

WHITGIFT

SUMMER SCHOOL





It is the best opportunity to make English friends

Alejandra, 15, Spain

Beautiful, interesting and stimulating. Thank you very much for these two weeks!

Rihards, 12, Latvia

The classes were amazing and were the best part of the day

Giovanni, 16, Italy

A place where you learn to think about other cultures and learn about new people from other countries

Viola, 13, Italy

Thank you very much, it was a great experience: meeting new people and helping them learn

Alex, 12, Student Host

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WELCOME TO WHITGIFT SUMMER SCHOOL

Whitgift School is an outstanding British independent school, founded in 1596 and renowned for the highest standards of education.

Situated in South London amidst beautiful grounds with peacocks and flamingos, Whitgift offers a unique Summer School experience.

Since 2015, our progressive and dynamic Summer School has attracted students globally, immersing them in British culture and language. Using our inspiring facilities and dedicated staff, our aim is an unforgettable and enjoyable educational experience for all students, whether they are taking our General English, Pre-IB or Pre-IGCSE programme.

All students take our afternoon project-based lessons called Progressive Skills in Action, a unique syllabus that sees English speaking students from Whitgift joining the international students in class.

Our passionate staff foster an inclusive, secure environment for students to thrive, supported by teachers, House Parents, and Activity Leaders. This encourages kindness, integration, and positive interaction, enhancing communicative skills and cultural awareness. Contact us for more information.



David Bates
Director of International Education
www.whitgift.co.uk/shortcourses
shortcourses@whitgift.co.uk



LOCATION

Whitgift is fantastically well-located, just 45 minutes from Gatwick Airport and 1 hour from Heathrow Airport.

Additionally, we are less than 30 minutes from Central London on the train and under 1 hour from the coastal town of Brighton. The closest train station to Whitgift is South Croydon, which is just a 10-minute walk from the School.



ACCOMMODATION

Our visiting international students stay in Founder's House, our boarding house, which was opened in 2013.

The boarding house is situated overlooking the water garden, which is home to exotic wildlife species such as flamingos.

Inside Founder's House, there are communal areas which allow students to relax and socialise. All bedrooms are single, double or triple rooms, and have their own en-suite bathrooms.

Students share their room with somebody of the same sex and a similar age, but of a different nationality.

Students are supervised by our caring House Parents who also live in the boarding house and are available to support students 24 hours a day throughout their stay.

WiFi access is available, enabling students to stay in touch with their families.



PRE-IB COURSE (14-16 years)



Whitgift is a leading IB World School and ranked amongst the best IB schools in the world for results. In the summer, we offer an IBDP preparation course for students who will be starting the diploma in the next academic year and wish to be better prepared.

The course

On this three-week course, students have the chance to study English Language and Acquisition, Maths & Statistics, and Science under the tutorship of experienced IB teachers. Thanks to our modern classrooms and state of the art science laboratories, students can really benefit from the fantastic academic setting Whitgift offers. Additionally, students will be introduced to two of the fundamental aspects of the IB: TOK (Theory of Knowledge) and CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service), meaning that they leave feeling prepared and inspired. Whilst the morning lessons are subject based, afternoon

lessons are project-based and see the students working collaboratively with the wider Summer School community in our Progressive Skills in Action classes.

Applying

After completing our booking form, students will be required to have a short online interview. They must have an Upper Intermediate (CEFR B2) level of English and will be required to take a reading, listening and writing test prior to joining the course. Should a student not have the required level of English to take this course, we recommend our General English Course.



PRE-IGCSE COURSE (11-13 years)

Tailored for those planning to study IGCSEs soon, our Pre-IGCSE course offers a deep dive into the core subjects of Maths, English & Science.

Guided by expert Whitgift teachers, students will build a strong foundation for academic success through engaging lessons, interactive activities, and collaborative projects.

Designed exclusively by Whitgift School, this program integrates elements of our year-round IGCSE curriculum for international students. This includes *Global Citizenship*, *Ideatum* and *Ignite*, which are all completely unique to Whitgift School.

Students immerse themselves in an exciting three-week course that revolves around English, Maths, and Science—core subjects in the IGCSE offer. Guided by our expert Whitgift teachers,

you'll dive deep into these subjects, building a strong foundation that will set you on a path to IGCSE success. Engaging lessons, interactive activities, and collaborative projects will make your learning experience both enriching and enjoyable.

Applying

After completing our booking form, students will be required to have a short online interview. They must have an Upper Intermediate (CEFR B2) level of English and will be required to take a reading, listening and writing test prior to joining the course. Should a student not have the required level of English to take this course, we recommend our General English Course.



INTENSIVE GENERAL ENGLISH COURSE (11-17 years)

We have developed a unique syllabus, which combines morning English Skills lessons with afternoon Progressive Skills in Action project-based classes.

Students engage in 23 hours of lessons per week and stay with us for between 2-6 weeks. We want to enhance their English communication skills, both in terms of fluency and accuracy so that they leave us feeling inspired, motivated and confident.

We use a variety of communicative methods to improve students' skills and confidence. Our Intensive General English course ensures students consistently surpass their language goals, regardless of the length of their stay.

To join our course, students need to have an A2 level of English on the CEFR Scale, equivalent

to an Elementary level. Students are grouped by age and English level and morning lessons are capped at 12 students per class and are often smaller. Our passionate and creative teachers provide individualized challenges and support at every level.

The Intensive General English Course is motivating, fun and focused. It enhances everyday English skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening. Lessons also integrate grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation. British culture and literature elements are included in the curriculum and are closely linked to the planned excursions.



STUDY WITH WHITGIFT STUDENTS

A unique chance to study with English students from our year-round schools.

Selected English-speaking pupils from Whitgift our sister school, Old Palace of John Whitgift, participate in the Progressive Skills in Action lessons, co-curricular and social programmes. These students, known as Student Hosts, play an integral role and provide a great opportunity for international students to practise their English in an authentic context and develop their fluency. International students really enjoy meeting and becoming friends with their British counterparts and often stay in touch long after the course has finished.

The year-round ethos and values of Whitgift are central to our Summer School. All students are encouraged to have a positive and inclusive attitude and growth mindset in everything they undertake, and achieve beyond what they thought was possible. Having Student Hosts involved in our Summer School helps facilitate this approach and further strengthens the links to the main school.



PROGRESSIVE SKILLS IN ACTION

During these afternoon classes, students work in small teams on a range of exciting and engaging projects which are planned and facilitated in such a way as to develop the students' 21st Century Skills in collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and creativity.

In this innovative approach to learning, whilst students are practising these skills, they are also using their English with real purpose alongside Student Hosts from Whitgift and Old Palace of John Whitgift pupils. Groups work on an engaging project for four afternoons and come together to share their work in an interactive event at the end of the week.

Progressive Skills in Action classes in the Lower School (11-13 years) involve students on the General English Course and the Pre-IGCSE Course working together to develop their life and social skills. They are taught presentation

techniques, independent learning and teamwork skills, and are encouraged to be as creative as possible with the full support of their teacher.

Progressive Skills in Action classes in the Upper School (14-17 years) involve students on the General English Course and Pre-IB Course who work together on creative and active entrepreneurial projects. Through these classes learners develop a number of the attributes valued by IB World Schools. They are encouraged to inquire, think creatively and ethically, use their communication skills, take risks and reflect on their actions.



TYPICAL WEEK

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday (arrival/departure day)
8:20 – 9:00	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	8:20 – 9:00 Breakfast	Quiet morning
9:00 – 12:30	Lessons	Lessons	Lessons	Lessons	Lessons	9:00 – 18:45 Full-day excursion e.g. Harry Potter Studios, Oxford, Thorpe Park	10:30 – 11:30 Brunch
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		12:00 – 17:45 Garden Party/Shopping Trip
13:30 – 15:45	Progressive Skills in Action	Progressive Skills in Action	Half-day excursion e.g. London Eye, West End Musical, Buckingham Palace	Progressive Skills in Action	Progressive Skills in Action: Exhibitions and Presentations	18:45 – 19:30 Dinner	18:30 – 19:30 Dinner
15:45 – 16:30	Free Time	Free Time		Free Time	Free Time	19:30 – 21:00 Boarding House Night	19:30 – 21:30 Induction/Team-building games
16:30 – 18:00	Academies/Activities	Academies/Activities		Academies/Activities	Academies/Activities	21:00 – 22:00 Farewells and Packing	
18:45 – 19:30	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Graduation Ceremony & Prize-giving (18:30 – 19:15)		
19:30 – 21:30	Evening options e.g. Capture the flag, Quick Cricket, Yoga	Evening options e.g. Basketball tournament, T-shirt design, Orienteering	Relaxed evening options e.g. Table Tennis, Film, Pamper night	Whole School Event e.g. Laser Tag, Egg protector challenge, Inflatable assault course	BBQ (19:15 – 20:00) Disco (20:00 – 21:30)		



REPORTS

Weekly Progress Reports are provided by Summer School teachers, for those students studying on our General English Course. The reports detail the areas they have studied in class and areas for improvement for the next week.

At the end of each student's stay, parents will be provided with an End of Course report, which highlights the areas they need to focus on so they can improve their English during the next academic year.

For students studying on our Pre-IB and Pre-IGCSE courses, detailed weekly reports are written by their subject teachers.

All reports include feedback from our activity team on the academy or activities they have taken part in that week as well as the excursions they have attended. The welfare

team provide information on how they are settling into the boarding house and other pastoral elements of their stay.

The reports are sent to parents each week so they can get immediate feedback on their child's progress whilst at Whitgift. These will be sent electronically to the parent/agent.

On their final week with us, students receive a Leaving Certificate at our graduation ceremony, held each Friday. The graduation ceremony celebrates our students achievements that week and standout students receive awards and prizes.



WELFARE

The health, safety and happiness of our students is our number one priority.

Whitgift Short Courses offers an outstanding pastoral provision, which allows students to feel supported, safe and secure, enabling them to thrive on our courses. We place the pastoral interests of our students at the centre of everything we do to make the summer as enriching and rewarding as possible.

Our dedicated Welfare team, led by the Welfare Manager, and comprised of House Parents and School Nurse, are fully focused on ensuring that students remain healthy and happy as they adjust to life studying on our short courses.

Students are met at the airport by a member of the summer school team and are welcomed to

the boarding house, which has a very warm and friendly atmosphere, and introduced to other students. In this safe and secure environment, our staff are always available for students to share any concerns with or answer any questions that they may have.

We want our visiting pupils to enjoy their time on the course. All our staff are trained to facilitate and encourage interaction between students and promote participation in all lessons, sporting, creative and social activities so that they return home with lots of positive memories and feeling proud of what they have achieved.



ACADEMIES & ACTIVITIES

We place great emphasis on learning outside the classroom; our Academies & Activities Programme is a vital part of the Whitgift Short Courses experience.

Students must choose the Academies they want to take at the time of booking, before they arrive at Whitgift. Students who have selected Multi-Activity at the time of booking will be contacted in June to choose their activities. Our English-speaking Student Hosts take part in the full range of the programme.

Whitgift's outstanding on-site facilities are fully utilised in this part of the Whitgift Summer School course.

Academies include four 90-minute sessions of specialist training, with professional coaches and teachers, over a one-week period.

Our **Multi-Activity Course** gives students the opportunity to try two different activities every week and develop their skills in a fun and communicative environment.



Academies

WEEK 1 / 3 / 5

TENNIS
FOOTBALL
ART
HORSE RIDING

WEEK 2 / 4 / 6

HOCKEY
FENCING
BASKETBALL
ROCK CLIMBING

Multi-Activity Options

WEEK 1 / 3 / 5

HIKING/ORIENTEERING
TABLE TENNIS
BADMINTON
DANCE
SOFTBALL

WEEK 2 / 4 / 6

CRAFTS
ANIMAL CARE
SURVIVAL SKILLS
SWIMMING & WATER POLO
VOLLEYBALL



EVENINGS

In the evenings, our experienced and dynamic team of Activity Leaders deliver a full and varied programme of activities. There is something for every student to get involved in!

This programme is designed to be fun and sociable, and aims to give students the opportunity to deepen their friendships with others from all over the world.

There are a wide variety of evening activities on offer, for example: Talent Shows, Inflatable Obstacle Courses, Football and Basketball tournaments, Team challenges, Discos and Laser Tag.



EXCURSIONS

Thanks to Whitgift's excellent location, world-class visitor attractions are only a short distance away.

Exciting trips to places such as the West End to see a musical, the London Eye, the Tower of London, Buckingham Palace, Brighton, Thorpe Park and Harry Potter Studios are all approximately a one-hour drive from Whitgift.

These twice-weekly trips are a key part of the programme, and by linking these trips to lessons results in a more meaningful experience, improved linguistic confidence and the creation of longer-lasting memories.





I'm really happy that I came here. It was a great experience and a wonderful time!

Eva, 14 Germany

Thank you so much for the past two weeks. I've had a great time and loved meeting so many new people from around the world

Madinah, 16, Student Host

Very welcoming, diverse, friendly and holistic. I had the best time here with you guys. I'm going to miss all of you

Vittorio, 12, Italy

A good place where you can start to use your English skills daily, improve it with a good staff and teachers and have fun while making new friends from all over the world

Katsu, 17, Japan

Thank you so much for taking good care of me for 2 weeks. I was able to enjoy life here. I want to come back here next year

Nathan, 15, France





WHITGIFT

Whitgift School
Haling Park
South Croydon
London
CR2 6YT
United Kingdom

Telephone: +44 (0) 208 633 9924
Email: shortcourses@whitgift.co.uk

www.whitgift.co.uk/shortcourses