

# Cambridge University offers place to 14-year-old

(The Guardian, january 7, 2010)

Arran Fernandez to become youngest Cambridge student since Pitt the Younger – if he passes physics A-level



Arran Fernandez, 14, with his offer from Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge. Photograph: Neil Fernandez/handout/PA

A 14-year-old maths prodigy is on the verge of breaking a 237-year-old record by becoming the youngest [Cambridge University](#) undergraduate since [William Pitt the Younger](#).

Arran Fernandez, from Surrey, has been offered a conditional place at Fitzwilliam College after passing the university's entrance exams.

The teenager, who has sat his maths and further maths A-levels, now needs only to pass physics A-level. "Maths has been my favourite subject for as long as I can remember," said Arran, who was educated at home.

"I enjoy being home-schooled because I'm more involved. I can see the mark schemes and help my dad decide the curriculum."

He first [made headlines in 2001](#) when, aged five, he gained the highest grade in the foundation maths paper. He went on to sit the intermediate GCSE paper and gained A\* in the advanced level paper in 2003. Arran who has now decided he wants to be a research mathematician and says his ambition is to find a solution to the [Riemann hypothesis](#) – the unsolved theory about the patterns of prime numbers that has baffled mathematicians for 150 years.

Neil Fernandez, Arran's father, believes his son could soon be the youngest Cambridge undergraduate since William Pitt the Younger began his studies there aged 14, in 1773. A spokesman for the university said he was not sure whether Pitt's achievement had been bettered. In 1998, a child prodigy called Alexander Faludy came to close to matching Pitt by beginning his Cambridge undergraduate studies at the age of 15.

# Admitido en Cambridge a los 14 años

**Arran Fernández ya ha aprobado el examen de acceso de matemáticas y sólo le separa de la universidad otro de física**

EL PAÍS - Madrid - 10/01/2010

Arran Fernández, un inglés de 14 años con un gran talento para las matemáticas, ya tiene reservada una plaza en la prestigiosa Universidad de Cambridge. Sólo le separa de convertirse en el universitario más joven en Cambridge desde 1773 un examen de física, después de haber superado ya las evaluaciones de matemáticas. El joven está siendo educado por su padre, Neil, un economista político, en su propia casa de Surrey, al sudeste de Inglaterra, según informa el diario británico *The Guardian*.

"Las matemáticas han sido mis favoritas desde que recuerdo", ha dicho el muchacho. Fernández asegura que ha decidido convertirse en investigador matemático y se ha propuesto llegar a resolver la hipótesis de Riemann (una compleja teoría acerca de la naturaleza y distribución de los números primos, elaborada por Bernhard Riemann en 1859). El joven obtuvo a los cinco años el título de secundaria con la máxima calificación posible y a los siete empezó a escribir su primera novela sobre un caballero llamada Sir John.