

THE AGIS GUIDE TO GRAY'S INN

Many congratulations on becoming a member of Gray's Inn.

It is a significant step, and one we hope will signify the beginning of a happy and enduring association with the Inn.

We have created this guide to support you as you seek to navigate the many opportunities, resources and facilities the Inn offers.

We wish you every success as you prepare for a career at the Bar.

Best wishes,

The Association of Gray's Inn Students ('AGIS') Committee



Guide created by Annie Davis and Rebecca Malczewski, Vice President and President AGIS 2021-2022.



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Things you need to know

Membership Number. Your Membership Number is included in the email you received on admission to the Inn.

Circuits of England & Wales: Find out more on The Bar Council's [website](#).

Gray's Inn Online System ('GIOS'): GIOS is Gray's Inn events booking and payment system. You will use it to book events as well as review your qualifying session history. It can be accessed [online](#).

Gray's Inn updates. Gray's Inn updates, events and other information is available at:

- Twitter - [@HonSocGraysInn](#)
- Facebook - [@HonSocGraysInn](#)
- LinkedIn - [@Gray's Inn](#)

Who to contact at Gray's Inn: There are plenty of people who can provide assistance. If you need to contact someone at the Inn but are unsure how, visit the Gray's Inn [address book](#).



Association of Gray's Inn Students ('AGIS')

Once you are a student member of the Inn, you are automatically enrolled as a member of the Association of Gray's Inn Students ('AGIS'). The AGIS Committee represent you, the Inn's student members – it is the student voice in the Inn.

The Committee is comprised of current students elected by student vote in Michaelmas Term and includes a representative for each Bar Course provider.

You can find out about the current committee members on [the website](#).

FAQ

How do I become a member of AGIS?

Membership is automatic, there is no entrance fee or subscription. Current GDL and Bar Course students will receive emails from AGIS.

How can I contact AGIS?

If you would like to get in contact with the AGIS committee, you can do so by:

- Email – AGIS@graysinn.org.uk
- Twitter – [@AGISstudents](#)
- Facebook – [@TheAGIS](#)

Gray's Inn Student Law Journal ('GISLJ')

The Gray's Inn Student Law Journal ('GISLJ') is an annual collection of legal essays, articles, case notes, and book reviews on any legal subject written by student members of the Inn. A call for papers is published every November.

Entries are reviewed and collated by the GISLJ editor elected to the AGIS Committee. The GISLJ is an invaluable opportunity for you to share your perspective on topical legal issues, engage academically with the law and develop an area of interest further.

FAQ

How can I read GISLJ?

Past editions are [available online](#) and in print at all four of the Inns' libraries.

How can I contact the GISLJ editor?

Email – AGISJournal@graysinn.org.uk.

How can I submit an essay to the GISLJ?

Keep an eye on your emails! AGIS will send out requests for submissions throughout the year.

AGIS Raising the Bar Podcast

Raising the Bar is the podcast run by AGIS for students.



From how to prepare for the Bar Course to managing your finances as a self-employed barrister, each episode discusses and demystifies the information Bar students may need during their journey.

The podcast's host is elected to the AGIS Committee in the annual student election.

FAQ

How can I listen to Raising the Bar?

- [Podbean](#)
- [Spotify](#)
- [iTunes](#)

How can I suggest topics for future episodes?

Contact AGIS via email, or on social media.

AGIS Mooting

Every year AGIS enters teams of **Gray's Inn** student members into a wide range of prestigious national and international mooting competitions. These include the Jessup International Law Moot, Helga Pedersen Moot Court Competition and Michael Corkery QC Criminal Law Moot Competition, amongst many others.

Joining a moot team is an opportunity for you to hone your mooting skills, immerse yourself in an area of law that interests you and make new friendships, while representing your Inn.

Each year, AGIS also runs several mooting initiatives within the Inn, including **the Gray's Inn GDL Moot**.

FAQ

How can I get involved?

Keep an eye on your emails. The first call for applications to participate will be sent to you by email in Michaelmas Term.

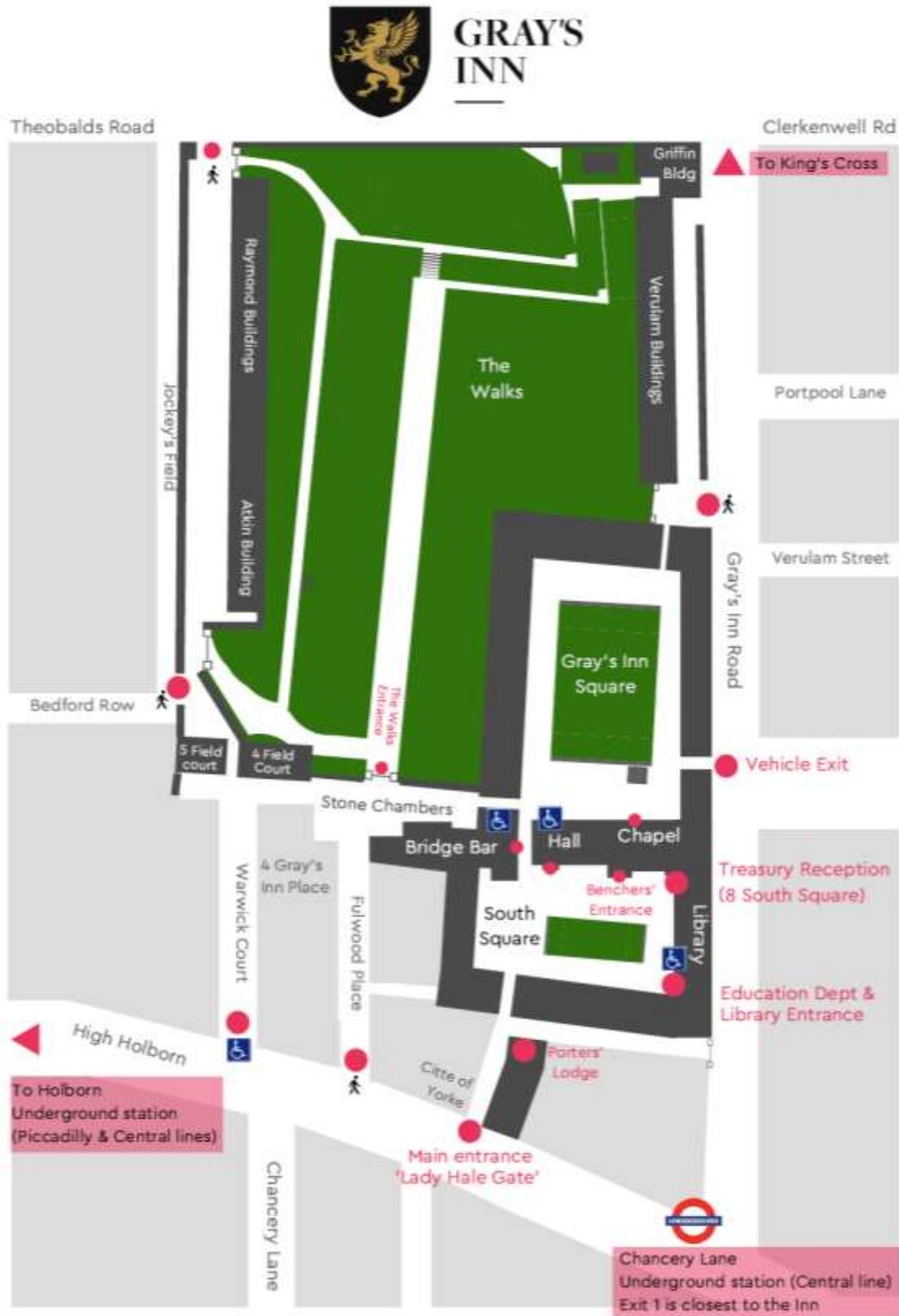
I've never mooted before. Is this a problem?

No – every mooter starts somewhere.

If you are apprehensive, consider joining an AGIS Speed Moot. They are an opportunity to practice your advocacy skills in a low-stakes environment in front of practising barristers who can provide a unique insight into courtroom advocacy.



Getting to and around Gray's Inn



Gray's Inn, 8 South Square, London WC1R 5ET

020 7458 7800

Information on how to get to Gray's Inn can be found on [the website](#).



FAQ

What do I do if I have accessibility needs?

Information regarding accessibility can be found on [the website](#), including detail of the various ways to access parts of Gray's Inn, and the location of the accessible toilets. If you, or one of your guests, attending an event have accessibility needs please let the Inn know prior to the event and they will endeavour to make suitable arrangements.

When are The Walks open?

The Walks are open 12pm to 2.30pm on weekdays, unless an event is taking place or wind speeds exceed 30mph when The Walks are closed for Health and Safety Reasons, due to the age of some of the trees.

Are there bicycle racks at Gray's Inn?

Yes. They can be found behind the Porters' Lodge by Lady Hale Gate.

I've never been to Gray's before, can someone show me around?

The Education Department are very friendly, and you can always go and say hello to them.

What do I do if I don't know where something is?

You can ask for directions at the Porters' Lodge at Lady Hale Gate, or at Reception in 8 South Square.



Call to the Bar and Qualifying Sessions ('QS')

In order to be called to the Bar you must have either:

- Completed 10 Qualifying Sessions and passed the Bar Course (for students who commenced the Bar Course prior to September 2020 you must have completed 12 Qualifying Sessions – being Called counts as one Qualifying Session – and passed the Bar Course)
- Applied to the Bar Standards Board and been given permission as a transferring lawyer

You can see information on being called to the Bar on [the website](#) (including the various dates by which you must apply by).

- [How to apply for call](#)
- [The key QS events](#)
- [QS rules](#)

Although you have to complete the 10 QSs to be called to the Bar, they are great fun. You will learn a lot and they are the most amazing opportunity to meet other students and practitioners – make sure you use them wisely.

FAQ

What is the dress code for the call to the Bar ceremony?

Please see all the details you need about [the dress code for call](#).

How far in advance do I need to book call?

You will need to apply by the deadlines stipulated on [the website](#).

How many qualifying sessions do I need to attend?

You need to attend 10 QSs and these must be spread over the five compulsory themes. You can see what theme the QS is on the accompanying GIOS description. The five themes are:

- Ethics, Standards and Values
- Advocacy Skills
- Legal Knowledge, Justice and the Rule of Law
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- Preparation for Pupillage, Career Development and Wellbeing

You must also ensure at least two of your QSs require preparation in advance.

Are there any compulsory QSs?

Yes - all Bar Course students studying in London and on Circuit are required to attend an introductory event at the start of their course. Information on booking will be provided over email nearer the time.

Can I complete all my QSs in one term?

No, only six QSs will be counted per term.



How do I book a QS?

Members can book and pay online via the **Gray's Inn Online System ('GIOS')** for most events including QSs.

What will the dress code be for a QS?

It will specify on the booking page. For women, when it is dark suits and white shirts, either a black dress or trouser / skirt suit (white shirt and black skirt / trousers and blazer) can be worn. No chess board or black shirts. Shoes must be black, and you can wear heels if you choose too... leave your Crocs and flip flops at home

What do I do if I can't attend a QS?

Students should consider all bookings a professional commitment and should only book onto an event if they fully plan on attending. Once booked on, students will be unable to cancel and receive a refund other than in exceptional circumstances and will be required to provide evidence to support this.

From January 2022 the Education Department will charge an administrative fee of £5 to all refund requests.

The cancellation period for events is 3.5 business days and this may be longer for some events, such as moots. After this time, you will not receive a refund other than in exceptional circumstances and will be required to provide evidence to support this. If you are unable to attend or you are running late, you must call 0207 4587 808 or email [Roberta Lai](#).

How do I address judges and barristers at QS?

The Inn have issued guidance on [how to address judges](#). Barristers will usually let you know how to address them, but events at the Inn are informal and friendly and first name is fine.

What is the residential weekend I keep hearing about?

The residential weekend is a weekend away packed with QSs. It also offers time in a relaxed and informal setting to meet and interact with barrister, judicial and Bencher members of the Inn. It provides 5 QSs. The programmes usually include:

- tuition in case analysis
- advocacy
- ethics
- closing speeches and talks from eminent members of the Inn
- trial demonstration

It is fantastic fun and worth attending. Don't worry if you don't know anyone going as you will get to know people in your sessions and at dinner.

How soon can I begin attending the QS? (For students that may be on the LLB)

You can attend Qualifying Sessions as soon as you have joined the Inn, it does not matter what course level you are.

Can I continue to do QS between finishing my degree and starting my Bar Course?

Yes, you can.



Can I continue to attend QS if I have reached 10/completed the Bar Course/got pupillage/qualified?

Yes, you can although where places on particular courses, such as Residential Weekends, are limited, priority may be given to other students who have yet to accumulate sufficient QSs to be Called to the Bar.

Can I attend online sessions even if I am London based?

The online events are normally reserved for Circuit (out of London) students and Transferring Qualifying Lawyers. You will need to contact the Education Department if you wish to do this. Always check GIOS and the website for the information about the sessions.



Student Involvement

A great way to get involved and meet other students and barrister members of Gray's Inn is to join a club or society. Don't worry if you are nervous, everyone is very friendly and welcomes new members with open arms. There are a number of clubs and societies open to all members of the Inn. [Contact Reception](#) to get in touch with clubs and societies at Gray's.

- [Miscellany](#)
- [Gray's Inn Choir](#)
- [Gray's Inn Football](#)
- [Gray's Inn Golfing Society](#)
- [The Bar Golfing Society](#)
- Gray's Inn LGBT+ Society
- Gray's Inn Netball
- Bar Musical Society
- [Bar Yacht Club](#)
- [CEBA](#) (The Commonwealth in England Barristers' Association)

As well as getting involved with the clubs and societies, attending QS and other events in Gray's, such as Guest Nights, Grand Day etc are a great way to meet other students and barristers. One of the best pieces of advice we have received is to throw yourself in to as much as you can (but don't overdo it and burn out) and to meet as many people as possible.

FAQ

What is Miscellany?

Miscellany is the Inn's annual Christmas show organised, written and starring members of the Inn as well as Staff. It is open to everyone, including students and you can usually sign up at the Bar Course Introductory Evening.

Miscellany is a wonderful chance for any members with musical, acting or dancing talent or a willingness to help backstage to join in the fun. The final show is usually held in December, in the Hall.

What is the best way to stay up to date with student events taking place at the Inn?

The best way to stay up to date with student events is to sign up to newsletters and alerts through GIOS. Events and News emails are released monthly. Information about events happening at the Inn can be found on [the website](#).

You can also follow the relevant social media accounts at Gray's.

Is there a cost to join Gray's Inn's clubs and societies?

There is no cost to join.



Dining: Lunch in Hall

Lunch in Hall is available Monday to Friday, 1 pm to 2.30 pm. Students and their guests are welcome to lunch. The [lunch menu](#) is published weekly on the website.

Please note:

- Lunch is table service with a cover charge of £1.75 which includes a bread roll and butter and tea or coffee afterwards
- Payment is by card only.

Students can enjoy 20% on food in the Hall.

For bookings of five or more it is recommended you contact the catering department beforehand. The butlers are on hand to provide service and answer any queries regarding allergens etc. Further information about [dining in Hall](#) can be found on the website.

FAQ

[How do I find out about allergens?](#)

The [lunch menu](#) lists the relevant allergens (please scroll to the bottom of the page to see the allergens chart).

[Does Gray's offer halal, kosher, vegan etc food as a regular or do you have to request it in advance? If so, how do I do this?](#)

All meat provided by Gray's is halal compliant. A kosher diet is prepared on demand. Any further dietary requirements can be communicated to catering via the booking system (either on a regular basis or for a one-off event). The booking system gives the option of selecting from the 14 allergens as well as at the bottom of the form there is a box for any further dietary requirements.

[Where can I sit in Hall for lunch?](#)

During opening times for lunch, student members can sit anywhere in the body of Hall, except for the Bench table on the raised dais, the balcony or any table marked 'Reserved'.

Hall operates a table service.

Bags and coats should be left in the area provided in the corridor outside Hall (there is very limited space for bags but they can be left in the Porters' Lodge).

Members are requested not to use telephones or wear headphones in Hall.

[Is there a dress code for lunch in Hall?](#)

Yes, smart casual and no short trousers.

[Can I bring people to lunch in hall who aren't a member of Gray's?](#)

Yes, guests are very welcome.



Bridge Bar

The Gray's Inn Bridge Bar is open Monday to Friday, 8am to 11pm. It serves breakfast and lunch, and a wide selection of drinks. It is located on the first floor at 10 South Square and has lift access.

Student Members of all four Inns can enjoy a 20% discount on food. It has good WiFi coverage and it is a place for students to meet, work and relax within the Inn.

FAQ

Can I work in the Bridge Bar?

Yes.

Can I bring people who are not **Members of Gray's Inn to the Bridge Bar?**

Yes, all guests of student Members are welcome.

Can I bring my own food and drink into the Bridge Bar?

No.

The website says the dress code is smart casual for the Bridge Bar, is that correct?

This is not strictly enforced although short trousers are discouraged.



Chapel

The Gray's Inn Chapel is open to those from all faiths and none for private prayer and quiet reflection, Monday to Friday, 10am to 6pm, when Hall is open.

The Preacher is available to any student who would like to meet with them.

On ten Sundays per year there is a choral Morning Service (Mattins, from the Book of Common Prayer) and on two Sunday mornings there is a Choral Eucharist.

There is also a monthly said Holy Communion Service and an occasional Sung Evensong.

There is an Evensong on every Call Night to which those being called, their families and friends, are especially welcome.

Details of upcoming services can be found in [Chapel events](#).

It is possible for members, including students, to get married in the Chapel, subject to the usual legal requirement and agreement by the Inn (never withheld) and for children to be baptised there. Please ask the Chapel Keeper (a Student Member of the Inn) or the Preacher for the relevant Information Sheet.

- Information about [the history of Chapel](#).

FAQ

Can anyone attend Chapel?

Members of the Inn, whatever their denomination or faith community, are welcome to attend all Chapel services. Guests are also always welcome.

Students should normally use the main door for entering the Chapel and should stand while Benchers leave at the end of any service. Students are invited to join the Benchers for drinks after a Sunday service, whether or not they are staying for lunch.

Do I need to book to attend Chapel?

No. However, there is always a formal or informal lunch after a Sunday service, and if you would like to attend lunch bookings must be made through GIOS.

At an informal lunch there is no Grace or "Domus" toast.

What is the dress code for Chapel?

On Sunday mornings and at Call Day Evensong it is usual for members including students to wear a gown but this is not mandatory.

What else goes on in Chapel?

In June each year there is a series of Summer Concerts, followed by an optional Supper. And once a year there is a 'Words & Music' evening on a particular theme. Attendance at the concerts is free but if staying for supper, there is a charge.

How can I join the Gray's Inn Choir?

The Gray's Inn Choir is open to all members of the Inn and is a wonderful opportunity for you to become involved with life at the Inn. The Choir sings for Sunday Mattins and its



members take part in a number of performances during the year. If you are interested in participating in the choir, please [contact Reception](#) to be put in touch with the Choirmaster (Chris Bowers-Broadbent).

[How can I contact the Preacher?](#)

Via the Gray's Inn [website](#).

[How can I stay up to date with Chapel events and news?](#)

On [Twitter](#), or on the Gray's Inn website.



Gray's Events

Events are an integral part of life at **Gray's** Inn. They are a unique opportunity to meet other Bar students as well as practicing barristers and judges, across every Circuit and speciality.

Plan ahead by visiting the [Gray's Inn calendar](#) to see what events are taking place each term. We know going to events can feel intimidating, especially if it is your first visit to the Inn or if you don't know any other members. However, **Gray's** is renowned for its welcoming atmosphere. You'll feel at home in no time.

FAQ

What is a Guest Night?

Guest Night is where Members of the Inn can bring up to three guests (family, friends, members of other Inns, work colleagues, etc) to enjoy the historic traditions of dining in Hall with a three course meal by candlelight. These are purely social occasions and are often preceded by a History Society Lecture. Everyone is encouraged to arrive, get their robes on and then head to the Bridge Bar for a pre-dinner drink. Later in the evening the Bench withdraw and the Seniors in Hall encourage the attendees to sing, play the piano or otherwise entertain their fellow diners on a purely voluntary basis.

It is a great chance to bring friends and family to the Inn. There is no seating arrangement and you are likely to meet lots of other students.

Can I bring anyone to a Guest Night?

Yes, although children and minors are not permitted.

What is Grand Day?

Grand Day is the highlight of the Inn's social calendar and sees the Bench in White Tie and decorations with a specially invited group of guests of the Master Treasurer attending. **It is only for members of Gray's and there are no guests (except for Benchers, who will invite some very prestigious guests).** These are often stars of stage and screen as well as politicians, surgeons, scientists, sportsmen, etc. This event also includes ceremonies such as "Hippocras", Loving Cups and toasts to the memory of Queen Elizabeth I. Later in the evening the Bench withdraw and the Seniors in Hall encourage the attendees to sing, play the piano or otherwise entertain their fellow diners on a purely voluntary basis.

It is great fun and we thoroughly recommend attending if you can.

What is Mixed Messes?

Mixed Messes is a dining event held at the Inn where students, barrister members and Benchers sit together in a 'mixed mess' of four. The dining is preceded by a lecture on the theme of Legal Knowledge, Justice and the Rule of Law and is also awarded as a QS for students. It is a great opportunity to meet practicing barristers.

What is the dress code for events at Gray's Inn?

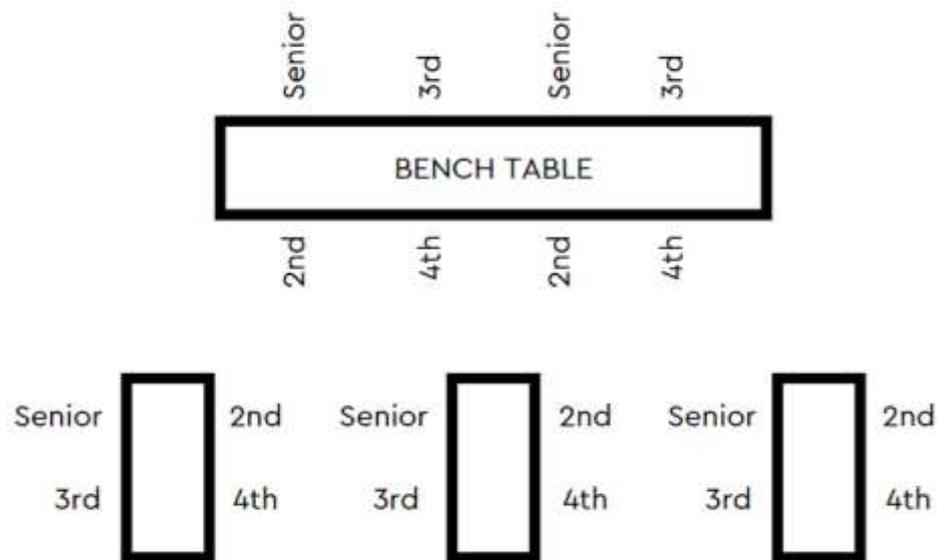
Before attending each event, check the Gray's Inn webpage, GIOS description and booking email for guidance on what to wear.



How does toasting work?

The purpose of toasting is to get to know the names of fellow students, judges, Barristers and Benchers, and to help break the ice among strangers. Toasting takes place during dinner

- Barristers address other Barristers by their surnames. Barristers and students address each other by their surname with the appropriate preferred prefix (i.e., Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms, etc). Benchers are addressed by their surname with the prefix "Master".
- The senior of the mess, followed by each member of the mess in order of seniority (see above), raises a glass and says "Members of the mess" naming the other three in order of seniority, but without further words.
- Each mess then toasts the members of the mess immediately below, the senior saying, "Members of the lower mess" and naming them. As each name is read, the other members of the toasting mess raise their glasses and repeat the name simultaneously.
- The lower mess then returns the toast as above, using the words "Members of the Upper Mess", or "the Senior Mess" when addressing the mess of the Senior-in-Hall.



Is there somewhere I can store luggage while attending an event?

The information for each event will include information as to the cloakroom availability. Typically, for events in Hall, the Rose Heilbron Room at 10 South Square is open for students to store their bags or there is dedicated secure storage space in the Porters' Lodge.



Gowns

Gowns are an aspect of many events at Gray's Inn. However, you do not need to purchase your own gown for them. The Inn provides gowns for student members. After you have made your booking to attend an event, information about whether an event requires a gown will be shared in the booking emails you receive.

FAQ

When an event requires a gown, where do we get these from?

They are to be collected from the Robing Room, located in Rose Heilbron Room at 10 South Square. Occasionally, for an event involving very few students, an alternative arrangement might be made to provide gowns from the Benchers Robing Room in the main part of the Treasury building.

Is there a specific type of gown student members are supposed to wear?

Students are required to wear a Student gown – these have short sleeves.

If I bring a guest to an event, do they wear a gown?

No, only members of Gray's will ever need to wear a gown. The dress code for guests will also be specified on any event page.



Library

The Library is open to all barrister and student members of the four Inns of Court. It contains over 75,000 books, journals and law reports. The library also has a subscription to multiple online resources such as Lexis Library, Westlaw and Practical Law which you can use on the computers in the library.

Library opening hours (including Saturday opening rota), plus further information on Library services and legal research can be found on the [website](#).

The Library offers students help with legal research – professional Library staff can assist in person, by **telephone** on **020 7458 7822** or [e-mail](#).

If you need any help, all of the librarians are very friendly and approachable.

FAQ

Is there Wi-Fi in the Library?

Yes, you can find the password at the enquiry desk.

Are there charging points in the Library?

Yes, there are plenty of charging points for laptops and mobiles.

Do I need to sign in?

You do need to sign in at the front of the library.

Can I loan a book from the Library?

All Library users may borrow ordinary books and bound periodicals for either an hour during opening times or overnight from an hour before closing until an hour after opening, on the production of appropriate ID.

Can I print, photocopy and scan in the Library?

Yes, the Library has printers, photocopiers and scanners.

Is there a dress code for the Library?

No.

Can I eat or drink in the Library?

You cannot eat in Library, however you are permitted to bring in hot drinks.

Can I use any of the Inns' libraries?

Yes, but you need to remember to sign in.

Is the Library open at the weekend?

During the legal term, one of the four libraries will be open on a Saturday, you can see the rota on the [opening hours page](#).

Gray's Library also publish this information on the Gray's social media accounts.

Is the Library accessible?



The Library entrance is located at 5 South Square. There is a specially adapted lift at ground level for wheelchair users. In the foyer there is an accessible toilet and a lift to the first and second floors.

They have two height-adjustable desks so that wheelchair users or those with back problems can easily adjust their working position.

Should you have any special requirements **please call** the Library in advance to discuss how they may assist you.

[I am interested in increasing my commercial awareness, how do I go about this?](#)

The Library has pamphlets available with useful websites and blogs for each of the main practice areas.



International Students

Gray's Inn has a wealth of notable international members. From Geoffrey Ma (Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal of Hong Kong), Aitzaz Ahsan (President of the Supreme Court Bar Association of Pakistan) to Dame Joan Sawyer (First female Chief Justice of The Bahamas Supreme Court and then first female President of the Court of Appeal of The Bahamas), you are joining a very diverse community of barristers from all around the world indeed.

Being an international student comes with its own set of challenges beyond living in a different country. Remember, although it can be harder to gain pupillage as an international student, you can demonstrate your determination by persevering and overcoming these hurdles. Here are some key pointers to get you started.

NB: this is not immigration advice. If you are unsure, speak to your provider's international student team or an immigration lawyer.

Visas - how does it work at the Bar

After the Bar course, if you have secured pupillage, you may be able to obtain a Skilled Worker visa. Unlike other professions, your chambers would not be the sponsor for your visa. This is because barristers are self-employed and your chambers are not your "employer".

Instead, the Bar Council operates as a Licensed Sponsor on behalf of UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) and is therefore able to provide Skilled Worker visas for funded pupil barristers and tenants working in chambers in England and Wales, enabling suitably qualified nationals who meet the qualifying criteria to train and practise at the Bar.

When seeking pupillage, it is important to stress to the sets you are applying to that you would not require a sponsorship from them. As you may know already, barristers are not automatically experts in all areas of law - do not let them sift you through simply because of your immigration status!

However, do note that to qualify for a Bar Council sponsorship, you need to reach minimum annual gross projected earnings of £20,720 as a pupil barrister and £29,600 as a tenant. Choose the areas of law you may wish to practise in wisely and be prepared to do more research on what kind of career can support you through the minimum earning threshold.

You can find more information about immigration support provided by the [Bar Council](#).

Working during the Bar course

Most international students are here on a Tier-4 visa. Yours may have different terms, but in general, you would not be allowed to work as self-employed whilst undertaking your studies. If you are taking up part-time work, make sure to check your employment terms and conditions. In the UK, many companies "hire" freelancers (such as Uber or Deliveroo) instead of employees.

Mini-pupillage/marshalling

You are generally allowed to undertake work experiences on a student visa. This includes mini-pupillage and marshalling, paid or unpaid. Note that the time spent at work experiences count towards your "work hours". Make sure to not reach the maximum hours per week as allowed



under your visa. The Home Office is strict with visa requirements and any breach will impact your stay.

Volunteering

Similarly, you are generally allowed to volunteer on a student visa. Volunteering offers fantastic opportunities to add to your legal CV.

Staying post-Bar course

Seeking pupillage

The Bar is a competitive profession. You may not have a pupillage lined up for immediately after the Bar Course but wish to stay in the country to gain more experiences.

Many students choose to remain in the country under a Graduate visa. This visa allows you to stay in the country for 2 years after completing your course. You can find more information about the visa and how to apply on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk).

Note that you must apply for the Graduate visa before your student visa expires. Resits or deferrals may impact the timeline of your results and add complications to your application. Furthermore, it is a very expensive visa to apply for (including the fee and the NHS immigration surcharge). Plan ahead and beware!

You can also consider other options such as applying for a Youth Mobility Visa (Tier-5), if eligible.

Call Ceremony

Many international students complete the Bar course in England and Wales but have pupillage lined up at home or wish to practise in another jurisdiction. If you do not seek to remain in the UK after completion of your course, but wish to attend your Call ceremony, be sure to choose a Call date that is still within your Leave to Remain. [Find out more about Call](#).

If your family is travelling to the UK for your Call, make sure they have the correct visitor visas. You can find up-to-date information on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk).

Helpful links and information

Nia Marshall, former AGIS Publicity Officer (2020-21), made a [video](#) on her YouTube channel all about being an international pupillage seeker.

For information whether overseas training and experiences could be counted towards your pupillage, see the [Bar Standard Board](#).



Accommodation

The Inn has nine self-contained [accommodation units](#) available. Student members of Gray's Inn can only book up to four weeks in advance of their stay.

You will need to [login to the Accommodation Booking System](#) to:

- book and pay online for accommodation at Gray's Inn
- review your past and future accommodation bookings at Gray's Inn
- cancel an existing booking

FAQ

Can I get a student rate on the accommodation?

No, sadly not.

Can I stay in the accommodation with someone who is not a member of Gray's?

Yes you can but you cannot book on behalf of someone else and then not use the accommodation yourself. The accommodation is there for use by the members of Gray's Inn.

What time is check in and out?

Check-in is anytime from 3pm. On your day of arrival you will collect your keys from the Porters' Lodge. Please bring proof of ID (for example your passport / driving licence / credit card) and your booking confirmation email.

Check-out is by 10am. On your day of departure please return your keys to the Porters' Lodge.

What facilities do the flats have?

- fully fitted kitchens with tea, coffee, UHT milk, sugar and condiments provided
- bath and shower (except Field Court Double and the Slynn Flat which have walk-in showers only)
- double or queen-sized beds
- linen and towels
- iron and ironing board
- free Wi-Fi
- access to clothes washing and drying facilities (located on the ground floor, 10 South Square; a key will be attached to your room keys)
- the use of a parking space at the Inn at no extra cost (please note the Inn is within the Congestion Charge zone)



Education Department

From leading the Inn's community outreach initiatives to awarding scholarships to student members, the Education Department is central to the Inn's purpose. As a team, they will support you as you work to develop the skills required to practice at the Bar.

FAQ

Who do I speak to if I have a complaint?

The Inn is committed to providing a high-quality service and an environment in which all individuals are treated with dignity and respect. In order to do this, the Education Department need to be told if things have gone wrong and if there is a complaint, they will aim to deal with it quickly, fairly and consistently. They listen to all complaints, treat them seriously and learn from them so that we can continuously improve their service. Many concerns will be raised informally and dealt with quickly. An informal approach is appropriate when it can be achieved. But if concerns cannot be satisfactorily resolved informally, then the Inn's formal complaints procedure will be followed.

See the Inn's [formal complaints policy](#).

Who should I speak to if I am worried about something?

The best people to speak to are the Education Department. But you may also wish to talk to the Preacher.

Mentoring Scheme

The Mentoring Scheme will facilitate continued contact between you and a member of the Inn who is practising in the area of law you are interested in pursuing. A mentor can offer guidance on all matters relating to your career at the Bar, supporting your professional development as you progress through vocational study to pupillage applications and beyond. You can apply to this scheme online at any time. You can apply for a mentor on the [website](#).

Pupillage Advice Session and Mock Interviews

Pupillage Advice Session

Every December and January the Education Department organises a session where you can submit a draft pupillage form, and then get feedback over Zoom from a practising barrister.

Students will be sent an email with details nearer the time. The email will contain the draft pupillage form.

Mock Interviews

If you have a pupillage interview coming up, a mock interview can be arranged with a barrister practising in the area of law in which you hope to secure pupillage. This is an ideal opportunity for you to practise for the real thing and receive constructive feedback on your interview style. You can work on your nerves, your delivery, and your presence. Practice builds confidence.

For all enquiries please visit the [website](#).



Marshalling Scheme

The Inn's Marshalling Scheme will connect you with a member of the Inn who sits on the Bench.

This scheme is an excellent opportunity to gain an understanding of the role of the judiciary, court procedure and see different styles of advocacy for yourself.

Applications are accepted from Bar course students and called members seeking pupillage.

You can apply for the scheme at any time, [here](#).

FAQ

For marshalling, can GDL students apply or is it only Bar Course students?

The Education Department accept marshalling applications from all Bar course students and called members seeking pupillage.

GDL students are welcome to apply, but pairing will be dependent on capacity. If they are unable to arrange marshalling for students who have applied during a GDL course, they will be paired at the earliest opportunity during their Bar course.

Can students apply to the Inn to complete marshalling more than once?

Gray's Inn's priority is to facilitate marshalling on an occasion for any student member or called member seeking pupillage who has not previously had an opportunity to marshal. Members who have marshalled previously can apply to marshal again, but their applications will not be prioritised.

Scholarships

Please see links to all the various scholarships Gray's offers:

- [GDL Scholarships](#)
- [Bar Course Scholarships](#)
- [Pupillage Scholarships](#)
- [Internship Scholarships](#)
- [Other Scholarships and Prizes](#)

Vocalise

Vocalise is the Inn's award-winning student-led prison debating initiative founded in 2010.

Mentors must complete a mentor training course in December. Following this new Vocalise Mentors begin teaching short courses in prisons (HMPs) and youth offending institutes (YOIs) across the greater South-Eastern region. We are currently partnering with HMPs Pentonville, Downview, and Thameside, and YOIs Feltham, ISIS and Wandsworth.

Vocalise courses culminate in final public debates between prisoners and leading university debate teams. The debates are judged by senior members and Benchers of Gray's Inn.

Sign up for updates on the Vocalise [webpage](#).



Griffin

Griffin reaches out to secondary and sixth form students who have been identified by their school leaders as having potential for high achievement, but lacking essential, developmental opportunities that will help them gain access to the profession.

Through Griffin LAW (Legal Advocacy Workshops - 8 week and 1-2 day courses), our Griffin Mentors teach students the fundamentals of debating and advocacy, underpinned by the rule of law. Griffin's 8-week course ends in a mock trial at the Royal Courts where students play the role of counsel, each putting their case to the presiding judge and members of the jury. Mentors also deliver afternoon, 1-2 day workshops which culminate in formal debates in Hall. Mock Trials and debates are supported by senior judges and barristers.

Through a series of coordinated Griffin Outreach activities and visits, students meet barristers, judges and other experts to learn about:

- their day-to-day work in various practice areas, both in and out of the court.
- what they, as students, need to think about, plan for and do if they want to enter the profession.
- how Gray's can advise and help them to gain some of these essential experiences.

To get involved, register your interest on the Griffin [webpage](#).

Circuit

Throughout the year, Gray's holds events on circuit for students, especially the education and training weekends.

However, if you have an event in mind, whether that is a QS or something else, you can contact the Education Department or your AGIS Bar course representative to see if Gray's will provide sponsorship or help organise.



More information about Gray's Inn

You can read about the history of Gray's Inn on the [website](#).

There are more links on that webpage for more specific topics.

What do I do if I want even more history?

Two of our benchers co-authored a book on the history of Gray's Inn: *An Illustrated History of Gray's Inn*. It is available in the Library or for purchase from the Treasury Reception in 8 South Square. It can be posted to you if required.

Co-authored by Master Timothy Shuttleworth and Master David Barnard, the book tells the story of the Inn over seven centuries, from 1294 when Sir Reginald de Grey purchased the lease of the old Manor of Purpoole, to the present day.

With a foreword by the President of the Supreme Court and Treasurer of Gray's Inn (2017), Baroness Hale, the book aims to bring the history of Gray's Inn to life.

What do I do if I have questions that haven't been answered by this guide?

Firstly, are you sure it isn't in there somewhere? (just kidding, we know we can't have covered everything).

The best people to contact are the Education Department: education@graysinn.org.uk

