



SUMMER SCHOOL 2026
PET, FCE, CAE, CPE – 2 / 3 / 4 / 5 weeks programme
05th July – 09th August

You will be divided in different classes with the same timetable, the courses will take place a corridor, and the classrooms will be communicated in a later moment.

Week 1 (week 1 for students staying 5 weeks)

Monday 6th July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-15.00 - Induction in the Cinema Room

Tuesday 7th July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-16:00 – Class

Wednesday 8th July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-17:00 – Tour of Birmingham city centre

Thursday 9th July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-16:00 – Class

Friday 10th July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- Afternoon – free time

Saturday 11th July

Trip: Liverpool and Chester (by coach). Join us for an awe-inspiring day trip to the lively city of Liverpool and the medieval gem, Chester. **We meet at the Campus at 8.30 am** to kick off our expedition. For students staying with host families, the No. 63 bus from New Street Station will get you to our rendezvous point at Metalworks.

Our first stop is the world-famous Albert Dock, one of Britain's premier attractions. Located on a picturesque riverside and part of Liverpool's UNESCO World Heritage Site, the dock is an iconic symbol of the city's vibrant maritime history.

Here, we will explore the compelling Merseyside Maritime Museum and the Slavery Museum (tickets included), offering a profound insight into Liverpool's pivotal role in global maritime history and its links to the transatlantic slave trade.

We'll also take a leisurely stroll along the picturesque Liverpool Waterfront, a place of stunning beauty and historical significance. No trip to Liverpool would be complete without a visit to Matthew Street, home of the legendary music club, The Cavern. This is where the Beatles, arguably the world's most influential band, kick-started their illustrious career.

As the afternoon approaches, we journey on to the enchanting town of Chester. Boasting magnificent medieval architecture, Chester is well-known for its grand cathedral and imposing defensive walls that have withstood the test of time.

After a day packed with memorable experiences, we return from Chester at 17:00, carrying with us the rich impressions of two of the UK's most compelling cities.

Sunday 12th July

Trip: Coventry. Meeting at 9.30 AM at the reception for the students staying in campus or at “The Bull” in the City Centre at 10:00 AM for the students staying in host families. The journey will start with a visit to the striking Coventry Cathedral and its campanile. The Cathedral, a testament to peace and reconciliation, stands as an enduring symbol of hope, having survived significant historical events.

Next, we will be immersed in the world of art at the Herbert Art Gallery. Here, you will get to witness an unmatched collection of art that tells the story of Coventry's cultural and social evolution. Motor enthusiasts will get their fill of excitement as we visit the Coventry Transport Museum, home to the world's largest collection of British-made road transport.

After a morning of exploration, the afternoon is yours to discover Coventry at your leisure. This could be the perfect opportunity to explore Coventry's historic centre, its bustling shops, or perhaps enjoy a leisurely lunch at one of the city's many eateries.

We will gather for our return journey to Birmingham at 5:00 PM, filled with memories of a day well spent.

Week 2 (week 1 for students staying 4 weeks)

Monday 13th July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-16:00 – Induction in the Cinema Room (for the newly arrived students)

Tuesday 14th July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-16:00 – Class

Wednesday 15th July

- 9:00–13:00 – Class
- 14:00-17:00 – Tour of Birmingham City centre for the newly arrived students and other activities for remaining students

Thursday 16th July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-16:00 – Class

Friday 17th July

- 9:00–13:00 – Class
- Afternoon – Free time

Saturday 18th July

Trip: London (by coach). Calling all explorers! Prepare for an exhilarating day trip to London, the capital city of the UK, brimming with historical landmarks, grand museums, and cultural treasures. **Our rendezvous point is at the campus at 8.30 am. For students residing with host families, hop onto bus no. 63 from New Street Station**, and it will bring you directly to our meeting point at Metalworks.

Our first port of call after our arrival will be the British Museum, renowned for its vast collection showcasing over two million years of human history and culture. From there, we'll embark on an enriching stroll through the heart of London, steeping ourselves in its vibrant history and magnificent architecture.

Our walking tour commences at the iconic Trafalgar Square, where the majestic National Gallery stands with its collection of over 2,300 masterpieces. We'll continue our journey to the spectacular Westminster Palace, a symbol of the UK's constitutional monarchy. Don't forget to gaze upon the stunning Westminster Abbey and savor the magnificent views of the Thames.

Next, we venture to Buckingham Palace, the official London residence of the UK's sovereigns since 1837, standing as a symbol of the British monarchy. The palace's grandeur, coupled with the tranquillity of the adjacent St James Park, offers a stark contrast to the bustling city.

Our guided tour concludes at the buzzing Piccadilly Circus, known for its vibrant energy and iconic digital advertising board. After the tour, we encourage you to savor London's charm at your own pace. Enjoy the city's diverse offerings before we depart for Birmingham, marking the end of an unforgettable day. We'll set off from London at 17:00, carrying with us memories of a rich and exciting adventure.

Sunday 19th July

Trip: Oxford (by coach). Get ready for a thrilling journey to Oxford, the city of dreaming spires! We convene **at the campus at 8.30** am for the commencement of our day trip. For students residing with host families, simply catch bus no. 63 from New Street Station to reach Metalworks, our meeting point.

Upon arrival, we'll first take a moment to appreciate the Martyrs' Memorial, a powerful symbol of the city's deep-rooted history. Our itinerary begins with a tour of Balliol College, one of the largest university residences in the city, teeming with academic tradition and fascinating stories.

Our exploration continues as we step into the Great Hall, the most renowned room in Oxford. Film buffs, prepare to be delighted as this remarkable venue served as an inspiration for Hogwarts Dining Hall in the Harry Potter movie series. Its grandeur and magical atmosphere are sure to leave you spellbound.

As we delve deeper into Oxford, we'll encounter architectural gems like the Sheldonian Theatre, designed by Sir Christopher Wren, and the Bodleian Library, one of the oldest libraries in Europe, home to over 13 million printed items. Additionally, we'll visit St. Mary's Church, a beautiful example of Gothic architecture, and the Radcliffe Camera, an iconic Oxford landmark that houses the Radcliffe Science Library.

For those who wish to extend their discovery, we offer optional visits to the Ashmolean Museum, the world's first university museum, and Christ Church College, a stunning establishment that plays a significant role in Oxford's history.

Our enchanting day in Oxford concludes as we depart at 17:00, each of us undoubtedly enriched by the city's scholarly charm and captivating sights.

Week 3 (week 1 for students staying 3 weeks)

Monday 20th July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-16:00 – Induction in the Cinema room (for the newly arrived students)

Tuesday 21st July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-16:00 – Class

Wednesday 22nd July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-17:00 – Tour of Birmingham City centre for the newly arrived students and other activities for remaining students

Thursday 23rd July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-16:00 – Class

Friday 24th July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- Afternoon – Free time

Saturday 25th July

Trip: York (by coach). Meeting at 8:30 at Victoria Hall or 8:45 at Bournville College. It is your responsibility to reach one of the two meeting points using public transport.

In York, prepare for a whirlwind adventure through time and culture, packed into one exhilarating day! Start by marvelling at the towering spires and intricate architecture of York Minster, where every stone whispers tales of centuries past. Then, dive into the labyrinthine lanes of The Shambles, where medieval charm meets modern-day magic, with quirky shops and hidden gems waiting to be discovered around every corner.

But wait, it gets even better! Ascend the ancient city walls, where panoramic views await, offering a bird's-eye perspective of York's picturesque skyline and lush greenery stretching out to the horizon. Feel the thrill of history coursing through your veins as you walk in the footsteps of ancient defenders and imagine the battles that once raged below.

Ready for more excitement? Brace yourself for a Viking invasion at the Jorvik Viking Centre, where immersive exhibits and thrilling reconstructions bring York's Norse past roaring back to life. Hear the clash of swords, smell the scent of wood smoke, and feel the heartbeat of a bygone era pulsating beneath your feet.

But the adventure doesn't end there! Venture into the depths of York Castle Museum, where every room holds a treasure trove of stories, from Victorian parlors frozen in time to wartime bunkers echoing with the whispers of the past. Lose yourself in the drama, the intrigue, and the sheer excitement of York's rich and colorful history.

And as the sun begins to set, treat yourself to a feast fit for a king (or queen) at one of York's many gastronomic delights, from hearty pub grub to haute cuisine. Raise a toast to a day well spent, filled with adventure, discovery, and memories that will last a lifetime.

So buckle up and get ready for the ride of your life, because in York, every moment is an adventure waiting to happen!

Sunday 26th July

Trip: Cotswolds and Stratford-upon-Avon (by coach). Our day begins at 9.00 AM, convening at Campus reception, eagerly embarking on an expedition through England's exquisite countryside and the hallowed grounds of literary lore. The journey commences with an immersive tour through the verdant rolling hills and idyllic landscapes of the Cotswolds, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Our route will take us through the quaint, picturesque villages of Broadway and Bourton-on-the-Water, affectionately known as the "Venice of the Cotswolds". These villages are renowned for their captivating beauty, traditional stone houses, and charming, slow-paced lifestyle. Here, you'll get a taste of quintessential English country living, complete with babbling brooks, honey-coloured cottages, and beautifully manicured gardens.

Following our Cotswolds excursion, the afternoon will usher us into the historic town of Stratford-upon-Avon, the birthplace of the world-renowned poet and playwright, William Shakespeare. This town is steeped in rich literary history and offers a deep dive into the life and times of one of the greatest writers in the English language.

You will have the chance to explore Shakespeare's Birthplace on Henley Street, a well-preserved 16th-century half-timbered house that offers a fascinating insight into the early life of the Bard. A short walk away, you'll find the solemn yet intriguing site of Shakespeare's grave, a must-visit spot for literature lovers.

The visit to Stratford-upon-Avon also includes ample free time for you to explore the town's charming streets, exceptional eateries, and unique shops at your leisure. Whether you choose to indulge in traditional English cuisine, browse the local boutiques, or simply enjoy a leisurely stroll by the riverside, there's something for everyone in Stratford.

The day concludes with a return to Birmingham at 17.00, wrapping up a day full of picturesque landscapes, charming villages, and immersive literary history. This memorable journey through the Cotswolds and Stratford-upon-Avon is sure to leave a lasting impression.

Week 4 (week 1 for students staying 2 weeks)

Monday 27th July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-16:00 – Class
- 16:15-17:00 – Induction in the Cinema room (for the newly arrived students)

Tuesday 28th July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-16:00 – Class

Wednesday 29th July

- 9:00–13:00 – Class
- 14:00-17:00 – Tour of Birmingham City centre for the newly arrived students and other activities for remaining students

Thursday 30th July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-16:00 – Class

Friday 31st July

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- Afternoon – Free time

Saturday 1st August

Trip: London (by coach). Calling all explorers! Prepare for an exhilarating day trip to London, the capital city of the UK, brimming with historical landmarks, grand museums, and cultural treasures. Our rendezvous point is at the campus at 8.30 am. For students residing with host families, hop onto bus no. 63 from New Street Station, and it will bring you directly to our meeting point at Metalworks.

Our first port of call after our arrival will be the British Museum, renowned for its vast collection showcasing over two million years of human history and culture. From there, we'll embark on an enriching stroll through the heart of London, steeping ourselves in its vibrant history and magnificent architecture.

Our walking tour commences at the iconic Trafalgar Square, where the majestic National Gallery stands with its collection of over 2,300 masterpieces. We'll continue our journey to the spectacular Westminster Palace, a symbol of the UK's constitutional monarchy. Don't forget to gaze upon the stunning Westminster Abbey and savor the magnificent views of the Thames.

Next, we venture to Buckingham Palace, the official London residence of the UK's sovereigns since 1837, standing as a symbol of the British monarchy. The palace's grandeur, coupled with the tranquility of the adjacent St James Park, offers a stark contrast to the bustling city.

Our guided tour concludes at the buzzing Piccadilly Circus, known for its vibrant energy and iconic digital advertising board. After the tour, we encourage you to savor London's charm at your own pace. Enjoy the city's diverse offerings before we depart for Birmingham, marking the end of an unforgettable day. We'll set off from London at 17:00, carrying with us memories of a rich and exciting adventure.

Sunday 2nd August

Visit: Black Country Museum (by bus). Join us as we travel back in time and immerse ourselves in the story of the Black Country, a fascinating region that was one of the earliest and most remarkable centres of the Industrial Revolution in Britain.

Our journey starts at **10:30 am at the campus reception** for students residing on-site, and at **11:00 am at the historic "The Bull"** in the City Centre for those staying with host families. This is more than just a museum visit; it's an open-air voyage into the past, a living, breathing tribute to the historic heart of industrial Britain.

At the Black Country Museum, you'll traverse 26 acres of meticulously reconstructed shops, pubs, and houses, all reminiscent of what the region would have looked like during the height of the industrial era. This unique museum captures the spirit and resilience of the people who contributed to the making of industrial Britain.

What makes this experience truly immersive are the encounters with historic characters, each offering a slice of life from the past. Meet the town's residents, tradespeople, and shopkeepers, all of whom will share stories, customs, and even some traditional Black Country dialect, offering you an authentic glimpse into what it was like to live and work in this historically significant landscape.

From the clang of the blacksmith's hammer and the bustle of the 1930s fairground, to the warmth of the village pub and the smells from the fish and chip shop, every facet of the museum serves to transport you to a bygone era, creating a vivid, unforgettable, and educational experience. Don't miss out on this opportunity to experience the past come alive in the present!

Week 5

Monday 3rd August

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-16:00 – Class

Tuesday 4th August

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- 14:00-16:00 – Class

Wednesday 5th August

- 9:00–13:00 – Class
- 14:00-16:00 – Class

Thursday 6th August

- 9:00-13:00 – Class
- Afternoon – Speaking tests (Remember to bring your passport with you)

Friday 7th August

- Exam day

College will provide a generic 3.5mm plug headphones, but you can bring your personal one if you wish to.

Saturday 8th August

Trip: Bath and Worcester (by coach). Our day starts bright and early with a meeting at **8.30 at the campus reception**, all set for a journey steeped in rich history, vibrant culture, and architectural marvels. The coach will take us first to the historic city of Bath, renowned worldwide for its spectacular Roman-built baths.

Upon arrival in Bath, you will have the unique opportunity to marvel at the only natural thermal baths in the UK, a testament to the city's illustrious Roman past and its ingenious architectural legacy (please note that the entry ticket is not included in the trip cost). The Roman Baths, with their ancient stone walls and steamy hot springs, tell a fascinating tale of the city's millennia-old history.

From the Baths, our exploration continues to the monumental Bath Abbey. This enduring relic of a Benedictine monastery presents a majestic sight, offering a glimpse into the religious and architectural practices of centuries past.

Next on our itinerary are the charming residential areas of Royal Crescent and Circus. These neighbourhoods are true gems of Georgian architecture, with their symmetrically arranged terraced houses forming a picturesque scene that's simply delightful to stroll through.

Our tour of Bath will also take us across the unique Pulteney Bridge, lined with an array of charming shops on both sides. It's a perfect spot for some window-shopping or even a quick coffee break. Following the bridge, we'll meander through the leafy pathways of the Royal Victoria Park, a lush, verdant urban oasis that offers a tranquil break from the bustling city streets.

After taking in these key sights, you'll be granted some free time to explore Bath at your own pace. We highly recommend making a visit to the Holburne Museum, which houses a remarkable collection of

fine and decorative art, and the Victoria Art Gallery, renowned for its exceptional range of British oil paintings and watercolors.

The final part of our journey takes us to the medieval city of Worcester. Here, we will tour the imposing Worcester Cathedral, a marvel of ancient architecture. This cathedral, with its royal tombs, intriguing crypt, and serene cloisters, promises to transport you back to the times of knights and castles, rounding off an unforgettable day of exploration and discovery.

Sunday 9th August

Departures:

Given the recent wave of unexpected delays and disruptions at airports around the UK, we want to ensure that your travel plans remain as smooth and stress-free as possible. So, to keep ahead of any potential hiccups, **we are arranging for you to arrive at the airport terminals at least four hours before departure.**

While we acknowledge this is a bit earlier than usual, it's our way of making sure you have plenty of time to navigate the airport and find your gate comfortably, reducing any possible stress.

We sincerely hope that these irregularities at the airports are ironed out soon. In the meantime, we're here to make your travel experience as enjoyable and hassle-free as possible, even if it means adjusting our schedules a little.

Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this change may cause. Your patience during this time is greatly appreciated.

- **Accommodation**

1. **Homestay family:** If you're staying with a homestay family, they're going to provide you with breakfast, lunch, and dinner. They're really cool and they'll help you settle in. Just make sure you let them know if you have any food allergies or special dietary needs. And hey, it's always nice to chat and agree on meal timings too!

2. **Campus full board:** If you're staying on campus, you're in for a treat! You'll have breakfast right there on campus. Plus, your student card will be loaded daily with £3.5 that you can spend on lunch at any College shop. But keep in mind, any leftover credit at the end of the day will reset to zero, so make sure you use it up! As for dinner, you'll be dining at one of our affiliated College restaurants. Make sure you let your group leader know your food preferences, so they can help make your dining experience a delight. And don't worry about day trips, we've got you covered with packed lunches.

- **Transport**

When you arrive, you will be given a free travel card valid on all Birmingham buses for your entire stay.

Please, remember to always have your card with you.

- **Students status**

During your stay at our institution, you are cordially invited to utilise all the facilities provided by the College. This includes, but is not limited to, access to the gym, library, University Orientation Centre, and the multimedia room. In addition, we ensure internet connectivity and Wi-Fi access throughout the campus to assist in your academic and recreational needs.

We kindly suggest visiting our website at <https://www.sccb.ac.uk/student-information/student-services> for a comprehensive overview and further details regarding our diverse array of services.

Our dedicated College staff members are always on hand to provide support and assistance during your time here. Please do not hesitate to approach any staff member or your tutors with any queries you may have.

As a matter of protocol, we would like to remind you to bring your College ID on a daily basis. This is to ensure adherence to our security measures and allow seamless access to the College premises.

- **Emergency numbers**

In case of emergency, please call 999 or 112.

THE PROGRAMME MAY BE SUBJECT TO ANY CHANGES

If you are not in the official Summer School WhatsApp group, please, join as soon as possible:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/5tzvYuMJz12AeLuDXrtDz3>

#LivinginB'ham

We understand that the British Culture and its traditions are different from yours, that's why we suggest you get the best out of this experience and try to approach British people with a positive attitude. On the other side, you may find that people in the UK are not familiar with your culture and will not understand your needs unless you explain them. Do not be afraid to tell teachers, your host family, or new friends if you have particular needs. If you tell people the reasons, they will understand much better, and they will surely enjoy finding out about the differences between our cultures.

England has always been inclusive with people of different nationalities. You will be in contact with different foreign languages, religions, eating habits, clothing, and so on.

Remember that Birmingham is the second largest city in England, it is generally a safe place to live. However, there can be problems in certain areas, so you should follow some sensible guidelines:

- Never carry large amounts of cash.
- Avoid dark and lonely streets and subways.
- Avoid walking anywhere on your own at night.

IMPORTANT RULES

Your Host Family

- You must return to your homestay at the agreed time in the evening. If you are going to be late, you must contact the host family and obtain their permission.
- If you go out in the evening or at the weekend, you must tell your host family where you are going, who you are going with and what time you will return.
You must always be home by 10pm. No overnight stays are permitted.
- Make sure that your host family knows your mobile number and keep your phone turned on at all times.

Student Home accommodation

- If you are accommodated in a student home, you will be assigned a tutor who will act as your supervisor and will live in the same premises.
- During your stay you will have to comply with the instruction of the tutor, otherwise measures will be taken that could lead, in the most serious cases, to early repatriation.
- The tutor is available 24/7 and their contact number will be provided to you.
- If you have written permission from your parent/guardians to travel independently in the city, you may do so, but you need to be at the student accommodation before 10pm and you need to inform your tutor about your whereabouts.
- If you DON'T have written permission from your parent/guardians to travel independently in the city, after your Class in College you need to report to International Office and outside the College you must be under the supervision of the tutor all time;
- If you are part of an organized group, you must comply with the instruction of your accompanying teacher and the College tutor all the time.

Important information about UK Law

- You cannot buy or drink alcohol if you are under 18.
- You cannot buy tobacco or cigarettes if you are under 18.
- It is illegal to carry or take drugs. If somebody offers you drugs, always say no.
- It is a crime to ask someone over 18 to buy alcohol and tobacco for you.