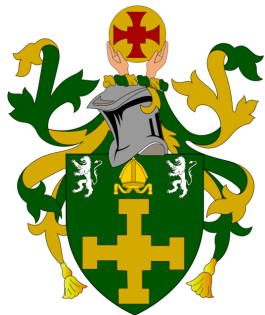




# Welcome to St Chad's College Middle Common Room







# Welcome from St Chad's College Middle Common Room

Dear Incoming Postgraduates and Chadsians,

Welcome to St Chad's College! Though we are the smallest of Durham's colleges, we are very proud of our warm and welcoming community. I do hope that you will feel at home in St Chad's in no time!

As a postgraduate student, you are automatically a member of the Middle Common Room, or the MCR for short. The MCR is a diverse community of postgraduate students who cover all academic disciplines and come from lots of different backgrounds and walks of life. The MCR is also a physical space within College comprised of a common room and a study room. The common room is stocked with tea, coffee, and biscuits and there are boardgames, a Nintendo Switch, an Xbox, and TV which members are welcome to use. The common room is a great place to relax and to meet other members of the MCR community. St Chad's College, and the MCR, will be key points of contact for you during your time in Durham, whether this is for one year or more. The central location of St Chad's in Durham makes it an ideal place to meet friends either for lunch, between lectures, or in the evening.

There is a membership fee, called "battels" at St Chad's, for being part of the MCR. These are used to help fund the various social and welfare events put on by the MCR which are great opportunities to get together and will make your time in Durham memorable and positive. Past events have included trips to local beaches, pizza and film nights, bar crawls in Durham, picnics with art, and dinners to celebrate Thanksgiving or Lunar New Year. If you have any ideas of an event that you think would be great for the MCR to put on, then please do get in touch.

I would like to encourage every member of the MCR to get involved in College life as much as possible. Whether you are a Master's or PhD student, domestic or international, a mature student or commuting into Durham – coming to College for even a small amount of time and attending events such as Research Forums, Socials or Formals is a great way to get to know people from across the St Chad's community and enrich your time in Durham.

There are lots of roles on the MCR Executive Committee which are free for the 2023-2024 year, so if you are enjoy planning events and are interested in helping to contribute to the community, I would really encourage you to run for one of these roles. There will be more information about these roles and our MCR General Meeting as we start term. Please do come to the General Meeting as it is a time to meet people and have your voice heard about what you would like the MCR to do for you, there will also be pizza and wine afterwards!

The MCR has a [Facebook Group](#) and an [Instagram Page](#) which are great places to find out information about things that are happening and connect with other MCR members. If you are not on Facebook or Instagram, don't worry, all information will be sent out to your Durham University email too!

I look forward to meeting you all, and if you have any questions then please post them in the Facebook group or email me at [stchadsmcr.president@durham.ac.uk](mailto:stchadsmcr.president@durham.ac.uk).

Best wishes

Matt

St Chad's College MCR President 2023-2024

# Key Event Sign-ups

## Join the MCR Facebook Group

Join the MCR's 2023 Facebook group for all new and returning Chad's postgrads.

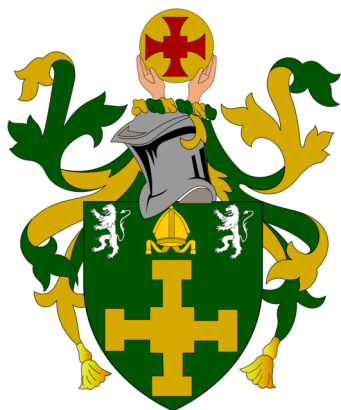
[HERE](#) A good place for regular event updates!

The MCR Welcome BBQ will take place on Saturday 23 September. We would love to see you there. To give us an idea of numbers, it would be great if you could complete the form [HERE](#).

## Come along to our MCR Welcome BBQ!

## Sign-up for the MCR meal at Spags

Sign-up for the MCR meal at Spags (a much-loved Durham Italian!) using the form [HERE](#). It is important that we know numbers for this event! The menu can be found [HERE](#).



# St Chad's College Middle Common Room (MCR): Induction Week Timetable

Wednesday 20th September – Friday 6th October

Hello and welcome to St Chad's College! We're excited for you all to be joining the MCR, and we hope that you will enjoy the events that we have planned for you. These are opportunities for you to get to know Durham, St Chad's and other members of the MCR. These events are open to all new postgraduates as a chance to get to know each other and get involved in the MCR and College life.

## Wednesday 20th September

*18:00 onwards: Pizza in the MCR* — This is a chance for people to come and relax in the MCR after moving up to Durham. Come and enjoy pizza, courtesy of the MCR, and get to know other postgraduate students. A sign up will be sent closer to the time to get an idea of interest so enough pizza can be ordered for everyone.



## Thursday 21st September

*15:00-c.16:00: Tour of Durham* — A tour from college which will take you to the City Centre, Lower Mountjoy, and Trinity Hall. This is a chance to get to know where things in Durham are, particularly if you're new, such as the University Library, some of the different University Departments, and Trinity Hall, one of Chad's accommodations for Postgraduates which the MCR will use for some social events. Meet in the MCR before hand.

*18.00 onwards: College Welcome Buffet* — A buffet dinner in the Cassidy Quad in Main College for all new students.

## Friday 22nd September

*08:30-12:00: Student Verification and Campus Card Collection* — Time to collect your proof of identity as a student and member of St Chad's. Occurring in the Brewis Library

*12:00-13:30: Postgraduate Induction Event (followed by Lunch) \***COMPULSORY**\** — Introductory talks in the Cassidy Quad from College and University Staff about living in College and how to get involved with life in College

*Afternoon: Gown Collection* for postgraduate students in the Cassidy Quad.

*18:00 onwards: MCR dinner at Wetherspoons* — Meet in the College reception at 18:00 to walk down to Wetherspoons.





### **Saturday 23rd October**

*17.30-19.00: MCR BBQ* — College barbecue in the Cassidy Quad/Gardens. Sign up will be sent out before hand to get an idea of numbers of dietary requirements.

*19.00 onwards: MCR Pub Quiz* — Join the MCR in the Cassidy Quad for an evening of trivia. Cassidy Quad bar will be open.

### **Sunday 24th October**

*10.00-15.00: Art, Picnic and Drinks at Trinity Hall* — Bring a sandwich/alternative to Trinity Hall and enjoy a chance to relax and do some painting at Trinity Hall. Drinks and other food will be provided.



### **Monday 25th September**

*16.30-17.30: Learn about the MCR Exec* — Meet in the MCR to learn about the positions on the exec that are available with tea, coffee, and cake.

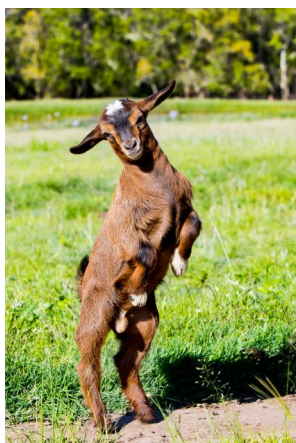
*18.00 onwards: Research Forum* — Come to the MCR for a taster of our popular Research Forums. Hear from current and former MCR members about their research over drinks. This will be followed by pizza and wine and cheese. A sign up will be sent out closer to the time to get an idea of the interest in pizza.



### **Tuesday 26th September**

*18:30-20:30: MCR dinner at Spaghattata* — Meet in the main college reception at 18:20 to go to SPAGS, a Durham student favourite. **SIGNUP REQUIRED TO BOOK ENOUGH TABLES!** The MCR will cover the cost of attendees food and drink (within reason)

*21.00 onward: Ceilidh [pronounced kay-lee]* — A joint event with the JCR in the Cassidy Quad. Ceilidhs are a traditional Scottish events where everyone meets and dances to traditional music and are a lot of fun!



### **Wednesday 27th September**

*13:30-14:15: Matriculation Photos, undergraduates followed by postgraduates* — Taking place in the College gardens. FORMAL DRESS WITH GOWNS.

*14.15 onwards: University Matriculation* — A commemoration event in Durham Cathedral to mark your official entry into Durham University. Meet in the Cassidy Quad no later than 14:15, before we process to the Cathedral. Followed by a reception back in College. FORMAL DRESS WITH GOWNS.

*18.00 onwards: Games and pizza night in the MCR* — Come to the MCR for a relaxed evening of board games, Nintendo switch, pizza, snacks and drinks.

### **Thursday 28th September**

*15:00-c.16:00: Tour of Durham* — If you weren't able to make the tour last week, this is your chance to get to know Durham a little better. Meet in the MCR.

*17.45-20:00: Perspectives evening on "fitting in, belonging and imposter syndrome"* — Join the College in the Cassidy Quad for a panel discussion on an important topic for students. Panel should run until 19:00 and is followed by a dinner in College.

*19:30 onwards: Durham Bar Crawl* — A chance to explore and get to know some of the pubs and bars around the city centre. Meet in the MCR

### **Friday 29th September**

20.00-22.00: *Wine and cheese* — A joint event in the Cassidy Quad and Dining Hall with the JCR where the Wine Cellar curate a wine and cheese taster menu.



### **Saturday 30th September**

19:00 onwards: *Party at Trinity Hall* — The first of hopefully many social MCR nights at Trinity Hall, come along for pizza, drinks, music and fun.

### **Sunday 1st October**

14.00-16.00: *College Freshers' Fair* — A chance to learn about College sports and societies in the Cassidy Quad.

### **Monday 2nd October**

19.30-21.00: *Subject colloquia* — A chance to meet both undergraduate and postgraduate students in your own disciplines and others, and to learn about other academic disciplines.

### **Tuesday 3rd October**

18.15 onward: *Postgraduate matriculation and formal* — This is a tradition unique to St Chad's and your official welcome to the college. Meet in the Chapel at 18:15 for the matriculation service. This is followed by a drinks reception in the Cassidy Quad and then the first postgraduate formal of the year in the Dining Hall. **FORMAL DRESS WITH GOWNS.**



### **Friday 6th October**

19:00 onwards: *MCR General Meeting and Hustings* — The first general meeting of the academic year. This is a chance to get involved with the running of the MCR, make your voice heard and run for Exec positions if you are interested. Followed by games, drinks and pizza.





# Go-To Induction Timetable

<b><u>Wednesday 20th September</u></b>	
18.00-21.00	Pizza and Socialising in the MCR
<b><u>Thursday 21st September</u></b>	
15:00-c. 16:00	Tour of Durham City—Meet in the MCR
18.00 onwards	College welcome buffet in the Cassidy Quad
<b><u>Friday 22nd September</u></b>	
08:30-12:00	Student Verification and Campus Card Collection in Brewis Library
12:00-13:30	Postgraduate Induction in the Cassidy Quad <b>*CUMPULSORY*</b>
Afternoon	Gown Collection in the Cassidy Qaud
18.00 onwards	Dinner at Wetherspoons
<b><u>Saturday 23rd September</u></b>	
17.30-19.00	MCR BBQ in the Cassidy Quad and Gardens
19:00 onwards	MCR Pub Quiz in the Cassidy Quad
<b><u>Sunday 24th September</u></b>	
10:00-15.00	Art, Picnic and Drinks at Trinity Hall
<b><u>Monday 25th September</u></b>	
16.30-17.30	Learn about the MCR Exec
18.00 onwards	Research Forum in the MCR, followed by pizza and wine and cheese.
<b><u>Tuesday 26th September</u></b>	
18.30-20.30	Dinner at Spags—SIGN UP REQUIRED!
21.00 onward	College Ceilidh
<b><u>Wednesday 27th September</u></b>	
14.15-16:00	University Matriculation, followed by Reception in College
18.00 onwards	Games and Pizza in the MCR
<b><u>Thursday 28th September</u></b>	
15:00-c. 16:00	Tour of Durham City—Meet in the MCR
17.45-20:00	College Perspectives event

<b><u>Thursday 28th September Cont.</u></b>	
19:30 onwards	Pub Crawl—meet in the MCR
<b><u>Friday 29th September</u></b>	
20.00-22.00	Wine and Cheese night in the Cassidy Quad
<b><u>Saturday 30th September</u></b>	
19:00 onwards	MCR party in Trinity Hall
<b><u>Sunday 1st October</u></b>	
14.00-16.00	College freshers' fair in the Cassidy Quad
<b><u>Monday 2nd October</u></b>	
19.30-21.00	Subject colloquia in the Cassidy Quad
<b><u>Tuesday 3rd October</u></b>	
18.15 onward	Postgraduate matriculation and formal in College
<b><u>Friday 6th October</u></b>	
18:30 onwards	MCR General Meeting and hustings, followed by Pizza, Wine and Cheese

