

Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge 2016 Visit: Daniel Tilbrook

In March 2016 along with several pupils I embarked on a journey to Sidney Sussex College, one of the constituent colleges of Cambridge University. Overall, the trip was very worthwhile with lots of opportunities to talk to past and present students along with experts in certain fields like Law, Economics and Science.

On the Thursday morning we arrived at School early to take the mini bus to Sidney Sussex. The journey was quite long but I think that it was well worth it. When we arrived at the College we were allocated our rooms which were actually nicer and a bit larger than I expected; we had an en suite room with a desk and quite a lot of space.



After we had settled in Mr Musiol showed us around Cambridge and the area surrounding the College. We saw some of the other colleges like Trinity College, which was particularly impressive.

On our return, we were then taken on a tour of Sidney Sussex by a current student. We were showed around the gardens, chapel and some other areas. Following this, we had a short walk down to the river, where we went punting.



We then returned to the College for the evening meal. We ate in the rather impressive Dining Hall. The food was excellent and the overall atmosphere in the Hall was good as there were other students and members of staff also dining with us. There were large paintings on the walls depicting the previous masters of the College which added to the experience. This gave us a good taste of college and university life.

After the meal we all got some free time and decided to do a little bit of exploring, so we ambled along the still busy streets of Cambridge. It was sunny, which made the whole experience much better! Before returning to Sidney Sussex for the evening activities, we replenished our supplies at the Sainsbury's store, which was literally opposite the College.

At the end of the evening, we met in one of our rooms and played cards whilst discussing the day's events.

The following day, breakfast was served in the Dining Hall; this again was tasty, plentiful and with a varied choice of menu.

Our first academic taster lecture was on the global economic crisis of 2008, its causes and its effects. This was very interesting and I did learn quite a lot. I never had studied economics like this before and it really appealed to me. This took place in the beautiful Knox-Shaw room.



Later that morning we walked over to the Faculty of Law. This was a large glass building where all of the Law classes and lectures take place. We were met by a member of staff who took us on a tour of the Faculty and gave a lecture about studying Law at the University. Although I don't intend to study Law, I found the experience very interesting.

On the whole I think that the trip was definitely worthwhile as it gave me a chance to speak with other students and it gave me a better feel of what university life is like on the whole. It also gave me the chance to ask some questions that I might not have been able to get the answer otherwise.

My thanks to everyone involved with the trip and especially to all the staff at Sidney Sussex College who organised such a fantastic and informative two day visit to Cambridge as well as to Mr Musiol and Mr O'Dowd for coordinating the experience.

