

# CIE OXFORD

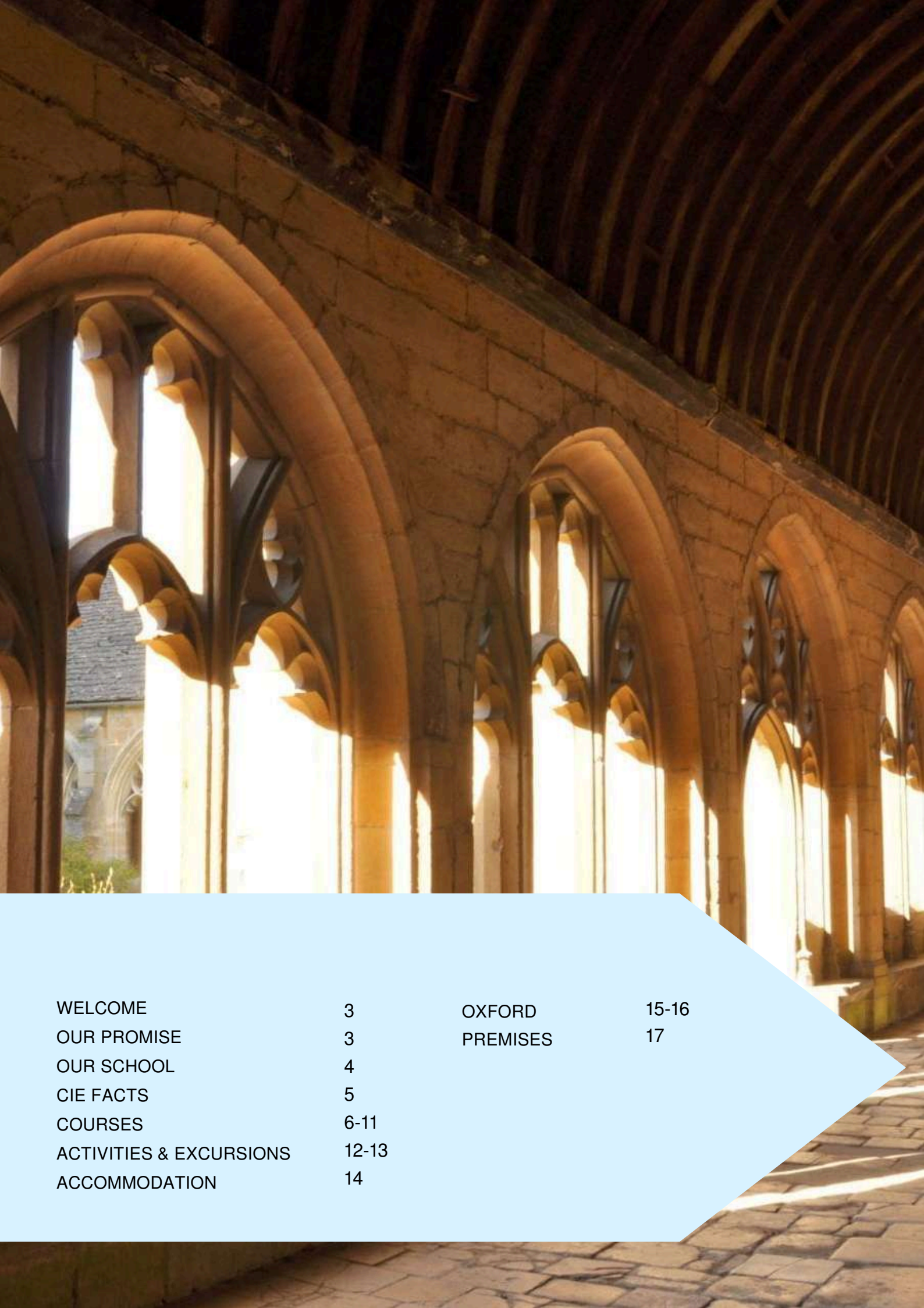
College of International Education



## Academic Year **Official Brochure** **2024/5**

Experience Oxford with our year-round English Language courses for students aged 15 and above, starting every Monday.

*English for Tomorrow, Today*



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# A warm welcome



We aim to provide  
a safe, positive  
and stimulating  
environment

## Our promise

The aim of CIE is to enhance the academic and social potential of students, while promoting their understanding and appreciation of the diversity of various cultural traditions. The school provides courses that widen students' social, professional and educational opportunities. CIE is accredited by the British Council and British Accreditation Council to ensure the courses are delivered to a high standard and appropriate to the abilities and needs of each student. We aim to provide a safe, positive and stimulating environment in which students and teachers feel empowered, valued and respected.

All of our staff are supportive and are  
happy to help with any issues you may have.

## Our team

All of our academic subject teachers are qualified, experienced, and professional. Our academic and CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) courses are accredited by the British Accreditation Council (BAC). Our English language courses are accredited by the British Council, which requires that our teachers have a degree and certificate -level teaching qualifications such as the Cambridge CELTA (Certificate of English Language Teaching to Adults) or Trinity TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages). For more information on our staff and to contact us directly, please see our 'about us' section on our website, then 'meet the team.'

# Why Choose CIE?

The College of International Education (CIE), located in the heart of Oxford, has been offering a range of short courses in English as a Foreign Language (EFL), exam preparation, 1-1 tutorials and a number of content and language integrated learning (CLIL) courses since 1974. We specialise in small classes, which ensure fast progress and attention to individual needs with a team of dedicated staff always there to offer academic as well as pastoral support.



We're one of the oldest language schools in Oxford



- 1 Small classes with personal support.**  
During the academic year, our classes usually contain no more than 8 students. CIE's close family atmosphere helps to make intensive study easier and much more pleasant.
- 2 Study in the city centre.**  
CIE's Bocardo House is in the centre of Oxford, opposite the world-famous Oxford Union.
- 3 CIE Online**  
Students (over 15s) who enrol at CIE can continue to maintain their English with online lessons after the completion of their course.
- 4 CIE was established in 1974**  
and since that time, we have been building up an excellent reputation for the quality of our courses, the success of our students, and the friendly atmosphere at the school.
- 5 Access to Oxford's academic and city history.**  
Many students will have lessons in Oxford University buildings such as Jesus College, the Oxford union, and St Peter's college, which we use to give our students a taste of the university.
- 6 Aimed at students from the age of 12,**  
our summer courses offer opportunities to spend the holidays learning English and meeting new friends where we provide a safe social environment where everyone is cared for.
- 7 Accreditation and Membership.**  
CIE is accredited by the British Council and the British Accreditation Council to ensure our courses are delivered to a high standard. We are also a member of English UK, the national association of English language centres in the UK

“Amazing teachers  
and unique people  
from around the  
world”





## CIE Facts

**6 STUDENTS .....**

**...PER CLASS, ON AVERAGE**

**1974 .....**

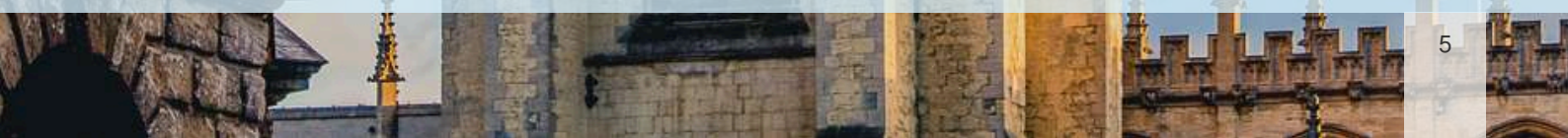
**...THE YEAR CIE WAS FOUNDED**

**25 NATIONALITIES .....**

**...ENROL EVERY YEAR, ON AVERAGE**

**1 WEEK .....**

**...THE MINIMUM COURSE LENGTH**





# Courses

We design our courses to take care of your learning, your safety, and your enjoyment.  
All courses include the following:

- 24 hour Emergency Contact number
- Excellent welfare and support before and during your stay
- Help registering with doctors, getting local bus passes etc.
- Welfare tutorials for long-term students
- Access to our kitchen to make drinks and food
- Small class sizes focusing on your individual study needs
- Study materials and certificates
- Placement tests and progress tests
- Qualified and experienced teachers
- Monthly Tutorials / Progress reports

Optional extras:

Airport pick-up, social activities during the week, excursions at the weekend, bus passes, medical insurance





# English Language Courses

GENERAL ENGLISH  
INTENSIVE ENGLISH  
ACADEMIC COURSES  
IELTS

SPECIALISED COURSES  
WINTER PROGRAMME (CLIL)  
SUMMER COURSES

\*bespoke courses can be designed on request, subject to availability

## General English and Intensive English

Our lessons are interactive and focused, with a strong emphasis on communication. Thanks to the small class sizes, teachers can tailor the lessons to meet your individual needs.

### Intensive English

Our Intensive English Course has been carefully designed to immerse our students in English Language studies while at the same time learn about Oxford and a variety of academic topics. We will aim to help you achieve your goals in a realistic way as quickly as possible. Every day at CIE begins with an hour of functional English practise. Then General English follows to achieve monitored improvements in listening, speaking and writing. Afternoon classes focus on a different specialised topic each week. From History and Architecture to Technology and Sustainable Development Goals; these are all delivered with Oxford in mind as a context for your project work.

### General English

We work with a course book to learn vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation in order to improve both receptive (listening and reading) and productive skills (speaking and writing). Every Friday there is a test to monitor weekly progress and an opportunity to review any content that might need more support.

Teachers can personalise the classes to suit your individual needs.

### Topic

In the afternoon we have topic lessons. Our tutors have designed a portfolio that will broaden student knowledge on a number of topics while improving their language skills. Based in the heart of Oxford, a city steeped in centuries of academic prestige, it serves as the muse for much of our project work. For example, Architecture allows students to understand the different historical influences seen in the amazing Oxford buildings and Sustainable Development Goals includes face to face research with the general public and final presentations on how Oxford can be improved.

Interactive, focused, and with an emphasis on communication.



### Conversation café and progress

Every Friday, students from different levels meet in the common room for a 'Conversation Café'. This is a fantastic opportunity to get to know your peers and exchange opinions, experiences and compare each other's cultures. Students will have homework most nights and a test at the end of each week so they can monitor their progress. Long term students have progress tests, tutorials and monthly progress reports. At the end of the course, students receive a certificate stating their level according to the Common European Framework.

9:00 ~ 10:00	10:15 ~ 11:15	11:30 ~ 12:30	3.30 ~ 15:45
Functional English and study skills	General English A balance of grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and skills	General English A balance of grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and skills	Topic based classes Project work, educational visits and presentations; developing communication, critical thinking and teamwork

# Academic Courses

## IELTS Exam Preparation Classes

The IELTS Exam Preparation Course is perfect for students who want to study at an English-speaking university or aim to take an internationally recognized English exam. We prepare students for their IELTS exams using practice tests, IELTS course books, and valuable language input.

In the morning, students attend Functional Skills and General English classes. In the afternoon, they join the IELTS preparation class.

Our qualified and experienced teachers will prioritise your needs to help ensure you are able to meet your goals. The class sizes are usually no more than 8, meaning students will have more attention from teachers and fully take part in the lessons.



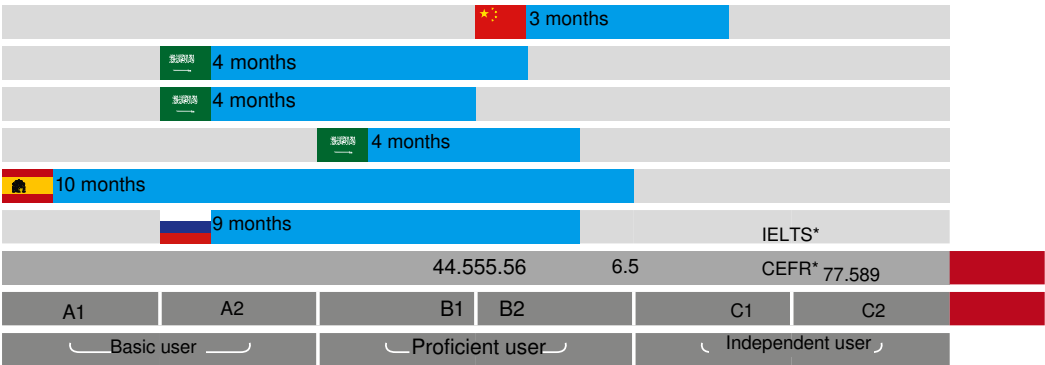
In this College students do not feel sad or bored during class time. Teachers are well trained for IELTS and English learning.

We believe that it is important that students are studying at their correct level so we carry out progress tests throughout the course to check students' development.

Progress tests throughout the course to check students' development.

Until you are B1 level, (the necessary level to study IELTS), you will study General English + 2 hours of English Extra per day.

We are happy to help students book the IELTS exam at a test centre nearby. This normally needs to be done one month before the exam and costs, on average, £200 for the test. Please note that in the summer the exam gets booked up quickly, so talk to a member of staff to check the dates of the exam.



\*IELTS is the International English Language Testing System; \*CEFR is the Common European Framework of Reference

This chart shows how much our students improved during their time on the IELTS course.



# Specialised Courses

Immerse yourself in British culture

## WINTER PROGRAMME (CLIL)

This truly unique course allows students to broaden their knowledge and understand a range of specialised topics whilst immersing themselves in British culture. This is a great opportunity to study and explore English in an excitingly unusual way.

This course starts at the beginning of September and runs to either December or February.

Full list of subjects covered:

- History of Oxford and the UK
- Beauty of Oxford
- Business philosophy
- Charity
- Drama
- SDGs
- Educational video production

In the morning students join our regular classes consisting of Functional English/ Academic Skills and General English. Classes have a good balance of grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and skills, interesting topics and varied activities that get students talking.

The afternoon is divided into specialised modules. CIE's aims quote Marcel Proust; "The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking out new places but in having new eyes". We take this into account when preparing afternoon lessons in which you will do topic-based learning. These materials offer both the student and the teacher an enjoyable, academic look at a variety of topics ranging from art and architecture of Oxford to preparing a charity event!



“ The drama class was really fun and I improved my speaking skills so much

# CIE Online



Flexible timetable to suit your availability

## What to Expect

Whether you wish to learn English for travelling or work, to pass an exam or you simply want to improve your general English skills, CIE 1-to-1 online classes offer a fun and personalised learning experience.

- Full individual attention to students' language needs in 1-1 classes
- Focus on functional English and useful expressions
- Attention to pronunciation and intonation
- Assignments for further practice and consolidation
- Ongoing progress checks
- Personalised and practical strategies, guidance and communicative approaches
- Assignments for further practice and consolidation
- Immediate feedback and error correction

“ I learned that I can communicate even if I don't speak English well, I can now enjoy speaking English with more confidence.

## Key Aims

- Improve all 4 skills, personalised to your needs
- Expand on vocabulary and grammar knowledge
- Develop effective study skills

Participate in critical thinking through comparing British culture with your own, agreeing and disagreeing on different issues, expressing personal opinions and supporting them with facts and examples





# Activities & Excursions

The CIE Activities and Excursions programme allows students to explore British culture and practise their English outside the classroom in a relaxed and informal environment.



From top to bottom: Windsor Castle, Brighton, The Cotswolds, The Natural History Museum. Opposite page: Port Meadow, Oxford City Centre





## Weekday Activities

### September ~ June

During the academic year, we are pleased to offer an optional programme of social, sporting, and cultural activities. The programme is customised to meet the desires of current students and one or two activities will be offered each week including one free activity and one paid activity, such as ice skating.

### July ~ August

Our activities and excursions programme is at its busiest in the summer. Weekday social activities are offered daily on Junior Summer courses and twice a week for teens and adults who are studying on the intensive course. Our attentive and friendly activity leaders supervise every activity, making sure everything runs safely and smoothly, and are there to help whenever the student requires it.

### Activities may include:

- The University museums
- Sightseeing
- Sports and games
- CIE cinema
- Punting
- Ice skating
- Bowling
- Cream tea
- Picnics

## Weekend Activities

### July ~ August

CIE organises Saturday day trips to Britain's great attractions visiting historic houses and castles, towns and cities or a day at the seaside. Over the years, our students have been to Bath and the Royal Palace in Windsor, had the opportunity to see London while cruising the river Thames, as well as numerous other places of historical and cultural interest.

Afternoon activities are always something interesting or funny. It's a great way to make friends from different countries.



We have a daily social activities programme for juniors in the summer.

# Accommodation

Most CIE students stay with host families, providing a unique opportunity to experience daily life with a British family. We consider your accommodation to be a very important part of your stay and we will make every effort to ensure that you are happy and comfortable throughout your time in Oxford. With homestay, you will stay in the home of an English speaking, British family. Our hosts are welcoming, caring, and speak English at home.

## BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

Two weeks before you arrive at CIE you will receive a profile of the host family who you will be staying with. You will receive full details of your host and all of the members of the household where you will be staying. We are always happy to help you with any questions regarding your host accommodation.

## DURING YOUR STAY

You will have breakfast and dinner with the host family during the week and at the weekend all meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) will be provided. Students of the same nationality will not be placed in the same homestay unless you request to stay with a friend. As CIE is situated in the centre of Oxford, an excellent bus service is available to and from the homes of all our host families. A member of CIE's accommodation team inspects the homes of all host families at least every two years to ensure that they meet our standards as well as those of the British Council.



## WHY CHOOSE HOME STAY?

The homestay experience lets you immerse yourself in British culture beyond the classroom which is a great way to practise your English and learn about another culture outside of the classroom. The UK is a multicultural nation with a diverse population, and our host families reflect this, representing different ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

- Practise English every day outside of the classroom
- Get to know different people, cultures, religions and customs
- Meals with the family
- Good value for money

## OTHER ACCOMMODATION CHOICES

Residential accommodation (Summer only) for juniors under 18 years of age provides a happy, social environment where everyone is cared for. More details of residential accommodation can be found in our [summer brochure](#).

For students wishing to have greater independence, CIE can offer advice on accommodation in a guesthouse or hotel, or for long-term students, renting a flat or a private room. During University holidays, CIE is occasionally able to arrange residential accommodation in a University college for groups upon request (and for a higher fee than host family accommodation). See [www.oxfordrooms.co.uk](http://www.oxfordrooms.co.uk) for more details



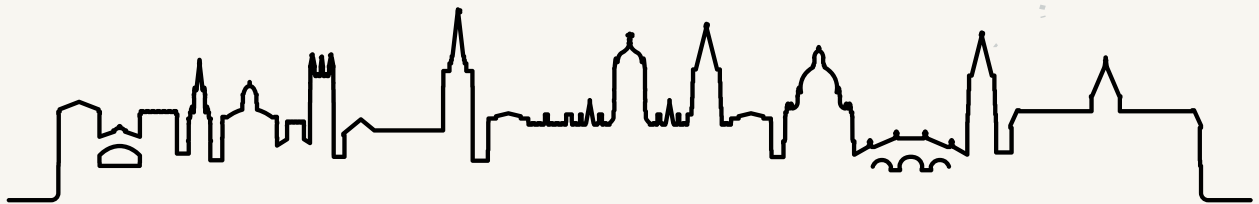
# Life in *Oxford*

## SELF-STUDY

After lessons, you are free to study on your own. CIE's Bocardo House is a 5-minute walk from Oxford City Library, which is open six days a week and offers free internet access as well as many other services for students. If you are in Oxford for 3 months or more, CIE can help you sign up for a library card, so you can borrow books and materials from the library. CIE has a small selection of dictionaries, readers and grammar books you are welcome to borrow while you are studying with us.

## THINGS TO SEE AND DO

Oxford is full of beautiful places to visit, allowing you and your classmates to take in the history and architectural beauty of this medieval city. Visitors come from all over the world to experience the world famous Oxford University buildings, walk through the beautiful parks or even go punting on the River Thames.



## TRANSPORT

The Oxford Bus Company and Stagecoach buses connect different parts of Oxford and Oxfordshire with the city centre. The Oxford Tube offers a convenient connection with London, home to some of the world's greatest shopping, dining and culture. It runs 24/7 and takes between 90 and 120 minutes, depending on the traffic. Oxford also has two railway stations which makes getting to and from London even easier and takes just over 1 hour.

## SHOP

In Oxford there are shops for all different types of fashion; high-street stores, boutiques, delicatessens, craft shops and even antiques stalls. You can visit the market from Wednesday to Saturday. This is a favourite of our students and is only a 2 minute walk from CIE! At the weekend you can visit Bicester Village, a short train journey from the city where you can find many famous fashion brands. If you want to stay within the city centre, you will find lots of shopping to do in Cornmarket Street, the Westgate Shopping Centre, or the lovely Covered Market. Oxford's oldest book shop, Blackwell's, located on Broad Street, is another place you must pop into.



Clockwise from top left: The public library  
The Radcliffe Camera  
Gloucester Green Market  
The Covered Market  
The bus station  
The King's Arms  
Christchurch Meadow  
The Ashmolean Museum

## SPORTS & THE OUTDOORS

Lots of British people love to play sport and be outdoors. Perhaps you'd like to play a game of football in the University Parks, or take a long countryside walk through Port Meadow to the Perch Pub in Binsey. You can find many outdoor and sports opportunities in and around the city.

## MUSEUMS, THEATRE, & MUSIC

Of course, a visit to Oxford wouldn't be complete without exploring its cultural landmarks. Spend an afternoon at the Ashmolean Museum, catch an exciting matinee at the Oxford Playhouse, or enjoy live music at a Sunday morning Coffee Concert. You'll find countless opportunities to immerse yourself in the city's vibrant and stimulating atmosphere.

## PUBS & CLUBS

In the evenings, it is an English tradition for British people to enjoy an hour (or more!) in their local pub. Oxford has many "public houses" where you can enjoy a pint of beer and a chat with friends. After dark, the Oxford club scene comes to life. The city offers a range of nightclubs and music venues where you and your new friends can listen to live music being performed, or dance the night away.

## EAT

Oxford's vibrant café culture ensures that a cosy spot is always just a short walk away in the city centre where you can unwind with a cup of tea or coffee and a pastry at a local café. As a multicultural city, Oxford's diverse cuisine offers something for every palate. Consider visiting Gloucester Green Market for a delicious, fresh lunch, or try traditional British food at one of the city's many pubs. If you're on the go, you can easily pick up a quick bite from the numerous kebab vans or sandwich delis around town.



# Premises

## CIE

CIE's main campus is located in the centre of Oxford. It consists of 5 classrooms, a social area and a kitchen where students can help themselves to tea and coffee. This small environment creates a nice atmosphere where students get to know each other, and the teachers, very well. Please see below other premises we use to teach at during the year.



## St Peter's College



St Peter's College, founded in 1929, is one of the younger colleges of the University of Oxford. Located in the city centre, it combines modern facilities with a rich sense of history. At times, we use St Peter's College for teaching, located just a one-minute walk from CIE. In addition to its historic buildings, St Peter's College features modern classrooms equipped with large TV screens and a lecture theatre.

## St Hilda's College



CIE uses St Hilda's college to teach in summer and spring. It is known for its beautiful riverside location on the banks of the River Cherwell, offering stunning views and serene surroundings. Originally an all-women's college, St Hilda's began admitting men in 2008. Its modern and historic buildings provide a unique blend of tradition and contemporary education, making it a distinctive and dynamic part of Oxford University.

## The Oxford Union



During the academic year, we also rent two spacious rooms at the Oxford Union, located just opposite Bocardo House. These rooms are suitable for both small and large groups, showcasing the tradition of this esteemed Oxford institution. The debating chamber has hosted many famous speakers, including Dame Judi Dench, Stephen Fry and Morgan Freeman

## Jesus College



Jesus College, founded in 1571 by Queen Elizabeth I, is one of the constituent colleges of the University of Oxford. With a mix of historic and modern buildings, Jesus College provides a picturesque and inspiring setting for study and research.

# HAVE YOUR MOMENT IN MAGICAL *Oxford*

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