

# INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

To advance international education and understanding



# Welcome to St Clare's, a remarkable place of global education for remarkable young people.

This year we celebrate our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of providing a high-quality education and advancing international education and understanding. For hundreds of students every year from over 50 countries, we make this vision a reality and make positive change in our world possible.

Founded after the Second World War to bring nations together, everyone in our community is united by one key motivation: to challenge themselves. With many adults working several careers in their lifetime, forward-thinking students understand the need to choose a curriculum that offers breadth and depth. As the first IB World School in England, we have become a destination of choice for ambitious students, knowing that they will learn alongside other highly motivated students and taught by expert teachers. With the full support of our Careers and Higher Education team, our students progress to top-ranking universities worldwide but, more importantly, to the right university for them. Typically around 90% of students are accepted into their first choice of university course, and our graduates go on to excel in wide range of fields.

We believe that academic achievement matters and lays the foundations for prosperous futures, and that independence is the greatest skill a person - and a mind - can learn. Walking around, you see individualism and character, engagement with the community, responsibility, and happy, fulfilled young people readying themselves for the world. This is just one reason why independent analysts show that our students consistently make more academic progress here than they would at most other IB schools in the UK.

However, what stays with our students is much more than an academic education, or the enduring memory of how much they enjoyed their time here. The legacy students take with them from St Clare's includes a rich inner life, strong self-management skills, confidence and independence, the change-making skills to make a difference, and a network of friends across the world.

### **Duncan Reith,**

Principal

# Why Study

at St Clare's, Oxford?

We are an independent, co-educational, day and boarding college located in a beautiful area of north Oxford.

### **Academic Progress**

**Student progress:** We are in the top 6% of IB schools in the UK for student progress. Turn to page 6 to find out why.

**IB World School:** We have been teaching the IB Diploma for nearly 50 years, longer than any other school or college in England. Our teachers write and are involved in the production of the IB textbooks, and teach the IB teachers of the future.

> Academic stretch: Our students think beyond the curriculum through academic clubs, national and international competitions, research projects and the extended essay, and having access to public university lectures and other academic resources in Oxford. Some of our teachers teach at local universities, and our library is stocked to undergraduate level.

### **Student Experience and Personal Development**

**IB ethos:** Internationalism is a core part of our values. through our diverse student body of over 45 nationalities and throughout our IB curriculum, resulting in responsible and capable students of the world with high aspirations.

Independence and **autonomy:** Our students learn to self-manage and balance their academic studies, social lives, and the broad range of weekly activities and events.

Individual development: Learning is not limited to the classroom but extends to all aspects of student life and supports the development of the whole person.

> Wellbeing: We cultivate a sense of belonging within our safe and supportive community. Students develop high-quality relationships with both their peers and college staff, through an environment of mutual respect.

Student experience: Our students stand out for being happy, fulfilled young people readying themselves for the world. It matters hugely to us that our students have an enjoyable experience.

### Your Future Made Possible

Access to world leading universities: Our dedicated Careers and Higher Education team give individual support to all our students in reaching the best university for them, including preparing applications for university, internships, and gap years

Access to highly selective **courses:** We have excellent acceptance rates for students wanting to study challenging subjects - last year saw 100% acceptance of those applying to a medical school.

around the world.

Track record of career success: Students' social confidence, independence, ability to learn in depth and academic results, make St Clare's graduates in

demand in the workplace.



# Live and study in Oxford with people from around the world

Oxford is a safe, small and thriving multicultural city where you can enjoy beautiful architecture, picturesque parks, riverside walks and cultural sites as well as world-famous museums, libraries and art galleries. We are lucky to have resources like the Bodleian Library, Ashmolean Museum and Modern Art Oxford on our doorstep, and there are lots of engaging talks, lectures, seminars, exhibitions and theatre shows to stimulate your learning.

Punting on the river is a popular pastime in Oxford, as well as theatres, music events, mini golf and bowling venues, cinemas, and escape rooms for a fun evening or weekend activity. For the shopper there is a wide selection of retail outlets, local markets and eateries in the city including the popular Westgate Centre and Covered Market. Nearby there is also the famous Bicester Village outlet centre.

For those wanting to explore outside
Oxford, there are nearby attractions such
as Blenheim Palace, Cotswold Wildlife
Park, and beautiful Cotswold villages.
London is only an hour away by train and
is the home of many attractions such as
Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, the London
Eye, Tower of London, Madame Tussauds,
Oxford Street as well as many Premier
League football teams.

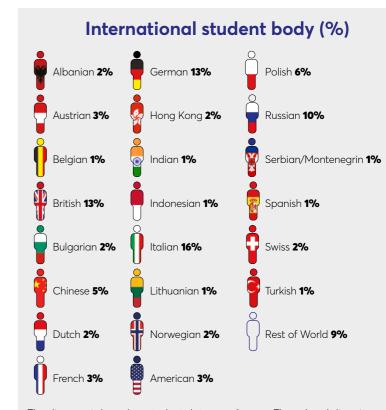




# INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

As you walk through the college, you will hear languages from all over the world being spoken. With students from over 45 countries studying with us, the diversity creates a welcoming and supportive environment for all backgrounds, cultures and traditions.

Global awareness is an integral part of the educational experience. We encourage students to value and respect differences as we believe learning is enhanced by the breadth of views and ideas. Our international outlook broadens perspectives and truly prepares students for further study and beyond.



The diagram is based on student data over 3 years. The cultural diversity extends beyond these nationalities. We also attract students from Australia, Egypt, Israel, Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, Sudan, and Ukraine, among many more.



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There are several reasons why our students consistently make more academic progress here than they would at most other IB schools in the UK:

### **CHALLENGE**

Everyone in our community is united by one key motivation: to step out of their comfort zone to grow, and to be the most globally aware and academically ambitious version of themselves. Ours is a culture of challenge: students challenging both academic targets and themselves to become more independent versions of themselves and to think more openly about their future.

#### **TEACHING**

Our teachers have unrivalled experience and specialist knowledge of the IB qualification. Our teachers write and are involved in the production of the IB textbooks, and teach IB teachers from around the world. Some are IB examiners and are involved in the development of the IB study programme.

#### **LEARNING**

Learning is through class discussions, group work, as well as practical and written assignments. Students are encouraged to take an active role in their learning whilst benefitting from the support of classmates and tutors in a shared teaching environment.

### **FACILITIES**

Our experience is supported by our campus of 28 buildings, home of many academic resources, including well-equipped science laboratories, art studio, music studio, and modern teaching spaces. Our large university-level library is a fantastic resource for students, offering well-equipped study spaces and access to a broad range of materials, such as books in a variety of languages, journals, e-books and online databases.



# P R O 刀



Our IB Diploma results are consistently among the best and impressive across all ability levels. Our **average points score** over the **past 3 years is 37**, significantly higher than the **world average of 31**, and equivalent to **A\***, **A**, **A** at A Level, the level normally required for entrance to the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge and the lvy League.

Our excellent set of IB results reflects the quality of our teaching and the outstanding work of our students. These results illustrate our successes over the last 3 years.

STUDENTS ACHIEVED THE MAXIMUM IB SCORE OF 45 IN THE LAST 3 YEARS, PLACING THEM IN THE TOP 1% GLOBALLY MAX IB SCORE = 45

31

ST CLARE'S AVEI

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OF STUDENTS SCORED 40 POINTS OR OVER EQUIVALENT TO A\* A\* A AT A LEVEL

\*3 year average 2021-2023



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informed decisions about your future career path.

Our Careers and Higher Education provision is among the best in the world. Our team act as coaches to everyone in our community, with unlimited 1-to-1 guidance alongside a rigorous careers programme. Our students progress to the best and most exciting universities around the world, and we work hard to empower students to find the best fit for them and create the opportunities they want. We start with you, not with piles of prospectuses or endless online searches. This is where aspiration and ambition meet knowledge and experience.

- Benefit from specialist expertise from experienced, full-time advisers on applying to university, apprenticeships, professional internships and gap year schemes across the world
- Access to 1:1 guidance on demand
- Explore future education and career aspirations through experiential learning and self-reflection
- · Boost competitive professional skills including CV writing, presentation and interview skills
- An assessment centre for digital SAT and Oxbridge Admissions Tests. Specialist tuition offered at competitive rates
- · Continued support for 3 years after graduation
- · Access St Clare's Careers Explore, our online learning tool, to explore subjects and opportunities around the world for internships, gap years and summer schools



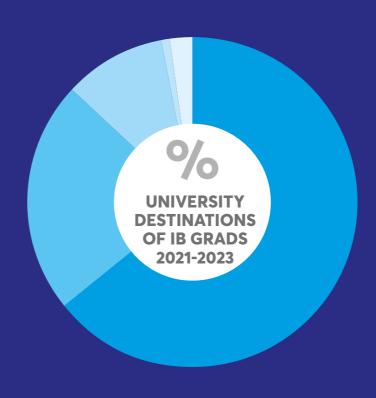
### **Careers events**

- Higher Education fair: one of the largest school-based fairs outside London, with representatives from over 90 universities and 20 countries
- Spring launch day and college seminar series: special insight into undergraduate study from visiting lecturers
- St Clare's Creates Futures: connect with alumni and mentors to learn about current trends and future developments in the workplace worldwide



# UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS

The breadth of top-quality universities our students progress onto globally is a fantastic success story. Our excellent results give students the opportunity to select from a wide range of prestigious universities around the world, and 90% of our students go to their first choice of university.



- 64% UK universities
- 23% European universities
- 10% USA universities and Liberal Arts colleges
- **1%** Canadian universities
- **2%** Rest of world universities

#### University destinations include:

- London School of Economics (LSE)
- University of Oxford
- · University of Cambridge
- Imperial College London
- National University of Singapore (NUS)
- University College London (UCL)
- University of California, Berkeley (UCB)
- University of Chicago
- University of Toronto
- University of Hong Kong
- University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)
- Minerva University
- New York University (NYU)
- Kings College London
- University of the Arts, London (UAL)
- University of Amsterdam
- University of Warwick
- Durham University
- ESCP
- University of Sussex
- Maastricht University
- Bocconi University
- IE University and many more.

### Popular subject areas include:

- Medicine/Dentistry/Veterinary
- Psychology
- Business Management/Economics
- Politics/International Relations
- Art. Design and Media
- Sciences/Engineering
- Music
- Computer Science

and many more..

OFFER STATISTICS (LAST 3 YEARS)





**OFFERS FROM** 





WERE TO A RUSSEL



OF UK OFFERS WERE



Age:	15-16 years old
English Level:	B1 Mid-High*
Start dates:	September, January or April
Length:	1, 2 or 3 terms
Class size:	Maximum 15 students
Lessons:	30 hours of classroom lessons Monday to Friday
Lesson length:	55 minutes









# Course structure

Our Pre-IB course is ideal preparation for the IB Diploma, with students developing key skills and attributes that are fundamental to IB study. Native or near native English speakers are given the opportunity to sit the Pearson Edexcel IGCSE in English Language, while non-native speakers will be prepared to take the Duolingo English test, which is accepted by 1400 universities around the world.

All students study English, Maths and World Literature throughout the academic year.

English	Maths	World Literature
(8 hours per week)	(4 hours per week)	(2 hours per week)
Separate classes for native and non-native English speakers.	Classes are set by ability and prior experience.	All Pre-IB students study literature from across the world in translation.

Choose 1 option per term from each of the Science, Humanities and Arts options below:

Sciences	Humanities	Arts
(4 hours per week)	(4 hours per week)	(2 hours per week)
Biology     Chemistry     Physics     Environmental Systems & Societies	<ul><li>Economics &amp; Business</li><li>Geography</li><li>History</li><li>Psychology</li></ul>	<ul><li>Visual Arts</li><li>Digital Arts</li><li>(Photography)</li><li>Music</li><li>Theatre</li></ul>

In Sciences, Humanities and the Arts there is a rotation so by sampling up to nine 12-week courses you gain a head-start on the skills you need to thrive for the IB Diploma and are in a great position to choose your ideal combination of subjects.

Any students who do not wish to progress to the IB Diploma are well-prepared for the next stage of your schooling in any educational system.

### Other features of our Pre-IB course:

- Study a new language from a choice of French or Mandarin
- Participate in our CAS (Creativity, Activity and Service) programme
- Take the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award as part of our weekend programme of activities, study visits and excursions
- Participate in Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) lessons, covering important topics such as Careers and Higher Education
- All students participate in a group research project on a topic of their choice culminating in an exhibition and presentation evening

their choice culminating in an exhibition and presentation evening







Age:	16-19 years old
English Level:	B2 Mid*
Start date:	September
Length:	2 years
Class size:	Maximum 15 students
Lessons:	30 hours of classroom lessons Monday to Friday
Lesson length:	55 minutes



### \*this is a guide, not a minimum requirement

# Core elements

These core elements help you acquire new skills and support your personal development.

Theory of Knowledge (TOK) promotes intellectual	4000-word Extended Essay (EE)	Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS)
curiosity through critical thinking	develops your research and academic writing skills	stimulates personal growt through new experiences

# Service (CAS)

stimulates personal growth through new experiences

# Course structure and subjects

We offer a wide range of subjects at higher and standard level:

- Standard level (150 teaching hours): indepth knowledge of the subject and an opportunity to develop key skills
- Higher level (240 teaching hours): a deeper understanding of key topics and concepts as well as the chance to enhance your skills

You need to select 3 at standard level (S) and 3 at higher level (H) from 6 subject groups:



Group	Subject area	Course options	Level
1	Studies in Language and Literature First language or native language	Language and Literature - native or near native speaker of English  Literature - first language or native language: Albanian, Arabic, Bulgarian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latvian, Lithuanian, Mandarin, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish and Ukrainian English, German, Italian, Russian	S or H
		If you speak multiple languages fluently, there is also the option to take a bilingual diploma	
2	Language Acquisition Second language	English  If you study English in Group 1:  Mandarin, Spanish or German - beginner level  French, Mandarin, Spanish or German - intermediate level	S or H S only S or H
3	Individual and Societies	Business Management, History, Geography, Psychology Economics, Global Politics	S or H
3 or 4	Interdisciplinary	Environmental Systems and Societies	S or H
4	Science	Biology, Chemistry, Physics	S or H
5	Mathematics	Analysis and Approaches Applications and Interpretation	S or H S or H
6	Arts and Electives	Music, Theatre or Visual Arts  Or 1 option below: - another language from Groups 1 or 2 - another subject from Group 3 - another science from Group 4	S or H

(CAS)

Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS) gives our students an opportunity to enhance their personal and interpersonal development by learning and engaging in fun and worthwhile experiences.

Participation in the CAS programme encourages our students to develop their special talents while improving their fitness, awareness of others, and the ability to work cooperatively.

With over 50 Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS) experiences a week, students can create a personalised CAS programme, which aligns with their interests or skills. The emphasis should be on creating a balanced programme from creative, active, and service opportunities.

### **CREATIVITY**

This aspect covers a wide range of arts & creative approaches. Creativity is the opportunity to achieve something new or take on a new creative challenge

ART CHESS CODING COOKING **DOCUMENTARY CLUB ECONOMICS** MATHS MEDICAL SOCIETY MODEL UNITED NATIONS MUSIC APPRECIATION SOCIETY MUSIC PRACTICE **PHOTOGRAPHY** PSYCHOLOGY ST CLARE'S UNION STUDIO ART THEATRE YOUNG ENTERPRISE

### **ACTIVITY**

This element encourages you to develop new skills & a sense of enjoyment from physical activity. It promotes a continued interest in health & wellbeing

**BADMINTON** DANCE FITNESS FOOTBALL GOLF CLUB **GYM-BASED BOXING GYM SESSIONS** MIND & BODY BALANCE RUNNING SPIN CLASSES/STUDIO CYCLING SQUASH **TABLE TENNIS TENNIS** VOLLEYBALL WELLBEING WALK BASKETBALL HORSE RIDING

### **S**ERVICE

Build links with individuals, the community or not-forprofit organisations. Work with diverse groups to engage, support & develop a sense of commitment to them.

ANIMAL RIGHTS ACTION GROUP
CLIMATE ACTION NOW

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD BRONZE/GOLD
ECO SCHOOLS

HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION GROUP
KNITTING FOR NEEDS
LANGUAGE NETWORK
TEACHERS & STUDENTS

LOCAL ENVIRONMENT ACTION
GROUP
MUSIC NETWORK
NURSERY ASSISTANTS GO

NURSERY ASSISTANTS GO
DIGITAL
PEER SUPPORT
PETS & PLANTS
POST PALS
SHARE AND CARE
STUDENT COUNCIL SCHOOL
OFFICERS

OFFICERS
ST CLARE'S MAGAZINE
TERRACYCLE GROUP
TUTORING ASSISTANTS

# We offer over 50 experiences per week.

This is a sample of our offering; the experiences may vary each term.







### The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Undertaking Bronze and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards builds these aptitudes and personal characteristics:

- Generates resilience by accomplishing new challenges
- Develops orientation skills like map reading, cooking meals and route planning
- Builds friendships through teamwork activities
- Develops self-awareness through reflections on strengths and weaknesses
- Improves time-keeping and problem solving skills
- Builds confidence and enables personal growth

These skills are truly valued by employers and can be advantageous well into your future career.

We offer a variety of sport opportunities, that are also part of the CAS programme. Sports offered at a competitive team level include:

- Boys football
- · Girls football
- Basketball
- Badminton
- Volleyball

We can also support you in joining local clubs for other sports, such as tennis, rugby, ice hockey, fencing, dance, rowing, and cricket.

We use specialised facilities across Oxford for much of our sport training:

- Oxford City Football Club
- Kirtlington Golf Club
- Ferry Leisure Centre
- Nuffield Health Fitness and Wellbeing Centre

All students are given membership to the Nuffield Health Fitness and Wellbeing Centre (included in fees), where students of all fitness levels have access to the stateof-the-art gym, a range of over 50 fitness classes, tennis courts and swimming pool.









# **STUDY VISITS** AND EXCURSIONS

Our study visits and excursions have an educational, cultural, environmental, sport or social focus, in the UK and beyond. Excursions have previously included:

### **THEATRE & MUSIC**

- London West End
- Royal Shakespeare Company
- Classical music choirs and concerts at Oxford University



### **MUSEUMS & EXHIBITIONS**

- Ashmolean Museum
- National History Museum
- Roman Baths
- · National Gallery
- Bletchley Park



### **ACTIVE & ADVENTURE**

- Go Ape
- Wet n Wild
- Thorpe Park
- Paintballing
- · Duke of Edinburgh expeditions



- London Eye
- Tower of London
- Covent Garden Buckingham Palace
- Camden Market
- Westfields
- River Thames boat trip
- Harrods



### LANDMARKS & **ATTRACTIONS**

- Stonehenge
- Cotswold Wildlife Park
- Blenheim Palace
- Cadbury's World
- Birmingham Christmas Market



### **CITIES** • Brighton

- Bath
- York
- Bristol Stratford



### **SPORT**

- Oxford United FC matches
- Mediterranean Cup (football), Verona, Italy



### FIELD TRIPS & STUDY VISITS

- Wales (Biology & ESS)
- Barcelona
- Lisbon
- Northern Ireland (History & Politics)







# **Boarding students**

We offer a comfortable and safe boarding experience, with 20 residential boarding houses close to campus in North Oxford, and within walking distance of both Summertown and Oxford city centre. Our houses typically home 16-18 students, with some house groups as small as 9, giving a family environment.

Our boarding houses feature secure single, twin and triple rooms, communal spaces such as common rooms and kitchens, and outdoor green spaces. Over half of our rooms have ensuite bathrooms. All houses have Wi-Fi available.

Each house has a House Parent, responsible for student welfare and support. Our dedicated team help students settle into life in the UK and work with them to make the living environment feel like home, including taking part in a fun and informative orientation weekend. Within their boarding house, students will have house activities, outings and opportunities to spend time together to create a 'home away from home'.

# Day students

We welcome local day students into our boarding community. They can join boarders for breakfast, lunch and dinner and socialise with friends until curfew. The costs of all meals are included in the fees.

### Food

Our bright, spacious dining hall provides a comfortable and relaxed space for students to eat and socialise. We provide breakfast, lunch and dinner every day, offering a wide range of delicious and nutritious meals, which promote a well-balanced diet. We cater for all dietary requirements.

Snacks and drinks are available all day at our café, The Globe at 135, and our boarding houses have small kitchens for students to make their own.

There are many cafes, restaurants and eateries of different cuisines within walking distance in Summertown, or in Oxford city centre.

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# and Support

At St Clare's we treat young people with respect and dignity. Our provision fosters independence of mind and personal responsibility. We positively prepare students for university and future life through encouraging them to learn to develop a balanced healthy lifestyle, considering their studies but also the importance of exercise and a social life.

The atmosphere is friendly and informal, with no school uniform and students on first-name term with teachers, removing barriers between adults and young people to make learning collaborative and exciting. Walking around, you see individualism and character, engagement with the community, independence, and happy, fulfilled young people readying themselves for the world.

Our safe and engaging environment nurtures individuals into self-assured, open-minded people with truly meaningful friendships. The relationships students develop whilst studying here promote international-mindedness, improve linguistic as well as intercultural competence and strengthen social skills - vital attributes for life. We focus on developing our students holistically, empowering them to become confident, resilient, healthy and independent young adults.

### **Student Support Team**

Our high staff-to-student ratio offers dedicated support, and our support teams work together to help students flourish:

- Personal Tutor
- House Parent
- College Nurse
- Pastoral Team
- · College Counsellor
- Peer Supporters
- Teachers
- Careers and Higher Education Advisers



**Guardianship:** All international boarding students must have an educational guardian in the UK. **The Boarding Schools Association (BSA)** and **Association for the Education and Guardianship of International Students (AEGIS)** websites have a list of guardians who have the BSA Certified Guardian certification which is an assurance of professional quality.







# Become a lifelong member of our international alumni community

We provide a range of benefits to support our alumni on a personal, academic and professional level.

### Why join St Clare's Connect?

#### ADVANC

- Advance career prospects by working with mentors, former St Clare's students who give advice and guidance
- Access St Clare's careers support, for 3 years after leaving
- Develop your interests with access to our seminar series

#### **NETWORK**

- Expand your international network
- Attend Alumni reunion events and book personalised tours at St Clare's

### **PROMOTE**

- Stay up-to-date with all our latest news and announcements, receive newsletters and hear about future events
- Promote yourself through your St Clare's Connect profile

### Help us by...

- Becoming a mentor to current and former students
- · Creating an alumni profile
- Promoting our news and events

Join our alumni network: www.stclaresconnect.com



# The application process is simple and straightforward:

- 1. Please send us your school reports/ academic transcripts for the last 2 years.
- 2. If these are satisfactory, we will ask you to complete and submit an online application form and registration fee.
- 3. We ask all applicants to sit our online Mathematics and English placement tests. These are used during the interview to discuss subject choices.
- 4. We will invite you and your family for a campus tour and you will attend an interview.
- If you are unable to visit us in Oxford, you can access the 360 virtual tour on our website and attend an online interview
- 5. If all goes well and you are successful, we will offer you a place straight after the interview and send written confirmation shortly afterwards.
- 6. The offer letter explains how to accept your place and an exciting new chapter in your life begins!

### **Scholarships and Bursaries**

We offer IB Diploma scholarships for students who contribute to our thriving learning community, academically and through experiences, achievements, and interests. We welcome scholarship applications from the UK and overseas.

Our day and boarding scholarships may be partial or full scholarship awards. All scholarships are financially means tested and are awarded for the full course.

### How do I apply for a scholarship and bursary?

Contact our admissions team and they will guide you through the applications process.



admissions@stclares.ac.uk +44 (0) 1865 552031



# **IB INTRODUCTION**

### **Summer Taster Course**

Age:	15-17 years old
English Level:	B2 to C2
Start dates:	June and July
Length:	3 weeks
Class size:	Maximum 12 students
Lessons:	25 lessons per week (23 hours)



- · Learn the IB philosophy and methodology, and attend introductory classes in English Literature, English Language, Maths, Arts, Humanities, Science and Theory of Knowledge (TOK)
- Benefit from the specialist knowledge of our International Baccalaureate teachers
- Be inspired by study visits, guest speakers and topical themes to take learning beyond the classroom
- Experience living in Oxford, choosing between college accommodation or homestay
- Enjoy our exciting varied programme of sports, activities and excursions
- Summer package price includes tuition, accommodation, full board meals, sports and activities programme, 1 excursion per week, insurance
- Strong pastoral care with 24-hour support









