

WHITGIFT SUMMER SCHOOL

SUMMER SCHOOL - STATEMENT OF LEARNING

We have developed a unique syllabus comprised of four different courses: Intensive General English, Academic Enrichment, Digital Champions and Skills in Academic English. All are combined with afternoon Progressive Skills in Action lessons. Students receive 23 hours of lessons per week and have their progress monitored regularly.

- Intensive General English, our aim is to help students to become more confident and more fluent when communicating in English, to develop a passion for English language learning and to be motivated to continue developing their English long after they have left Whitgift Summer School.
- Academic Enrichment, is tailored for those planning to study at an international or bilingual school, giving them a deep dive into the core subjects of English, Maths and Science.
- Digital Champions designed for students eager to explore the digital world, with interactive learning focussing on AI & Ethics, Critical Thinking and Computer Science.
- Skills in Academic English, tailed for students with a strong command of English who are considering university or academic study in an English-speaking environment.

At the time of booking, students select the course that they would like to follow alongside Progressive Skills in Action.

Whether students take our Intensive General English, Academic Enrichment, Digital Champions and Skills in Academic English course, we employ a variety of different approaches to teaching and learning. In everything we do our aim is to help students grow in confidence and allow them to achieve beyond what they thought was possible, regardless of how long they stay at Whitgift.

For the Intensive General English course, students are placed in classes by age and capability to ensure that they are in the correct group most suited to their level of English and topics covered. Places on our other three courses are offered based on an interview with the Course Director and/or Director of International Education. The maximum class size is 12 (classes are often smaller), which enables teachers to give students individual attention. Our teaching and welfare team are always available to support learning and discuss progress on an individual basis.

Our professionally qualified teachers teach with creativity, innovation, passion and enthusiasm. We support an individualised approach to learning, and every student within each level is challenged and supported in line with their learning needs. Our lessons are student-centred, dynamic and collaborative, making full use of technology whenever there are opportunities to enrich learning.

Intensive General English Course

Our Intensive General English Course has been designed to be motivating, inspiring and fun. Students develop their knowledge of English and their ability to communicate effectively and accurately in everyday situations and in different contexts. Lessons aim to develop

students' reading, writing, speaking and listening skills alongside their knowledge of grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation. Lessons are thematically linked to the planned excursions students undertake throughout the course, and elements of British Culture and Literature are embedded within the syllabus.

Academic Enrichment

Our Academic Enrichment course has been developed for students who are preparing to study at an international, boarding or bilingual school. This three-week course, offers students focussed and stimulating lessons with Whitgift tutors in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science. Elements of the year-round Whitgift curriculum have been embedded into the course. Students will be introduced to Global Citizenship, Ideatum and Ignite, all developed exclusively by Whitgift to promote creative thinking, global awareness and intellectual independence. In the afternoon, the Academic Enrichment students will join the advanced English students in the Progressive Skills in Action class.

Digital Champions

The digital Champions course which has been developed by Whitgift teachers for students who are curious about the digital world and are eager to shape it. On this three-week course, students will have specialised morning lessons with Whitgift tutors in AI & Ethics, Critical Thinking and Computer Science. Interactive lessons, collaborative projects and thought-provoking discussions will allow students to develop their academic English while developing essential skills for the future.

Skills in Academic English

This advanced course is for students preparing for university or other academic study in English speaking environments. This course develops the core competencies needed in higher education, with its emphasis on accuracy, fluency and academic conventions. This course builds confidence for students' study, research and debate. Students will leave with a toolkit of strategies to succeed in higher education. In the afternoon, the Academic Enrichment students will join the advanced English students in the Progressive Skills in Action class.

Progressive Skills in Action

All students will participate in Progressive Skills in Action. Through the completion of exciting collaborative projects, students in the Lower School (11-13 years) develop life and social skills. They are taught presentation techniques and work on engaging tasks which require communication and teamwork skills. Students in the Upper School (14-17 years) learn and utilise important life and business skills. Besides acquiring presentation and communicative competence, they undertake activities that are closely linked to their course profile. Other entrepreneurial activities that are covered include: business planning, marketing and advertising.

As students in both schools learn new skills in Progressive Skills in Action, they are also using English with pupils from Whitgift School and Croydon High School, who work alongside them during these lessons.

Schemes of Work

The Intensive General English, Skills in Academic English Academic Enrichment and Digital Champion teachers produce schemes of work which ensure that each curriculum and/or syllabus maintain their breadth and depth. The schemes of work take into account the ages, aptitudes and needs of the students.

Reviewed by Director of International Education: November 2025

Next review: November 2026