

Code of Conduct for Dining in Hall

Dining together in Hall has been one of the central communal acts of the College ever since its foundation. Whilst the atmosphere should be convivial, good order must be maintained so that all can enjoy this important aspect of College life. The Student Affairs Committee has formulated the following code of conduct.

Gowns are worn at dinner by all members of the College and any guests who are members of other Colleges of the University are encouraged to wear gowns. Guests from outside the University are not required to wear gowns. The dress code is informal (lounge suit and tie/cocktail dress).

Up to three personal guests are welcome when accompanied by a host who will be held responsible for their good behaviour. It is permissible, subject to the availability of places and obtaining a permit from the Dean of College, to make a group booking for Formal Hall on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings only.

Those dining on ordinary nights must be seated by 7.30pm. At special College dinners, those dining should be at the place indicated on the seating plan at the time stated on the invitation.

Those dining should remain seated in their places throughout the meal, and should not leave the Hall until the meal has finished unless they intend not to return or are in need of the lavatory.

Those present stand in silence during the graces at the beginning and at the end of the meal.

Loud conversation, boisterous behaviour or any activity liable to disturb other diners or to inconvenience the staff is not allowed. Singing, drinking games, or games of forfeit (such as 'pennying') are prohibited.

Wine, bottled beer bought from the bar, or soft drinks may be brought into Hall on ordinary nights, although it should be noted that amounts of alcohol are closely monitored by College staff both at the entrance and during the meal itself. Fortified Wines and Spirits are not permitted. Staff have the authority to confiscate excessive amounts of alcohol.

Children under 16 may only dine in Hall with permission of the Dean of College.

Mobile telephones may not be used during dining in Hall and must be switched off if brought in. Photography is not permitted in the Hall whilst Senior Members are dining at high table.

Dean of College October 2013

A Porter will normally be present in the Hall to assist in the maintenance of this code. He or she and any member of the Senior Hall Staff are authorised to ask any member of College, or their guest, to leave the Hall in the event of unacceptable behaviour. Such behaviour will be reported to the Dean of College, and disciplinary action may result. Anyone asked to leave Hall for whatever reason is not allowed to use the Bar that evening.

Dean of College October 2013