

JCR ACCESS OFFICER Manifesto: **Priyanka Patel** and **Vani Agarwal**



PLEASE VOTE FOR US :D

We're Vani and Priyanka, and we're running for JCR Access Officer! We're both really passionate about encouraging school students from all social and cultural backgrounds to apply to Cambridge and Downing in particular(!), especially considering the rising student fees which would naturally discourage people from applying here.

As your access officers we would hope to increase liaisons with CUSU's Access department in order to increase Downing's contribution to the Shadowing Scheme and Target Campaign. We feel the point of this scheme is not only to strengthen links from our university to local and other schools who do not have the necessary support, but also to gain their input so that we can better guide them.

To help develop relaxed communications between ourselves and prospective applicants, we aim to set up a Downing Access website which would provide an informal forum where target students can ask questions about what it's really like living in college and studying at Downing. By doing so, we wish to dispel the myths and stereotypes that Cambridge caters solely for people from a privileged social sector.

Building on the work of Downing's previous Access Officer, we want even more people to volunteer and take an active interest in going to talk to schools, students and parents about the application process and what a difference it would make studying at Cambridge as opposed to other universities.

We would love to embrace this role as your Access Officers as we believe that all aspiring students like ourselves deserve an equal opportunity to thrive in a university like Cambridge.

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Proposed by: *Ophelia Luong*. Seconded by: *Stuart McPhail*