

# OUR COLLEGE, OUR FUTURE

## The St Catharine's Student Support Fund

### Brilliance without barriers

St Catharine's is committed to ensuring that we attract and support outstanding students to come to Cambridge, irrespective of any financial constraints.

Championed by the Master, Professor Sir Mark Welland (2016), the newly established St Catharine's Student Support Fund will ensure we can expand and innovate the care we can offer, by augmenting our ability to provide financial and wellbeing support.

As you yourself will have experienced, our College is rightly renowned for being open and friendly, welcoming brilliant students from a range of diverse backgrounds.

The adequate provision of undergraduate and postgraduate support is essential to the College attracting the brightest and most inventive minds from all backgrounds. Indeed, 25.4% of St Catharine's undergraduate offer holders in 2021-22 came from postcodes classified as highly deprived. Additionally, over the last four years, applications to study as an undergraduate at St Catharine's have been at a consistently record level. For example, October 2017 saw the highest number of applications, from state and independent schools alike, relative to student places across all University of Cambridge colleges.

### Realising potential

It is difficult enough to secure a place at St Catharine's, so during their time with us we want to ensure our students thrive and benefit from the richness of College life. As we continue to attract students from diverse backgrounds, the need for financial support is growing – hence the establishment of the St Catharine's Student Support Fund.

With your help, the College will continue to offer financial backing that is both essential and reassuring to students in the greatest need. We hope that you will help us to move beyond barriers and into brilliance by supporting our students with a gift.

“Arriving in Cambridge was a transformative experience for me: it has opened doors and allowed me to access the career paths that interest me. The generosity of our alumni via the bursary helps quite significantly to alleviate the financial challenges faced by those coming from low-income backgrounds.”

SAIF JELALI (2016, LAW) [Source a picture to include]

## Focus of the Fund

The St Catharine's Student Support Fund will sustain the present and future St Catharine's College community by allowing us to offer generous support to our students in the following areas:

### **Undergraduate bursaries**

The adequate provision of undergraduate bursaries is essential, if the College is to remain competitive in attracting the best prospective students from all backgrounds. The St Catharine's Student Support Fund will aim to cover the annual cost of St Catharine's College undergraduate bursaries in perpetuity.

### **MPhil scholarships**

The Fund will allow the College to provide scholarships to support Master's degree applications, which are vital in ensuring students are able to progress with their academic studies and careers.

### **Widening participation**

The Fund will support the work of our Outreach team, enabling us to continue to engage successfully with talented students from backgrounds that have traditionally been under-represented in higher education. It will also support our Partnership schemes that target specific regions or groups in order to raise aspirations and widen participation in higher education.




### **Promotion of health and wellbeing**

The Fund will enable us to continue to foster an environment that promotes a healthy balance between study and College life, including through welfare activities, pastoral care initiatives in line with leading professional practices, and offering counselling provision for all our students who require therapeutic intervention.

## How you can help

We are asking for your help to give to the St Catharine's Student Support Fund, so that our College can continue to be a welcoming home for all.

There are several ways that you can make your gift to the St Catharine's Student Support Fund:

-  By credit card or direct debit, either online at [www.caths.cam.ac.uk/donate](http://www.caths.cam.ac.uk/donate) or using a gift form;
-  By cheque or CAF voucher, payable to 'St Catharine's College'; or
-  By bank transfer – please contact the Alumni and Development Office for details.

For more information, please don't hesitate to contact the Alumni and Development Office.

*St Catharine's is a registered charity. Donations from eligible UK taxpayers can be made under the Gift Aid scheme, increasing their value by 25% and attracting favourable tax treatment for higher and additional-rate taxpayers. Donors in many other countries, including the United States, Canada, Hong Kong and much of Europe, can also make tax-effective donations in support of this project.*

St Catharine's College Alumni and Development Office | [giving@caths.cam.ac.uk](mailto:giving@caths.cam.ac.uk) | +44 (0)1223 33833 | [www.caths.cam.ac.uk](http://www.caths.cam.ac.uk)

