

Virtual Interviews at Girton College

Your interviews at Girton College this year will take place 'virtually' via Zoom or Whereby. You will receive links to online meetings for your interview(s) in due course. Below is some useful information you must read before your interview(s).

- You will not be asked to subscribe to any platforms as part of this process.
- Please make a careful note of any weblinks/passcodes before your interview(s) and ensure that you download any apps well before the interview(s), so that you can check that they work.
- For the interview(s), please find a quiet room where you will not be disturbed. This can be at your school, home or any other place where you feel comfortable and have a reliable internet connection. If you have asked your school to provide space and they are unsure what provision is possible, they are welcome to contact us at admissions@girton.cam.ac.uk.
- For the interview(s), please ensure that you have permitted camera and microphone functions on the device you are using and ensure that you are clearly visible on screen.
- You should also ensure that the device(s) you are using for your interview(s) are fully charged and that you have access to a socket(s) to charge your device(s) during the interviews if necessary – please remember that video calls use a lot of power and batteries can run low very quickly.
- You are not permitted to film or record your interview in any way.
- No one else can assist you, either at your physical location or online, when you are participating in the interview (e.g., a family member, a teacher, or other students). The only people permitted to join the online interview are you, your interviewers, and (in some cases) personnel from the College, who may be involved in setting up your interview or observing it in case of technical problems.
- You must not use any apps, online tools, and/or generative AI systems during the interviews to help you answer the questions. The interviewers will seek to create a teaching and learning environment during the interviews, so you are not expected to produce perfectly correct responses to every question they ask. They want to explore *your* understanding of the topics discussed, and they will help you whenever necessary. Therefore, apps, online tools, and/or generative AI systems are not necessary, and they usually reduce the quality of the responses applicants offer.
- If you have other technology in the room, please ensure it is switched off or turned to silent and flight mode, to maximise connectivity and to minimise the chance of interruptions.

- Once you have either clicked on your weblink or entered your passcode, you should wait to be admitted to your interview, following any on-screen prompts. If you have not been admitted to your interview more than five minutes after the scheduled start time, try logging on again, and if this fails, telephone the College Admissions Office for further guidance. If you are being held in a waiting room at this time, remain in the waiting room and ring the College Admissions Office.
- During your interviews you may be asked to sweep your camera around the room so the interviewers can ensure that you are alone, and that you have no secondary devices or other materials available. This can happen at any moment during the interview.
- You may be asked to share your screen and give remote control to the interviewer so they can ensure that you do not have anything open on your device except the remote interview software. This can happen at any moment during the interview.
- If you are being interviewed in a technical subject where the interview(s) may involve 'workings', your interviewer(s) may use a virtual whiteboard. They will enable this feature in the interview. There are several ways to 'write' to the whiteboard, and these may involve a mouse, or a stylus pen, or a keyboard, for example. For some touchscreen devices, you may be able to use your finger. If none of these is possible, your interviewer(s) will work to provide an alternative way of working through the interview questions. Please note that we are prepared for assessment via a variety of formats, and you will not be disadvantaged by the equipment that is available to you.
- If, during the interview, technical problems arise (for example, the screen freezes, or your connection 'drops off'), in the first instance you should follow instructions from your interviewer(s) if you can hear them. If you lose all connectivity, please disconnect and reconnect using the weblink/passcodes provided to you. Try this twice more, and if you are again unable to re-connect, please contact the College Admissions Office on the telephone number(s) provided. The interviewer(s) will note disruptions to your interview(s) and you will not be disadvantaged by these. Please also see the following bullet point.
- In the event that your interview(s) are subject to substantial technical problems that mean that your interviewer(s) do not feel they have enough information to make a judgement on the interview(s), the College Admissions Office will arrange to re-schedule your interview(s). You will be advised of this if it is the case.