

Calum Cook, JCR President Grey College South Road Durham DH1 3LG grey.president@durham.ac.uk

Dear Freshers,

A huge congratulations on your exam results and getting into Durham! Your hard work has paid off and you're well on your way to one of the most welcoming and sociable colleges that Durham has to offer. My name is Cal and I'm your Junior Common Room (JCR) President for 2024/25. The Junior Common Room is far more than just a room in college, we're an independent charity that acts as a representative for Grey College students. We organise Grey's sports and societies, Freshers' Week events, events throughout the year, and much, much more! More informally, the JCR is like our own college family- with just over 1200 people in it! Pretty much everyone does something to be involved with life at Grey, whether large or small, and it all contributes to making Grey the fantastic community that you will join. From our vast array of sports teams and societies to the committees that organise our social events, balls and College Bar (the iconic Greyhound), there is never a shortage of opportunities to get involved and we encourage you to get stuck in!

As JCR President, I'm in charge of running the JCR on a day-to-day level and ensuring that it operates in the best way for you to enjoy your time here. Basically, my job is to put in place the events, finances, committees and changes that make up the Grey student experience. I graduated this year (BA Politics, Philosophy, and Economics) and was lucky enough to be elected by the students at Grey to stay on for a year to work for you. As well as representing your views to College Officers, the University and wider world, I'm also here to support you throughout your time at Durham and to help you through any difficulties you may encounter whilst at Grey. I work closely with our brilliant JCR Welfare team who are there to support you and are always up for a chat.

I'll be sending out a bit more information over the next few weeks regarding your Freshers' Week at Grey so keep an eye on your emails! For now, make sure you follow our Freshers' Instagram page (@officialgreyfreshers2024) and join our <u>Official Grey Freshers</u> Facebook Group

On there you can ask your Freshers Representatives (Freps) any questions you might have, find a bit more about your fellow Freshers, and stay updated about what goes on during your first weeks. Later in the year, the Facebook group will include regular updates on events and what's going on in college. I would highly recommend making a Facebook profile if you don't already have one; it's Durham's preferred method of communication for events, socials, sports/socs, etc. Finally, for regular updates about the JCR, keep an eye on the Official JCR Instagram (@greycollegejcr), you might also want to follow my Instagram (@grey_sabbs)!

If you have any questions, no matter how small they may seem, please just drop me an email at **grey.president@durham.ac.uk** and I'll do what I can to help. I also strongly advise

you to access your Durham University email account as soon as you can and check it regularly, as there will be important information emailed to you.

We cannot wait for you to arrive in September, and I hope you're all as excited as I am!

Yours sincerely,

Cal Cook JCR President