

## Kathryn Spencer and Miriam Lay – COVID officer role

Hi all! We're Kathryn and Miriam, running for the new COVID officer role. Having been into isolation twice in our first term here at Fitz, we know this system a bit too intimately and we know all too well that adapting to this scenario is still a work in progress. We want to iron out as many of the teething issues as we can, and do everything we can to make isolation as painless a 2 weeks as possible.

### Our Experience

#### Kathryn – 1<sup>st</sup> year historian

I spent 6 months working as a marketing and communications officer at a further education college before coming to university. This was a role that necessitated effective communication within the department, as well as the ability to work well with the college administration as a whole. This should translate well into coordinating our ideas with the college and the rest of the JCR team.

#### Miriam – 1<sup>st</sup> year linguist

As the first Fresher at Fitz to test positive (lol), I have experienced the current COVID system first-hand from early on which equips me with the knowledge of how best to support any potential isolators. Due to my time as a leader in youth camps, I am well-experienced in pastoral support and mediating between both management and my fellow peers within a community.

### Our ideas:

- Much, much better COVID care packages. Right now we're given cleaning products and temporary thermometers while other colleges are given boxes of wine. This definitely has to change
- Increased support for households that receive a positive COVID-19 test result, whether through symptomatic or asymptomatic testing. This should involve clear guidance on the next steps, including how and where other individuals within the household should test
- Following a positive asymptomatic result, all members of the household should be tested (even if they do not have symptoms). This should prevent households from having to go back into isolation through asymptomatic testing when the necessary period of isolation has been completed
- Coordinate with the Ents Officers to ensure events at Fitz can be both lit *and* COVID-safe
- Increased clarification on the role of supporters. They would be provided with a full breakdown of the tasks needed from them.
- A small gift for supporters, in recognition of how important their work is. This could be a coffee shop voucher or some chocolates etc
- Increased emotional and mental health support during isolation. Our flat had a video call with Beth and Tom at the start of our second isolation, which made us all feel a bit better having had our voices heard. All isolating households should have the opportunity to have a chat with a member of the JCR team should they feel they need it