The video opens on three Merton students – James, Cyara and Kitty – sitting on a bench on the lawn in front of Merton’s Grove building. James is wearing a dark jumper and coat, Cyara sits in the middle and is wearing a red beret and Kitty is wearing a fluffy turquoise coat.

Cyara takes a pile of question cards from someone off screen.

Cyara: Alright guys, you ready?

James & Kitty together: Yep

Text on screen reads ‘everything you ever wanted to know about Merton’.

Various small groups of students in different locations are shown picking up their first question card, ending on Kaveeta who is sitting in front of a full library bookcase.

Kaveeta: Why did you apply to Merton?

Imogen is shown walking into college and looking round Front Quad, by the entrance to college.

Imogen: As I went to the open day, I walked in and I felt home here already; and I’d only just looked round for perhaps half an hour.

Cyara: I remember just stepping into Merton and feeling really welcomed by the students that were there on the open days!

Rebecca is sitting on a brown sofa in the JCR, with Oliver and Imogen, wearing a purple jumper.

Rebecca: I just kind of looked around and thought it was amazing, I liked the fact that it offered more accommodation than most colleges [text on screen reads ‘guaranteed accommodation for all undergraduate students]. It just seemed like such a lovely place, it was so small and welcoming and friendly that I thought ‘why not’.

Three students are shown chatting and laughing in Front Quad; text on screen reads ‘what kind of people come to Merton?’

Imogen is sitting on the brown JCR sofa with Rebecca and Oliver. As she speaks, a series of images depicting her in primary school, visiting Oxford as a child, in a science class in sixth form and dressed in sub fusc (academic dress) at matriculation in front of the Radcliffe Camera appear.

Imogen: I’m the first in my family to ever go to university; my family are just so, so proud of me all the time. It just goes to show, even if you don’t feel like you’re good enough to go to university – or Oxford University in particular – that’s just totally wrong. Totally wrong. [Rebecca and Oliver nod in agreement]

A series of clips of students smiling at the camera appears whilst Oliver speaks.

Oliver: Merton is such a mix of people from different backgrounds and who have different interests and, obviously, subjects. In that mix you will find people who are like you.

Text on screen reads ‘studying at Merton’.

Kaveeta: They do a very good job at Merton at matching tutors to particular subjects to teach in the tutorials and things like that. You really get the best out of them; you are really taught by an expert and it’s kind of inspiring to be in the same room as someone like that, who can help you achieve your full potential.

As Kaveeta speaks, Charlotte – who is sitting to her right – nods in agreement.

Oliver is also sitting with Kaveeta and Charlotte, in front of the bookcase.

Oliver: I’ve come to realise that actually there’s nothing stopping you from just going to your tutors, which ever one it may be, and getting some advice so you can make the best decision.

Kaiyang is sitting on a table in the JCR, in front of a wood panelled wall, and wearing a navy blue football top. Next to him is Eppie, who is wearing a grey jumper.

Kaiyang: They’re [tutors] always there for you when you need them, they’ll make time for you, and they do really care about you.

A close up is shown of Cyara, sitting on the bench on the lawn. She reads from a card.

Cyara: Have you made use of any Merton-specific support or grants? [text on screen reads ‘financial support at Merton’].

Back in the JCR, Rebecca answers the question.

Rebecca: I’m taking my year abroad next year, and Merton provides a bit of money to help you out with that.

Cyara: [text on screen reads ‘undergraduate travel grants’] My thesis is on Broadway musicals in the 20th century, so I applied to the grant and was very lucky and was able to go to New York, which I absolutely would never have dreamed of doing before. It’s completely changed the way I can look at my thesis.

The camera pans across to Kitty, sitting beside Cyara.

Kitty: Merton are really fantastic for just keeping an eye on equal opportunities, diversity and support. There’s an undergraduate support fund; I have very close friends who do benefit from that and it has just completely transformed their experience.

Imogen: There’s a book grant at the end of every year, students get £100 towards books that they need for their course.

As Imogen speaks, Rachel is shown sitting at the desk in a student bedroom. A pile of books grows in front of her, obscuring her face, then shrinks back down as books are transferred to piles to either side. Text on screen reads ‘annual book grant’.

Two students are shown playing table tennis in the JCR with a caption reading ‘what about the social life?’

Eppie: Do you have time for extracurricular activities?

A wide shot of Charlotte, Kaveeta and Oliver in the library is shown. In the background are more bookshelves, and a model skeleton.

Kaveeta: I think social life is a really big part of university.

Oliver: It’s not just always about work; put that to one side and explore the city, explore what Oxford as an amazing place has to offer.

As Charlotte speaks, video is shown of students at a college social, called a bop. Many are wearing fancy dress, and chat happily to one-another. Photos of various students proudly showing plates of food they have cooked also appear.

Charlotte: Every evening we’ll go to the college bar, or just hang out in someone’s room.

Phoebe, Charlotte and Jason are sitting on stone steps in front of an ornate black gate.

Phoebe: I’m doing the boat club at the moment!

Kaiyang: University football.

Charlotte: I’ve started doing judo and climbing this year.

Oliver [in the JCR]: I also go to weekly yoga classes.

Eppie: I do netball for college, and then I do the 1980 Society as well.

Jason: Electronic music society.

Imogen: Circuit training classes.

Rebecca: I really like the poetry society here.

Imogen is shown in a student kitchen, becoming increasingly laden with utensils until the only remaining way for her to carry a colander is for it to go on her head like a hat, obscuring her face. Text on screen reads ‘what’s the food like?’

Kaveeta: I think Merton is a good college for first year food, because going to Hall in first term is a really good way of meeting people. The student kitchen facilities, compared to some colleges, are really really good!

As Kaveeta speaks, video of the catering staff serving various meals onto plates is shown. Following this is a short clip of jars of dried herbs and spices appearing to dance around each other.

Grace: The food is some of the best quality, and the cheapest, of all the colleges.

As Grace speaks, the kitchen staff are shown preparing vegetables, and the final meals shown on a trolley ready to be transported up to the servery.

Charlotte: I was quite good in first year, I liked cooking so I was always eating, like, normal meals and stuff!

As Charlotte, who is sitting in the library, speaks, hands are shown stirring a pan of pasta, draining the pasta and presenting the final product with tomato sauce.

Rachel is sitting next to Grace in Hall, with long dark wood tables in the background illuminated by lamps. As she speaks, a group of students are shown eating in Hall, chatting and laughing.

Rachel: It’s always nice to come together, either in the middle of the day for lunch or at the end of the day, and see what everyone’s been up to. The social side of it is really nice.

Charlotte: There’s something special about Merton. There’s just something special about it and that sense of community that it’s got is just really good.

Rebecca: You’ve put all these people together from such varied backgrounds and when you put them together, something really incredible happens. It really does feel like a big family, almost.

As Rebecca speaks, more clips of students smiling at the camera are shown, along with the text ‘when you put them together, something really incredible happens.’ As she describes Merton as a family, Imogen and Oliver nod in agreement.

Footage panning quickly round Front Quad, then an aerial view of Mob Quad, is shown. Text on the end-card reads ‘Be part of the Merton family. To find out more, visit [www.merton.ox.ac.uk/undergraduate-study](http://www.merton.ox.ac.uk/undergraduate-study) or email us at [undergraduate.admissions@merton.ox.ac.uk](mailto:undergraduate.admissions@merton.ox.ac.uk)’. This is followed by a white screen with the college logo: a yellow crest with alternating red and blue stripes.