



FORMAL MEALS – CODE OF CONDUCT

A number of simple rules are in place, outlined below. This is a courtesy to show good manners to both fellow diners and those staff who have worked hard to prepare and serve the food, and ensures that formal dinners are enjoyable, civilized and pleasant occasions for all concerned.

- Student members of the College should assemble outside the Dining Hall and will be admitted by the members of College Staff and the Formal Committee. Once the doors have closed, no late entry will be possible, so please arrive in good time for the commencement of the meal and at least 10 minutes before the advertised starting time.
- No one attending a Formal should enter the Hall in a condition where they have already consumed excessive amounts of alcohol, and the College reserves the right to refuse entry if necessary.
- Students must wear appropriate clothing and a gown should be worn. Guests members also should wear gowns.
- Diners should rise and be silent at the start and end of the meal, as the High Table enters/leaves and during the graces.
- The consumption of wine is normally limited to one half bottle per person. This will have been purchased in advance of the formal, as an addition to the meal ticket for students who wish to partake of this.
- All diners should remain in their places for the duration of the meal.
- A generally civilized standard of behavior and table manners of all present is expected. The throwing of food or other misbehaviour is absolutely forbidden.
- Students should similarly show respect towards the staff who are serving the meal and should not obstruct their work.
- Glasses and bottles may not be taken out of the Hall at the end of the meal.
- Diners should make every effort to ensure that they don't have to leave the table e.g. "to take a comfort break", thus disturbing the meal. If you do need to leave the dinner, you should alert the Porter or a Formal Committee member on duty, who will confirm when you can leave the hall so that the dinner service is not interrupted. Diners who leave the Hall may not be allowed to return for the remainder of the meal: the Duty Porter will confirm if and when you may return. Any diner who leaves the hall without asking permission, will be required to undertake 2 hours of Community Service within the College.

- Mobile telephones should be switched to silent or off, and remain placed in a bag or pocket during the meal. Photographs may be taken on special occasions, but this practice is generally discouraged.
- A water glass is available upon request from kitchen staff during the meal.
- Formal places cannot be cancelled, only transferred to other Grey College JCR members. If a replacement person is not found, you will be charged the advertised price.
- If students violate the above code of conduct, College discipline procedures may be enforced.