



BLC

Your Future in English

**STUDY
GUIDE**
2020



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, Quality English and Bristol Education Group.

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.




"I improved my English skills,
met amazing people and have
perfect memories"

Elif Tunuslu,
Turkish, aged 21

"The school has a strong
community spirit and you'll feel
included from day one"

Lena Bach,
Swiss, aged 18

Connect to us:

-  BLCLearnEnglish
-  BLC_Bristol
-  BLCbristol

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"Everyone knows you by name and is interested. I've had a great time here and definitely recommend the school to others"

**Aniek Bolwek,
Dutch, aged 22**

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 may be
- 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 is a member of English UK, Quality English and Bristol Education Group

Independent

- BLC in Bristol provides you with a unique all-round English language experience
- Your specific needs will be identified and met by a combination of our flexible afternoon class options, BLC's very own mobile learning programme, our online learning environment, and our internship programme

Supportive

- Your health and happiness matter to us – you can ask BLC's Student Support Team 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 super-fast 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 Bristol, a lively and welcoming city which is easy to navigate and quickly feel at home in.

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: in recent years it has been voted best place to live in the UK, friendliest city and one of the top cities to visit in Europe, making it an ideal 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 independent music scene, with plenty of live events throughout the year that cater to all tastes in music. Check out the O2 Academy, Colston Hall, Stokes Croft, Motion and many more venues around the city - there's also a great choice of bars and clubs.



Educational opportunities

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



Art and festivals

There is art everywhere you look in Bristol: colourful neighbourhoods, urban street art and even up in the sky - Bristol is famous for hot air ballooning! The International Balloon Fiesta, Upfest and the world renowned Harbour Festival are not to be missed.



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.

Sporting life

From paddle-boarding and canoeing to tennis and rock climbing, Bristol is sure to have a sport for you whether it's on land or water. Or, watch Bristol's professional rugby and football teams in action - international fixtures at Cardiff's Principality Stadium are also less than an hour away by train.



Out of town

Bristol is the perfect base to visit the rest of the UK, with direct trains to London (1½ hours), Bath (10 mins), Cardiff (50 mins) and even Edinburgh and Manchester. Oxford, Stratford-upon-Avon and the ancient sights of Stonehenge are also in easy reach by car.

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's Student Support Team will help you with any non-academic issues, ranging from registering with the police and medical services through to setting up a bank account, or simply pointing you in the right direction for local attractions and amenities.

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. You will be able to make friends and practise your English with people from diverse places. For instance, in 2019, around 8% of BLC students came from Asia, 5% from Eastern Europe, 10% from the Middle East, 2% from the Russian Federation, 2% from Turkey, and 8% from the Americas, not to mention students from a wide range of Western European countries.



For details of our wide range of accommodation see pages 19-21 or visit: 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.

97%

of BLC students thought their 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

During these lessons students can opt to prepare for Cambridge exams, study Academic English with IELTS, Professional English or General English Skills.



Tablet technology

You will benefit from BLC's tablet and self-study area which is available to use in the afternoon for independent work. Secured tablets are available to students for personal internet access or self-study. Additional tablets are available for classroom work and *BLC Anytime* tutorials.

We also have interactive whiteboards, screens and projectors in most classrooms, plus free super-fast 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* on which you can take your level test before arrival if you prefer. 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 WhatsApp-based Mobile Learning programme.



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 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. 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 10 modern, light and well equipped classrooms, many of which have interactive whiteboards. 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, super-fast Wi-Fi and progress report and certificate on successful completion of your course.

BLC shop

You can purchase practical items from the BLC shop 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

Sarah Smith,
Accommodation Officer

"Accommodation is such an important part of the study abroad experience, so finding a great match between our students and hosts is an enjoyable challenge. Our students come from all over the world so it's a real cultural exchange not just for them, but for our host families too."

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 throughout 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.

*"Not only am I improving my English,
but it's a great life experience too!"*

**Dariusz Zagorski,
Polish, aged 17**

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, Bath, Glastonbury, 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 or afternoon tea
- 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, St Paul's Carnival, Upfest or Bristol International Balloon Fiesta
- Take a stroll around one of Bristol's many museums, make some furry friends at Bristol Zoo or spot wild deer in Ashton Gate





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, 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.

Connect to us:

BLCLearnEnglish BLC_Bristol blcbristol

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
- The option to take your level test online before you arrive, to streamline your first day at school and ensure you make the most of your time with us
- Learning in your own way, using authentic material
- A structured individual learning plan at your own level to help you
- Reaching personal learning goals
- Preparing online for tests and exams using a wide range of exam preparation material
- Sharing your learning and social experiences with friends via social media
- 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!

BLC Mobile Learning – UNIQUE to BLC

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

Benefits to you include:

Each day you will receive a WhatsApp message with an English learning tip and links to videos, websites and photos to help cement your knowledge. Each day of the week covers a different theme, including idioms, phrasal verbs, common mistakes, grammar and colloquial phrases – this 'drip-feed' method of learning means you'll progress faster than you know it!

"BLC Anytime is really well structured; I've used the grammar sections a lot and plan to continue studying when I return home"

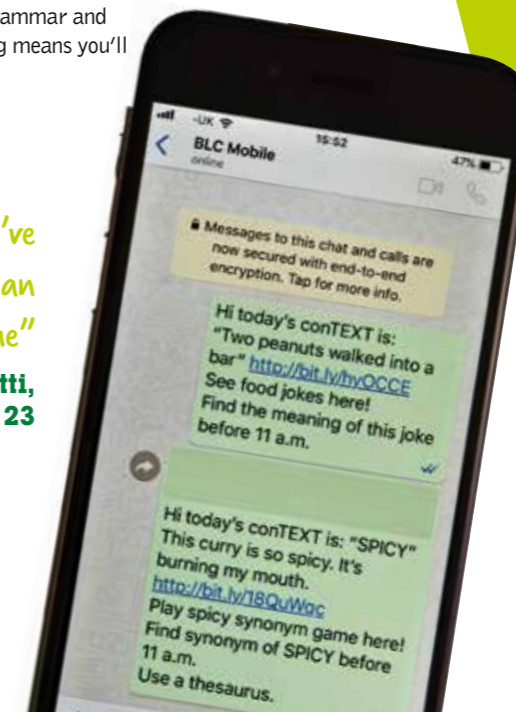
Andrea Bortolotti,
Italian, aged 23



My BLC

Milo Ethernon,
BLC Teacher

"It's fantastic to be able to teach such a variety of ages, abilities and backgrounds – every day is different! What doesn't change is the friendly and supportive atmosphere among both students and staff."





"I really enjoyed the time with my host family, they were extremely nice and helpful"

**Karla de la Rosa González,
Mexico, aged 17**

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 information about 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:

- Opportunity to improve conversational English
- 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
- Hosts in a variety of locations all over the city

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
- 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. A broad nationality mix at Elephant House means you will have even more opportunity to make friends and practise your English with other students. 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.

"Elephant House is very nice and comfortable, it also has an incredible location."

**Sebastian Reyes Suarez,
Mexican, aged 27**



At Elephant House there is a range of accommodation, including an extra large ensuite room, mezzanine rooms with detached ensuite/private bathroom, and single or twin rooms with shared bathrooms.

- Located near the picturesque residential area of Southville, where you will find local shops in a friendly neighbourhood
- A BLC shared house, with nine high quality, bright and spacious rooms
- Self-catering
- Students must be at least 18 years of age
- Minimum stay is 2 weeks
- Strictly no smoking in this residence

Facilities include:

- Modern 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 and pillows), but students must provide their own towels and bed linen
- 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 15 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
- Minimum stay is 2 weeks
- Strictly no smoking



Facilities include:

- An individual self-contained studio room
- 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 warden and security, with key fob entry
- Bike storage
- Wheelchair access

Getting around the city

On foot:

Bristol city centre is compact and easy to navigate with many attractions and neighbourhoods within easy walking distance of BLC. We are just 5 minutes' walk from Bristol Temple Meads train station and a short distance from the bustling harbourside area, Park Street and shopping area of Cabot Circus.

By bus:

Bristol's local bus system is convenient and economical; there are several bus stops outside BLC, as well as Bristol Temple Meads train station or the city centre - all within a short distance from BLC. With a local bus pass it's possible to explore every corner of the city and BLC can help you purchase this from BLC, on the bus or using the local bus company's app. A student discount is available.

By bike:

To explore the city from a different perspective, local bike hire and guided bike tours are available nearby - ask at reception and we can point you in the right direction. You can also use the Yobike app for easy bike rental anywhere in the city, which is perfect for short journeys.





"My friend recommended me BLC and Bristol and I'm glad she did, I'm really enjoying it!"

Rocio Granados Moreno,
Spanish, aged 27

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 10–17 years at a range of levels. See page 30
- English for Kids for students aged 7-9 travelling to Bristol with their family. See page 31

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 26
- IELTS examination, to improve your English language skills for university entrance and develop skills to feel more comfortable in an English-speaking academic environment. See page 27

Be motivated English to suit you

- Group programmes and private 1:1 courses can be tailored to your needs. Our English course content is custom built to suit you and push your language further. See pages 32-33

Be professional English for the workplace

- Professional English helps you improve your English so that you can conduct business internationally. See page 34

Be experienced BLC Internship Programme

- The BLC Internship Programme is available to EU students, to give you vital experience during or after your studies by using your English language skills in a local business. See page 35

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

98%

of BLC students felt that they improved their English by the end of their course*



"I love the flexibility of the afternoon classes. Class sizes are small and I feel I am learning a lot."

Sayaka Hamada, Japanese, aged 21



My BLC

Naomi Mullins, BLC Teacher

"I love meeting students from all different countries and hearing about their cultures and experiences - it makes for some very interesting discussions in class which is great speaking practice for students - and they are making friends at the same time!"

General English

Courses to improve your English language skills for everyday situations

Course description

We offer General English programmes 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 exam focussed programme for example FCE, CAE or IELTS, to receive an internationally recognised qualification

Key course facts

- Elementary to advanced levels*
- Minimum length: 1 week
- 20 lessons per week (15 hours)
- Maximum class size: 14
- Average class size: 10
- Start any Monday during term time**
- Course length as required
- Minimum age: 18

Sample Timetable

09.15-10.45 Lessons 1 and 2

BREAK

11.00-12.30 Lessons 3 and 4

LUNCH

*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.

Intensive English

Courses to maximise your progression and reach your goals

Course description

Our flexible Intensive English course is designed for students with specific goals in mind who wish to achieve maximum progress in their English level in the time available. In addition to the morning General English classes, you will study an additional 10 afternoon lessons per week during which you can choose to prepare for a Cambridge exam (FCE/CAE), study Academic English with IELTS, follow our Professional English course, or simply continue with further General Skills.

Sample Timetable

09.15-10.45 General English Lessons 1 and 2

BREAK

11.00-12.30 General English Lessons 3 and 4

LUNCH

13.45-15.15 Elective Lessons 5 and 6

Course outcomes

- You will follow a course adapted to your specific needs and requirements.
- You will maximise your progress for the length of your course.

Key course facts

- As per General English, plus:
- 30 lessons per week (22.5 hours): 20 lessons of General English + 10 elective lessons (please see the pages 26-28 for further details)
- Minimum age: 16***
- Elementary to Advanced levels for standard Intensive English, please see paged 26-28 for entry requirements for other options



LanguageCert exams on request, must be pre-booked



Be qualified

English for examination purposes

"I did an FCE exam a month ago and I passed! BLC's course really helped me and I am so happy with these results, thank you!"

Vitaly Kuznetsov,
Russian, aged 18

98%

of BLC students said Bristol is a great city[†]



Cambridge Examinations

Preparation for internationally recognised exams

Academic English with IELTS

Improve your English for university entrance

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.

For CAE students, we recommend 12 weeks of study prior to your chosen exam date. You can take a level test before enrolling to confirm the number of weeks recommended to reach your goals.

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 (FCE), upper intermediate (CAE)
- Course length: up to 13 weeks
- Minimum length advised: 6 weeks
- 30 lessons per week (22.5 hours):
20 General English
+ 10 Cambridge Preparation
- Maximum class size: 14 (average class size: 10)
- Minimum age: 16
- Certificates are valid forever

Course description

This course will help you improve your English language and Academic skills to prepare for the internationally recognised IELTS (International English Language Testing System) examination or simply feel more confident in an English-speaking learning environment.

Course outcomes

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

Key course facts

- Minimum length: 1 week
- 30 lessons per week (22.5 hours):
20 General English
+ 10 Cambridge Preparation
- Maximum class size: 14 (average class size: 12)
- Start any Monday during term time*
- Course length as required - students can take a level test before enrolling to confirm the number of weeks recommended to reach their goals.
- Minimum age: 16
- IELTS certificates valid for 2 years

*See term dates on page 39.

FCE exam courses	FCE Exam Dates
6 January – 13 March (10 weeks)	Friday 13 March
16 March – 12 June (13 weeks)	Tuesday 9 June
15 June – 28 August (11 weeks)	Thursday 27 August
7 September – 4 December (13 weeks)	Tuesday 1 December

CAE Exam Dates	
Saturday 11 January	Wednesday 10 June
Saturday 8 February	Saturday 11 July
Saturday 14 March	Friday 28 August
Saturday 18 April	Saturday 31 October
Saturday 16 May	Wednesday 2 December



"Classes are dynamic and teachers are committed to developing our skills, and there is always an extra activity focused on improving learning. I've made great progress already!"

Inés Salgado,
Chilean, aged 38

Be professional

English for the workplace



Professional English

Flexible courses for better business communication

Course description

Our Professional English course is aimed at students wishing to focus on practical English language for 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:

- writing business emails
- presentation giving
- telephone etiquette
- negotiation
- e-commerce
- report writing
- interview skills

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

"Good teaching methods - BLC is one of the best!"

**Abdullah Saeed Salem,
Emirati, aged 36**



Key course facts

- Intermediate to advanced levels
- Minimum length advised: 2 weeks
- 30 lessons per week (22.5 hours):
20 General English
+ 10 Professional English
- Maximum class size: 14
- Minimum class size: 4
- Start day can be any Monday
- Minimum age: 16

**For specific group enquiries, please
contact marketing@bhc-english.co.uk**

"I really appreciated how the teachers organised the class with different ways to learn the subject, it never got boring. I enjoyed as well the friendly and easy-going atmosphere at school."

**Rahel Schmidiger,
Swiss, aged 22**

BLC Internship Programme

Learn English in the workplace

Course description

BLC offers internships in a local businesses, with the option to carry out a full-time placement after completing a 4 week English course, or combine General English with a part-time placement for 2 or more weeks during your holidays. We can arrange placements in a variety of sectors, including retail, administration, marketing, finance, hospitality and many more, depending on your previous experience and personal goals.

Programme requirements

To take part in the programme, you need to:

- Be a European national*
- Have an English language level of intermediate and above
- Have suitable experience or qualifications
- Provide an up-to-date CV and covering letter

*Please contact us directly for up to date guidance
**Subject to you submitting relevant information such as up-to-date CV and subject to availability.



Key facts

- BLC will identify a suitable work placement in your chosen field, to suit your studies or experience**
- Placements last from 2 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



My BLC

**Kasia Tyka,
BLC Teacher**

"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 active

English for making friends



NEW!
FOR 2020

Junior Summer Programme

English with activity programme for students aged 10-17

Course description

This offers English language tuition for students aged 10–17 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: 29 June to 8 August in two 3-week cycles
- Course length: 1–3 weeks*
- Students aged 10–17 years
- Full and half-day accompanied excursions (mid-week and Saturday)
- Fees include: full board accommodation, excursions and local bus pass
- Compulsory door-to-door transport provided for 10-11 year olds staying in host family accommodation at extra cost

Activities

Activities include things like a visit to the S.S. Great Britain, a tour of Bristol's famous street art, sports, a trip to the city of Bath or London and shopping in a local market.**

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

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



English for Kids

English with optional activity programme for students aged 7-9

Course description

New for 2020 BLC offers summer English language programmes for students aged 7-9 who are joining their family for holiday in Bristol. Lessons are lively and interactive, so you'll learn English while having fun!

Sample Timetable

09.00-10.30	Lessons 1 and 2
BREAK	
10.45-12.15	Lessons 3 and 4
LUNCH	
13.00-15.30	Optional activities

Key course facts

- Elementary to Intermediate levels
- 20 lessons per week (15 hours)
- Course dates: 13 July to 7 August 2020
- Course length: 1-4 weeks
- Must be travelling and staying with a parent or guardian
- Optional afternoon activities: 4 per week

Activities

Children can enjoy fun activities such as arts and crafts, games and accompanied visits to We The Curious or the S.S. Great Britain!



Family programmes

Why not take advantage of your spare time in Bristol and learn English at the same time as your child? Our kids timetable means that you can drop off your child* at 9am, take the morning General English class at BLC and pick up your child at lunch time. Alternatively, you could study Intensive English at BLC while your child is learning English in the morning and enjoying fun packed English language centred activities in the afternoon.

Contact us for our recommendations for private accommodation in Bristol. Homestay accommodation is available for parents and children (maximum 2 per host family).

Please note students aged 7-9 studying English for Kids must be staying with a parent or guardian in Bristol.

Be motivated

English to suit you



Group Programmes

Tailored English programmes for groups of all sizes and ages, whatever your needs.

Course description

BLC is experienced in delivering group programmes and courses to suit your school, company or organisation. We offer any of our English courses built into a tailor-made programme including a full social programme and accommodation if required. We can cater for:

- School Groups
- PON programmes (Italy only)
- Business English courses tailored to your group's industry
- Ministays
- Work and study programmes (General English combined with work experience)
- CLIL-based learning courses for IGCSEs, high school exams or leadership, among others

For group prices please contact marketing@blc-english.co.uk

Course Outcomes:

- Fully inclusive programmes available
- Competitive prices depending on group size and requirements
- Build a course to suit your group-our team will assist in creating the programme you need
- Great memories of the BLC experience

Key course facts

- Minimum course length: 15 hours
- Elementary to advanced levels
- Maximum class size: 15
- Number of lessons per week: 15-30
- Students aged 10-17 for Junior programmes or 16 and above for adult programmes
- Start day can be flexible to suit your group's needs
- Online group courses also available (see opposite)



Private 1:1 Tuition

Online or in school



Course description

BLC's one to one lessons are perfect if you have a busy schedule or are unable to attend a full time course at BLC. You may have a very specific requirement for lessons such as enhanced pronunciation skills, or specialist report writing, for example.

With the option to study in school or via our online teaching portal, our lessons offer you complete flexibility and the opportunity to reach your personal and professional goals at a pace to suit you.

All courses include access to BLC Anytime, our online learning platform for the duration of your course and up to 3 months after you finish.

Course Outcomes

- English lessons tailored around your specific objectives
- You will develop English skills at your own pace with a fully qualified BLC teacher
- Timetable to suit your needs, perfect for those unable to attend a full-time course
- Study at BLC or in your own home

Example course content available

- Pronunciation
- Writing skills: essays, CV, business emails
- Business English: presentations, negotiation skills, interview skills
- Specialist courses related to your field of work eg. Tourism, hospitality, transport, marketing, finance
- General English
- Exam preparation (IELTS, FCE, CAE)



Be experienced

Work and study programme

Demi Au pair Programme

Combine English study with au pair work



Course description

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

- Build 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 while studying English in a structured way

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: 3 months
- Maximum length: none
- Maximum class size in BLC: 14 (average class size 10)
- Start any Monday, must allow at least 2 months notice after your application has been approved 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
- Open to European nationals

"The thing I enjoyed the most was that I was treated like a member of the family. I had a great time and would definitely recommend the experience!"

Ophelia Sauvaget,
French, aged 18



Practical information

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

England and Wales public holidays

BLC is closed for 2 weeks for Christmas and New Year and also on public holidays, which in 2020 are as follows:

New Years Day	1 January 2020
Good Friday	10 April 2020
Easter Monday	13 April 2020
Early May Bank Holiday	8 May 2020
Spring Bank Holiday	25 May 2020
Summer Bank Holiday	31 August 2020
Christmas Day	25 December 2020
Boxing Day	26 December 2020

BLC term dates 2020

The school is open from 6 January to 18 December 2020. The minimum period of enrolment is 1 week.

Term	Start Date*	End Date	Term Length
Winter	6 January 2020	27 March 2020	12 weeks
Spring	30 March 2020	26 June 2020	13 weeks
Summer	29 June 2020	18 September 2020	12 weeks
Autumn	21 September 2020	18 December 2020	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

Maria Osipova,
Admissions / Student
Support Officer

"Bristol is such a welcoming city with so much to offer international students – and we're here to ensure they make the most of it! It's rewarding to be part of their experience and help them feel at home away from home."

Course fees 2020

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	£235	£225	£215	£205
30 lessons of 45 mins 22.5 hours	Intensive English (with FCE, CAE, Academic English with IELTS, Professional English)	£285	£275	£265	£255

*Please note there is a summer course supplement of £15 per week from 29 June to 14 August inclusive

Other fees

Registration fee*	£50
First course book*	£30
Second course book	£20
FCE/CAE exam**	£165
IELTS exam**	£165
Summer supplement (29 June - 14 Aug)	£15 per week

*Compulsory charges

**Exam fees are approximate and may be subject to change. LanguageCert prices available on request

Private lessons

Private 1:1 Tuition*	
5 hours	£45 per hour
10 hours	£40 per hour
15+ hours	£35 per hour

*Includes access to BLC Anytime for up to 3 months

Registration fee and deposit

Your registration fee includes your level test, first day induction and access to BLC Anytime for the duration of your course and up to 3 months after you finish.

To book your course, we require a non-refundable deposit of £300 which is deductible from your overall course price.

Demi au Pair programme

£300 placement fee + cost of General English course (min. 12 weeks) and registration fee.

Internship Programme

£350 (specialist sector) or £250 (retail) placement fee + cost of chosen English course.

Junior & Group Programmes

For our **Junior programme** please consult the Summer Junior flyer for more details and prices.

For **Group programmes**, please contact marketing@blc-english.co.uk

Accommodation fees

Homestay

Accommodation	Year round		Summer (28 June - 15 August)	
	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

Under 18s

Under 18 supplement	£10 per week
Full board supplement (optional)	£15 per week

Christmas Accommodation

Full board**	£185 per week
Retainer	£60 per week

**subject to availability

Residential

Elephant House

Twin room (two single or small double beds and shared bathroom and kitchen)	£145 per person per week*
Large single room (double bed and shared bathroom and kitchen)	£175 per week*
Large Mezzanine Single Room with Private Bathroom	£205 per week*
Extra Large Single Room with Ensuite	£235 per week*
Double occupancy supplement for ensuite	£50 per week*

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

BLC City Centre Studios

Studio room (Double bed, en-suite and individual kitchen facilities)	£295 per person per week*
Double occupancy supplement	£50 per week*

*Any room stay in our studios will incur an additional cleaning supplement of £30

Airport pick-up service

(1-2 people)

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	£215
Gatwick Airport	£240
Cardiff Airport	£165
Birmingham Airport	£230

Terms and conditions

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 take out full travel insurance and medical insurance before you travel. Insurance should cover personal belongings such as laptops, cameras and smartphones, as well as the loss of tuition fees if you have to cancel a course or return home.
- Most of our courses have flexible start dates but we strongly advise that very low level students on Intensive and General English programmes arrive and start courses at the beginning of term.
- It is your responsibility to check the visa requirements to study in the UK for your country; BLC can provide supporting documents once your course deposit has been received.
- BLC must be informed of any allergies, medical conditions or learning disabilities that may affect your course at the time of booking.
- All information is correct at the time of printing. BLC cannot be held accountable for any change in EU legislation after the time of publication.

Courses

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 visa 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 our Mobile Learning programme. 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 £30 per week.
- All courses are subject to a £50 registration fee.

Deposits and additional costs

- All students must pay a course deposit of £300 to reserve their space, deductible from the total course fees.
- A course book is compulsory for courses of 3 or more weeks. The first book is £30, any additional books are £20. For courses of 1-2 weeks, students have the option to buy or rent their book.
- The course change fee is £15.

Cancellation & refund policy

- If you cancel your course for any reason, your deposit is non-refundable.
- If you require a visa to study in the UK and your application is refused, if you then decide not to pursue your course then BLC will refund 50% of your deposit, subject to receiving a copy of your visa refusal letter.
- 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, non-arrival 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.

School closures

- The school will be closed 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.

Absence 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

Additional information regarding accommodation arranged by BLC

- Students should arrive on Sunday and depart on Saturday wherever possible, particularly during the busy summer months.
- Please arrive at 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.
- All accommodation changes for reasons other than those stated on the application form will incur a charge of £40. Changes should always take place at weekends.

Host family specific

- We require 2 weeks' notice to arrange host family accommodation. Host family accommodation will only be allocated once flight details are received, and where applicable, your visa has been approved.
- If you require a visa, please allow plenty of time for your application and inform us as soon as you receive a response. If your visa is approved less than 2 weeks before you are due to travel, you may be required to postpone your arrival or make other arrangements for your accommodation.
- A notice period of 1 week for cancelling or changing your host family applies. Changes should always take place at weekends.
- The minimum length of stay is 1 week.
- Dietary requirements can be catered to however there may be a supplement to pay. BLC must be informed of this along with any allergies, medical conditions or learning disabilities at the time of booking.

Residential specific

- 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.
- All residences are subject to a £30 cleaning fee (once per room).
- Double occupancy supplement of £50 per week (BLC City Centre Studios or Extra Large Single Room in Elephant House only).
- The minimum length of stay is 2 weeks in Elephant House, or 1 week in the BLC City Centre Studios.
- A notice period of 2 weeks applies for cancelling or changing your residential accommodation. For bookings of 3 months or longer the notice period is 4 weeks. Changes should always take place at weekends.
- All residences are subject to availability.
- Students must adhere to the rules of the residence. Failure to do so may result in your accommodation being terminated without refund.

Christmas accommodation

- BLC will be closed for the Christmas break from 19 December 2020 until 3 January 2021. During this time you may either remain with your host family if they are available, or if you would like to make other plans and return to the same host family upon your return you can opt to pay a retainer fee. Residential accommodation is subject to availability.






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"At BLC we are proud to be part of a global community of international language schools, agents, partners, parents and international students. We are passionate about providing the best all-round educational, linguistic and cultural international experience - enabling you to succeed in today's world. Whether your goal is to further your language skills for university, career or simply for pleasure, our aim is to equip you for a better future in English."

Seonaid Birkett, Director and Owner



Connect to us:

-  BLCLearnEnglish
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