

Dear Tazaki Foundation,

My name is Anna Cui, a third-year undergraduate student at the University of Tokyo and a 9-ki participant in the GLP-GEfIL Program. I am writing to extend my deepest gratitude for your generous support, which enabled me to attend the Exeter College Summer Programme at the University of Oxford in the summer of 2025.

This was my first visit to the UK, and Oxford had always been a dream destination. Without your scholarship, this dream would not have become reality. To me, the opportunity was more than just an academic programme, this six-weeks was an intellectual challenge, a cultural immersion, and a profoundly transformative experience.

I took two courses, *Quantum Computer Science* with Professor Steane and *Forensic Linguistics* with Professor Filipović, each of which demanded the highest level of focus and effort. Every subject involved twelve lectures, six seminars, four tutorials, a 3,000-word essay, and a three-hour sat examination. The rigor was intense, but it was precisely that intensity that made the experience so rewarding.

Studying with Professor Steane was nothing short of extraordinary. He is not only the author of our textbook but also a pioneer of error correction in quantum information. In weekly one-to-two tutorials, he worked through each problem step by step with me, answering every question patiently and ensuring we grasped the material in depth. His teaching was clear, concise, and astonishingly efficient, which also means high in information density, fast in pace, and deeply inspiring. I would leave his sessions brimming with new insights, then spend hours at Jackson Library digesting on course contents, determined to keep up with the pace. The amount I learned in just six weeks feels almost equivalent to a year of study.

Professor Filipović, opened a completely different intellectual world. Her mastery of forensic linguistics was immediately clear as she could recall case studies and academic research from across the globe with astonishing fluency, and she constantly drew connections between theory and practice. When I shared my interest in the Japanese language for my personal essay, she immediately referred me to her research on Japanese grammar, conviction rates, and multilingual trials, encouraging me to take direction of my interest and strongly supporting me with guidance on literature reviews. I was especially inspired by how seamlessly she links scholarship with real-world applications, from her published work to her contributions in police training. It was empowering to see how deeply and impactful linguistic knowledge can shape justice.

Beyond academics, the community at Exeter was equally brilliant. With 108 bright and motivated students from around the world, energy among interactions raised the bar every day. Most of us lived in Cohen Quadrangle, where we live, studied together, shared meals in hall, and gathered in the student common room late into the night. The programme ambassadors, 6 Oxford students who organized activities such as ping-pong tournaments, museum tours, and even disco ice skating, created countless moments of joy and connection. These friendships, I believe, will stay with me long after the summer.

Oxford itself also left a deep impression. The town is quieter than a big city but vibrantly academic, filled with students from its 39 colleges. I loved spending afternoons on Turl Street, studying on benches in the Fellows' Garden, reading by the river in Port Meadow, running with peers at the University Park before breakfast, and punting on the Cherwell at sunset. The environment was calm, scholarly, and beautiful, a place where I truly enjoyed immersing myself in the rhythm of learning.

This summer was unforgettable. It was demanding yet fulfilling, peaceful yet transformative, and I feel certain it has planted seeds that will shape the course of my life. I am truly blessed to have had this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and I owe it entirely to your generosity.

Please accept my sincere gratitude for making this remarkable journey possible.

With deepest thanks,  
Anna Cui



