



ST HELEN &
ST KATHARINE

Faringdon Road, Abingdon, OX14 1BE T: 01235 520173 E: info@shsk.org.uk www.shsk.org.uk
Headmistress: Mrs Rebecca Dougall BA MA

25 May 2018

Dear Parents

University interview preparation masterclass

If your daughter is considering applying for Oxford or Cambridge or thinks she might apply for a competitive course or university, I would like to invite her to attend a workshop on Sunday 24 June from 10am–4pm at St Helen and St Katharine.

As a general rule, any student with 7 A*s at I/GCSE should be considering Oxford or Cambridge. There are exceptions to this and should your daughter have fewer A*s and want to attend Oxford or Cambridge, we would still encourage her to apply. Universities will make it clear on their subject websites if they conduct interviews.

At university interviews, students are required to demonstrate their academic ability and, without practise, this can be very difficult. Through a variety of hands-on, interactive tasks, this masterclass will aim to draw out students' adventurous academic spirits and exercise their higher-order thinking skills. Deductive reasoning, upside-down questioning, identifying objective criteria, daring lateral thinking, spotting the scope for interpretation and finding ways to be more original are all part of the day's activities. There will be puzzles to solve, amusing debates, intellectual games and some ruthless investigations to be completed.

The environment will be supportive and non-threatening, fun but with a serious agenda for an advanced outcome. We hope that students will finish this course feeling empowered and excited about what they can achieve.

Lunch will be provided by the school in the form of a takeaway pizza.

There will be charge of £50 to cover the cost of the masterclass. If you would like your daughter to attend, please complete this [electronic response form](#) by Thursday 7 June. Places are limited to ensure that each student receives individual feedback and support, therefore places will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

It is really important that we hold the very latest medical, dietary and parental contact information on all our students, especially for any external school visits. So if there are any amendments or additions, do please let us know. Thank you.

If relevant, I do hope that you will encourage your daughter to attend.

Yours faithfully

Miss H Doherty
Head of Sixth Form
hdoherly@shsk.org.uk