

CORNELIA FOR FOUNDATION YEAR OFFICER!

Hi, I'm Cornelia! I am a first year Linguistics student, who was previously in the 2024-25 Foundation Year cohort at Downing.

What is the Cambridge Foundation Year?

The Foundation Year is a **one year course** in the **Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences**, created for students who have experienced **educational disruption and/or disadvantage**.

Due to the Foundation Year being a relatively new and small course, many are unaware of its purpose and understandably have questions or misconceptions. As Foundation Year Officer, I would work to ensure that incoming students feel just as **welcomed, represented and supported** at Downing as they would on any Tripos.

^ I Would Do This By...

- **Organising course activities** (punting, pub crawls etc.), particularly during Freshers' Week, to encourage friendship between current and previous Downing FY students.
- **Planning termly welfare and academic progress get-togethers** for current FY students, to exchange advice and support ahead of important assessments.
- Collaborating with the President of the Foundation Scholars' Progression Network (FYSoc) to **create and host cross-college celebratory events** such as swaps and formals.
- **Discussing course improvements** with academic staff and progressed students, to further success levels within the College and maintain the reputation of the FY as an effective widening participation course.

Why Vote For Me?

- I am connected within the Foundation Year community, especially with the **2025-26 FYSoc President** and **2024-25 FY Representative**. This not only guarantees that any concerns raised by Downing FY students are taken seriously, but also that my proposals for improvements are acted upon.
- In 2025, I worked as a **Student Ambassador at the Cambridge Open Days** to promote the Foundation Year. I had the opportunity to discuss the course with several prospective students, and learn how to provide an accurate and informed representation of what it entails.
- My achievements from the course, which include an extended research project of publishable standard, mean that I am now a **Downing Scholar**. I am confident in my ability to mentor current and future Foundation Year students, offering the guidance needed to ensure continued success at Cambridge.



Me with FY Representative Elijah (Queens') and FYSoc President Katie (Newnham)



Downing photo at the Foundation Year Halfway Hall !



Me being an Ambassador with Alex (fire emoji)

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