

# Issue 1: Meet the Team

May 2023



Hi everyone!

Welcome to the first newsletter for Durham Summer Schools 2023! We're Becca and Liv, and we work as Graduate Ambassadors in the Access Team at Durham University. Throughout the next year, we will be sending you these newsletters to keep in touch, and to offer some top tips and advice throughout year 13 and the university application process.

In this issue, we wanted to introduce ourselves and the rest of the team working on this year's summer schools so you can recognise us when you visit Durham! We will also introduce you to some key locations you will visit around the city so you feel totally prepared for your summer school experience.

So without further ado, let's meet the team!

Until next time,  
Becca & Liv 😊



## Charlie

He/him



Hey! I'm Charlie and I am the event manager for STEP. We are putting together a really interesting programme for you and we are excited to have you here.

**Degree:** Natural Sciences (Maths and Philosophy)

**Song:** Plastic Off the Sofa (Beyonce)

**Film:** Grand Budapest Hotel

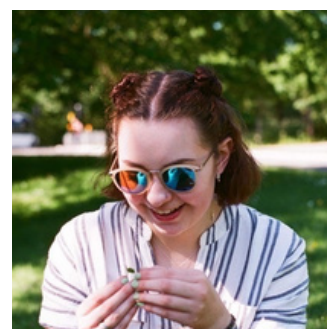
**TV show:** Succession

**Guilty pleasure:** Friday night takeaway

**Fun fact:** I selected this year's team for University Challenge

## Liv

She/They



Hi! I'm Liv and I am the deputy event manager! I will mostly be chatting to you about social arrangements and will answer any of your general queries.

I can't wait to meet you!

**Degree:** History

**Song:** Superstition (Stevie Wonder)

**Film:** Pride

**TV show:** Taskmaster

**Guilty pleasure:** Scrolling through TikTok

**Fun fact:** I do trampolining and gymnastics!

# Becca

She/Her



Hi! I'm Becca. I work mainly on planning the Supported Progression Scheme (especially the social activities), but you'll see me around on all the residential!

**Degree:** English Literature

**Song:** Dreams (Fleetwood Mac)

**Film:** The Lord of the Rings

**TV show:** Doctor Who

**Guilty pleasure:** Lip-syncing in the kitchen

**Fun fact:** I dance vintage dance styles such as Lindy Hop and Charleston!

# Boawe

He/him



Hey everyone! I am Boawe and I am the manager of the team. This means I am there to make sure the summer schools run smoothly and everyone has a good time!

**Degree:** Strength and Conditioning

**Song:** The Night Me and Your Mama Met (Donald Glover)

**Film:** Shawshank Redemption

**TV show:** Stranger Things

**Guilty pleasure:** Food.

**Fun fact:** I play American Football!

# Kath

She/Her



Hi, I'm Kath! I'm the administrator for the programme. You'll see me in your inbox and around the residential! I'll be sorting your travel and any queries.

Do ask if you need help :)

**Degree:** Sports Science and Teaching

**Song:** Yellow (Coldplay)

**Film:** Out of Africa

**TV show:** Silent Witness

**Guilty pleasure:** Chocolate

**Fun fact:** I've lived in seven countries and three continents

## Key Dates

15th June	Welcome to STEP Webinar
29th June	Life as a Black-heritage student webinar
6th July	Student life and societies webinar
24th-27th July	Summer School
Autum 2023	Autumn Series



# Meet our senior mentors!

## What are mentors?

During the residential you will be put in a mentor group led by one of our student ambassadors. This will be your mentor and will be there to answer your questions and support you throughout.

Our senior mentors are there to support the staff team and the running of the programme. You will mostly see them running sessions and doing various jobs around college. Get to know them by reading their profiles!

## Mariah

She/Her



Hi everyone I'm Mariah - A South-East Londoner and one of your Senior Mentors. I am so excited to meet you all and welcome you to Durham!

**Degree:** English Literature

**Song:** How Deep is your Love (Bee Gees)

**Film:** Mamma Mia II (better than the first)

**TV show:** Happy Valley

**Guilty pleasure:** SkyScanner

**Fun fact:** When I was in year 12 I also did a Durham Summer School and submitted my final exams with my best friend who I met on the residential.

## Michaela

She/They



Hi, I'm Michaela :)

I will be one of your senior mentors! Feel free to ask me any questions you have. Looking forward to meeting you!

**Degree:** Geography

**Song:** Best Part (Daniel Caesar ft H.E.R)

**Film:** Howl's Moving Castle

**TV show:** The Walking Dead

**Guilty pleasure:** Scrolling through YouTube shorts

**Fun fact:** I have unusual hiccups

## Tom

He/Him



Hi, I'm Tom! I'm going to be a senior mentor on our STEP programme and I am very excited to get stuck into summer schools again this year! Talk to me about sports (degree or the social side), college committees, and being a mature student :)

**Degree:** Sports and Exercise Science

**Song:** Down by the River (Milky Chance)

**Film:** Good Will Hunting

**TV show:** Suits

**Guilty pleasure:** Re-watching the same sitcom over and over again

**Fun fact:** I've been judging trampolining for ten years!

# Our College Accomodation

During residentials, you will be living in one of our Durham colleges- Grey College. As part of this, you will get the chance to experience many of our university facilities. Here are some photos of key college locations you may visit on residential...

## Grey College



**Founded:** 1959

**Number of students:** 1,350

**Catering Options:** Fully Catered

**Fun Fact:** Grey's mascot is a Phoenix because it one of its buildings burned down during construction however they 'rose from the ashes', re-built and still opened on time.

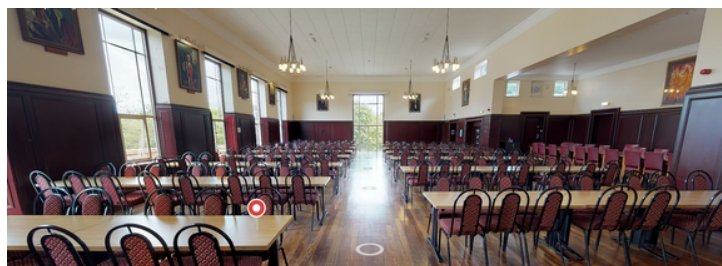
Take a 360 Degree Virtual Tour of Grey College



**The JCR** - This is our main chill out space which we will use during free time and social activities.



**The Bar** - We use this space as a break out room but also host a great game of bingo here.



**The Dining Hall** - Here we host big talks like our welcome talk... and it's where we eat our meals.



**The Old Library** - This is another breakout space but also where we host more chill activities



**Holgate Bedroom**



**Oswald Bedroom**



# Other Key Locations

As well as living in college accommodation, you will also get a chance to have a look at some of our buildings and facilities. Here are some examples of places you might see during your residential.

## Some of our academic departments



As part of our academic tasters you might get a chance to visit the department buildings and even use some of the facilities such as seminar rooms, computer rooms and lab facilities.

## Teaching and Learning Facilities



During some of our Information and Guidance sessions you might get a chance to look at some of our centralised teaching spaces.

## Sports and Wellbeing Park



Our sports and societies night will give some of you the opportunity to use our amazing sports facilities having had £47 million invested in sporting facilities since 2012.

## The Bailey



One night we will go to one of our historic bailey colleges for dinner to get a different college experience

## Durham City



During free time and while moving from place to place, you will see the beautiful historic city of Durham.

**Need to get in touch?**

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