



ACCESS GROWS WITH LILY-ROSE

Access matters to me because it was an access initiative that emboldened me to apply to university. As an estranged, state-school student from a low income background, I want to empower others from underrepresented groups to have this option too.



Access Officer at Robinson - As well as organising college level access events, I helped CUSU to organise the **Shadowing Scheme** and secured funding for an access initiative I designed. This initiative prepares students to deliver 'Demystifying University' talks to access priority schools. I have also promoted **InsideUni** and **Project Access** to students.

CUSU Class Act's Care Leaver and Estranged Students Officer - After creating a network of care leaver and estranged students across the university, I recognised the disparity in support across colleges. With this in mind, I conducted and presented a survey which encouraged the university to sign the **Stand Alone Pledge** protecting these students in university policy. I have also been employed by the Widening Participation Office to deliver access programmes for young people in care as a **CAMBassador**.

Nominated for a **Student Social Mobility Award** organised by **UpReach** for my achievements as Robinson Access Officer and within Class Act.

Lumina programme – last summer I was employed to help deliver an access to Oxbridge programme for state school pupils.

VOTE LILY-ROSE SHARRY FOR CUSU ACCESS ON 5TH-8TH MARCH

ASPIRATION before admission

- **Travel refunds** for Open Days for those from low-income backgrounds.
- Revamp the **Alternative Prospectus**. Include: Open Day dates, all Cambridge Access Initiatives and Cambridge University academic competitions for school students.

There is a need for more targeted initiatives such as the CamSpire initiative for Bangladeshi, Pakistani and Arab students.

- **An access initiative and celebration of Black History Month**. For black young people, involving academic workshops and exciting talks. I hope to collaborate with the BME campaign, the African Caribbean Society and Target Oxbridge on this.
- **An access initiative for young people in care**. This will be a long-term scheme involving online mentoring, webinars and two residentials.
- Work in collaboration with the **Disabled Students Campaign** to develop access initiatives for students living with disabilities.

RETENTION after admission

Access is not just about getting in, it is about getting on.

- An optional university-wide **Academic Skills Programme** (currently only offered at limited colleges). Students from Widening Participation* backgrounds get priority for spaces, although it would be open to all.
- Directly promote the **CUSU Class Act buddy scheme** pre-arrival to incoming freshers.
- Ensure **Funding Guides** (outlining bursaries and scholarships) exist at every college.

PREPARATION for graduates

Access needs to be considered at all levels, including Post-Graduate.

- Create an internal and inter-university online **Post-Graduate Mentoring Scheme**.

and more

- Start open **Forums on Access** for everyone to share their concerns regarding access.
- **Guidance and Ideas Handbook** for college Access Officers.
- **Access Champion Awards** – university members can nominate someone for their contribution to access work.
- Promote existing access initiatives to **social care services** and charities supporting looked after children.

*Widening Participation backgrounds include: low-income, low-participation in higher education neighbourhood, first generation to enter higher education, care experienced, estranged, living with a disability, attending a school with lower progression rates into higher education and belonging to a minority ethnic group.

