



TED Summer School

Syllabus Overview

 15 - 18 years old

 London, New York, Singapore



About the Programme

The TED Summer School is a transformative two-week summer programme for motivated students aged 15-18, built around the art of communication, storytelling, and public speaking.

Through a structured, student-focused curriculum inspired by TED's ethos, participants learn to shape powerful ideas and share them with clarity, confidence, and purpose - culminating in their own TED-style talk delivered to a live audience and captured on video.

Programme Outcomes

During the two-week programme, through a blend of theory and practice, small-group collaboration, and personal coaching, students will learn to:

Speak with clarity, structure, and purpose

Listen and adapt using feedback to refine communication choices

Conduct research to gather and integrate supporting evidence

Apply critical thinking to examine issues from multiple perspectives

Write and edit a structured narrative using detail and creativity

Exchange perspectives with empathy, understanding diverse voices and values

Build literacy in using technology and tools to research, evaluate, and communicate ideas effectively

Develop presentation literacy by delivering messages that inform and inspire



Core Theory

In these daily interactive sessions, students discover key frameworks for idea development, storytelling, communication, and presentation. Students learn by analysing real TED talks and TED-Ed resources, exploring how great ideas are shaped, structured, and shared, and applying these insights to their own ideas.

Elements Covered:

- Instructor-led discussions and guided independent work
- Key conceptual communication and storytelling frameworks
- Curated video analysis, reflective exercises, and group dialogue

Outcome:

Students progress through the full journey of developing and delivering a TED-style talk. Beginning with self-reflection and idea generation, they learn to identify and refine a great idea, structure it using a clear roadmap, and communicate it with clarity and purpose.



Practical Application

Practical sessions emphasise collaboration, enabling students to apply what they've learned. Working in small groups, they test their ideas, give and receive feedback, and refine both content and delivery in a supportive and creative environment.

Elements Covered:

- Experience giving and receiving constructive feedback using a structured model
- Refinement of ideas, talk scripts, and delivery
- Practice-based activities and rehearsals

Outcome:

These sessions create a collaborative space where students exchange feedback and encouragement at every stage of their talk development. Through repeated practice and structured critique, they strengthen confidence in their idea, message, presence, and stage performance, growing not only as speakers but as empathetic communicators and thoughtful listeners.



Coaching

Throughout the programme, students receive personalised guidance from experienced tutors who help them navigate every stage of their talk. Coaching sessions provide a unique space for 1:1 reflection, refinement, and tailored advice on both content and delivery.

Elements Covered:

- 1:1 coaching with TED-trained tutors
- Personalised feedback at key milestones in the talk development process
- Support with idea curation, structure, storytelling, and delivery

Outcome:

Coaching sessions offer focused support tailored to each student's creative and personal journey. Tutors act as guides, helping students strengthen their ideas, refine their message, and prepare for the final showcase with confidence. The result is a deeply personal learning experience that celebrates each student's unique voice and vision.



Guest Speakers

Students will hear from inspiring guest speakers, such as educators, entrepreneurs, and storytellers who have presented their ideas on prominent stages. These sessions provide real-world insight into how communication shapes change across disciplines and communities.

Elements Covered:

- Learning through real-life examples and observation
- Interactive talks and Q&A sessions with professionals

Outcome:

Guest speaker sessions expand students' perspectives and inspire them to think beyond their own experiences. Hearing first-hand from those who use communication to influence and lead, participants gain practical insights into what makes ideas truly powerful.

The Final Showcase



The programme culminates in a final showcase, where each student presents their TED-style talk to a live audience of peers, tutors, and invited guests. Talks are recorded and shared with students after the programme.

This capstone experience brings together everything learned throughout the course, from idea development to confident delivery.



TED Summer School

WHO IS IT FOR?



The TED Summer School is designed for ambitious 15-18-year-old students who want to build confidence, communication, and leadership through the power of ideas.

The programme equips participants with essential 21st-century skills, such as public speaking, communication, and presentation literacy, and fosters confidence, influence, and leadership for life.



Set in the inspiring global locations of London, New York, and Singapore, the TED Summer School combines guided learning with creative freedom. It helps students uncover their passions, develop their voice, and learn to communicate thoughtfully.

Your TED Summer School Journey

What are ideas?



The journey is designed for growth through both progress and reflection. As students move through key stages, their core theory sessions and practicals build naturally towards final delivery, supported by personalised coaching and advice at every step. The programme offers flexible guidance throughout, encouraging students to revisit earlier stages and refine their work as they grow.

Your TED Summer School Journey

Understanding Ideas

Students begin by exploring what makes an idea “worth spreading.” They learn how great talks start from curiosity, personal experience, or a fresh perspective on an issue that matters.

Key focus areas: criteria of a great idea, curiosity, reflection, finding inspiration

Developing Main Idea and Talk Roadmap

Students define their central message and learn how to structure a talk that guides the audience from curiosity to insight. They map out the key elements, such as challenge, idea/solution, and impact, using a clear roadmap.

Key focus areas: main idea statement, through lines, talk structure, audience journey

Building Credibility and Storytelling

Students explore how research and storytelling bring ideas to life. They learn to support their message with credible evidence while using narrative to connect emotionally with an audience.

Key focus areas: research and evidence, storytelling techniques, emotional connection

Public Speaking Practice

Students develop confidence and stage presence through planning and practising. They explore how to use voice, body language, and emotional expression to communicate authentically and powerfully.

Key focus areas: managing nerves, delivery practice, audience engagement

Script Drafting and Talk Refining

With tutor and peer feedback, students transform their ideas into complete scripts. They refine their language, check their facts, and practise balancing clarity with creativity.

Key focus areas: script writing, editing, feedback integration

Rehearsal and Final Presentation

The programme culminates in a final showcase, where each student presents their TED-style talk to a live audience. Talks are recorded, celebrating students' growth as confident communicators ready to share their ideas with the world.

Key focus areas: final rehearsal, live presentation, reflection and celebration

TED Summer School

How to Enrol

Admission to the TED Summer School is selective. We're looking for curious, motivated students who are eager to grow as communicators and share their ideas with confidence.

For full application details and admission requirements, please refer to the [TED Summer School Prospectus](#)

Contact our team at hello@immerse.education with any questions.

EXPLORE PROGRAMME

BEGIN YOUR APPLICATION

AGES: 15-18

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

DURATION: 2 WEEKS



LONDON



NEW YORK



SINGAPORE