Building for the future

Help us transform the Back Quad

Access to Excellence

WADHAM COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
An inclusive undergraduate centre

The William Doo Undergraduate Centre will provide state-of-the-art social and academic facilities to rival any in Oxford – with full accessibility for students with disabilities.

Oxford’s first dedicated access centre

The Dr Lee Shau Kee Building will welcome thousands of school students every year and create a hub for Wadham’s acclaimed access and outreach work – including our pre-16 programme and our innovative summer schools.
Radiating a spirit of openness

Wadham’s Access to Excellence programme aims to support young people from the moment they consider university, through their studies, and as they go out into the world to make a difference. The transformation of the Back Quad is at the heart of this endeavour:

In 2020 two elegant new buildings will replace the Goddard Building, which is inaccessible to students with mobility issues and has, for many years, been falling behind other Oxford facilities. Designed by award-winning architects, AL_A, the new buildings were sensitively scaled to the surroundings, from the 17th century foundation buildings to the 21st century McCall MacBain Graduate Centre. Together, the new buildings will support our widening participation programme by welcoming future generations of aspiring students and undergraduates.

The Dr Lee Shau Kee Building is designed specifically to welcome school visitors and host Wadham’s extensive access programme – complete with space for teaching, public lectures, a music room and wheelchair-accessible accommodation for our residential summer schools.

The William Doo Undergraduate Centre will form a new focus for student life. Its attractive, light-filled spaces – including a new Junior Common Room, study area, e-hub, art room and café – will be open and accessible to all at Wadham.

"Your support will help make these visionary new buildings a reality, with the potential to change lives of generations of young people.”
Ken Macdonald, QC Warden

“Being able to visit Wadham was the only reason I applied. It made Oxford less scary and gave me confidence.”
Amy Howlett (Law, 2016)

How can you help

Thanks to the inspirational benefactions from our two lead donors, generous gifts from other early benefactors and a College contribution, we have already secured a fantastic £13.6 million, with alumni and friends naming elements within the buildings. We are now looking to raise the remaining £4 million by 2020. Contributions of all sizes are deeply appreciated, and a gift of £3,000 or more (payable over three years) will put your name on our donor wall.

"These beautiful new buildings will enable us to turn our distinctive Wadham beliefs into renewed action. Together, we can show the world that wider access really does lead to higher standards and a better education for all. Please join me in supporting the College’s future.”
Warren East (Engineering, 1980) CEO of Rolls-Royce and Chair of Wadham’s Development Council

Make you mark on Wadham

We hope you will help us turn the images on this page into reality and would be delighted to discuss how you can contribute. If you are a UK taxpayer, Gift Aid could increase the value of your donation to the College by 25%. See www.wadham.ox.ac.uk/building-for-the-future for more information, including further incentives for higher-rate taxpayers. These are just a few of the naming opportunities.

Donor Board £3,000 - £5,000
Lounge Table £15,000
Single Bedroom £30,000
Accessible Bedroom £50,000
Floor £100,000
E-Hub £200,000
Staircase £500,000
JCR, Undergraduate Centre Lounge £1m - £1.5m
The Back Quad project is part of Wadham’s Access to Excellence programme which supports young people from the moment they consider university, through their undergraduate and graduate studies, and as they go out into the world to make a difference.

Thanks to unprecedented support from alumni and friends, the impact of our access work is already felt across every step of the educational journey, as well as influencing policy beyond our walls.

Contributions to Wadham’s Back Quad project will help us to reach our overall Access to Excellence target of £40 million and we look forward to involving you in this transformative scheme.

Every donation makes a difference. By contributing to this architectural project you will see the tangible impact of your generosity every time you return to Wadham. Importantly, your gift will help to transform the lives of young people for many generations to come.

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