

JCR Treasury

Explaining batels, opt-ins and money

This is a brief guide to inform you about a number of Junior Common Room (JCR) schemes offered to undergraduates designed to make life easier during your time here.

Each scheme will be charged on your first batels (termly bills), which you will receive when you arrive in October. Opt-ins are collected before Michaelmas each year and you then receive charges each term for the rest of the year.

1) Key Insurance Scheme

The replacement cost of keys and fobs for college rooms is very high as the college issues ASSA security keys. This means that without insurance students are often faced with charges well in excess of £100, with fobs being an additional £25. For this reason, we strongly recommended that you opt to take part in the insurance scheme, which is provided on a not-for-profit basis. The premium is currently £2.00 per year for undergraduates which is only paid once in Michaelmas and covers you for an entire academic year. You pay 20% of any claim you make as an excess charge and can claim up to £250 per academic year. This is excellent value for money and protects JCR members against the unwelcome prospect of a three-figure key replacement bill. Almost all current JCR members are on the scheme.

2) JCR Charities scheme

This is a voluntary payment of £7.00 every term, which goes straight into a separate JCR Charities Account. Each term, undergraduates are encouraged to nominate charities, and the JCR Charities Rep is responsible for allocating funds to these chosen charities. A mix of international, UK wide, and Oxford based charities are selected, and it is the best opportunity for students, through their JCR, to direct their resources and energies to charitable causes. There is a strong tradition of active involvement in this and other similar JCR led initiatives and we hope you will choose to participate.

3) The JCR Entz Charge

The JCR Entz Charge is a termly payment of about £10.00 used for putting on events in college and for subsidising the Christmas Party and Bops throughout the year. There are usually several events per term, often themed, and these are well attended by college members across year groups, providing a really good chance to get to know new people or have fun with your friends.

Those who do not opt-in will not be able to attend these events.

4) Student Refugee Campaign

This is a voluntary payment of £4 a term which goes to the Oxford Students Refugee Campaign, explained below. In light of the ongoing refugee crisis which has displaced many thousands of students worldwide, the Oxford Students Refugee campaign is setting up a scholarship to fund the academic fees required to be at Oxford. The Oxford application for these students is the same as regular students, they would simply have the option to apply for this scholarship when here. Around 8000 Oxford students from over 20 JCRs have passed this motion, which allows the

Student Refugee Campaign to add £4 to your batels per term towards this fund (which is eventually expected to fund the expenses of around 20 displaced students annually). I look

forward to meeting you all in October.

If you have any questions, please email Ren at jcr-treasurer@bnc.ox.ac.uk

