

# JCR MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS

## A FRESHER-FRIENDLY HANDBOOK

More useful resources and documents can be found at [linktr.ee/MarysChair](https://linktr.ee/MarysChair)

Please feel free to contact Eleanor Betts (JCR Chair) via **st-**

**marys.chair@durham.ac.uk** or on Instagram **@marysjcrchair** with any questions!

### JCR BASICS

The JCR (or Junior Common Room) essentially describes the student body of Mary's and includes almost all Mary's students. Membership in the JCR enables you to participate in Mary's events, clubs, societies, and also to help shape College life.

**The JCR is run by students for students and *everything* that happens in college, such as balls, formals, sports, societies, welfare, and Freshers' Week, is impacted by the JCR.**

Also, confusingly enough, there are two physical rooms called the "JCR", one in Fergusson and one in Williamson that are social spaces that are available to use.

We have JCR officers that are elected by the student body at JCR Meetings and their job is to ensure that everyone in Mary's has the best possible experience. These include:

The **Executive Committee** ("**Core exec**")

The **Ex-Officio Committee** ("**Ex-Officio**")

# JCR ROLES

## "CORE EXEC"

**President**  
**Vice President**  
**Treasurer**  
**Chair**  
**Social Chair**  
**Bar Steward**

**Senior Welfare Officer**  
**Representative Officer**  
**Arts President**  
**Sports and Societies Officer**  
**Senior SU Representative**

## "EX-OFFICIO"

**Disabilities Representative**  
**Environment Representative**  
**LGBT+ Representative**  
**Ethnic Minorities Representative**  
**Senior International Students' Representative**  
**Working Class Representative**  
**Year Abroad Representative**  
**Head Teikyo Representative**  
**Mature Students' Representative**  
**IT Representative**  
**Senior Freshers' Representative**  
**Senior Post-Offer Visit Day Representative**  
**Music Representative**  
**Development Officer**  
**Chapel Representative**

**Senior Tech Officer**  
**Communities Officer**  
**Publicity and Communications Officer**  
**Toastie Bar and Shop Manager**  
**Assistant Toastie Bar and Shop Manager**  
**Assistant Bar Steward**  
**Midsummer Ball Chair**  
**Assistant Welfare Officer (Gender Neutral)**  
**Assistant Welfare Officer (Female)**  
**Assistant Welfare Officer (Male)**  
**Assistant Welfare Officer (Livers-Out)**  
**Assistant Arts Officer**  
**Assistant Social Chair**  
**Assistant Sports Officer**  
**Assistant Societies Officer**

# JCR MEETINGS

JCR meetings happen every few weeks during term time. They serve as an opportunity for the whole JCR to meet and for JCR business to be conducted.

This may include:

- **Candidates running for JCR roles** - prior to each JCR meeting, the JCR Chair will release a list of the roles up for election, along with a summary of each role and contact information for the current officer. During the meeting, candidates will hust (essentially give a 3 minute speech explaining their ideas and suitability for the role) and answer questions posed by members of the JCR.
- **Motions** - anyone can put forward a motion at a JCR meeting and they can be designed to create any kind of change in the JCR. Examples of recent motions:
  - Establish a new JCR roles, such as Development Officer and Music Representative
  - Establish Committees, such as the Democracy Committee
  - Making budgeting decisions by changing the way in which the JCR fund its societies in order to make them more accessible
- **Questions of Officers** - this is an opportunity to formally ask questions of JCR officers if you believe it is important to ask for clarification on the work that they are doing.

**Meetings are also a great chance to meet other people in college, hear what's going on in the JCR and be involved in college life!**

After meetings, an **online election** will go live to allow members of the JCR to vote on candidates and motions. It is so **important to vote** as it ensures the smooth running of the JCR (by making sure roles are filled, etc,) but it also allows everyone to play a role in shaping College life and have their opinions and voices heard.

## MICHAELMAS TERM MEETINGS

PRACTICE MEETING: **Sunday 1st October**

MEETING 1: **Sunday 8th October**

MEETING 2: **Sunday 29th October**

MEETING 3: **Sunday 26th November**

**Meetings are compulsory for all first year livers-in** so  
get them on the calendar now!

More information and documents can be found at  
**[linktr.ee/MarysChair](https://linktr.ee/MarysChair)** and follow the Instagram page  
**@marysjcrchair** to stay up to date with meeting and  
election information throughout the year.

If you have any questions at all, feel free to contact me  
via email to **[st-marys.chair@durham.ac.uk](mailto:st-marys.chair@durham.ac.uk)**