. They're happy to help with any issues, either pre-arrival or once you're a student here.

Please contact Chad's Student Support staff at:
chads.support@durham.ac.uk

WIDER UNI SUPPORT SYSTEMS

NIGHTLINE

Nightline are a student-run listening service open every night of term between 21:00 and 07:00. All calls are taken by trained volunteers who will listen in a non-judgemental manner and will not give advice to the caller. They also have a messaging service if that's preferable to a phone call.

www.durhamnightline.com

DSU NIGHT-CAB

If you're out by yourself at night and need a ride home, just call **07922 648802** to get picked up by the Durham SU Night-Cab. Journeys cost £2 per person.

You can use the Night-Cab seven days a week in term time during the following hours:

Monday - Saturday 21:00-02:00

Sunday - 21:00-23:00

DU REPORT+SUPPORT

This is the uni's service for students to report any issues and/or get information on various internal and external sources of support available for students.

<https://reportandsupport.durham.ac.uk/>

COMMUNITIES

At Chad's we're proud to welcome all people from all backgrounds. Our motto, "*Non Vestra Sed Vos*" means "*Not what you have but who you are*". In this spirit, we have various students who represent different groups to make you feel at home. These representatives sit in termly meetings to discuss any areas of improvement within Chad's, known as 'RepComm'. You can apply to be a Rep in the summer term JCR meeting.

OUR STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

LGBTQ+ REPS



GRACE

MILLI

Hi Freshers! We're Grace and Milli, second year students studying Music and Computer science and we're really looking forward to being LGBTQ+ Reps this year. In college I (Grace) enjoy playing violin in the orchestra and loved singing with the Chapel Choir in the Chad's Pride Day service and attending the Pride Formals.

Outside of college there is also plenty to get involved with such as activities with @durhamlgbtassoc, an LGBTQ+ book club, discussion panels and gay nights in clubs! There is also a lovely LGBTQ+ bookstore in Durham's indoor Market Hall called BookWyrms so make sure to check that out. Durham Pride also takes place in the last term which is something to look forward to after your exams and was great fun this year!

Our advice would be to not be scared to be yourself in college as Chad's is a very friendly and supportive community and to join societies as that is a great way to meet like-minded people. We'll be organising socials and events around college throughout the year to give you an opportunity to meet other LGBTQ+ freshers in Chad's and to make new friends. Additionally, we're here to offer support, so don't be afraid to reach out to us if you need anything, or to just have a chat. We will also listen to any ideas you may have about improving LGBTQ+ life for students within Chad's and throughout the university. Have a fantastic Freshers' Week and feel free to contact us if you need any advice or just want to chat during the week! 🌈😊



Follow us on Instagram @stchadslgbtqia.

DISABILITIES REP



Hi! I am Lucy and I am going to be your disability rep throughout your first year. I am a third-year student currently studying history. You can often find me in one of Chad's libraries reading or studying! Or, you may see me on stage singing in one of Chad's music events.

With experience of disability myself, I will always be around as a listening ear and supportive person to seek advice. Please do not ever feel too worried or scared to come and ask for help! Unfortunately, disability is something which comes with its own stigmas and anxieties. However, I will always try my best to provide the best help possible and make you feel heard and listened to. And if I am not able to answer your query, I can direct you to further disability support either within the college or wider university.

Coming to Durham with a disability can make university life even harder to navigate. A new environment and being pushed outside of your comfort zone can make it an anxious endeavour. Finding support and feeling welcomed is key to easing into the new environment. Having a disability can often be an isolating experience. You can often feel that you are not understood and sometimes ashamed of your struggles. However, I will never judge and I will always try to understand. During Freshers' Week, I will be around as a frep and I am happy to talk to anyone who is struggling or looking for a bit of extra support. Even if you don't feel that the things you are struggling with comes under the 'disability bracket' please do not hesitate to contact me and ask me questions! However, I will be around for help beyond Freshers' Week.

I have knowledge on how disability support operates both internally and externally within the university. Whether you need help with knowledge on how to get an extension or extra time, or if you need information of disability funding, I will be able to provide you and direct you to useful information. Please remember I am a friendly face and never feel worried about approaching me or asking for help. I am here to help make your first year more comfortable and easier transition. And lastly, have an amazing Freshers' Week and first year of university!

INTERNATIONAL REPS

As international reps, our job is to make sure that all international students are as comfortable at St Chad's as possible. That means that if there is anything that makes you feel unwelcome or homesick - we are the ones to go to for help! Chad's has become a home away from home for hundreds of international students from all over the world throughout the years (including us!), so our goal is to make it so for you too. We want to help everyone adapt to a new country as well as embrace each other's cultures through events and activities throughout the year!

HOH SHAN

Hi everyone, I'm Hoh Shan and I'm in my second year of PPE! I'm from Malaysia, near the Kuala Lumpur area. Coming to Durham was my first time traveling to the Europe, and I definitely felt very nervous at the time. I am extremely lucky to have found a group of wonderful people here in St Chad's who helped me feel right at home - including Marina. I hope that we can play a role in you finding not just your group, but also yourself here at Chad's. If you need any information about student life in college or university, I'd love to share with you. I'm in the Malaysian Society, the UN Association, and together with a friend I help to run Durham Wikimedia. I'd highly encourage you to make the most of your time here at St Chad's.



MARINA

I am Russian-American from Moscow and New York, in my second year studying Economics. I like spending my free time by the river while listening to music. Music is a great way to stay connected to one's own culture, so do get involved in the amazing musical community at Durham! I love finding out interesting things about people's cultures which is why I'm thrilled to be an International Rep, where I can offer support to fellow students and learn about their backgrounds. As a fresher last year, I worried about making friends after joining late for Freshers' Week. However, those fears vanished as I met incredible people who became my closest friends. So, if you're feeling shy or anxious about meeting new people, remember that everyone else is in the same boat!!

Our ears are always open to listen if you have anything you want to talk about - whether it be about making friends or our complicated personal identities. We're really looking forward to meeting you all soon!

PEOPLE OF COLOUR REPS



Hey! My name is Charlotte Finney and I'm a second year studying Combined Honors in Social Science focusing mainly on Politics and International Relations. My role as POC Rep will be to act as a point of support or contact and a friendly face around college, especially during Freshers' Week!

Hi! I'm Eimear, I'm a second year studying Sport and Exercise Science. I'm so excited to meet you all in Freshers' Week. Throughout the year I'll be around college with Charlotte and hopefully we can be people to turn to for anything POC related!

Unfortunately there is a clear lack of diversity in Durham and in Chad's. However, the culture in Chad's is very welcoming to people from all backgrounds and we hope this isn't an issue for you. We really hope you don't experience any form of racism, but if you do, Durham has a 'Report and Support' system where you can report unwanted behaviour to the university. In college, we have our own wellbeing team, college tutors and college staff including the Assistant-Principal, Jeanna to talk to.

SOCIAL LIFE

Durham has a very active African and Caribbean Society (ACS) which run regular socials like Chop 'n' Chat, paint and sip as well as Winter and Summer balls. The ACS also runs a family system to help introduce you to university life.

Beyond their socials, ACS recommends Vice Fridays at Wiff-Waff for Afrobeats and RnB as well as taking part in Durham's cafe culture and Lane 7 for bowling.

HAIR

As Durham terms are quite short, you might prefer to get your hair done at home during the holidays or when you go visit. However, there are some options to get it done here at University. Most options include getting a 12-minute train ride to Newcastle. Newcastle has many hairdressers and barbers that specialise in Afro-Caribbean hair like MadeinKays (barber) and Ace in Braids (hairdresser).

SOCIAL MOBILITY REPS



Hi, I'm Caitlin and I am a 2nd year History and Politics Student from South East London. I am known around Chad's for my renowned obsession with the club Jimmy's, and my controversial love of The GOAT (the best college drink in Durham). As a working class student, I was very nervous about coming to Durham, however, I have thoroughly enjoyed this past year at Chad's – I have made some great friends and incredible memories and I am sure you all will too!

Hi everyone! I'm Sophie, a 2nd year Religion, Society and Culture student from East London. Outside of my degree I love dancing, gymnastics and I captain Chad's Cheerleading team (we do stunts lifting people into the air - it's not waving poms poms about like most people think haha). I'm very proud to have gone to a state comprehensive, worked throughout my A Levels and gotten a place at Durham despite this. Hence, I'm really passionate about improving the experience of students coming from non-traditional backgrounds like mine to Chad's this year.

As Social Mobility Reps, our role is to make everyone at Chad's feel supported and welcomed no matter their class or economic situation. We were both very much aware of the statistics and stereotypes of Durham, of its culture and demographic, before coming here last year – like many of you guys, we were incredibly nervous and even a little scared.

However, we arrived to find that Chads was the most welcoming of places with a JCR who were at the forefront of demanding change across the wider university and championing working class students. Yet despite this, the overwhelming culture shock of coming to a college as old and traditional as Chads was a challenge that was difficult to face. We want to ease this experience for freshers as much as possible by increasing awareness and being vocal about the working class experience at Chads, imposter syndrome, the financial difficulties some students face, and liaising with the JCR and College Management to tackle classism, both individual and institutional, and ensure that no student misses out on the university experience because of their economic situation and background. We have many plans for the year ahead including socials, campaigns, drop-ins, and relaunching the pre-loved formal clothing swap system!

LIVING IN CHAD'S

CATERING

All first years live in college and get access to breakfast (8-10am), lunch (11:45-1:30) and dinner (5:30-7:30) each day in the dining hall. On the weekend there is brunch (11:30-1:30) instead of lunch, offering a full English, pancakes, or normal breakfast food. The salad bar is open for lunch and dinner, and the coffee machine is always up and running - but you need to bring your own mug. There's options to cater for different dietary needs and these can be communicated to staff easily, and the catering staff make great veggie/vegan food.. A detailed menu and updated meal timings will be sent out at the start of term.

If you've got a busy day of lectures and won't be able to get back for lunch, you can request a packed lunch the day before, and pick it up at breakfast. Also, if you are going to be late for a meal, let the kitchen staff know and they will happily hold some food back for you.

For a sneak peak at the food at Chad's, check out [@chadschompers](#) on Instagram.

FORMALS

Formal dinners are free to attend for livers-in and takes place every Tuesday and Thursday evening, normally at 7.30pm. However, it's a good idea to arrive by at least 7pm, especially if you're planning on buying wine from the cellar (before a formal the Wine Cellar will usually set up in the foyer).

Formals are entirely **optional**, so you can also **still get normal dinner** at 5pm if you would prefer.

Formals are usually smart wear with a gown, but sometimes we have themed formals as well, such as at Halloween. We also have **megaformals** at the end of each term, where the tables expand into the Quad for a busier evening.

Sign-up opens when the Dom Rep (Gray), or the Social Sec (Emma) send an email with a link a few days before the formal.



DRESS CODES IN CHAD'S

FORMALS

Formal Dress at Chads typically looks like a normal suit with a tie and black/brown shoes, dresses (normally short to above the ankle), jumpsuits, nice tops with skirts/trousers, or a suit set.

FORMAL



In terms of footwear, some students like wearing heels but many others will wear pumps, white trainers, boots or dark/neutral coloured shoes depending on the occasion. You will also wear your gown at most formals (unless told otherwise). Ultimately wear what you feel most comfortable and confident in that you think fits the occasion! The most important thing is that you show up and have a great time.

This is also the sort of thing you could wear to **wine and cheese/jazz nights** and college/university **matriculation**, which is the ceremony in Freshers' Week where you officially enrol at college and the university.

SUMMER
BALL 2023



'BLACK-TIE' EVENTS

Black Tie is the most formal dress code we have – it is reserved for megaformals and balls! Traditional Black Tie involves dinner jackets and bow ties - having a black suit and white shirt will be really helpful as this can be worn both at formals and black tie events with a change of tie.

Those wearing dresses tend to wear long dresses (not always though), and they can be any colour – not just black! If you have a more A-line/mermaid dress this is the time you'd probably wear it! Many people also wear jumpsuits or a nice suit set.

AFFORDABLE FORMAL WEAR

Buying clothes for different social occasions can get quite expensive! Hence our social mobility reps will be relaunching the formal clothing swap initiative - more info about this will be available when you arrive. However, if you do want to look for some options to buy, there's a list of our recommendations for second-hand and more affordable formal wear on **page 49 of this handbook.**

BUILDINGS



Although a small college, we have seven Grade II listed properties for you to live in for your first year. These buildings make up the accommodation in Chad's, rather than it all being in one block. As a fresher, you are guaranteed to be living on the Bailey, and every one of these buildings is within a few minutes of 'Main College'. Despite being a catered college, there are kitchen facilities in all of these houses too!

MAIN COLLEGE

The main hub of Chad's, Main College contains a mix of all types of rooms. As well as accommodation, it contains the dining hall (Moulsdale Hall), the Quad, the bar, the toastie bar, the gardens and all the libraries.



EPIPHANY

This Grade II listed building was acquired by the College in 2006 and has been completely refurbished to provide en-suite rooms for undergraduates. It opened officially in October 2007. Epiphany mostly has shared rooms.

LANGFORD

Langford is a small house next door to Lightfoot along the Bailey. It has been refurbished over this summer, so will be the most modern of all the houses. It usually has a high percentage of returners who live there. All rooms are ensuite and there is one shared room. It has a kitchen two floors up and also connects to Main College via the gardens.



LIGHTFOOT

Lightfoot House is an 18th-century, grade two listed building with a mix of single and shared rooms, which apart from one, are all ensuite. There are usually quite a few returners who live in Lightfoot. The garden is directly connected through to Main College and Langford.



QUEENS



Queens Court is the closest Chad's building to town. Tesco's and Main College are around a three minute walk away. It was built in the nineteenth century (and apparently used to be a pub!) and usually has a few returners living in it alongside freshers. There is a courtyard to socialise in outside the back of the building alongside a decent kitchen. The building also contains its own laundry room to save you from having to walk down to Main College. All rooms within Queens are ensuite and the majority are single rooms.

RAMSEY

Ramsey is a Grade II listed building built around 1820. It has a large kitchen and a room called the Anne Loades Room, which has a piano, fireplace and large boardroom table which will be used as a lounge. It also has its own garden to the back of it. All rooms are en-suite apart from one which has private facilities.



GRADS

Confusingly-named, this Grade II listed building is home not to postgraduates, but to freshers and to third year students. It was recently refurbished in 2020 and has a very modern feel to it. They have lots of shared bathrooms and a big kitchen with 2 fridges!



COLLEGE LIBRARIES

Chad's are very proud to have an impressive 7 libraries. They can be useful to work in as they're never closed. The Reserve Library can become your degree's best friend, as it has most of the core books for every subject. There are also computers and a printer in the Fenton library, handy for when it comes to deadline fighting. The lovely colour printer is for Chad's students to use their uni print credits with. We also have our own librarian, Jenny, who you will meet in Freshers' Week.

THE CHAPEL

Ever since St Chad's College was founded in 1904, the Chapel has been an important part of its life. Despite the numerous changes in the College during the subsequent century and beyond, the Chapel remains a place of quiet reflection for all members of the College. All Chadsians are welcome to services and events in the Chapel, whatever your faith or belief. If you want to find a place to explore your ideas and beliefs, we hope that you will feel welcome.

A small, recently refurbished building under the shadow (literally!) of a great cathedral, you can find it behind main college, next to the garden. This is where you will have your college matriculation!

THE WINE CELLAR

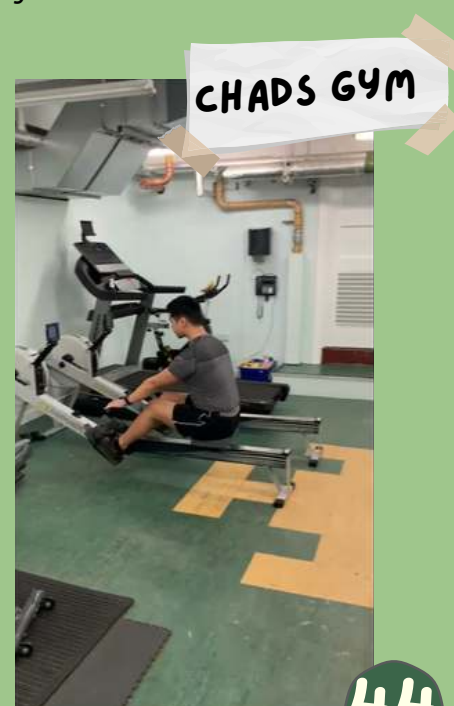
The Wine Cellar is open twice a week before formal for you to purchase good quality wine, sparkling wine, port and good quality non-alcoholic drinks at a reasonable price. The Cellar is accessed through a door in the foyer.

THE GYM

Chad's very own gym can be found in Main College. For £15 a term, or £30 a year, you can get access to the gym at any time. It's small, but well equipped with a weights area, rowing machines, bike, and a treadmill.

More info on how to pay for a membership will be available at the start of term.

If you're looking for a bigger gym, we recommend getting a membership for the gym at Maiden Castle. It's often cheaper if you sign up at the beginning of the year!



POST AND PARCELS

One of the perks of living in college is that you don't need to be in to make sure your post is delivered. Once reception has received a parcel addressed to you, you'll receive an email notification from one of the Porters that your post has arrived. Letters get put in the pigeonholes on the first floor of Main College, and are organised into cubbies by the first letter of your surname. You can check this anytime.

ADDRESS:

St Chad's College
18 North Bailey
Durham
DH1 3RH

LAUNDRY

You can find the laundry room behind main college, to the left of the garden. There is also a laundry room in Queens Court so students staying closer to town don't have to walk down the Bailey with heavy bags of laundry.

The washers and dryers run on the Circuit Laundry app, use of the washing machine is £4 per cycle and the dryer is free. The drums are quite big, so it could be a good idea to team up with a friend/roommate.

MAINTENANCE

If there is ever anything wrong with your room or bathroom, it's important to get in touch with maintenance as soon as impossible. **The Dom Rep, Gray is also a good person to speak with - he's in charge of everything to do with living in college including arranging formals, dealing with problems with rooms and organising college catering.**

You can find the Maintenance Request Form on the college website, or there will be a QR code for the form on the notice board in your room.

PORTERS

Porters are members of college staff who you will find at college reception. If you get locked out of your room the porter will provide you with a spare key or come and let you in themselves if they fancy a walk! Porters are available at Reception at all times - and there will always be a porter on duty throughout the night too in case you have any issues. They're all very friendly and really worth getting to know.

GRAY



UNIVERSITY LIFE

LIBRARIES AND STUDY SPACES

THE BILL BRYSON

Commonly known as 'The Billy B', The Bill Bryson Library is our main University Library, and you will find a fantastic range of resources to support your studies.

PALACE GREEN

Our Archives and Special Collections can be found in the Barker Research Library, located within Palace Green Library.

LEAZES ROAD

Mainly for Education, Teaching Resources Centre and Foundation studies.

THE BUSINESS SCHOOL

The Business School Library is a self-service library and study space in the Business School building on Mill Hill Lane. Mostly for post-graduate study.

TEACHING AND LEARNING CENTRE (TLC)

The Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC) provides space for independent study, as well as lectures and teaching activity. There's also a cafe in there and booths for collaborative work.

DURHAM SPORTS AND SOCIETIES

While this handbook focuses on the Sports and Societies within Chad's, it's important to know that there are lots of University-wide organisations to join! There will be a Freshers' Fair on **Wednesday 28th Sept. at Maiden Castle**, the university's sports grounds. Here, there will be stalls for all kinds of student societies - not just sports - to get more information on. We recommend giving everything that interests you a try. Lots of these societies will have taster sessions, and nobody will expect you to have any previous experience.

In terms of sports, university-level teams (known as DU) are typically a much higher standard than college sport. While there are a few entry-level teams, we generally recommend that you're already fairly familiar with a sport if you're trying out for DU.

LIVING IN DURHAM

EATING,

DRINKING,

DANCING.

CAFÉS

Vennels
Flat White Kitchen
Riverview Kitchen
Leonard's Coffee House
Cafédral
Mr B's
Chapters Tea Rooms
Bean Social

RESTAURANTS

La Spaghattata (Spags)
Tango
Shaheen's Indian
Zen
The Boat Club
The Rabbit Hole
Bell's
Barrio Comida
In Shanghai
Tapas Factory
Pizza Punks
Turtle Bay
Nadon Thai
Dingsway Sushi
Happiness2
PICCO d'italia
NKDBird
Fat Hippo
Zizzi
Pizza Express
The Cellar Door
Turkish Kitchen
19Twenty
Tapas Factory
Tortilla
Zaps

PUBS & BARS

Bishop's Mill Spoons
The Half Moon Inn
The Old Elm
The Library
The Swan and Three Cygnets
The City Bar
The Three Bridges
The Victoria Inn
The Woodman's Inn
The Boat Club
The Stag's Head
Tin of Sardines Gin Bar
Fabio's
Student Union Bar
& 15 College Bars!

NIGHTLIFE

Jimmy's
Fabio's (Fabs)
Klute
Babylon
Wiff Waff
Osbourne's
Bohemia
Loft

PART-TIME WORK

There are lots of part-time job opportunities available to students in Durham, ranging from tutoring to hospitality to being employed by the Durham Student's Union. Jobs are often advertised in shop, café and restaurant windows, so do keep an eye out when you're walking in and around town! The University careers service also sends out weekly emails advertising part-time work opportunities, and many students use Indeed too. However, we know that finding a job in Durham can be daunting if you don't know where to get started, so to make your life easier our **social mobility reps** have compiled this list of potential employment opportunities (in no particular order!) that are often available to students in Durham.

- **DURHAM ACCESS AND ENGAGEMENT TEAM - DURHAM STUDENT AMBASSADOR**
- **WORKING IN THE STUDENT UNION AS A WELCOME ASSISTANT/BAR/CAFÉ ASSISTANT**
- **ONLINE TUTORING**
- **ZIZZI**
- **WETHERSPOONS**
- **DECOLONISING THE CURRICULUM/LIBRARY INTERN**
- **FLAT WHITE CAFÉ**
- **LEBANEAT**
- **FAT HIPPO**
- **SLUG AND LETTUCE**
- **PATISSERIE VALERIE**
- **THE GREEK GUY**
- **THE FOOD PIT**
- **TOMAHAWK STEAKHOUSE**
- **THE CURIOUS MR FOX**

Our social mobility reps will be putting out much more detail about jobs in Durham soon. If you have any questions in the meantime, please message them on Instagram [@stchadssocialmobility!](https://www.instagram.com/stchadssocialmobility/)

TOP TIPS

- 1 Keep a look out when passing **shop windows** and also check **Indeed! Durham's Careers Service emails** also advertises many part-time jobs, so make sure to check these.
- 2 If you enjoy working for a chain company at home that also has a site in Durham, **see if you can transfer to the Durham site during term time.**
- 3 Definitely look into paid roles working for the University - they normally pay the national living wage, have holiday pay and are flexible with your hours as they know you need to prioritise your degree!
- 4 Update your CV this summer and tailor it towards different industries. For instance, you could have a CV that is tailored towards working in retail and one tailored towards working in hospitality. Also do the same with a cover letter! Write a generic one that is easily adaptable to each company you apply to and highlights crucial transferable skills such as reliability, organisation and strong interpersonal skills. Preparing this all now will make applying for jobs when you see them advertised in Durham much easier!

AFFORDABLE FORMAL WEAR

Buying clothes for different social occasions can get quite expensive! Hence our social mobility reps will be relaunching the formal clothing swap initiative - more info about this will be available when you arrive. However, if you do want to look for some options, you may want to start with the list of shops below if you have no idea where to get started! We have included a mix of charity shops and online stores to cater for a low-mid budget - the charity shops in particular offer a fantastic range of very affordable, high quality formal wear, and are conveniently located within a 10 minute walk from Chads!

- **Vinted**

(Online Second Hand Store - normally has better deals than Depop)

- **St Cuthbert's Hospice Pop Up Shop**

Prince Bishops, High St, DH1 3UL

- **St Cuthbert's Hospice**

93 Claypath, Durham DH1 1RG

- **Age UK Durham**

DH1 4SG

- **British Heart Foundation**

79 North Rd, Durham DH1 4SQ

- **Scope Durham**

8 North Rd, Durham DH1 4SH

- **New Look**

20 High St, Durham DH1 3UJ

- **Depop**

(Online Second Hand Store)

- **Quiz**

<https://www.quizclothing.co.uk/>

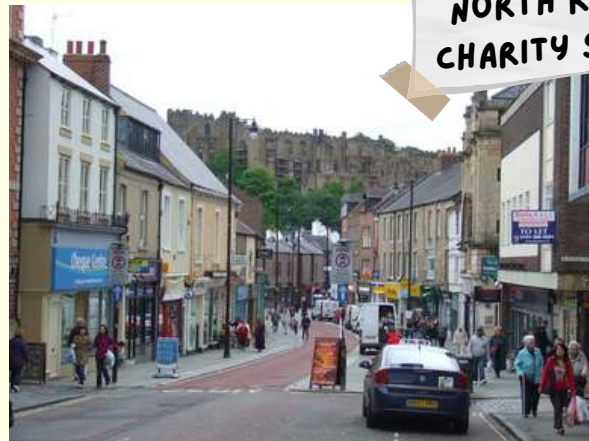
- **Cider**

<https://www.shopcider.com/>

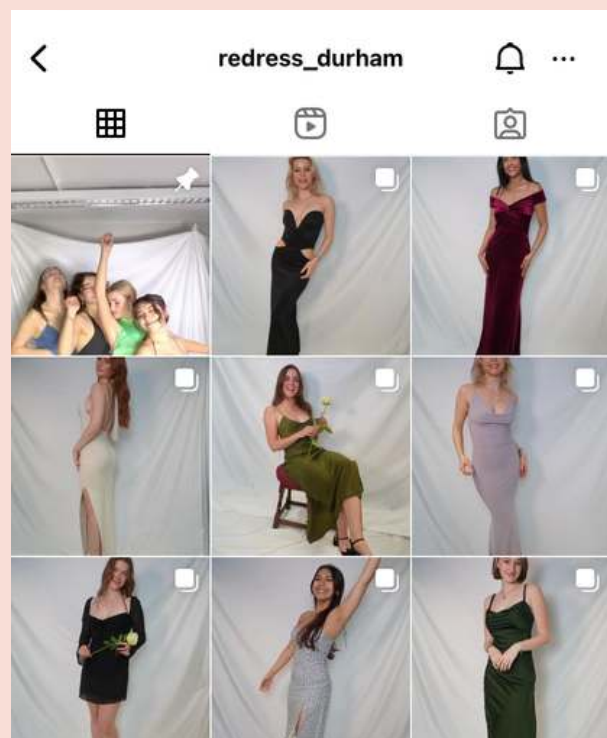
- **Monsoon & Accessorize,**

Prince Bishops, High St, DH1 3NB

**NORTH ROAD
CHARITY SHOPS**



There is also a uni-wide dress hiring service run through Instagram (@redress_durham), where you can hire dresses from other students.



ST. CHAD'S A-Z

A

Academic Advisor: Assigned by your department, they are there to contact for all of your academic queries and concerns

B

Bailey: The oldest street in Durham. It is home to Chad's, John's, Cuths', Hatfield and the Cathedral!

Boat Club: They coordinate boats and rowing outings, races and regattas. You'll have a chance to join St Chad's Boat Club at the college freshers' fair during Freshers' Week.

Bop: Big, themed parties that all Chads students are welcome to attend - these take place in the Quad, which gets transformed by decorations according to the theme. There's music, lights, and lots of dancing!

C

Chaplaincy: The chapel offers a space for reflection, listening, exploration, confidential support, prayer, worship, meditation and socialising. Whatever your background or position on religion both the chapel and David the Chaplain are there to offer you non-judgemental hospitality and support.

Chadsian: What we call ourselves! It sounds odd at first but this is something that will quickly become part of your lingo here at Chads...

D

Durham Grant: The Durham Grant provides extra financial support for those whose household income is below £25,000. It is a non-repayable grant of up to £2,000. One does not have to apply for the grant but is automatically allocated, if you are living in college this will be deducted from your accommodation costs. If you are living outside of college such as in rented accommodation this will be paid into your bank account.

DU Sport: Sport played at University Level. You will be able to sign-up for try outs and beginners' sessions for all sports at University's Freshers' Fair.

E

End of Exams Bop! We have multiple themed bops throughout the year, with the end of exams bop often proving a particular favourite as it's so well-earned by the end of the exam period.

F

Freshers' Sunday: Arrival day for most new freshers, a week ahead of term starting. At Chads, you can expect to receive a very warm welcome from some insanely enthusiastic Freps (Freshers' Reps), who will help you move all of your belongings from your vehicle to your room. This is a day many people come to remember for a long time come...

G

GOAT! The Goat is a multifaceted concept at Chad's. Not only is it our college animal and mascot, but it also refers to our beloved, toxically green college drink. It also stands for Greatest Of All Time, reminding us that Chads is, of course, the Greatest College of All Time.

H

Happiest Place on Earth: Many students at St Chads College have coined it 'the happiest place on Earth' - one of our Freshers' Week banners (painted by multiple Chadsians over the years) bears this statement, and is usually hung up proudly in the Quad on Freshers' Sunday (if it can be found from the previous year!).

I

Independent: Chad's is an independent college - this is quite complicated and affects the running of the college in many, many ways. However, whilst being independent spans much wider than catering, the brilliancy of Chads food is often referred to as one of the more tangible benefits of being an independent college. This is because being independent means that Chads can hire whichever caterers they like, instead of this being dictated by the University.

J

JCR: The Junior Common Room at Chad's refers to both a physical space in college - the Junior Common Room, which is a relaxing leisure space home to a pool table, TV, sofas and darts board - and the student organisation, which almost every Chads student is part of. It is within the wider structure of the JCR that clubs, sports, societies, committees and social events exist, and although it sounds like a very abstract term currently, you will soon become very familiar with it as it underpins most aspects of the wider student experience at Chads.

K

Keys: Every Chads Fresher that's living in college (which is the vast majority) will receive their key on Freshers' Sunday when they check-in at reception upon arrival. This key will give you access both to your room and into other Chad's houses. You will also need it to access Chad's Libraries, which are for Chad's students only.

L

Libraries: Chad's is home to 7 libraries, and has the highest book-student ratio of any Durham college (apparently)! Very exciting stuff. Every Chads student is welcome to study in any of these libraries all year round, and you can ask the librarian - Jenny - to order specific books in for you.

M

Music: Music at Chads has absolutely taken off in the past couple of years. There are multiple choirs to join which have something to offer for just about any singing standard, including the auditioned Chapel Choir and Chad's Voices - where no auditions or prior experience in singing is necessary! We have a thriving orchestra, and many talented musicians which makes for fantastic showcases, as well as beloved 'Wine & Jazz' events throughout the year.

Maiden Castle: The main sports site in Durham - this is where most college and DU training and matches take place. It's about a 20 minute walk from Chads.

Mugs: Bring your own to the dining room for free hot drinks from the machine throughout the day.

N

Non Vestra Sed Vos: 'Not what you have but who you are' - our college motto, and something we hope every Chadsian will make an effort to embody.

O

Observatory Hill: Observatory Hill is a nearby Durham landmark - it is only about a 15-minute walk from Chads, and from the top of it you can enjoy a lush view of Durham, including the Cathedral. It is a Chads tradition to head over to Observatory Hill for sunrise following certain social events, such as summer ball. It is therefore the place of many happy memories for lots of Chadsians.

P

Potatoes: The beloved staple diet of many liver-in Chadsians - there are sometimes even multiple types of potato on offer at one meal! You might even come across potatoes in weird and wonderful forms you have never come across before...

Porters: Members of college staff who you will find at college reception. If you get locked out of your room the porter will provide you with a spare key or come and let you in themselves if they fancy a walk! There will always be a porter on duty throughout the night too in case you have any issues late into the night. The porters are super friendly and really worth getting to know.

Q

Quad: The Cassidy Quad is one of many Chadsians' favourite spaces in the college - with its gorgeous architecture and stunning chandeliers, the Quad often seems pretty surreal at first. In time though, it will become a beloved part of your new home - somewhere you will pass through most days, and spend many hours socialising.

R

Reception: There will always be a member of staff to hand in reception, be that receptionists or porters. You will also collect most of your post from reception, although more generic post tends to be placed in the pigeon holes on the second floor of main college.

Roommate: Most freshers will share a room in first year. Whilst this might seem daunting, most Chadsians really enjoy sharing a room. However, should any issues arise, college staff will try their best to offer a solution.

S

Stash: Chads branded clothing that many Chadsians proudly wear in Durham, around college, for sport, and at home. There is usually the opportunity to buy Chads stash once a term.

Summative: An assessed piece of work that contributes to your final grade (as opposed to formative, which doesn't contribute and is more of a 'practice run').

T

Toastie Bar: The charity toastie bar runs from the Quad bar on specific days of the week. Keep an eye out to hear which days it will be open this year!

Tournaments: Most of Chad's Sports teams participate in tournaments against other colleges. They are a really fun way to enjoy a little competitive spirit and college pride, whilst being both sociable and active at the same time.

U

Ultimate frisbee: It was, admittedly, difficult to come up with something for U. However, Ultimate frisbee is nonetheless a fantastic thing to highlight here - it demonstrates the wide range of extracurricular options available at Chads.

V

Vos Media: A Facebook page to follow on which photos from every Chads social event (taken by the official Chads camera!) will be posted. Don't forget to pose... (You can request for any photos posted to be taken down).

W

Wednesday: Wednesdays in Durham are special for two reasons. Wednesday afternoons are kept free on everyone's academic timetables for the purpose of sport! Many college and DU sports will train on Wednesday afternoons, making use of an afternoon free of lectures. Wednesday evenings likewise tend to be dedicated to socials and nights out, following the afternoon of fun. A Wednesday night on the Bailey is lively to say the least...

X

Xylophone: or message us a better alternative @stchadsjcr

Y

YOU: The final, most important piece of the puzzle! Those who make Chads the unique, invaluable college that it is.

Z

Zoo: During exam season the Wellbeing Committee organises a petting zoo, which pays Chad's garden a visit. All sorts of animals come including sheep, chickens, bunnies and goats - of course.



SECRETARY'S SIGN-OFF

Hi everyone! Firstly, if you've read this far I'm seriously impressed. I'm almost tempted to reveal some Chad's gossip just to reward anyone that's stuck it out this long.

I'm Maddie, the **JCR Secretary** and the loving author of this handbook. I want to say a HUGE thank you to Maddi and Milo for their help in doing this - blood, sweat, and tears went into all 54 pages of this beast.



Being Secretary means you'll get lots of emails from me about JCR meetings and minutes, and then you'll undoubtedly get a follow up email with all the stuff I've forgotten to include. I also run the college's social media alongside Maddi and make Chadsfeed, which is a weekly newsletter outlining all of the events going on each week.

I'm just about to start my third year of my English Literature course, and have spent the past two years at Chad's pretending that I know how to play lacrosse, spending too much time at the bar, and organising all the entertainment for the Candlemas Ball. This place has become my home over that time, and I'll remember the experiences I've had here forever.

I hope this handbook has given you a good picture of what life is like at Chad's. I've had the best time in my two years here so far, and I really hope that you will too. You might find those few weeks before moving to uni a bit nerve-wrecking, but I really hope this has built up your excitement about starting here. The best advice I can give you is to get involved in everything you can. These few years go by really quickly, and it's true that you get out what you put in! Even if it's something you've never tried before, this is the perfect time to give it a go.

As an Exec, we all hope that Chad's will feel like a home for life.

I'm not sure I can physically think of any more information to give you at this stage, but if you do have any questions please feel free to message me on the Chad's JCR Instagram (@stchadsjcr) or email me at madeleine.s.macey@durham.ac.uk. I'll also be around all through Freshers' Week, and I can't wait to meet you!

MADDIE X