



WHITGIFT SUMMER SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF LEARNING

We have developed a unique syllabus, which combines morning English Skills lessons with afternoon English in Action lessons. Students receive 23 hours of lessons per week and have their progress-monitored regularly. Our aim is to help students to become more confident and more fluent when communicating in English, and to be motivated to continue to work on their English long after they have left Whitgift Summer School.

In our English Skills classes and throughout our English in Action programme, we employ a variety of different approaches to teaching and learning. In everything we do our aim is to help students communicate in English as a global language, and to exceed their language learning goals and expectations, regardless of when they joined the course or the length of their stay.

Students are placed in classes by age and capability to ensure that they are in a group most suited to their level of English and topics covered. The maximum class size in General English classes is 12 (classes are often smaller), which enables teachers to give students individual attention. Our teaching and pastoral team are always available to support learning and discuss progress on an individual basis.

Our professionally qualified teachers teach with creativity, innovation, passion and enthusiasm. We support an individualised approach to learning, and every student within each level is challenged and supported in line with their learning needs. Our lessons are student-centred, dynamic and collaborative, making full use of technology whenever there are opportunities to enrich learning.

At the time of booking, students select the English Skills Course that they would like to follow alongside English in Action. Students can either follow the General English Skills Course or the Exam Skills Course.

General English Skills Course

Our General English Skills Course has been designed to be motivating, inspiring and fun. Students develop their knowledge of English and their 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 thematically linked to the planned excursions students undertake throughout the course and elements of British Culture and Literature are embedded within the syllabus.



English Exam Skills Course

We offer the option for students to follow an exam skills syllabus. On this course, students study integrated receptive skills (listening and reading) and productive skills (speaking and writing) whilst extending their knowledge and use of grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation. Exam Skills students study separately for 5 hours each week with a specific focus on developing study skills and exam techniques. This course is beneficial for any student who is studying for a specific international English exam such as PET, FCE, CAE, TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS. It will also benefit students who want to improve their performance in school-based English exams.

English in Action

Through the completion of exciting collaborative projects, students in the Lower School (11-14 years) develop life and social skills. They are taught presentation techniques and work on engaging tasks which require communication and teamwork skills. Students in the Upper School (14-17 years) learn and utilise important life and business skills. Besides acquiring presentation and communicative competence, they undertake more business-focused entrepreneurial activities in teams.

As students in both schools learn new skills in English in Action, they are also using English with native speakers as pupils of Whitgift School and Old Palace of John Whitgift work alongside them during these lessons.