

Lincoln College, Oxford

Environment and Waste Guide

By Amy Pryce-Jones, JCR Environment and
Ethics Rep 

Contents

🗑️	Introduction	2
🗑️	Waste Management	3
🗑️	Recycling Guidelines	5
🗑️	Single Use Reductions	6
🗑️	Second Hand options	6
🗑️	Eating Sustainably	7
🗑️	Energy Use	8
🗑️	Cycling	9
🗑️	Student Union Advice	10
🗑️	Helpful Contacts	10

Introduction

The aim of this guide is to inform Lincoln JCR members of the measures that College has taken to become more environmentally friendly, and how you can utilise these to act in an environmentally conscious way on an individual level. This can be a difficult task at the best of times, but in a college setting it can be made easier. As environment and ethics rep, this is my main aim.

This guide highlights the facilities that have been put in place to encourage environmental consciousness and relative ease of actions in support of this. It also informs you of the measures College are taking to be more environmentally friendly in the background. Looking forward, I have also outlined our plans for the long term.

A necessity of becoming more environmentally friendly is to become more informed. In the intensity of Oxford, with so many other things going on, this can, at times, be understandably difficult. This guide thus acts as a starting point for increased awareness; knowing how you can be more sustainable on a daily basis already increases the possibility of you acting in this way.

So, read as much of this guide as you want, for as much time as you have, and for as long as you are interested. My only goal is for it to help increase awareness, and consequentially action, around sustainability and the environment.

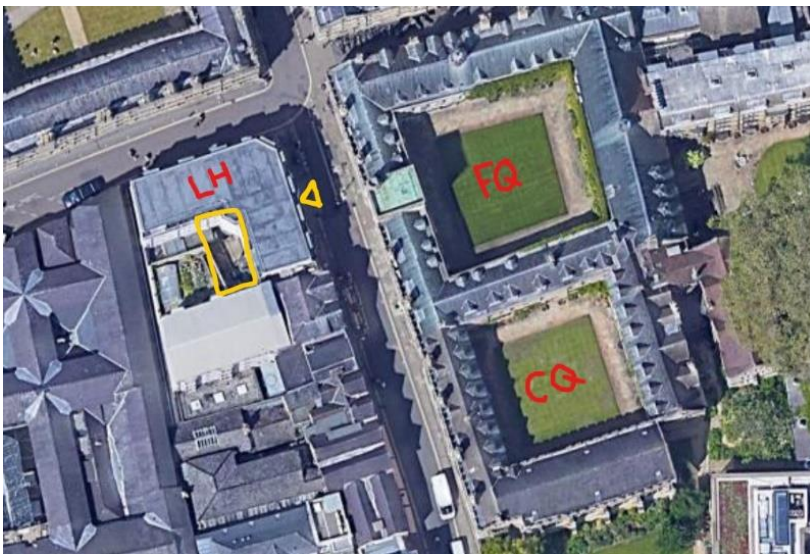
If you have any questions or suggestions please get in contact with me at: amy.pryce-jones@lincoln.ox.ac.uk or Amy PJ on Facebook.



Pictures showing the natural beauty at Lincoln and around Oxford.

Waste Management

Waste management is at the centre of Lincoln's environmental agenda. There is a good provision of bins in the college garage for those on site. There are bins available for dry mixed recycling, glass recycling, food waste, and mixed general waste. This is a central location primarily available for the main college site and accommodation on Turl Street.



This map of Lincoln shows the main college bins, located in the garage (shown in yellow). This can be accessed through the metal door on Turl Street between Oxfam and the Nora's Antiques, indicated by the yellow arrow. It can also be accessed, most relevantly for first years, through staircase 15.

On other college sites, the same range of bins can be found. To check the details, have a look at the Student Handbook Section 8 to find a full list.

Furthermore, there are also accessible recycling bins inside the Library; beside the self-issue loan machine there is a large wooden recycling bin for paper, cardboard and plastic, as well as a paper recycling bin by the photocopier downstairs. There is also a stationary-specific one next to the cushion cupboard for things like staplers or old pens. Students can make far more use of these, with the possibility of more bins being discussed.

There are also more specialist waste bins that can be found on various college sites, such as a bank for unwanted clothes and textiles (Museum Road Accommodation: British Heart Foundation red bin), and a red Haz-Box for used batteries in the college garage.

You can also find a big bin for clothes, textiles and shoes and one for small and medium-sized electrical goods on Cambridge Terrace, just off St Aldates (the street with Christ Church on it) and a 10 minute walk from the college gates.

They accept torn and damaged clothes, as long as they're clean, and broken electricals.

Smaller scale changes are also important to waste management. For example, the period products supplied by the JCR Gender Reps are from the company Grace and Green; they are an organisation keen on providing ecologically minded hygiene products. The tampons, for instance, have no plastic in the applicator. This is a small, but extremely effective change.



Recycling Guidelines

I know this may appear boring reading but, if you want to recycle, doing it properly is the only way you can actually achieve that goal. Lincoln uses SELECT for waste management who have their own specific rules etc. I have outlined the main points below. If you are so inclined, you can have a look at their website at <https://www.selectenviro.co.uk/> for more details.

DRY MIXED RECYCLING

USED for paper, cardboard, cans and food tins, and most plastics*
NOT USED for black trays or unclean containers (food and drink alike).
Soft plastics are not accepted in any bins.

PAPER AND CARDBOARD

USED for paper (whole sheets and shredded), clean cardboard, and newspapers and magazine.
NOT USED for pizza boxes (because they're unclean), or paper bags.

FOOD WASTE

USED for out-of-date food, leftovers, tea bags and coffee grounds, and raw or cooked meat/fish.
NOT USED for food (or any other) packaging.

MIXED GLASS RECYCLING

USED for all colours of glass bottles, glass jars (no lids), and glassware.
NOT USED for heat-proof glass.

Key Information:

Make sure your recycling is *clean*.

Generally, avoid putting it in the bin inside a bag that is not college provided

* Ones with these symbols, to be specific:



Single Use Reductions

Cutting down on personal, single use items is also a great way to improve your own carbon footprint, especially since each object has a certain carbon footprint that carries an environmental impact. Increasing the reuse of an item can reduce the burden of production and consumption emissions.

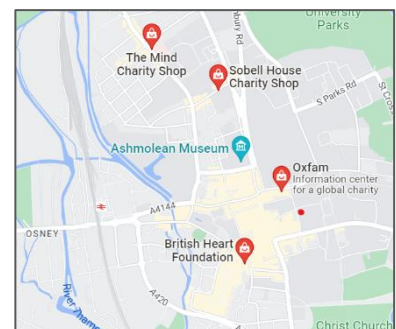


In university life, drinking cups are significant. Coffee is popular, with an easy opportunity to reduce single use cups offered by college – keep cups. These are glass or sustainable plastic cups with useful lids and the added bonus of being allowed in Bodleian libraries to have coffee whilst studying. Even better, many coffee shops will even offer a discount on your drink if you are using a reusable cup/bottle.

In the evenings, it is not uncommon for students to enjoy a few drinks. Having glasses or mugs for your own use is a really good way of cutting down single use cups, often made of plastic. The JCR Entz team are also going to make an effort to reduce their use of single use objects at college events.

Second-Hand in Oxford

Reusing can include buying a keep cup as mentioned above, but can also involve selling/donating your possessions. In Oxford, this is simple for everything from books to clothes to whiskey glasses!



The UK's first Oxfam charity shop can be found on Broad Street, about 2 minutes from college. This shop accepts clothes, jewellery, soft furnishings, and more.

On Turl Street itself there is an Oxfam bookshop that takes books from a variety of genres – including textbooks that are in good condition but may be no longer

be of use to you. Another Oxfam bookshop can be found on St Giles'. For more of a 'thrifting' experience, there is even an Oxfam Superstore in Cowley, only a bus ride away from Lincoln.

Other Charity shops include but are not limited to: British Heart Foundation (found near Westgate), Sobell House (Little Clarendon Street), and The Mind (Jericho).

For those looking for second hand ball clothes, fancy dress, or vintage aesthetic wear, there are multiple choices. Close to Lincoln again, is Unicorn (Ship St) where a myriad of outfits can be found. On the Magdalene Roundabout (just before Cowley Road, also named the Plain) there is Ballroom Emporium, and Shephard & Woodward (High St) rent formal attire such as black and white tie suits, as well as academic dress like gowns.

These are not only more sustainable, especially since the occasions they cater for are often one-off, but can sometimes even be cheaper than buying things new.

Eating Sustainably

Our diets can also have a massive impact on issues of ethics and sustainability. Lincoln College can cater for a wide variety of dietary preferences and requirements, with vegetarian and vegan options being available for booking in all sittings of Hall. Other dietary choices and requirements (for example no dairy, no nuts, halal) can be booked through the Meal booking system, at meals.linc.ox.ac.uk.

At breakfast there are also alternative milks available to reduce our reliance on dairy, an industry that significantly contributes to global CO₂ emissions.

A meat free session is under discussion between the JCR, MCR and others in college so as to reduce the emissions produced by food consumption. If you would like to put forward a view on this please take a look at [this survey](#) to contribute.

Energy Use

The heating of student rooms is limited to the colder months – specifically Michaelmas and Hilary terms. However, there are radiator controls available (like the dial pictured below on the individual units) for all which can be used to reduce energy consumption in those colder seasons when you don't feel you



need the heat. The valves used are ones that can be changed to influence the constant temperature provided. Therefore, they eliminate wasteful fluctuations. Please do use them and turn the heating off when you are out or when you are ventilating your room.

There are also areas of college that have motion sensor lights installed. This can be very helpful in reducing energy consumption to a level of basic need. There are other areas in which you can turn off lights which would be a help in putting less strain on energy use. One of these places is the JCR; this is a key location as it has so many lights that can be turned on. The recommendation would be to use only the ones that are particularly required, based on where you are in the room, what time of day, and the level of activity, for example whether you are simply studying, or if there's a social event on. The opportunity to adjust the way we use energy in this communal space is valuable in reducing the overall energy use of college.

There are currently surveys across college sites that are assessing energy use and emissions. This will allow college to work out what can be changed to improve the sustainability of college life.

Cycling

Cycling is a great way to reduce our own carbon footprints but also makes a difference in the wider community. Local emissions are cut more and more, the higher the proportion of the population cycles.

Students are especially keen as they are cheaper than cars, and if well used over a significant period, most likely total up to being cheaper than bus travel. In Oxford, and especially at Lincoln for which much of the college accommodation is central, cycling is a very efficient method of getting around as key locations are within cycling distance, and much of the centre has restricted road use, making even bus travel somewhat difficult and longer than it could be.

However, for all these benefits, cycling can be daunting. There are a few guides below that are helpful in feeling more at ease in Oxford specifically, and more generally sharing roads with cars and with repairs.

Cycling for Travel in Oxford: <https://travel.admin.ox.ac.uk/bike/oxford>

Navigating Traffic Whilst Cycling: <https://www.cyclinguk.org/article/cycling-guide/top-ten-tips-for-cycling-in-traffic>

Looking After a Bike:

<https://travel.admin.ox.ac.uk/bike/security#collapse1004021>

This year, Lincoln are running a bike scheme that means JCR students can sign up, on a weekly basis, to rent a bike from ones the JCR own (stored in the garage) . This makes it even easier for students to use bikes – no payment needed, and quickly available.

Oxford SU Advice

The Oxford Student Union is keen to encourage college and university level sustainability and environmental awareness. As well as working with JCR and MCR reps, they have resources available to all students on their website, found at the Sustainability Hub.

Here, you can find all manner of help and advice regarding individual changes, politicised actions, and wider systemic matters. Head over to the Sustainability Hub at, or use the QR code I've placed below. A Key Figure behind this page is Anna-Tina, the Charities and Community Vice-President of the SU found at: vpcandc@oxfordsu.ox.ac.uk

Sustainability Hub QR Code:

Or click [here](#)



Helpful Contacts

Peter Nitsche-Whitfield, Sustainability Coordinator:

sustainability@lincoln.ox.ac.uk

Peter has joined the College Staff this year. He is working with those in college, like the Domestic Operations team, and student reps, to maximise the sustainability of college life.

René Lavanchy, MCR Environment Rep:

rene.lavanchy@lincoln.ox.ac.uk

René is my counterpart in the MCR. He has independent projects, but we have also been collaborating and plan to continue that. Any MCR members should initially direct enquiries to him.