



2019 Admissions Round Feedback

Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE)

Please note this is subject admissions feedback from the 2019 selection round - there will be changes each year, and these pages are only retained to provide a general indication of process.

Keble College admits eight students a year to study PPE. There were 62 applicants to Keble this year and we interviewed 21 candidates, including several reallocated to Keble from other colleges. Generally, colleges interview about 2.75 candidates for each offer made, so that candidates at interview have just over a one in three chance of being offered a place.

Data from this year's admissions round

Oxford had more applicants for PPE than last year as shown in the following figures (last year's figures are in brackets):

Total applicants: 2224 (2338)

Not invited to interview: 1487 (1604)

Interviewed in Oxford (or remotely): 737 (719)

Expected offers 2019-20: 240 (276)

Approx. ratio of applicants to places 9.3 (8.5)

Decision to call for interview

Because there are so many applicants, and only two or three days in which to conduct the interviews, not all applicants can be shortlisted. Only around one third of applicants were shortlisted this year. We make these decisions based on: UCAS information about past and predicted exam results; UCAS academic reference; and the result of the Thinking Skills Assessment test (TSA Oxford). For UK-based candidate we are typically aware of achievement that goes above or below the norm for the school from contextual information on schools and neighbourhoods (<http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/applying-to-oxford/decisions/contextual-data>). The Thinking Skills Assessment is a two-hour test involving multiple-choice reasoning questions and an essay. Each candidate will be issued a statement of results by ATS (the TSA provider) on January 14. For further information, please visit this website:

<http://www.admissionstestingservice.org/for-test-takers/thinking-skillsassessment/tsaoford/scoring-and-results/>

Candidates who score well in the TSA (above 73.26 this year) and had good exam results and references were likely to be asked for interview. Candidates who scored between 73.25 and 70.45 may have been invited for interview. Candidates scoring below 70.45 will only have been invited for interview with special consideration of other factors, including contextual information.

Reallocation between colleges

Applications to colleges for PPE vary every year and colleges have varying numbers of places to offer. Where a college has a large number of shortlisted candidates relative to its places there is a process by which candidates are reallocated to colleges with lower ratios of shortlisted candidates to places. Candidates selected for reallocation are those for whom information available at the shortlisting stage suggests the chance of acceptance can be improved by reallocation. This year, several applicants were allocated to Keble from other colleges in this way

Criteria for admission

We seek highly motivated students with a strong interest and potential in PPE. Specific knowledge of the three subjects in PPE is not required either for the interview or for admission to PPE. Mathematics A-level is extremely helpful for understanding the material we teach once admitted and the vast majority of students with A-levels that we admit have this subject. We are open to overseas applicants who are assessed on exactly the same basis as domestic candidates. For general information on PPE and how to apply please visit the website at <http://www.ppe.ox.ac.uk/>

The admissions criteria for PPE can be found here:

<http://www.ppe.ox.ac.uk/index.php/admissionscriteria>

Keble has a quota of 8 places for PPE. In the previous cycle, we made an offer to a candidate for a deferred admission to start in Michaelmas 2020. As a result, out of the 21 applicants called for interview, Keble made seven offers for admission to the college and 1 open offer for a place at Oxford but not necessarily at this college.