



ECS

Real Learning

Residential **English Language** and activity
summer courses **in the UK** for
children and teenagers





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This booklet aims to provide complete information about our courses in a convenient format that you can print out or save to view later.

ECS at a glance



What?

British Council Accredited, international summer courses in England for 8 - 17 year olds, combining English Language learning with personal development to help give children and teenagers the best start in life.

Where?

In the English countryside at Port Regis School in Dorset, 2 hours from London: postcode SP7 9QA.



When?

2 to 5 weeks in July /August - see course dates and prices at <https://www.countryschools.co.uk/courses/dates-and-prices>

Expected outcomes

Pupils improve their English, learn life skills, become more confident, more independent and better prepared for life.



Welcome



We have been providing British Council Accredited, residential English Language summer camps to children and teenagers for over 30 years. During that time we have established a reputation for providing the very best summer school experience for the young people in our care.

We believe that young people are our future and their education is an investment that will be repaid many times over. Through our international summer courses we aim to give them a great start in life and prepare them for the challenges and excitements of the future.

To succeed they will need to be well-rounded individuals, self-confident and independent, able to mix and collaborate easily with people from different countries and cultures. We therefore create a wide educational experience in which pupils from many different countries will have fun, make new friends and learn through every part of the day.

And because we care about the future we put sustainability at the heart of everything we do, encouraging a closer connection to nature and a greater awareness of environmental issues among our pupils.

Pupils attending our courses don't just have a happy, healthy holiday learning English in the English countryside. They also become more confident, more independent and better prepared for life

Welcome to ECS this summer!





Real learning

Real Learning is learning that is highly engaging and has a lasting, positive impact on the lives of young people.

At ECS we aim for every part of the day to be an opportunity to really learn: in English classes and workshops, on the sports field, in the boarding houses and during free time.

In English lessons pupils learn through engaging modern materials that aim, 'To bring the world to the classroom and the classroom to life'. We talk to them about their futures and how they can help build a better world. And in workshops like cookery, drama and photography they develop their English and learn real-world skills that will give lifelong pleasure.

On our beautiful green campus pupils discover the great feelings of energy and relaxation that come from regular exercise. They connect with nature, learn how to work as a team and strengthen the relationship between body and mind.

In the boarding houses pupils learn to live independently and become more open-minded and respectful through mixing and making new friends from different countries.

During trips and educational visits pupils learn more about the history and culture of the country whose language they are learning, providing added meaning and motivation to their studies.

In an age when so much is conducted through screens, ECS provides time, space and opportunity for young people to come together to really learn.



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Why choose ECS?

- British Council inspected and Accredited
- 30+ years experience
- 20+ different nationalities - no groups
- Mother tongue quota (5 boys and 5 girls) in each age group
- Fully residential in a safe countryside location
- Separate courses for younger and older pupils
- High levels of care and supervision
- Effective, professional English teaching with on-line reporting
- Activity and excursion programme included
- Optional extras for pupils with particular interests
- Airport transfers and insurance included



A safe, well-supervised environment

Port Regis is set in large, private grounds near Shaftesbury about two hours west of London.

The school has outstanding academic, recreational and sports facilities including a large indoor swimming pool and its own practice golf course. There is an attractive modern dining room with views across the parkland.

Pupils live in comfortable boarding houses suitable to their age group, with experienced house parents to provide supervision and support. All pupils have relaxation areas with table tennis and pool tables.

The wider campus contains woodland, ponds and a small stream, providing space and freedom for pupils to enjoy the summer in a safe and beautiful setting.

You can view a slideshow and video at <https://www.countryschools.co.uk/accommodation/port-regis>

Students are under the care and attention of experienced staff from arrival to departure. The Directors of ECS, Christopher and Sarah Etchells, live at Port Regis during the summer to oversee the courses. The atmosphere is friendly and caring and a local doctor is available 24 hours.

All ECS courses at Port Regis are inspected and Accredited by The British Council.

Timetable

We combine English Language learning with a healthy sport, social and excursion programme in a beautiful countryside setting so that pupils can enjoy the summer improving their English while developing personally and socially.

8.30	Breakfast
9.15	Daily meeting
9.30	English lessons and workshops*
13.15	Lunch
14.30	Sports and activities*
16.15	Refreshments
17.00	Tournaments / swimming / leisure time
18.30	Evening meal
19.30	Social programme
20.45	Drink and snack
21.00	Optional evening sports / leisure time
21.30	Bedtime 8-12 year olds
22.30	Bedtime 13-17 year olds

**or sports in the morning, lessons in the afternoon*





Age-appropriate activities

8 - 12 Year Olds

We aim to create a warm, well-supervised environment where children will feel secure while enjoying a happy, healthy educational holiday. English Language learning is combined with a balanced programme of sports, social activities and excursions. There is a maximum of 60 children in this age group, with a staff:student ratio of 1:6. Boys and girls live in separate areas of the main school building, The Mansion, in well-appointed bedrooms with 4 - 6 others of the same age. House parents provide supervision and support. There are comfortable indoor relaxation areas and outdoor play areas suitable for the age group.

We organise separate courses for children and teenagers on the same campus. This allows relatives to attend together while ensuring course content is appropriate to each age group.





13 - 17 Year Olds

This course consists of around 70 teenagers from 20+ different countries who come together to improve their English, make new international friendships and enjoy a happy, healthy holiday in the English countryside. There is a staff:student ratio of 1:6.

Teenagers live in modern boarding houses in the school grounds, one for boys and one for girls, with their own houseparents to provide supervision and support. Each pupil has a private study bedroom with washbasin, desk and wardrobe. A few shared rooms are available for those who prefer. Boys and girls can enjoy free time together in a comfortable relaxation area with cinema and games room.

The residential experience is a key part of the ECS experience. Living away from home helps pupils to develop independence and mixing respectfully with others helps them to become more sociable and culturally aware.



Sustainability

ECS aims to provide children and teenagers with the skills they will need to face the challenges and excitements of the future. We care deeply about our pupils and the world they will inhabit. For that reason we put sustainability at the heart of everything we do. In recognition of our commitment to sustainability ECS has been awarded the Green Standard Schools externally validated marque of environmental action. You can read more at <https://www.countryschools.co.uk/why-ecs-environmental-responsibility>





Effective English Learning



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Courses are Accredited by The British Council and led by professionally qualified teachers

- Students are assessed on the first day of teaching and are placed by age and ability to a maximum of 16 per class.
- International classes mean pupils speak English and practise cross-cultural communication together.
- Attractive and engaging materials aim to 'Bring the world to the classroom and the classroom to life.'
- Lessons for 8 - 10 year olds are led by teachers experienced with younger children.
- Lessons for older children include cross-curricular content (science, geography and history) plus environmental projects to help pupils 'learn English naturally.'

- Lessons for 13 - 17 year olds include intellectually stimulating content from TED Talks which pupils use to model and practice their own presentation skills.
- Collaborative project work helps to build interpersonal skills.
- Songs, games and music enable pupils to try out language in a fun way and encourage interaction and movement
- Teachers rotate between classes to provide variety.
- Weekly online reports enable parents to follow their child's progress.
- Online English lessons are available for all ages outside the summer.

Samples of learning materials are available to view at <https://www.countryschools.co.uk/english-programme/lessons>

Academic Workshops and Online English



A choice of educational workshops is included in the course fee for all pupils, enabling them to focus more intensively on their English or choose more broadly educational content



Our online English services help 7 – 17 year olds prepare for the summer or progress their English at any time of year.

Accredited by the



for the teaching
of English in the UK

Grammar and Pronunciation workshop

For pupils who have reached a plateau or wish to concentrate on particular areas of their English. Includes an introduction to the phonetic alphabet.

Course Journal workshop

Pupils work as editors, journalists, etc. to produce a weekly journal that is circulated in the school. Encourages attention to written content, style and accuracy.

Digital photography workshop

Pupils learn how to avoid common mistakes and take better photos of people and nature. Aims to develop pupils' aesthetic sense while providing opportunities for discussion and writing.

Drama workshop

Pupils create, rehearse and perform short plays. Provides authentic English practice while developing personal and linguistic confidence.

Cookery workshop

Pupils learn the basics of cookery including hygiene and safety. They compete to be 'master chef', learn new language and develop independent living skills.

Pupils choose a different workshop each week. Other workshops may include local history, poetry, the language of films, musical lyric writing, nature studies.

Online English lessons (extra charge)

Arranged in blocks of 5 or 10 lessons and delivered by our own qualified and experienced teachers at a time and pace to suit you. Can be combined with English Focus (see below) and Trinity GESE. See <https://www.countryschools.co.uk/courses/english-online>

English Focus (extra charge)

Online diagnostic test and academic consultation for 13 – 17 year olds. See <https://www.countryschools.co.uk/ecs-plus/english-focus>

Trinity GESE - Graded Exam in Spoken English - (extra charge)

Pupils aged 11 – 17 can prepare and sit this internationally recognised qualification to prove their attainment in speaking and listening. Preparation can be online or at the school. See <https://www.countryschools.co.uk/ecs-plus/trinity-gese>





A full programme of activities

A programme of sports, social activities and excursions is included in the course fee and arranged throughout the course for each age group.

Excellent facilities include extensive sports fields, heated swimming pool, sports hall, tennis and squash courts, all-weather sports pitch, practice golf course, adventure obstacle course, 2 performance halls.

Sports include swimming, volleyball, water polo, tennis, football, basketball, dodgeball, circuit training, frisbee, badminton, unihoc, handball, table tennis, cricket.

Social events include discos, karaoke, camp fires, parachute games, international evenings, crazy sports, team challenges, treasure hunts, quizzes, fashion shows, end-of-course review. For further information see: <https://www.countryschools.co.uk/activity-program>





'The school is surrounded by interesting places to visit, from nearby Stonehenge to the beautiful Dorset coast and the busy Roman City of Bath. Excursions are arranged for each age group to provide an enjoyable mix of sightseeing, shopping and culture.'

Optional Sports Coaching: Four hours of sports lessons per week are available at extra charge with qualified instructors for all ability levels as follows:

Golf: take place on a professional golf course about 30 minutes from the school. Lessons include all aspects of the game - golf swing, tee shots, bunker play, rules and etiquette. Maximum of 8 pupils per instructor.

Tennis: Lessons include warm-ups, exercises and games to develop agility, balance, coordination, strength, speed and technical skill. Maximum of 8 pupils per instructor.

...and excursions

Places to visit include:

- Roman City of Bath
- Local town of Shaftesbury
- Monkey World
- Corfe Castle
- Weymouth beach & Sea Life Centre
- Lyme Regis (Dorset coast)
- Longleat Safari Park
- Bournemouth (beach and shopping)
- Stourhead House & gardens
- Paulton's Family Theme Park

In addition the following excursions are available at extra cost:

Stonehenge

World-famous Stonehenge is around 40 minutes from the school. Educational tours are available for all pupils at a cost of £35 including transport.

London Weekend)

To really see this great city we arrange a 2-night visit for teenagers 13 – 17. The cost includes bed and breakfast twin-room accommodation in a good hotel close to the main tourist sights, Thames river tour, packed lunches, two evening meals and transport by train between London and the school. Supervision is by our own teachers with a staff:pupil ratio of at least 1:6

Please see the excursion timetable at <https://www.countryschools.co.uk/activity-program/excursions>



2024 Information

Course fees include

- Residential accommodation in the school including all meals, weekly laundry service, use of sporting, academic and recreational facilities.
- Fully international, British Council Accredited, age-specific courses with no more than 5 boys and 5 girls in each age group with the same mother tongue.
- Professional English Language teaching programme (15 hours per week) with weekly online progress reports.
- Age-appropriate sport and social programme each day.
- Excursions including transport, packed lunch and entrance fees.
- Transfers between London St Pancras Station and London Heathrow Airport and the school (conditions apply: see below)
- Full medical and travel insurance, attendance certificate and course photo.

Booking

To check availability and book online please see our web site at www.countryschools.co.uk or contact us below. If a place is available we will request your deposit payment of GBP 350 to secure the place. The balance of fees is due 6 weeks before the child attends.

TRAVEL

Port Regis School is located in the countryside in Dorset about 2 hours from London. Some parents bring their child personally to the school or hand them into our care at London St Pancras Station or London Heathrow Airport. Most pupils travel independently via Heathrow from which we operate a free meet and greet service as follows:

Arrivals

We provide free transfers from London Heathrow to the school for pupils arriving on 7 & 28 July between 1100 – 1600hrs. Transfer coaches leave the airport at around 13:00hrs and 16:00hrs. Pupils whose flights arrive before 11:00hrs can be met on arrival by a reputable company and taken care of until our staff arrive at an extra cost of around £60 per child

Departures

We provide free transfers from the school to London Heathrow and assist pupils with check in for flights departing between 12:00 - 16:00hrs, 28 July & 11 August. Transfer coaches arrive at the airport at around 10:00hrs and 12:00hrs. Pupils whose flights depart after 16:00hrs can be taken care of by a reputable company until their flight leaves at a cost of around £60 per child.

For further details please see our travel page

<https://www.countryschools.co.uk/accommodation/travel>

Dates and Prices

5 weeks, 7 July - 11 August.....	GBP 7500
3 weeks, 7 - 28 July.....	GBP 4650
2 weeks, 28 July - 11 August.....	GBP 3250

ECS Online English

5 hours 1:1 lessons	GBP 250
10 hours 1:1 lessons.....	GBP 450
Diagnostic test & consultation (age 13+).....	GBP 135
<i>(ECS Online pupils qualify for our returnee discount - see below)</i>	

Optional extras

London Weekend (age 13+).....	GBP 700
Stonehenge	GBP 40
Trinity GESE (age 13+)	GBP 175
Golf lessons (4 hours per week).....	GBP 140
Tennis lessons (4 hours per week)	GBP 100

Discounts

Book before May 2024	5%
Siblings attending together.....	10% each*
New student referral (family or friend).....	5% each
* cannot be combined with early booking discount	

Please see <https://www.countryschools.co.uk/courses/dates-and-prices> for further information



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Taxi transfers

For pupils who arrive at London Heathrow after 16:00hrs or depart London Heathrow before 12:00hrs or travel via other airports or stations (including London Gatwick) we can arrange escorted taxi transfers at extra cost (approximately GBP 300 for Heathrow; GBP 350 for Gatwick). The cost reduces for children travelling together. The cost increases for children travelling as Unaccompanied Minors (UMs) or travelling at unsocial hours. Please contact us for precise details.

Please note

Where possible we will put you in contact with other parents so that children can travel together. We recommend that young children travel in the care of airline staff as Unaccompanied Minors if possible.

We cannot provide accommodation in the school for pupils who arrive before our scheduled arrival date or leave after our scheduled departure date.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Accuracy of Details

We accept bookings on the understanding that the booker provides accurate details. At any time during the course we may request to see official documentation (eg. a passport) to confirm a child's age and identity. If proof cannot be provided, or if we discover that significantly inaccurate details have been provided at the time of booking, we reserve the right to remove the child from the course without refund of fees.

The deposit

If a place is available we will request a non-refundable deposit of GBP 350 to secure the booking. This must be paid within 10 days of making the booking; if not, the place will automatically become available to other students.

The balance

The balance of fees is payable 6 weeks before the child attends. If a booking is made less than 6 weeks before attending, the deposit and balance will be payable within 10 days. If any fees remains unpaid 14 days or more after the payment date on the invoice the place will be cancelled.

Cancellation & withdrawal

If the child's place is cancelled not by us after 1st June preceding the course or if a child fails to attend or is withdrawn during a course there will be no refund of fees. If we receive notice of cancellation in writing before June preceding the course we will at our discretion refund some or all of your payment if we can fill the vacancy. Depending on the reason for cancellation you may be able to reclaim some or all of your losses from our insurers.

Exclusion

We reserve the right to repatriate a child at any time at the parent / guardian's expense and without refund of fees if we consider this to be in the child's best interest or if we consider the child's behaviour to be detrimental to the general welfare of the school. Reasons for exclusion may include - but are not necessarily limited to - severe incontinence; self-harming; the consumption of alcohol or illicit drugs; repeated smoking; bullying.

Changes to the programme

Programme details are published in good faith. We reserve the right to make changes to any aspect of the course if necessary.

INSURANCE

Comprehensive travel and medical insurance is included in the course fee for all pupils attending. For details please see <https://www.countryschools.co.uk/why-ecs/insurance>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Please see <https://www.countryschools.co.uk/more-info/faqs>

PARENTAL CONTACTS

To speak with other parents who have sent children to ECS please see <https://www.countryschools.co.uk/community/parental-contacts>

CONTACT

Summer school address:
ECS, c/o Port Regis School,
Motcombe Park,
Shaftesbury,
Dorset,
SP7 9QA,
United Kingdom

Office address:
ECS, 18 Riverside,
Winchcombe,
GL54 5JP,
United Kingdom

Telephone international: +44 1242 604067

Telephone national: 01242 604067

Email: etchells@countryschools.co.uk

Web: www.countryschools.co.uk

We look forward to welcoming you to ECS this summer.



**FOR A BETTER
FUTURE**



ECS

Est. 1988



Accredited by the
BRITISH COUNCIL
for the teaching
of English

