

# WHITGIFT

SUMMER SCHOOL





Whitgift Summer School helped me to improve my English significantly

Florian, 16, Germany

Really fun, one of the best experiences of my life

Lucas, 14, Spain

I have made friends with students from South Korea to Spain. Some of those friends I'm still in contact with have actually come to visit me in London

Jonathan, 15, Student Host

The three weeks were extremely enjoyable, and became a experience that I'll never forget. Thank you for all the people that made this time fun

Nanami, 15, Japan

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# WELCOME TO THE WHITGIFT SUMMER SCHOOL

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

Located in South London, in beautiful grounds containing peacocks, wallabies and flamingos, Whitgift is truly unique.

Since 2015, Whitgift has run a progressive, dynamic and inspiring Summer School which attracts students from all over the world who are immersed in British culture and language. Utilising our inspirational grounds and facilities and involving our fantastic teachers and pupils, our main aim is that a stay at Whitgift Summer School will provide an unforgettable and enjoyable educational experience for every student, whether enrolled on our General English or Pre-IB programme.

Our passionate, caring and enthusiastic staff focus on creating an inclusive and safe environment, which generates a home from-home setting where students can thrive, and, importantly, have fun.

Teachers, House Parents and Activity Leaders all encourage interaction and integration in order to help them become part of the Whitgift Summer School family.

We hope this guide provides you with a strong feel for life at Whitgift Summer School. Please do contact me or one of my team for further information.

A handwritten signature in a cursive style, appearing to read 'David Bates', written in a dark brown or black ink.

**David Bates**  
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# ACCOMMODATION

Our students stay in Founder's House, a state-of-the-art boarding house.

The boarding house is situated overlooking our Water Garden, which is home to exotic wildlife species such as flamingos and wallabies.

Inside Founder's House, there are communal areas which allow Whitgift Summer School 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 caring House Parents who live in the boarding house.

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



# STUDENT HOSTS

We encourage our Summer School students to communicate in English throughout their stay.

English speaking pupils from Whitgift School and our sister school, Old Palace of John Whitgift, participate in the Progressive Skills in Action lessons and Pre-IB course, co-curricular and social programmes. These students, known as Student Hosts, play an integral role and give a real purpose to the use of English. International students really enjoy meeting and becoming friends with their British counterparts.

The year-round ethos and values of Whitgift are central to our Summer School. Therefore, all students are encouraged to have a 'can-do' 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.







# ENGLISH LESSONS

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

Students receive 23 hours of lessons per week. Our aim is to help them to become more confident and fluent when communicating in English, and to be motivated to continue to work on their English long after they have left Whitgift Summer School.

We use a variety of approaches to teaching and learning and our aim is to help students communicate in English as a global language. Above all, students exceed their language learning goals and expectations, regardless of when they join the course or the length of their stay.

Students must have studied English for at least two years and have an Elementary level of English in order to participate on our course.

Students are placed in classes by age and capability to make sure that they are in a group most suited to their level of English.

The maximum class size in General English classes is 12 (classes are often smaller), which enables teachers to give students individual attention. Teaching is carried out with creativity, innovation, passion and enthusiasm and every student within each level is challenged and supported.

Level	Can I study at Whitgift Summer School?	Notes
<b>C1 Advanced</b>	Yes	Student can comprehend and use a wide range of language. Impressive vocabulary set and can use language in different contexts.
<b>B2 Upper Intermediate</b>	Yes	Student can easily communicate in English using a mixture of simple and complex language structures.
<b>B1 Intermediate</b>	Yes	Student can express emotions, opinions, plans and experiences using simple language.
<b>A2+ Pre-Intermediate</b>	Yes	Student can take part in brief conversations and topics of interest as well as respond to questions.
<b>A2 Elementary</b>	Yes	Student can contribute to simple exchanges and communicate everyday information.
<b>A1 Beginner</b>	No	Student has considerable difficulty maintaining simple exchanges. Requires additional prompting and support.



### General English Course

Our General English Course has been designed to be motivating, inspiring and fun. Students develop their knowledge of English and ability to communicate effectively and accurately in everyday situations and in different contexts. Lessons aim to develop students' reading, writing, speaking and listening skills alongside their knowledge of grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation. Lessons are linked thematically to the planned excursions students undertake throughout the course, and elements of British culture and literature are embedded into the syllabus.



# PRE-IB COURSE

Whitgift is a leading IB World School with an average points score of 40/45 (2020), ranking it amongst the Top 20 IB schools in the world. During the summer months, Whitgift offers a pre-IB course for students who would like to be fully prepared and well-equipped for the demands of the International Baccalaureate.

## The course

On this three-week course, students, under the tutorship of experienced IB teachers, have the chance to study English Language and Acquisition, Maths & Statistics, and Integrated Science. Thanks to our modern classrooms and state of the art science laboratories, students can exploit the fantastic academic setting Whitgift offers. Additionally, all aspects of the course are embedded with introductions to two of the fundamental aspects of the IB: TOK (Theory of Knowledge) and CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service), meaning that students leave Whitgift feeling prepared and inspired. Whilst the morning lessons are subject based, afternoon lessons are project-based and see the students working collaboratively in our Progressive Skills in Action classes.

## Whitgift Student Hosts

Students attending our pre-IB course will also benefit from studying alongside 3-4 Whitgift pupils who themselves aim to take the International Baccalaureate in September. It is hoped that by studying in conjunction with Whitgift students, our visiting students will quickly feel part of the wider Whitgift community.

## Applying

After completing our booking form, students will be required to have a short online interview with either one or more of the following: Director of International Education, Director of IB and Course Director. Furthermore, students must have a B2 level of English and will be required to take a reading, listening and writing test. Once students have had their interview and taken the English test, they will be informed if they have a place on the course. Should a student not have the required level of English, we recommend our General English Course.



## 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.

This is a completely different approach to learning and whilst students are practising these skills, they also are also using their English with real purpose alongside native-speaking Student Hosts. Groups work on a single project for 4 afternoons and come together to share their work in an interactive event at the end of the week.

Students in the Lower School (11-13 years) focus on developing their life and social skills and are taught presentation techniques, independent and teamwork skills, and are encouraged to be as innovative as possible with the full support of their teacher.

Progressive Skills classes in the Upper School (14-16 years) involve students on the General English Course, IB Preparation Course and Student Hosts who all work together on creative and active entrepreneurial projects. Through these classes we aim to develop the whole learner and, in line with a number of the attributes valued by IB World Schools, encourage students to inquire, think creativity and ethically, use their communication skills, take risks and reflect on their actions.



# ACADEMIES & ACTIVITIES

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

Students choose the Academies and Activities they wish to take part in when they arrive at Whitgift, except for Golf, Horse Riding and Fencing, which must be selected before arrival. 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.

## Academies

WEEK 1 / 3 / 5

TENNIS ACADEMY  
BASKETBALL ACADEMY  
ANIMAL CARE ACADEMY  
GOLF ACADEMY

WEEK 2 / 4 / 6

FOOTBALL ACADEMY  
MUSICAL THEATRE ACADEMY  
FENCING ACADEMY  
HORSE RIDING ACADEMY

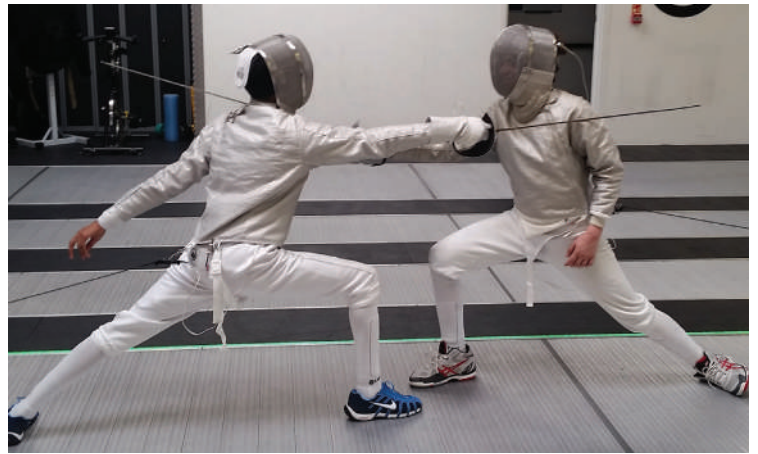
## Multi-Activity Course

WEEK 1 / 3 / 5

TABLE TENNIS  
DANCE  
ARTS & CRAFTS  
FUTSAL/5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL  
TOUCH RUGBY  
WATER POLO

WEEK 2 / 4 / 6

SURVIVAL SKILLS  
SQUASH / RACQUETBALL  
BADMINTON  
SOFTBALL  
VOLLEYBALL  
SWIMMING



# EVENINGS

In the evenings, there is an organised programme delivered by our team of dynamic and enthusiastic Activity Leaders.

This programme is designed to be fun, but also to encourage our students 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, Fashion Shows, Mini-Olympics, Egg Protector Challenges, Discos and Laser Tag.





## EXCURSIONS

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

Typical trips to places such as the West End to see a musical, the London Eye, Brighton i360, the Tower of London, Thorpe Park and the Harry Potter Studios are all approximately a one-hour drive from Whitgift.

These trips are a key part of the syllabus, and are researched and prepared for during lessons. Linking these trips to lessons results in a more meaningful experience, improved linguistic confidence and creates longer-lasting memories.





Thank you for being so nice to me when I arrived. You presented me to new people, and we had fun together on the trips, on the activities, classes, house games, everything... see you next year

Mila 11, France

Perfect place and people

Anait, 16, Russia

I have formed lifelong friendships with people from all around the world

Myah, 16, Student Host

Thank you so much, because of this school my summer holidays were enjoyable and awesome. I will never forget my summer holidays because of Whitgift School

Mathilde, 15, French





WHITGIFT

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part of the  
**john  
whitgift  
foundation**