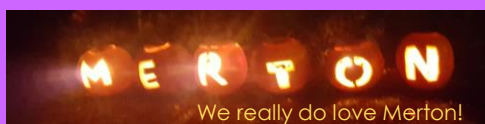


Willow For Access & Equal Opportunities Rep

Hi! I'm **Willow**, a first year biochemist and would love to be your Access and Equal opportunities rep! I believe that it is an important role, in terms of **representing the issues** faced by members of the college *and to encourage applications from a diverse range of backgrounds*. Through my can-do attitude and determination, I will be able to communicate the needs of the JCR.



My **aims** as Access and Equality rep:

- **Continue debunking people's idea** of the Oxford (and Merton!) stereotype (*I think we've all noticed most of it's not true!*) Through the **access blog and Instagram**.
 - **Increase awareness of Scholarships, bursaries and services** offered by the university to existing and new members of the JCR
- **Liase** between all **individual reps** and increase communication with college for changes we would like to see and having a termly survey for **peoples thoughts and ideas**
 - Increase the access to **resources for students returning to their schools** to widen applications
 - Continue the work to ensure that **interviews are an accessible and positive experience**

Why me?

- I am already involved in access work including: writing for That Oxford Girl blog, Target schools shadowing days, college ambassador and visiting my old school
- At my secondary school I was a *peer mentor and am able to listen and support*
- From my experiences I feel that I have gained a lot of knowledge and advice, and know what is useful and works
- I am determined and passionate so will use this to push forward for change and ensure that everyone feels welcome at Merton
- I have faced imposter syndrome and being told not to apply so can empathise with others