

VOTE

NEVE ATKINSON

FOR UG ACCESS, EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION



Hi! I'm Neve (she/her), a third-year History student at Murray Edwards, running to be your Undergraduate Access, Education and Participation Officer! I'm currently the Undergraduate President of the SU Class Act Campaign, and have been the Access/Class Act Officer on my college's JCR, so I've got plenty of experience in access work, liberation roles and student politics. As we head into a year that will (hopefully) look a lot more normal than the last two and a half, I want to address a lot of the systemic flaws in Cambridge's teaching structures that have been exposed by the pandemic and use the lessons learnt from COVID to ensure students have better experiences in the future.

Access:

- **Access doesn't end at admission!** Work with both **Access and Class Act Officers** to understand what disadvantaged students would have wanted to know about Cambridge before getting here, and edit the **Alternative Prospectus** to reflect this knowledge.
- **Transparency in admissions statistics** is key! Push for more detailed admissions data from the university, as well as publicising existing data to student groups that would find it useful.
- Create a guide to ensure that prospective applicants and current students know the **range of funding and grants available** to them, and **how this differs between colleges**.
- Push for **standardisation of bursaries** so that no college is disadvantaged.
- Make the process of applying for **hardship more transparent and less intrusive**.
- Run the **Shadowing Scheme** in person, but have a strong plan in case of continuing restrictions.

I believe that access and education are fundamentally linked; if a student has access requirements that aren't being met, their education will suffer. And making Cambridge more accessible for everyone means equal opportunities to apply to this university, and succeed here.

Education:

- Push for all faculties to continue to record all their lectures post-pandemic, even as in-person teaching becomes normal again.
- Work with the Disabled Students' Campaign to **ensure that all faculties and lectures are accessible**. For example, providing **closed captioning** for all lecture recordings.
- Continue and build on work to **decolonise the curriculum** via the **Decolonisation Assembly**.
- Maintaining some of the **alternative exam arrangements** necessitated by the pandemic so that all students feel they can do their best in a more flexible system.
- **Reduce teaching discrepancies** across colleges so that all students can access the same supervisors and teaching resources.
- **Standardise and expand staff training** so that all teaching staff have the same (for example) anti-racism training.
- Help, coordinate and consult the **academic reps** from all schools, faculties and departments to ensure student voices are being heard.

If you have any questions about my manifesto, please drop me an email (nia21@cam.ac.uk) or message (Neve Atkinson on Facebook)!