

Academic Summer



...reaching your
personal best

IB and A-level preparation courses for
British and international students



Academic Summer and You



Academic Summer runs quality IB and A-level preparation and revision courses in July and August. We welcome British and international students aged 14 to 18.

This course is for you if you:

- are following or planning to follow the IB Diploma or A-levels
- need to revise a particular academic subject
- are interested in the ethos of the IB Diploma but are unsure whether to commit to it
- are considering a boarding school education in the UK
- plan to use English for study and work in the future
- are looking for a stimulating and enjoyable summer learning experience
- enjoy meeting and communicating with people from a wide range of countries and cultures

In today's world, we believe everyone is a native speaker of English as an international language; whether or not English is your first language, you will have the opportunity to develop your skills in interpersonal communication and in academic language proficiency. When these skills are integrated, they will help you to study and communicate in the international world of today and tomorrow.

Personal Best

The Academic Summer programme gives you the chance to reach your personal best in every way. PB – the philosophy of Personal Best – extends to all aspects of the experience at Academic Summer. Achievements in social and personal development, contribution to the community, cultural awareness and physical education are all highly valued. The PB philosophy is shared by the academic and pastoral staff of Academic Summer and we as a team will work to help you as an individual achieve your Personal Best.

The Academic Programme

Academic Summer offers the subject areas below in classes of up to fifteen students. The medium of instruction is English and there are 30 hours of lessons a week; you are encouraged to work independently outside the classroom to develop study skills to take with you to school, university and beyond into your professional life.

Theory of Knowledge (ToK)

Theory of Knowledge is a timetabled subject for all Academic Summer students. The course is planned and delivered by the Principal. You will explore the central question, *How do we know what we know?* in a variety of ways and with reference to the acquisition of knowledge in a wide range of educational and cultural settings. You will learn to appreciate your own and others' knowledge gained through language, reason, emotion and sense perception.

Mathematics

The Mathematics option covers algebra, geometry and statistics and is good preparation for the IB Diploma or A-Levels.

Students from different learning backgrounds will work together to help one another understand challenging mathematical concepts and functions.

English Options

English options are designed to meet your individual needs.

If English is your first language or you have a high level of English, you will be able to focus on the academic language proficiency which will help you succeed in future studies. You will develop productive skills in speaking and writing, including preparing writing and giving presentations. You will work on a wide range of text types from the time of Shakespeare to the present day. This is good preparation if you are going on to study English A1 or A-Level English Literature; it will also help you with all other subjects.

If English is not your first language you will focus on the communicative use of English as an international language and have the chance to practise the grammar, vocabulary and functional language you have studied in your own country. In skills development, you will learn how to make effective presentations and to produce written work with appropriate accuracy, range and organisation. The topics covered will complement other areas in the curriculum, accessing the power of the Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) approach.

You will have the option to take an external examination as appropriate to your needs.





Sample Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
Academic options	English options	Academic options	ToK / Maths	Academic options	London Visit Globe Theatre or the Science Musuem	Bath Visit to the Roman Baths
English options	ToK / Maths	English options	English options	English options		
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Packed Lunch	Packed Lunch
ToK / Maths	Academic options	ToK / Maths	Academic options	ToK / Maths	Free time in London	Free time in Bath
Team building activities	Sport	CAS Preparation	Sport	CAS Event		
Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	BBQ	Dinner out	Dinner at School
Personal Best Workshop	CAS Preparation	Bowling / Ice Skating	International evening	Disco	Late back	Relaxing evening

The Science Stream

In the Science stream, you can study Biology, Chemistry and Physics intensively. This will involve a mixture of theory and practice and will include field trips and visits.

You will develop your own scientific knowledge and will have the opportunity to communicate to others what you know and what you have discovered here at Academic Summer.

The Arts and Humanities Stream

The Humanities curriculum makes the most of the international nature of the student body and encourages you to explore interesting concepts in the context of the locality of the school and the knowledge and experience that the students bring to Academic Summer.

The Arts curriculum traces the development of art from cave paintings to graffiti. From a practical point of view, you will experiment with a range of media and materials. You will explore a variety of cultures and their attitude to the Arts.

Creativity, Action and Service (CAS)

This area of the curriculum involves you in artistic pursuits and community service work, thus improving your awareness and appreciation of life outside the academic arena. You will participate in a charity event and a talent show during your time at Academic Summer.

Accommodation

Academic Summer offers boarding accommodation in separate boys and girls' houses on the school campus. You will enjoy three cooked meals a day in the school dining room and you are looked after by experienced members of staff. A nurse is on call at all times and the Principal lives on campus and is available 24 hours a day. You will find yourself in a secure, caring and supportive environment where your pastoral as well as your academic and social needs are met by qualified staff.

The Leisure Programme

Academic Summer offers a structured and balanced leisure programme including sports, evening activities, guest speakers, workshops and weekend excursions to complement the academic programme and to encourage cultural awareness and social interaction.

The sport programme aims to develop your ability to work as part of a team and to reach your personal best by setting and achieving targets in a variety of sports.

What are the benefits of choosing an Academic Summer programme?

If you choose to follow the Academic Summer programme, you will leave with:

- enhanced subject knowledge and improved learning skills across the curriculum
- the knowledge that you are ready to start your IB Diploma or A-levels
- improved communication skills in academic and social settings
- an increased appreciation and awareness of your own culture and the cultures of others
- increased competence in the use of English as an international language
- certificates and reports to add to your personal academic portfolio
- an experience which will give you the confidence and motivation to achieve your personal best in all areas of study and social interaction





Vincent Smidowicz

My main aim as Principal of Academic Summer is to share the benefits of my experience with students and teachers to help everyone achieve his or her personal best.



BRISTOL



OXFORD



CARDIFF



LONDON



EXMOOR, TARR STEPS



BATH



BOURNEMOUTH



...reaching your personal best

Prioryfield House • 20 Canon Street • Taunton Somerset • TA1 1SW • United Kingdom



Younger brother or sister? Academic Juniors is for boys and girls aged 7 to 13.