



Dining in Hall

The purpose of dining in Hall is to introduce the student to the social, educational, and collegiate life of the Inn. Please note the following customs.

General Rules & Customs:

- Please do not use any electronic devices during dinner and having them in view is strictly prohibited.
- It is customary that no-one leaves the Hall during dinner but if you need to because of an emergency please excuse yourself to your fellow diners and return quickly, if possible.
- Students must sign the signature sheets before they leave the Hall.
- At Ordinary Dining Nights, Barristers and students stand while the Benchers enter and leave the Hall, and it is customary for each Bencher to bow as they enter and leave the Hall. All members are expected to bow in reply.
- Diners must stand for Grace.
- On occasions when the Loyal Toast (the toast to the King) is proposed in Hall it is by tradition, proposed and drunk seated. This privilege has been enjoyed by the Inn since the days of Charles II.
- It is customary and polite for conversations to be carried out in a language which is understood by all those seated together.

Serving of Alcohol

Those students who do not wish to be served alcohol during dinner should turn over one of the glasses at their place setting. This will indicate to the waiting staff that they do not wish to be served wine or port etc.

Dress code

The dress code for all qualifying sessions is basically what you would be permitted to wear in court. This means a dark suit, with a shirt and a dark tie, blouse or formal top, as appropriate, and dark smart shoes. A dark dress or skirt is acceptable but should be no shorter than knee length and must be worn with a jacket.

When gowns are required for a qualifying session, they will be made available in the cloakrooms. They must be returned at the end of the evening. Entry will be refused to any student who is not dressed appropriately.