



# BLC

Your Future in English

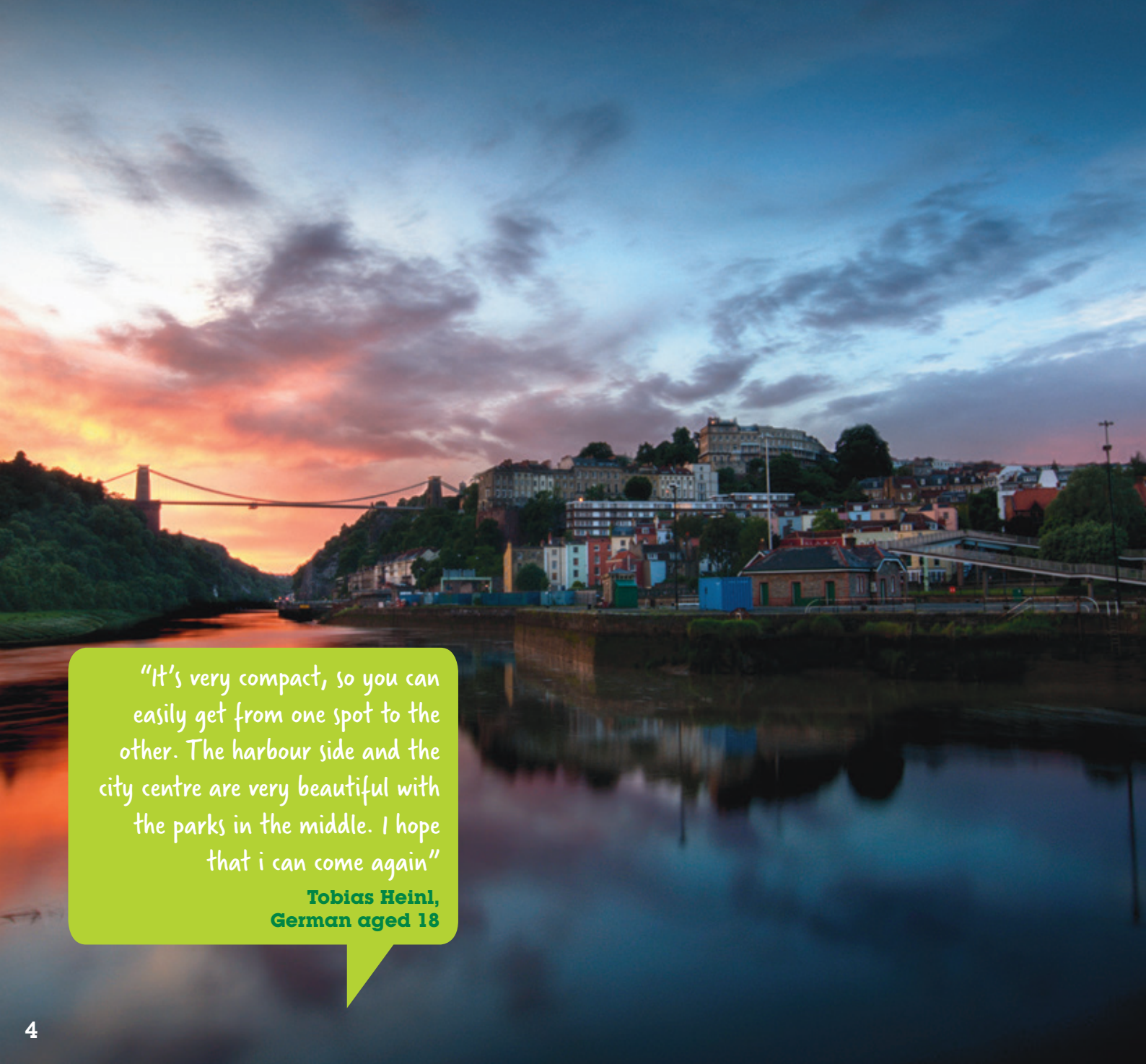
**STUDY  
GUIDE**  
2017



# Your future in English

**BLC (Bristol Language Centre) is a dynamic, independent, British Council accredited school which offers you a wide range of high quality English language courses. We are a member of English UK and Quality English.**

We pride ourselves in taking care of individual students' needs and welfare, and match solid academic teaching to students' goals and aspirations. You can enjoy a lively social programme and excellent accommodation. We teach practical, real life English and use the latest technology both inside and outside the classroom.

A scenic view of a city at dusk. In the foreground, a river flows from the left towards the center. A suspension bridge with two tall towers spans across the river. The background shows a hillside densely packed with buildings, including a prominent white building with a red roof. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of orange, pink, and blue, reflecting on the water's surface.




*"It's very compact, so you can easily get from one spot to the other. The harbour side and the city centre are very beautiful with the parks in the middle. I hope that i can come again"*

**Tobias Heini,  
German aged 18**

*"I expected that the courses will be strict like school, but not at all. The courses in BLC were better, very convivial, very friendly, the lessons was active and funny. I really liked this school"*

**Téo Pierozzi,  
French, aged 18**

**Connect to us:**

-  BCLearnEnglish
-  BLC\_Bristol
-  blcbristol

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*"If you want to have fun at the same time you learn, it is one of the best places I know"*

**Daniel Sanchez Exposito,  
Spanish, aged 28**



Visit our online gallery at  
[www.blc-english.com](http://www.blc-english.com)  
and click on gallery

# Why choose BLC?

**BLC is a dynamic, independent, British Council accredited school which offers a wide range of high quality English language courses.**

## *Successful*

- You will make swift progress thanks to our good class sizes, dedicated tutors and clever use of technology both in and outside lessons
- Your knowledge of English will set you up for life!

## *Individual*

- We will match your needs at BLC – we will help you reach your goals and fulfil your dreams, supported by your dedicated tutor, who will track your individual progress
- BLC's variety of courses is sure to provide something to suit you, whatever your aspirations
- You can choose a flexible start date for most courses

## *Quality*

- At BLC, we are recognised for our great reputation, innovation and quality
- You will find well-qualified teachers – often with many years' experience, as well as a Diploma or MA in English language teaching
- BLC is accredited by the British Council, and a member of English UK and Quality English.

## *Independent*

- BLC in Bristol provides you with a unique all-round English language experience
- Your specific needs will be identified and met through innovations such as Friday afternoon electives, BLC's very own mobile learning programme, our online learning environment, and our internship programme

## *Supportive*

- Your health and happiness matter to us – you will have a named welfare officer and find a friendly, welcoming environment
- You can ask BLC's Student Support Services for help with any non-academic issues, such as registering with the medical services or setting up a bank account
- You will have a 24-hour telephone number to call in emergencies



# 97%

**of BLC students** would recommend BLC to another student†

## *Innovative*

- You will benefit from BLC's up to date facilities, including lessons supported by tablet use, interactive whiteboards and free, unlimited Wi-Fi.
- Our wide range of online and mobile interactive learning options will let you learn in the way that suits you best

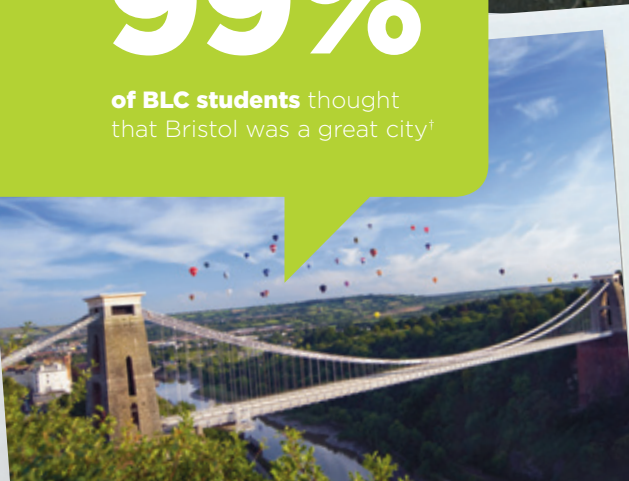
## *Friendly*

- You will boost your confidence in English as you take part in BLC's active social programme
- You can make friends with other BLC students, who come from almost 50 countries around the globe
- Based in the centre of the lively and welcoming city of Bristol, you will easily be able to visit the shops, bars, parks, train station and airport



99%

of BLC students thought that Bristol was a great city!





# Why Bristol?

**From Brunel to Banksy, Bristol has attracted great minds who have left their mark on this beautiful, vibrant city. The cultural and artistic centre of south west England, Bristol has two world-ranking universities and a strong local economy.**

Bristol's international airport and good rail links make it a convenient location, with flights direct to over 50 European destinations and many cities worldwide. Bristol has a diverse population and a wealth of opportunities: a top destination for language students.

## *Historic sights*

You can see Brunel's world famous Clifton Suspension Bridge, and visit his restored iron ship, the SS Great Britain, moored in the scenic floating harbour. Stunning Georgian houses from the 1700s sweep gracefully across the centre of this historic port.

## *Music and nightlife*

Bristol is famous for its vibrant music scene, with plenty of live events for you to enjoy, from classical music to the latest bands at the Colston Hall and other venues around the city. There's also a great choice of bars and clubs.

## *Art and festivals*

Be surprised by Bristol's urban art scene as you wander the streets. And keep an eye open for hot air balloons drifting over this 'capital city' of the ballooning world. Don't miss the annual International Balloon Fiesta and the world renowned Harbour Festival.

## *On stage*

Bristol is home to the Old Vic Theatre, the longest-running theatre in the UK, and the Hippodrome, where you can see ballet, pantomime, stage shows and musicals on tour from London's West End. There are many other live performance venues and cinemas across the city.

## *Educational opportunities*

Bristol is home to two world class universities and you will mix with a diverse international student population.

## *Sporting life*

Take part in any sport you like from athletics to tennis, basketball to swimming: you will find them all in Bristol. Or take a seat to enjoy Bristol's professional football or rugby teams in action. International fixtures at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium are less than an hour away by train.

## *Out of town*

From Bristol, you can catch a train to London (1½ hours) or Bath (10 mins). Visit the traditional English seaside at Weston super Mare (30 mins). Further away, but in easy reach by car, are Stratford upon Avon (birthplace of William Shakespeare), Oxford and the ancient sights of Stonehenge.

*"In Bristol in general I met so many people, I really enjoyed everyone and I will miss them"*

**Andrea Menchini,  
Italian, aged 21**

# BLC supports you

**Living in another country can be as challenging as learning a language. At BLC, we ensure you are safe and happy while you study. We are here to answer all your queries about life in the UK. We'll help you steer clear of problems, but if you need a friendly face or helping hand, we're here to help.**

We'll support your studies too, with experienced teachers, clever use of technology, and advice to get you onto the next stage of your journey in English. By providing a wide choice of accommodation, you can be sure that you will be comfortable and content, as well as having the opportunity to meet and make friends with other English language students from around the globe.

## Your welfare comes first

The happiness and safety of BLC students are our priorities, and the BLC Team is well trained and experienced in assisting you before, during and after your studies with us.

### *Airport pick-up service*

An airport taxi service is available for you to book your transport to travel to or from Heathrow, Gatwick and Bristol airports. Pick-up arrangements are available for all other airports on request.

### *First day orientation*

On your first day at BLC you will be shown around the school and Bristol city centre, and take a level test. We will make sure you have all the essential information about living in Bristol and the UK, as well as local transport information and emergency contact numbers.

### *Student support*

BLC has a named welfare officer, who is there to support you. BLC's Student Support Services will help you with any non-academic issues, ranging from registering with the police and medical services through to setting up a bank account.

### *24-hour support*

At BLC we are committed to ensuring that you feel safe and supported. All our students are issued with a 24-hour emergency telephone number.

### *Student insurance*

BLC recommends that you take out insurance, and can provide details of suitable insurance for students.

### *Great nationality mix*

BLC is delighted to teach students from all over the world and in 2016, we welcomed students from 35 countries! You will be able to practise your English while making friends with people from many different countries and cultures. Last year, around 7% of students came from Asia, 6% from Turkey, 4% from South America, 7% from Middle East and North African countries, 3% from CIS & Russian Federation and 3% from Eastern Europe, not to mention students from Spain, Italy, France, Germany, Switzerland and many more.



For details of our wide range of accommodation see pages 19-21 or visit: [www.blc-english.com](http://www.blc-english.com) and click on accommodation



# Supporting your studies

We give you the individual attention you need to achieve your goals and fulfil your dreams. Our high quality teaching means we can tailor our knowledge to your needs.

# 99%

of BLC students thought our teachers were friendly and organised!



## Monitoring your progress

You will have an individual study plan and a dedicated tutor to make sure you make progress and get the most from your studies. We will also help you plan for the future. You will have regular class tests to monitor your progress, and you will receive an end of course report and certificate.

## Sample timetable

For courses of 20 lessons (of 45 minutes) per week:

09.15–10.00	General English lesson 1
10.00–10.45	General English lesson 2
BREAK	
11.00–11.45	General English lesson 3
11.45–12.30	General English lesson 4

For courses of 30 lessons (of 45 minutes) per week, the timetable is as for 20 lessons plus:

13.45–14.30	Afternoon lesson 1
14.30–15.15	Afternoon lesson 2

Afternoon lessons 1 and 2 are for courses in Intensive English, FCE, CAE, IELTS, EAP and Business English.



## Tablet technology

You will benefit from BLC's tablet and self-study area, which makes use of hybrid tablets with detachable keyboards. These secured tablets are available to students for personal internet access or self-study. Additional tablets are available for classroom work and *BLC Anytime* tutorials.

BLC has an active BOYD (bring your own device) policy and encourages you to use your own mobile devices for learning in and out of the classroom.

We also have interactive whiteboards, screens and projectors, plus free Wi-Fi throughout. Our teachers are trained in internet and computer-based learning methods and language lessons.

## Online, mobile and interactive

As soon as you enrol at BLC you will be given free access to our specially developed online learning platform, *BLC Anytime*. The system includes an individual study plan, access to BLC online guided learning resources, and tutorial support from the BLC teaching team. You will also benefit from our very own SMS-based mobile learning programme, *BLConTEXT*.



### University, exam and work guidance

BLC offers free guidance to students on undergraduate and postgraduate university entrance, work in the UK and advice on suitable examination courses.

### Self-study opportunities

At BLC we understand the importance of independent and guided learning. You will have access to graded readers, exam practice materials, and weekly exam practice sessions. Students can join our weekly Conversation Club and will have plenty of opportunities for out of class speaking practice. You can use the student computer room to access your individual study plan and other interactive self-study materials through your personal *BLC Anytime* account. With interactive, computer- and internet-based learning materials, and Wi-Fi throughout, BLC gives you a great opportunity to maximise your extra study time.

### Classroom facilities

You will have use of BLC's modern, light and well equipped classrooms, many of which have interactive whiteboards or screens and projectors. There are several break-out areas with access to hot and cold drinks and snacks.



### What's included?

Your course fees include: English language lessons, personal study plan, dedicated tutor, access to guided interactive learning resources, computer room and Wi-Fi internet.

### BLC shop




The BLC shop is the hub of the reception area. You can purchase practical items such as adaptors and mobile phone credit, as well as a range of BLC merchandise, from pens and mugs to T-shirts and hoodies.

### When you leave

BLC will continue to support you after you leave, with continued access to our online learning environment *BLC Anytime\**, and the opportunity to keep in touch through our social networks.

\*3 months' free access after completing your course at BLC.

#### Connect to us:

-  [BLCLearnEnglish](#)
-  [BLC\\_Bristol](#)
-  [blcbristol](#)



## My BLC

**Monika Smith,**  
Assistant Director of Studies

"The best thing is working with students from all over the world and teachers who care about the progress of their students. It's very satisfying to see our students pass internationally recognised exams and achieve their goals".

# Be sociable

## *Getting out and about*

Don't just learn English, learn about England – and the rest of the UK. Develop your independence as you speak to locals and enjoy new activities and new places. BLC's active social programme means you can take part in events on most days through the year. With such a wide choice, there's sure to be something to suit you.

Boost your confidence in English and make new friends, as you speak with BLC students of many other nationalities. At the same time, enjoy everything that Bristol and its surroundings have to offer.

You can choose from an enormous range of regular activities.

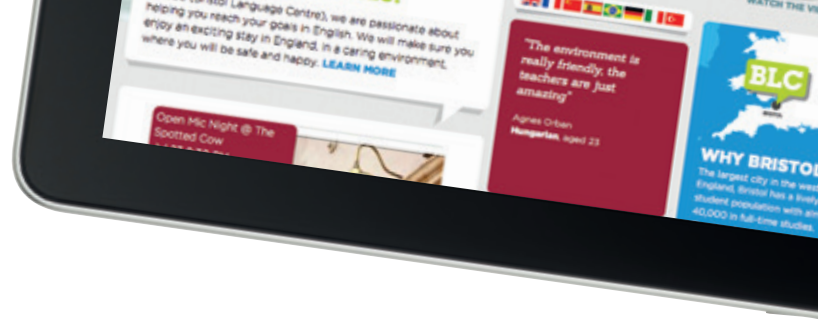
*"Love it! Nice bars, restaurants, friendly and polite people, lots of murals"*

**Isis Vandebroek Belgian, aged 27**

## *With BLC's activity programme, you can:*

- See more of Bristol with our regular city tours during which you can take in Bristol's urban art scene, including Banksy's famous murals, as well as Brunel's engineering masterpieces
- Enjoy day trips to other towns and cities, such as London, Oxford and Cardiff
- See what's on at the cinema, or take a trip to the theatre, perhaps to see a musical
- Relax on the beach, or enjoy a sizzling summer barbecue
- Visit the historic sights of Stonehenge, Salisbury or Wells
- Experience some traditional English pubs, go out for a delicious meal, or enjoy a chat over coffee
- Take part in fun activities like Laser Quest and mini-golf
- Learn about cheese making in the caves at Cheddar
- Try something different, from boat trips to bowling
- Put together some fancy dress for Halloween, visit the Christmas market or enjoy a fireworks display
- Experience famous Bristol events like the Harbour Festival or the Balloon Fiesta
- Take a stroll around one of Bristol's museums, or make some furry friends at Bristol Zoo





## Be connected

*Interactive learning with BLC*

BLC's exciting mobile and online learning environment is truly flexible, to suit you!

Our interactive learning resources support your communication in English inside and outside the classroom, and ensure you get the most from your course.

As a BLC student, you will receive free access to our unique mobile learning programme, *BLConTEXT*, as well as our online learning platform, *BLC Anytime*. At the end of your course you will continue to have free access to *BLC Anytime* for an additional 3 months.

### *BLC Anytime*

BLC understands the benefits of learning both inside and outside the classroom. As part of our blended learning programmes, BLC is proud to offer you access to its interactive online and mobile learning platform from the time you enrol, for the duration of your course and beyond. BLC offers you free online and mobile access to a vast range of authentic and guided learning material, so you can study anytime!

#### **As a BLC student, you will benefit from:**

- Mobile and online access to thousands of extra activities and exercises, including pronunciation, listening and reading practice
- Access to a range of handy apps, such as the BLC Social Activity Calendar and useful grammar and vocabulary exercises
- Learning in your own way, using authentic material
- A structured individual learning plan at your own level
- Reaching your personal learning goals
- Adapting your learning plan according to your needs
- Preparing online for tests and exams using a wide range of exam preparation material
- Sharing your learning and social experiences with friends via Facebook and Twitter
- Keeping a record of your tutorial with your teacher and personal advice about how to improve your English
- 24/7 access: log on and learn anytime!

#### **Connect to us:**

 [BLCLearnEnglish](#)  [BLC\\_Bristol](#)  [blcbristol](#)





## *BLC Mobile Learning – UNIQUE to BLC*

As a BLC student, you will benefit from this BLC innovation – *BLConTEXT* – our very own SMS-based mobile learning programme.

### **Benefits to you include:**

- Daily SMS text message to help your English language learning
- Daily SMS links to videos, websites and photos
- Interactive teaching methods, giving you language guidance while studying independently
- Increased knowledge of new vocabulary and idioms
- A fun, interactive and exciting way to learn English
- Integration with social networks

*“It was a great idea to receive a text on my mobile phone every day before my class. It prompted me to think in English and to learn useful idiomatic expressions and new words quickly”*

**Sara Guerrini,  
Italian, aged 23**



# My BLC

**Ellie Rehbein,  
Centre Administrator**

“The best thing about BLC is the variety of people I get to meet and work with – from the teachers to the students and everyone in between. The atmosphere is always buzzing and ever-changing throughout the year!”



*"I was really lucky with this family. They are good cooks and really friendly and caring. They helped me to find a salsa course. They are probably the best family that BLC can offer"*

**Laryssa Nkoumondo,  
Swiss, aged 23**

# Choose where you want to live

**At BLC you can choose to stay with a family in one of our carefully selected friendly homestays or more independently in our modern residences. We can also provide you with hostel, serviced apartment or hotel accommodation on request.**

## Homestay

Homestay provides you with a home from home in Bristol, with easy access to BLC. Staying with one of our families will give you a perfect opportunity to practise English and have a base from which to explore Bristol.

Our Accommodation Officer visits our homestays at least once every two years, in line with British Council regulations, to ensure that our high standards are maintained.

### *Half board*

Homestay half board is our most popular option. You will live as part of a family or household, in a single bedroom, sharing all the living areas, and with all the facilities at home that you need. Meals are provided (breakfast and evening meal on weekdays, three meals a day at weekends).

#### **Benefits:**

- Single room, with desk available for study
- Shared family bathroom
- Breakfast and evening meal on Monday to Friday and three meals a day at weekends
- Laundry once a week
- Convenient location
- Opportunity to improve conversational English

### *Self-catering*

Staying in a self-catering home provides you with all the same benefits as homestay half board, but you will prepare your own meals.

#### **Benefits:**

As for Homestay, except:

- You can use kitchen facilities to prepare your own meals
- You therefore have greater independence



# Residential

Staying in a residence is ideal if you wish to live more independently. You can live with fellow students of different nationalities, and improve your English together, or you can live completely independently in a studio apartment. BLC offers you a variety of high quality year-round residential accommodation.



## *Elephant House*

Just 15 minutes' walk from BLC, this residence owes its name to the elephant sculptures on the side of the building, created by local sculptor Steve Joyce. The strict English language-only policy in this BLC community means that you will benefit from making friends and speaking English with students of other nationalities. This residence is ideal for students who want independence at the same time as being part of a BLC community, with the opportunity to meet people and practise English at home. The residence is the venue of many social events, and has enough space to make communal living a great experience.

*"It is a very beautiful city and perfect for students!"*

**Fabien Marendaz,  
Swiss, aged 17**



Elephant House provides single or twin rooms with shared bathrooms.

- Access to local shops in a friendly neighbourhood
- A BLC shared house, with high quality, bright and spacious rooms
- Self-catering
- Students must be at least 18 years of age to stay in this house
- Minimum stay is 2 weeks
- Strictly no smoking in this residence

### **Facilities include:**

- Brand new shared kitchen facilities, including all kitchen utilities
- A bed, wardrobe, drawer space and desk in each room
- Two bright and airy shared lounges
- Widescreen TV in lounge
- Laundry facilities
- Bedding pack (duvet, pillows and bed linen), but students must provide their own towels
- Free Wi-Fi
- All utility bills included
- Secured entrance
- Bike storage



## *BLC City Centre Studio Apartments*

In the heart of Bristol's city centre, our studio apartments are just 10 minutes' walk from BLC.

- These apartments have stylish interiors and quality fittings
- Located in the buzzing city centre, you will find a great choice of restaurants, pubs and shops on your doorstep
- Self-catering
- Students must be at least 18 years of age to stay in this residence
- Minimum stay is 2 weeks
- Strictly no smoking

### **Facilities include:**

- An individual self-contained studio apartment
- Double bed
- En-suite shower room
- Study area with desk, chair and shelving units
- Kitchenette with integrated appliances
- Dining table and chairs
- Widescreen TV
- Laundry facilities
- Bedding pack (duvet, pillows and bed linen), but students must provide their own towels
- Large communal spaces including pool tables and internet stations
- State-of-the-art gym
- Free Wi-Fi
- All utility bills included
- 24/7 reception and security, with key fob entry
- Bike storage
- Wheelchair access
- Free bike rental
- Communal study space



## *BLC Juniors' Residence*

This hotel-style residence is used for junior groups, as an alternative to homestay accommodation. It is 20 minutes from BLC by bus.

- Georgian Gothic buildings set in landscaped gardens
- You will enjoy award-winning food and friendly staff
- Close to the city centre, Bristol International Airport, and major road links
- Suitable for students aged 13–17

### **Facilities include:**

- Full board (all meals provided)
- Single, double and triple rooms
- Free Wi-Fi
- Weekly linen change and room clean

**For full details of our Juniors' programmes and accommodation see our Juniors' flyer or visit our website: [www.blc-english.com](http://www.blc-english.com)**



*"I practiced speaking and so I improved my fluency and pronunciation. I have also learned useful expressions and vocabulary"*

**Joao António Abreu Costa de Sousa,  
Portugal, aged 20**

# BLC has the course for you!

## **We listen to your goals and aspirations.**

For example, do you want to be able to:

- Learn **real life English** for real world situations?
- Communicate effectively in **international business**?
- Secure **a better job** in your home country?
- Progress to a **quality UK university**?
- Improve your English for **leisure or tourism**?

Our variety of quality courses is sure to offer something to suit you. By teaching you practical, real life English and working closely with you, we make sure we meet your needs.

## *Be successful*

### **English for everyday life**

- General and Intensive English courses run year-round to improve your English language proficiency for use in everyday situations, including further studies, business or leisure. See page 24

## *Be active*

### **English for making friends**

- Junior Summer Programme for students aged 13–17 years at a range of levels. See page 26

## *Be qualified*

### **English for examination purposes**

- Cambridge First (FCE) and Cambridge Advanced (CAE) are internationally recognised exams for students at a variety of levels, to improve your English for daily life or work. See page 28
- IELTS examination, to improve your English language skills for university entrance. See page 29

## *Be academic*

### **English for progression to UK university**

- The International Foundation Year (IFY) is a one year pre-university qualification in business or computing which includes a significant degree of English language teaching. See page 30

## *Be professional*

### **English for the workplace**

- Business English helps you improve your English so that you can conduct business internationally. See page 32

## *Be experienced*

### **BLC Internship Programme**

- The BLC Internship Programme is available to EU students, to give you vital experience after your studies by using your English language skills in a local business. See page 33

### **Demi Au Pair programme**

- The Demi Au Pair programme is designed for young adults who want to have the biggest variety of English speaking experience, both in the classroom and working as an au pair with a British family. See Page 34

# Be successful

English for everyday life

# 99%

of BLC students thought that their lessons were 'interesting' or 'very interesting'<sup>†</sup>

## General and Intensive English

*Courses to improve your English language skills for everyday situations*

### Course description

We offer General and Intensive English courses to improve your English language skills for use in everyday situations, including for further studies, business or leisure. The course uses a course book and supplementary materials and will provide you with essential structures and vocabulary. You will work with authentic material taken from online sources, the media, TV and radio, relevant to topic areas.

### Course outcomes

- You will develop English skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening
- Your confidence in the language will improve
- Your career prospects will be enhanced by achieving a level of English required for international business
- You could progress to an academic English language course such as English for Academic Purposes, or an exam focused programme, for example FCE, CAE or IELTS, to receive an internationally recognised qualification

### Key course facts

- Elementary to advanced levels\*
- Minimum length: 1 week
- Number of lessons per week (lesson are 45 minutes): General: 20 (15 hours), Intensive: 30 (22.5 hours)
- Maximum class size: 14 (average class size: 12)
- Start any Monday during term time\*\*
- Course length as required
- General English: Students aged 18 and above
- Intensive English: Students aged 16 and above, subject to meeting welfare requirements\*\*\*

\* Many of our courses have flexible start dates, but we advise that very low level students arrive and start courses at the beginning of each term.

\*\* See term dates on page 35.

\*\*\* Students aged 16 or 17, who are studying Intensive English, must stay in a homestay and provide parental consent to study at BLC.







*"My English has improved- I am much more confident with my speaking. Now, I don't think about what I'm saying, I just say it"*

**Andrea Menchini,**  
Italian, aged 21



# My BLC

**James MacPherson,**  
BLC Teacher

*"The teachers work in a supportive team and are very committed to their jobs. This contributes to a positive working environment and the best possible learning experience for our students."*



## *Friday afternoon electives*

For students of Intensive English, these 90-minute Friday afternoon classes give you a choice of sessions to make your course as specific and useful to you as possible. BLC teachers decide which topics to run each week, based on the interests and needs of the students in the school. You are encouraged to make suggestions for classes.

The electives give you the chance to try different exam classes (for example FCE, CAE, IELTS) without being registered for a specific exam course. They also allow you to study practical English that will really help you with your future plans and goals within an English-speaking world.

Typical, popular Friday afternoon elective classes include:

- Pronunciation
- English for work (CV writing, interview tips, job-related vocabulary and role playing)
- Presentation skills
- Phrasal verbs for everyday life
- Real English for life in the UK
- Discussions and debating in English
- Academic English

# Be active

English for making friends

I have had good teacher- very helpful. They gave me special homework every week. Our class had a lot of fun. Thank you, I am going to come back next year!

**Marion Leisegang,**  
Germany, aged 55

## Junior Summer Programme

English with activity programme for students aged 13-17

### Course description

This offers English language tuition for students aged 13–17 years in small groups, combined with a social activity programme. You can improve your English while learning about British life and culture in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. The most recent teaching methods and materials are used to ensure that all classes are imaginative and stimulating.

#### Sample Timetable

**09.15-10.45**

Lessons 1 and 2

**BREAK**

**11.00-12.30**

Lessons 3 and 4

**LUNCH**

**Afternoon**

Social activities

### Course outcomes

- You will develop English skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening
- You will experience English life and culture through making friends, living with an English family and attending excursions and activities

### Key course facts

- Elementary to advanced levels
- Minimum length: 1 week (Sunday to Saturday)
- Maximum class size: 15
- Number of lessons per week (lessons are 45 minutes): 20 (15 hours)
- Course dates: 3 July to 11 August 2017 in two 3-week cycles
- Course length: 1–3 weeks\*
- Students aged 13–17 years
- Full and half-day teacher-accompanied excursions (mid-week and Saturday)
- Fees include: full board accommodation, excursions and local bus pass

\*If you study on the programme for more than 3 weeks (within course dates), elements of the programme will be repeated.

### Activities

Activities include things like a visit to Blaise Castle (Bristol mansion and parkland), a tour of Bristol's famous street art, sports, a trip to the city of Bath or London and shopping in a local market.\*\*

\*\*These are sample activities and not guaranteed for any particular week. Please see our Juniors' flyer for complete details of the Junior Summer Programme.





# Be qualified

English for examination purposes

*"I like the content of the course and that it focused on the CAE exam, which is my aim. The teachers were very nice and patient solving all our problems"*

**Maria Bueno,**  
Spanish, aged 24

## Cambridge Examinations

*Preparation for internationally recognised exams*

### Course description

These courses will prepare you for the Cambridge First (FCE) and Cambridge Advanced (CAE) examinations, which are internationally recognised as exams of excellence, focused on improving accuracy in all areas of the language.

### Course outcomes

- Successful completion of a Cambridge examination at the required level
- You will improve your skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking
- Your career prospects will be improved
- FCE gives you practical English needed for everyday life (course level: intermediate to upper intermediate)
- CAE enhances your career prospects as it is good training for English at work (course level: upper intermediate to advanced)

### Key course facts

- Entry level: intermediate (Cambridge First), upper intermediate (CAE)
- Course length: up to 12 weeks
- Minimum length advised: 6 weeks
- Number of lessons per week (lessons are 45 minutes): 30 (22.5 hours; General English plus afternoon exam preparation)
- Maximum class size: 14 (average class size: 12)
- Students aged 18 and above
- Certificates are valid indefinitely

Programme	Start Date	End Date	Course Length	Exam Date
<b>FCE, CAE</b>	3 January 2017	10 March 2017	10 weeks	<b>FCE</b> 10 March 2017 , <b>CAE</b> 11 March 2017
<b>FCE, CAE</b>	13 March 2017	2 June 2017	12 weeks	<b>FCE</b> 6 June 2017 , <b>CAE</b> 7 June 2017
<b>FCE, CAE</b>	26 June 2017	25 August 2017	9 weeks	<b>FCE</b> 24 August 2017 , <b>CAE</b> 25 August 2017
<b>FCE, CAE</b>	18 September 2017	8 December 2017	12 weeks	<b>FCE</b> 28 November 2017 , <b>CAE</b> 29 November 2017

# 95%

of BLC students feel that the school was as expected†



## IELTS Preparation

*Improve your English for university entrance*

### Course description

This course will help you improve your English language skills to prepare for the internationally recognised IELTS (International English Language Testing System) examination and to progress to a UK university.

### Course outcomes

- Successful completion of the IELTS examination
- You will improve your skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking
- Possible entrance to a UK university

### Key course facts

- Intermediate to advanced levels (IELTS Foundation may be available for those at pre-intermediate level during busy periods)
- Minimum length: 1 week
- Number of lessons per week (lessons are 45 minutes): 30 (22.5 hours)
- Maximum class size: 14 (average class size: 12)
- Start any Monday during term time\*
- Course length as required
- Students aged 18 and above

\*See term dates on page 35.



*“The teachers I met here were very friendly and organised and all students at BLC were so amazing and lovely”*

**Soyoung Bang,  
South Korean, aged 23**

# Be academic

English for progression to  
UK university

## International Foundation Year (IFY)

*BLC's International Foundation Year provides you with an entry route to UK university courses, and the skills required to help you succeed on your chosen degree course.*

### Course description

The International Foundation Year (IFY) is a one year pre-university qualification in business or computing which includes a significant degree of English language teaching. The qualification is designed to provide you with an entry route to UK university courses.

To complete the qualification you must study and pass eight units. The qualification consists of the following six core units:

- **Developing English Language Skills** - develops your English language skills to be able to communicate effectively beyond simple everyday contexts.
- **Advanced English Language Skills** - enables you to put into practice the language you have acquired and develop into an advanced user of English.
- **English for Academic Purposes** - develops your understanding and use of the key linguistic skills necessary to engage effectively in an academic environment where you are being taught in English.

- **Study and Communication Skills** - equips you with the essential study skills needed to succeed at university level
- **Culture Studies** - enables you to gain awareness and increased understanding of other cultures, with a particular focus on student life and studying in the UK
- **Foundation Mathematics** - builds upon your existing knowledge in the areas of mathematics whilst introducing new topics appropriate across a range of academic disciplines and for your future career.

A further two units must be taken from a choice of four electives:

- **Introduction to Computing** - provides you with a basic introduction to a range of IT topics including databases, networking, graphics and multimedia.
- **Introduction to Programming** - exposes you to extensive practical programming in Visual Basic
- **Introduction to Business** - provides you with an introduction to different types of business and business topics such as basic marketing practices.

- **Introduction to Accounting and Economics** - introduces you to the key principles of accounting and economics.

### Optional Module:

- **Introduction to IELTS** - prepares you for assessment by the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). This unit does not carry any credits towards the qualifications and is not assessed by NCC Education.

### Entry Requirements:

For entry onto the BLC IFY qualification you must have:

- Successfully completed secondary education in an appropriate range of subjects;
- AND
- A valid score of IELTS 4.5 (September entry) or IELTS 5.5 (January entry) or above in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) examination or equivalent. Alternatively you can take our Standard English Placement Test which is administered by our Accredited Partner Centres.

*"It was a great trip for me...thank you very much for everything!"*

**Zoltán Szabó,  
Hungarian, aged 43**



### *Start dates*

January 2017 and September 2017.

### *Flexibility*

By joining BLC's IFY you have the benefit of choosing either a guaranteed route to university, or deciding which university you would like to go to once you are in the UK and are familiar with its universities and education system.

### *Guaranteed University Placement*

Successful completion of the International Foundation Year programme will give students access to a wide range of universities and undergraduate degree programmes, with some university progression routes being guaranteed following successful completion of the IFY\*.

### *Choice of University Progression routes*

Successful completion of the BLC IFY also enables students to progress to selected UK universities. Examples include the University of the West of England, University of Liverpool, University of Leeds, Kingston University (London) and Oxford Brookes University. For the full up to date list of universities, as well as details of progression routes for the US and Canada, contact [enq@blc-english.co.uk](mailto:enq@blc-english.co.uk)

Some examples of the degree programmes that you could progress to on successful completion of the IFY are: BA (Hons) Business and Finance, BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance, BSc (Hons) Business and Management, BEng (Hons) Mechanical Engineering, BEng (Hons) Civil and Architectural Engineering, BEng (Hons) Mechanical Engineering.

\*Please contact us directly for more information about degree programmes you can progress to [enq@blc-english.co.uk](mailto:enq@blc-english.co.uk)



# Be professional

English for the workplace



## Business English

*Flexible business English courses for individuals or groups*

### Course description

BLC offers flexible Business English courses for individuals or groups focusing on practical English language for you to use in the workplace and international business communication.

We assess your language levels and areas of interest, as we can be flexible to your needs. We offer you a variety of topics such as international marketing, e-commerce, report writing, negotiation or presentation giving. You will work with authentic material taken from online material, the media, TV and radio, relevant to topic areas.

### Course outcomes

- Your English will improve for use in business and professional contexts
- You will be better able to conduct business in an international environment

*"of course I will recommend to my colleagues and friends."*

**Sergey Vasilevich Ignatenko,**  
Russia, aged 42

### Key course facts

- Intermediate to advanced levels
- Minimum length advised: 2 weeks
- Number of lessons per week (lessons are 45 minutes): 30 (22.5 hours)
- Maximum class size: 14 (average class size: 12)
- Start day can be any Monday within the blocks.
- Students aged 18 and above

**For specific group enquiries, please contact [groups@bhc-english.co.uk](mailto:groups@bhc-english.co.uk)**

Programme	Start Date	End Date	Course Length
<b>Business English</b>	13 March 2017	7 April 2017	4 weeks
<b>Business English</b>	26 June 2017	25 August 2017	9 weeks
<b>Business English</b>	30 October 2017	4 November 2017	4 weeks



*“The content of the lessons was varied and very stimulating. The teachers were friendly, interesting and I’ve learnt a lot”*

**Lilia Leghmizil,  
French, aged 20**



*My BLC*

**Kasia Tyka,  
BLC Teacher**

## BLC Internship Programme

*Learn English in the workplace*

### *Description*

BLC offers EU students the opportunity of a course at BLC followed by an internship in a local business. BLC can arrange internships for you in a variety of office environments, and you will be able to choose from a range of opportunities, subject to fulfilling the following requirements.



### *Programme requirements*

To take part in the programme, you need to:

- Be an EU student
- Complete an English language course of at least 4 weeks
- Have an English language level of intermediate and above
- Have suitable experience or qualifications

### *Key facts*

- BLC will identify a suitable work placement in your chosen field, to suit your studies or experience\*
- Placements last from 3 weeks to 6 months
- All work placements are unpaid
- A BLC representative will accompany you to the introductory meeting with the company
- BLC will provide you with full details of the company, working conditions and times, public transport maps etc.
- BLC will provide you with a final report and certificate, detailing your successfully completed internship

\*Subject to you submitting relevant information such as up-to-date CV and subject to availability.

*“Firstly, the team I work with are all so nice and there is a very supportive atmosphere. Secondly, I like the opportunity to meet different multi-national students, teach them and to watch them progress. It’s rewarding when they say ‘thank you, I’ve learnt a lot’.*

# Be experienced

Work and study programme

**NEW!  
TO 2017**



## Demi Au pair Programme

*Combine English study with au pair work*

### Course description

BLC is excited to announce a new programme for 2017! The Demi Au Pair programme combines 20 hours' au pair work per week with a General English course at BLC.

You will live with a British family who will provide board and lodging as well as weekly pocket money. You will also gain valuable English speaking work experience and achieve your language goals in this immersive language environment. At the same time you will participate in a morning-only BLC course and will be able to join in with the BLC social programme whenever your au pair schedule allows.

### Course outcomes

- Create a close relationship with a British family
- Enhance your career prospects by the high level of English you will achieve through an immersive language environment
- Au pair families will often need childcare, which is a great experience and a great way to practise English
- The course is ideal for those on a lower budget who want to work to pay their accommodation and food costs

### Key course facts

- A more affordable course- full board and lodging is included in your placement fee
- Pocket money given by host family
- Age range: 18-25
- Minimum length: 2 months
- Maximum length: 6 months
- Maximum class size in BLC: 14 (average class size 12)
- Start any Monday, must allow 2 months notice to find a host family
- Course is modelled around an au pair schedule, with 3 hours' morning classes at BLC every weekday
- Minimum level: intermediate



*"Everything about my stay was way better than I could have expected"*

**Julia Hoop,  
Lichtenstein, aged 20**

# Practical information

All the details you need to know about coming to BLC.

## Public Holidays

BLC is closed for 2 weeks for Christmas and New Year and also on public holidays, which in 2017 are as follows:

<b>New Years Day</b>	2 January (substitute day)
<b>Good Friday</b>	14 April
<b>Easter Monday</b>	17 April
<b>Early May Bank Holiday</b>	1 May
<b>Spring Bank Holiday</b>	29 May
<b>Summer Bank Holiday</b>	28 August
<b>Christmas Day</b>	25 December
<b>Boxing Day</b>	26 December

## BLC term dates 2017

The school is open from 3 January to 15 December 2017. The minimum period of enrolment is 1 week.

Term	Start Date*	End Date	Term Length
Winter	3 January 2017	31 March 2017	13 weeks
Spring	3 April 2017	23 June 2017	12 weeks
Summer	26 June 2017	15 September 2017	12 weeks
Autumn	18 September 2017	15 December 2017	13 weeks

\*Many of our courses have flexible start dates, but we advise that very low level students arrive and start courses at the beginning of each term.



# My BLC

**Phoebe Ruxton,**  
Sales and Marketing  
Executive

"The best thing about BLC is the friendly environment. Students come from all around the world, creating a truly multi-cultural vibe, and BLC is a small enough school to know every student individually while they are here."

# Accommodation fees

## Homestay

	Year round		Summer (July & August)	
Accommodation	Cost per week	Cost per extra night	Cost per week	Cost per extra night
Self-catering	£135	£25	£150*	£27
Half board	£165	£28	£180*	£30

\*includes summer supplement of £15 per week

### Additional information regarding homestay accommodation

- Changes to bookings will incur a £40 administration fee
- Late arrival: please try to arrive in your accommodation by 22.30 (but not before 07.00). Arrivals after this time will incur a late arrival fee of £20
- For adult courses, students are placed one student per room, unless otherwise requested. Where junior students share a room, this will be clearly stated
- The minimum length of stay is 1 week
- A notice period of 1 week applies
- There is an accommodation change fee of £40



# Residential

## BLC City Centre Residence

### Studio Apartments

Entire studio (double bed, en-suite and individual kitchen facilities as well as further facilities on ground floor- see page 21)

£295 per week

## Elephant House

### Shared twin room

(two single or small double beds and shared bathroom and kitchen)

£140 per person per week\*

### Large single room

(double bed and shared bathroom and kitchen)

£170 per person per week\*

\*Any room stay in Elephant House will incur an additional cleaning supplement of £30.

## BLC Juniors' Residence

Accommodation fees are included in the course fees for the Junior Summer Programme. See Junior Summer Programme prices, website and BLC website for full details.

### Additional information regarding residential accommodation:

- Changes to bookings will incur a £40 administration fee
- A refundable deposit of £200 is required for residences, in case of damage. You must pay this on arrival (you can pay by debit/credit card). Rooms are checked on arrival and departure
- Late arrival: please try to arrive in your accommodation by 22.30 (but not before 07.00). Arrivals after this time will incur a late arrival fee of £20
- Double occupancy supplement of £50 per week (studio apartments only)
- In Elephant House all rooms are single occupancy with exception of the twin rooms
- The minimum length of stay is 2 weeks
- A notice period of 2 weeks applies
- There is an accommodation change fee of £40

### Airport pick-up service

One-way taxi transport to or from the airport is available. We can obtain prices for transfers from other airports for you on request.

### Bristol Airport

£45

### Heathrow Airport

£205

### Gatwick Airport

£240

# Course fees 2017

## Deposit and registration fee

You must pay a non-refundable deposit of £300. This includes a registration fee of £50. The registration fee includes materials and access to our interactive learning resources\*, but does not include course books.

## Course books

Students on all courses must purchase a course book. You will be sold a course book when you arrive. All course books cost £25.

## General and Intensive English, Examination Courses, English for Academic Purposes and Business English

There is a summer course supplement of £15 per week from 3 July to 25 August 2017 inclusive.

No. of lessons per week	Course	Cost per week			
		1-7 weeks	8-12 weeks	13-23 weeks	24+weeks
20 lessons of 45 mins 15 hours	General English	£220	£210	£200	£190
30 lessons of 45 mins 22.5 hours	Intensive English, FCE, CAE, IELTS, EAP, Business	£265	£255	£245	£235

## Junior Summer Programme

For group prices and agent enquiries, please contact [marketing@blc-english.co.uk](mailto:marketing@blc-english.co.uk) directly.

No. of lessons per week	Course	Cost per week
20 lessons of 45 mins (15 hours)	Junior Summer Programme Homestay	£510**

Price includes full board accommodation, tuition, activity programme and public transport card.

## Internship Programme

Registration and £500 placement fee (subject to completion of a course of at least 4 weeks).

## Demi Au Pair Programme

Registration and £300 placement fee.

Individual one-to-one lessons	
1 lesson of 60 mins	£45

## Examination fees (estimated)

Exam fees are approximate and may be subject to change.

Examination	Cost
FCE & CAE	£155***
IELTS	£155

\* Group packages do not include access to *BLC Anytime* and *BLC onTEXT*.

\*\*Additional supplement of £160 per person per week payable for residential accommodation on the Junior Summer Programme, based on twin room with two sharing. See Juniors' flyer and BLC website for full details.

\*\*\*£15 exam fee supplement for exams taken in August.

# Terms and conditions

## Arrival and departure

- Students should arrive on Sunday and leave on Saturday wherever possible.
- Please arrive at your accommodation by 22.30 (but not before 07.00), or you will incur a late arrival fee of £20.

## Fees

- Fees must be paid at least 4 weeks before your course begins. If you book less than 4 weeks before you start, you must send the full payment immediately to secure your place.
- All Tier 4 students are required to transfer all course and accommodation fees as soon as their visa is approved.
- Fees include tuition, assessment test, and use of school facilities including free internet access, as well as access to our *BLC Anytime* and *BLConTEXT* online and mobile learning programmes, with the exception of summer and group packages which do not include *BLC Anytime* and *BLConTEXT*. The Junior Summer Programme fees also include the social and cultural activity programme and a local bus pass.
- Fees do not include examination fees, course books, insurance or the activities programme (except on the Junior Summer Programme). The adult activity programme does not usually cost more than £20 per week.
- A registration fee of £50 is additional to course fees.

## Deposits and additional costs

- All students must pay a course deposit of £300, which includes the £50 registration fee.
- If you cancel your course, your deposit (including the registration fee), are non-refundable in any event.
- If you send us written cancellation at least 4 weeks before the start of your course, we will refund the course fees, minus the course deposit. If you cancel less than 4 weeks before the start of your course, we will refund 50% of your course fees, minus the course deposit. Refunds

cannot be made for late arrival, early departure or absence during a course.

- If, for any reason you stop your course early, your tuition fees are non-refundable.
- International bank transfers are subject to a £12 charge. BLC will not be liable for any additional costs of international bank transfers. International debit and credit cards are subject to a 3% charge. UK Debit cards are exempt from charges.
- The course change fee is £15.

## Holiday closures

- The school will close for 2 weeks for Christmas and New Year holidays.
- There is no reduction in fees for courses which include public holidays.

## Holidays

- If you want to take a holiday during your course, you must let us know in writing at least 2 weeks beforehand. Subject to completion of BLC's official Holiday Request Form, holiday periods of full weeks will be added to your course. Please note that holidays taken for individual days or absence due to sickness will not be added to your course.
- Students are eligible to take a holiday after 12 weeks of continuous study.

## Absences during course time

- Visa students must comply with UK visa regulations. There will be no refunds for students who fail to comply with visa regulations.
- Any unauthorised absences from lessons will count towards your attendance record. Students with less than 80% attendance will not receive an end of course certificate.

## Accommodation

- Where availability of residences is limited, students must pay full course fees in advance to secure the booking.
- You must give at least 2 weeks' notice if changing or cancelling accommodation in a residence. Changes should always take place at weekends.
- You must give at least 1 week's notice if changing or cancelling homestay accommodation.
- All accommodation changes for reasons other than those stated on the application form will incur a charge of £40.

## General

- Courses are subject to availability.
- All students are required to give contact details of a close relative including a phone number.
- Students must comply with school rules regarding accommodation, attendance at social activities and conduct within the school. Where students persistently break the rules or commit an act of gross misconduct, the school reserves the right to ask the student to leave.
- We strongly advise you to take out full travel and medical insurance before you travel. Insurance should cover personal belongings such as laptops, cameras and mobile phones, as well as the loss of tuition fees if you have to cancel a course or return home.
- Many of our courses have flexible start dates but we strongly advise that very low level students on Intensive and General programmes arrive and start courses at the beginning of term.






Printed on FSC certified paper, using fully sustainable, vegetable oil-based inks, power from 100% renewable resources and waterless printing technology. Print production systems registered to ISO 14001: 2004, ISO 9001: 2008 and EMAS standards and all site emissions are offset through The Rainforest Concern Charity, via their Forest Credits scheme and over 95% of waste is recycled.

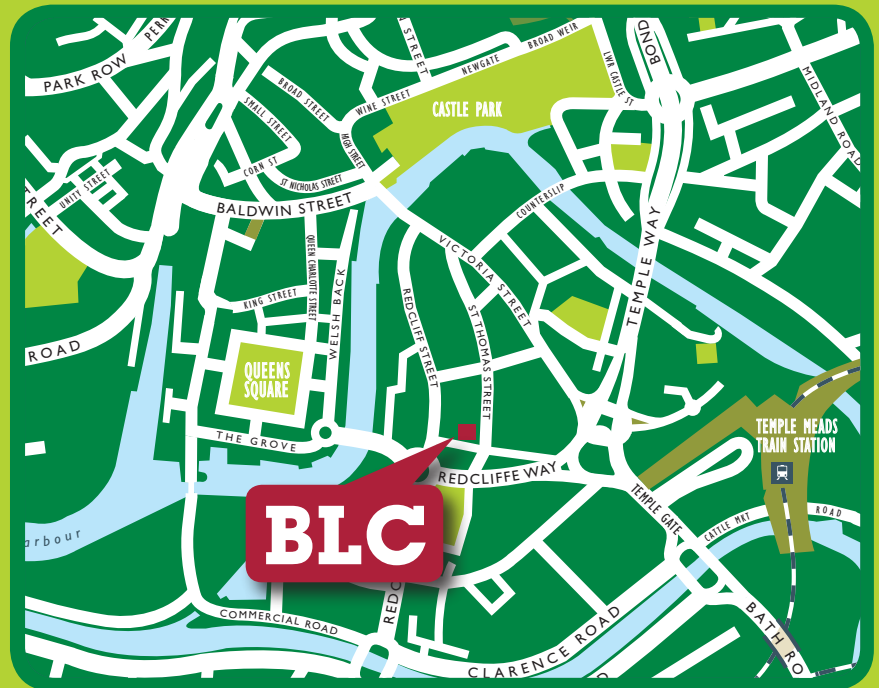
"At BLC we are committed to providing the best all-round experience for the students. We do this by offering excellent teaching, online learning opportunities and a varied social programme dedicated to full immersion and peer learning. We enjoy seeing students reach their goals, whether they come to us with aspirations for university, their career or to learn English for pleasure. We see BLC as part of that journey, equipping them for a brighter future."

**Seonaid Birkett, Director and Owner**



**Connect to us:**

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