SBC

№1

The UK's Number One Multi-Campus Summer School

SBC is the highest-ranked summer school in the EL Gazette UK Language Centre Rankings and an EL Gazette Centre of Excellence. These rankings are based on British Council inspection results.

EXPLORER PROGRAMMES

Young Explorers

8-12 years Camp Dragon



ENGLISH LEVEL
Minimum A2

COURSE LENGTH
2 weeks

ACADEMIC HOURS
15+ per week

CLASS SIZE
15 max

START DATES
19-7 | 2-8

RESIDENTIAL OR DAY
Both

For full dates, fees and everything that's included – tuition, accommodation, meals and excursions – visit our website.

summerboardingcourses.com/prices

AN ADVENTURE THEY'LL NEVER FORGET

Young Explorers

Young Explorers is a two-week English-language programme for students aged 8–12. It mixes learning, creativity and adventure. Through themed lessons, practical activities and group challenges, students explore English, science, maths, history, art and design. They also use English in every other part of camp life.

ACADEMIC CONTENT

15 hours of English-language learning per week, with interactive lessons, themed activities, practical tasks and group projects.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEVEL

Students should have a minimum English level of A2 so that they can understand key instructions, participate in lessons and communicate with others during camp activities.

WHAT STUDENTS TAKE HOME

A personalised SBC certificate and an individual end-of-course report about how they took part and progressed during the programme.



By the end of their course, we aim for each student to:

- enjoy learning and feel positive about their studies
- feel more confident using English, in lessons and in everyday situations
- speak more clearly, share ideas and opinions, and take part in discussions
- listen carefully, understand others and reply in English
- expand their vocabulary specific to their chosen subject
- work well in a team and solve problems together
- try new things and speak to new people
- practise English outside lessons during activities and excursions

For further information please scan here.

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8–12	Minimum A2	2 weeks	15+ per week	15 max	Both	19-7 | 2-8	Oxford



About the programme

Young Explorers gives students aged 8–12 the chance to improve their English while they explore different subjects and themes. Over two weeks at Dragon School, students learn English, maths, science, history, art and design through activities that help them ask questions, communicate and work as a team.

Camp Dragon uses a themed learning approach rather than relying only on traditional language exercises. Students use English while solving problems, creating projects, taking part in challenges and discussing what they discover. The daily Discover, Develop, Dare, Showtime structure gives each day a clear journey from introduction and exploration to application, challenge and sharing.

Learning continues beyond academic sessions through sport, creative activities, evening events and the wider residential experience. Camp life gives students further opportunities to communicate in English, try new things and spend time with children from different backgrounds within a structured and supportive community.

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Key Learning Outcomes

1 COMMUNICATE IN ENGLISH

Practise speaking, listening, reading and useful vocabulary through themed lessons, group activities and everyday conversations around the camp.

2 EXPLORE DIFFERENT SUBJECTS

Encounter accessible ideas from areas including science, maths, history, art and design while developing the language needed to discuss observations, questions and ideas.

3 WORK TOGETHER & SOLVE PROBLEMS

Work with other students on practical tasks and challenges, sharing ideas, making decisions and communicating possible solutions.

4 BUILD CONFIDENCE & INDEPENDENCE

Take part in new activities, share work with others and learn to look after themselves in daily camp life, with support from the SBC team.



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Academic Difficulty

No specialist subject knowledge is required. Students should have a minimum A2 level of English and be willing to participate in lessons, group activities and practical challenges. Topics and tasks are introduced at an age-appropriate level, with support available as students encounter unfamiliar language and ideas.



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CAMP DRAGON

Typical Day

Each day follows the Camp Dragon learning journey: Discover, Develop, Dare, Showtime. Students begin by exploring a theme, develop their understanding through structured learning, take on a new challenge and finish by sharing or celebrating what they have done. The wider camp day also includes activities, social time and opportunities to use English with other students.

DISCOVER

Discover introduces the day's theme through accessible, engaging activities. Students may investigate a scientific question, solve a maths puzzle, explore a historical idea or respond to a creative prompt while building curiosity and useful vocabulary.

DEVELOP

Develop gives students more time to explore the theme and practise relevant English. Activities may connect with excursions or wider camp experiences and can involve discussion, instructions, reading, problem-solving and short presentations.

DARE

Dare encourages students to try something unfamiliar through practical workshops, creative activities or team challenges. The emphasis is on participation, curiosity and being willing to have a go within a supportive environment.

SHOWTIME

Showtime brings students together to share, demonstrate or celebrate what they have explored. Activities may include performances, presentations, team events or creative showcases that give students opportunities to communicate and collaborate.

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Example Daily Routines

SCIENCE DAY

A Science Day might begin with a whole-camp energiser before students explore a scientific theme through an excursion, classroom activity or observation. Back at camp, they could take part in accessible investigations connected with ideas such as materials, reactions or cause and effect. Further practical challenges allow students to test ideas in groups before the day concludes with a quiz, demonstration or team activity that brings the learning together.

HISTORY DAY

A History Day might introduce students to a period or theme through stories, symbols and creative activities. Students could explore how people lived, how buildings were designed or how communities organised themselves before taking part in an age-appropriate practical challenge. Outdoor games, construction activities or team tasks can then extend the theme before students finish by sharing what they created or discovered.

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WHO IT'S FOR

Is Camp Dragon right for your child?

Young Explorers is for students aged 8–12 with a minimum A2 level of English. It suits children who are curious, enjoy learning through activities and would like to try an international summer camp. It is especially good for children who like trying new things and working with others, and who want to improve their English through practical and creative activities, not only formal language lessons.



IT'S THEIR FIRST TIME AWAY FROM HOME.

Experienced staff provide care, encouragement and support 24 hours a day for children who are new to boarding life.

YOUR CHILD IS CURIOUS AND ADVENTUROUS.

Whether it's a science experiment, performing in a show or a team challenge outdoors, your child will find something new to try every day.

YOU WANT THEM TO BUILD ENGLISH CONFIDENCE WHILE HAVING FUN.

With friends from many nationalities, children use English naturally all day—in lessons, games, and everything in between.

Sound like your child?

Young Explorers was built for them →

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SAFEGUARDING & WELFARE

Safe days, settled nights

For many students, Camp Dragon may be one of their first times away from home. SBC staff support students all through the camp day and the boarding routine, from morning activities to bedtime. Clear routines, pastoral care and supervision suited to their age help students feel at home at camp. Group activities and shared experiences help them make friends and feel part of the group. We have safeguarding and welfare measures in place in lessons, activities, excursions and boarding life.

24/7
On-site pastoral support

1:6
Staff-to-student ratio on programme

100%
DBS-checked, trained residential staff

Speak to our Student Experience team →

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SAMPLE TIMETABLE

Week 1

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Wake-up & Breakfast | 07:00 - 09:00						
 Arrival Day	Rise and Shine | 09:00 - 09:30					
	Camp Values & Dragon Team Sorting Hat 09:30 - 10:30	**Discover Geography** Nature Scavenger Hunt 09:30 - 10:30	**Discover History** Shield Making 09:30 - 10:30	 Warwick Castle Adventure!	**Discover Art** Sketchbook Secrets 09:30 - 10:30	**Sunday Funday** Hero Activities 09:30 - 10:30
	Play | 10:30 - 11:00				Play | 10:30 - 11:00	
	Dragon Team Treasure Hunt 11:00 - 12:30	**Develop Geography** Map Making & Wildlife Surveys 11:00 - 12:30	**Develop History** Castle Defences Workshop 11:00 - 12:30		**Develop Art** Art Remix Studio 11:00 - 12:30	**Sunday Funday** Hero Activities 11:00 - 12:30
	Lunch | 12:30 - 13:30				Lunch | 12:30 - 13:30	
	Dragon Mascots: Building Dragons & Story Writing 13:30 - 15:00	**Oxford Adventure:** Pitt Rivers & Natural History Museum	**Dare History** Medieval Sports & Games 13:30 - 15:00		**Dare Art** Art Attack! 13:30 - 15:00	**Awesome Activities** 13:30 - 15:00
	Play | 15:00 - 15:30		Play | 15:00 - 15:30		Play | 15:00 - 15:30	**Optional Extra:** Harry Potter Studio Tour
	ShowTime! Dragon Egg Protectors 15:30 - 17:00		**ShowTime!** Dragon Castle Conquests 15:30 - 17:00		**ShowTime!** Dragon Art Gallery 15:30 - 17:00	**Dragon Silly Olympics** 15:30 - 17:00
	MeTime | 17:00 - 18:15				MeTime | 17:00 - 18:15	
Dinner | 18:15 - 19:00						Pizza & Film Night 18:15 - 20:30
Awesome Activities 19:00 - 20:00						
Me Time | 20:00 - 20:30						
Bed Time | 20:30 - 21:00						

Please note: Sample timetables shown are examples and may be subject to change.

SAMPLE TIMETABLE

Week 2

Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Wake-up & Breakfast | 07:00 - 09:00						
Rise and Shine | 09:00 - 09:30					Rise and Shine | 09:00 - 09:30	
Discover Maths The Great Maths Heist 09:30 - 10:30	**Discover Drama** Drama Playground 09:30 - 10:30	**Discover Science** Astronaut Training 09:30 - 10:30	**Discover Tech** Imagineers Workshop 09:30 - 10:30		**Discover Music** Music Explorers 09:30 - 10:30	The Ultimate Dragon Quest!
Play | 10:30 - 11:00					Play | 10:30 - 11:00	
Develop Maths Codebreakers 11:00 - 12:30	**Develop Drama** Movie Makers 11:00 - 12:30	**Develop Science** Mission Control 11:00 - 12:30	**Develop Tech** The Mega Motion Lab! 11:00 - 12:30		**Develop Music** Sound Lab 11:00 - 12:30	Reach for the Sun Celebration!
Lunch | 12:30 - 13:30					Lunch | 12:30 - 13:30	
Dare Maths Maths Escape Room 13:30 - 15:00	**Dare Drama** Music Videos 13:30 - 15:00	**Dare Science** Planetarium Show 13:30 - 15:00	**Dare Tech** Robotics Workshop 13:30 - 15:00		**Dare Music** Talent Show Planning 13:30 - 15:00	Hero Activities 13:30 - 15:00
Play | 15:00 - 15:30					Play | 15:00 - 15:30	
Show Time! Record Breakers 15:30 - 17:00	**Show Time!** House Parent Kidnap! 15:30 - 17:00	**Show Time!** Trashion Show 15:30 - 17:00	**ShowTime!** Wacky Races 15:30 - 17:00		**ShowTime!** Talent Show 15:30 - 17:00	Packing 15:30 - 17:00
MeTime | 17:00 - 18:15					MeTime | 17:00 - 18:15	
Dinner | 18:15 - 19:00						
Awesome Activities 19:00 - 20:00						Super Star Send Off! 19:00 - 20:30
Me Time | 20:00 - 20:30						
Bed Time | 20:30 - 21:00						

LegoLand Adventure!

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SBC TEAM

Meet Our Staff

At SBC, our staff support students all summer: in lessons, in activities and in daily life. They help students settle in, feel more confident and enjoy their time with us in a safe and friendly place.

Here are some staff who have worked with us in past summers. They show the kind of experience and skills we look for when we choose our staff.



Natalia

TUTOR

MA Careers Guidance, BSc Psychology

The Tutor plans and teaches lessons in their subject. They use discussion, activities and real-life examples to help students understand the subject and take an active part in every class.

> Summer schools are really important because they give students the chance to learn and grow outside of a normal classroom environment...it's a great time to build confidence, become more independent, meet new people and discover interests they might not have explored before. At this age, students are developing their identity and becoming more confident in making their own choices, so having new experiences in a supportive environment can make a big difference.
>
> My role is to support students in developing their understanding of psychology through engaging lessons, discussions, and activities. I aim to make the subject accessible and enjoyable while encouraging students to think critically, ask questions, and build confidence in their ideas. My role is also important in creating a supportive environment where students feel comfortable sharing their perspectives and learning from each other.

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Sarah

SUMMER SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Holds the CELTA, DELTA and IHCYLT, has managed young learner centres in Spain, and has trained teachers around the world for Cambridge and the British Council.

The Summer School Director is responsible for the whole summer school. They plan, organise and oversee every part of it, from bookings to daily life on campus. They lead the staff team and make sure students spend their summer in a safe, well-organised place where they can get the most from their time with us.

> I genuinely believe in the immersive, communicative power of summer and Easter school. I see the growth in children and teenagers as they learn to use what they already know and build on it. We have the opportunity to send everyone back home as a slightly more confident, slightly more aware young person: whether that is in language learning, building relationships or in their place in a global community of shared understandings and community living. There is so much potential to unlock in a supportive, safe and engaging environment where everyone can learn to approach new challenges and spend time with people we wouldn't ordinarily meet in everyday life.

Jude

DIRECTOR OF STUDIES

Taught English for more than 20 years in five countries and online, works as an examiner, materials writer and teacher trainer and is completing doctoral research in TESOL.

The Director of Studies leads all teaching at the campus. They place students in the right groups, supervise teaching and run training sessions for teachers. They also check that course content meets the right standard, lead the specialist teachers who develop new course material, and give all teachers the support and resources they need.

> The students who come to SBC are at a point in their lives where they are approaching some big decisions. Many older students are thinking about university, often wanting to study abroad, and younger students are developing their own interests. It is also, perhaps even more importantly, a time in their lives where they are developing social skills and naturally wanting to make connections. Coming to SBC gives students the opportunity to not only develop their academic and career prospects through some of our specialist courses...but also to experience an atmosphere where they can make real connections and find friends for life. On top of that, they have the chance to try out exciting activities that they have never done before, and visit a number of iconic places.

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AN ADVENTURE THEY'LL NEVER FORGET

A Home Away From Home.

At Camp Dragon, children try new things in a place where they feel safe. Every part of the programme helps children explore, create and communicate through play. We believe that when children feel safe to try something new, they ask more questions, take part more and use English with more confidence. English is the language of every activity, so children use it all day. For example, they design a personal coat of arms on History Day, build a marble roller coaster on Technology Day, visit a museum in Oxford on Science Day, take part in outdoor adventures and enjoy creative, messy and fun activities. We have a high staff-to-student ratio. House Parents and Pastoral Activity Leaders are with the children from wake-up to lights out, and the campus is secure and built for younger learners. We plan everything at Camp Dragon with safety in mind. Our staff aim to know every child by name and support them as an individual.



ACCOMMODATION

Dormitory rooms with house common rooms and shared bathrooms, boys and girls housed separately. Laundry service included. Staff live alongside the children and provide support from morning wake-up to bedtime routines.

ACADEMIC FACILITIES

Classrooms, art studio, theatre and campus-wide Wi-Fi.

DINING

An on campus modern dining hall is available for students at Camp Dragon.

SPORT & RECREATION FACILITIES

Sports hall, swimming pool, playing fields and an adventure playground.

LOCATION & SETTING

Dragon School, Oxford

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More Than Just Fun

Learning doesn't stop when lessons end. From art and sport to outdoor adventures and evening performances, our activities help children work as a team, grow in confidence and make friends. Children try things they have not done before, and each day has something new to look forward to.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Arts & Crafts
- Sports
- Board Games & Puzzles
- Combat Archery
- Dance
- Den Building
- Disco
- Dodgeball
- Dragon Quest
- Drama
- Fencing
- Marble Run Rollercoaster Challenge
- Film Night
- Karaoke
- Lego
- Planetarium
- Rainbow Tag
- Robotics Workshop
- Silly Olympics
- Superstar Sendoff
- Swimming
- Talent Show
- Trashion Show
- Zorbing

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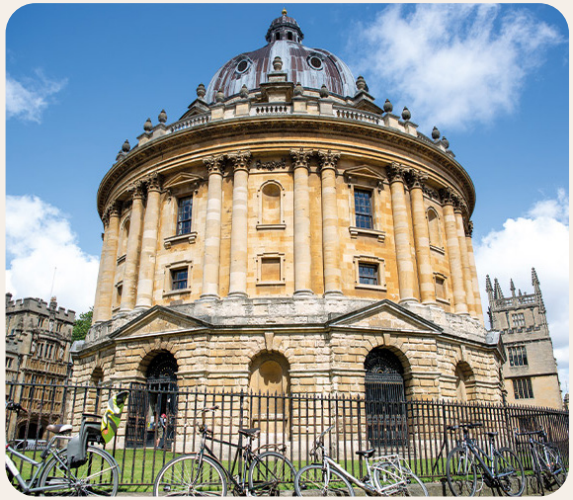
EXCURSIONS

Dragon Adventures

Outside the campus, Camp Dragon children go on trips where they learn and explore.
We choose each trip to mix excitement, culture and fun, so children can enjoy time with new friends and use English in real places.



OXFORD ADVENTURE

Discover the historic city of Oxford with exciting activities and cultural exploration.



WARWICK CASTLE

Step into medieval history at Warwick Castle, where dungeons and epic shows bring tales to life.



LEGOLAND

Unleash your creativity and imagination in a world of endless fun, play, and thrill-seeking rides.

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OPTIONAL EXTRA

One More Adventure

Every Camp Dragon stay is full from wake-up to lights out: but for children who want one more adventure, there's the chance to add a day at the **Harry Potter Warner Bros. Studio Tour London.**

Children walk through the sets they've only ever seen on screen, discover how the effects were created, and find out what goes on behind a film that has captured imaginations across the world. For a child who has spent two weeks being brave, curious and endlessly full of questions, it's a fitting extra that makes their time with us even more magical.

The day is fully supervised by Camp Dragon staff. Transport and entry are included in the cost of the extra. Places are limited and booked in advance, so let us know when you book your child's place.

Price: £250

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HEAR FROM OUR FAMILIES

What parents say

"A friend recommended SBC to me. My child had a blast at the two-week English summer camp. I think it's incredible that he stuck with it until the end. Most importantly, the teachers were very friendly, and his English improved significantly. I plan to keep them at SBC every summer. My child's two-week summer camp at SBC was truly a pleasant surprise. The teachers were friendly and established positive relationships with the children, treating them as equals and respecting them. The carefully designed curriculum ensured that the children enjoyed the experience while also improving their spoken English. The children from all over the world were in the same class, and they became friends and exchanged gifts, which was truly heartwarming. I think the biggest benefit for my child was his confidence in speaking English, which is the most important aspect of English learning, and SBC ensures that."

Minrui
Parent of Camp Dragon Student, Germany



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Now Enrolling for Summer 2027

Book a free consultation with our Student Experience Team to find the best summer experience for your child.

Courses start 19 July & 2 August

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YOUNG LEARNERS ENGLISH UK

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