



An Oxford College Experience at Brasenose For Ages 14 – 17

The Oxford College for Teenagers offers ambitious and motivated 14-17 year olds the opportunity to prepare for an aspirational, professional future environment through skill-based workshops, field trips and case study analyses.

OISE's philosophy of total language immersion plays an important role, meaning the whole learning experience is structured to teach relevant vocabulary and expressions, and to provide constant opportunities for students to reinforce what is learned in by applying it to natural, real-world situations, both in the classroom and outside of it.

With over 40 years of experience, the OISE method has been proven to teach valuable and relevant communication skills promoting rapid progress, resulting in the learner gaining confidence and **having an excellent command of the English language.**

Structure

The Morning schedule is dedicated to intensive, level specific English tuition in groups of up to 8 students, aimed at equipping students with the academic English Skills and global perspective they will need for university success. In the afternoon, students will benefit from dynamic lectures and workshops on two of the following topics:

- International Relations
- Journalism and Digital Media
- Entrepreneurship
- Politics, philosophy and Economics
- Law
- Engineering



This is how the day will be organised:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Text of the day				
Contextualising language – Storytelling				
Break				
Listening focus				
Writing Skills				
Lunch		Lunch		
Case Study	Lunch + Educational Excursion		Case Study	
Break			Break	
Project			Project	
Dinner				
Self study				
Evening social activities				

Alongside their studies, students will enjoy a busy schedule of evening activities which allows them to experience the rich culture of Oxford as well as helping them to relax after a hard day's study. They will also have a full-day excursion on the Saturday.

Course Components

Text of the Day

Students work alone to read and analyse a text, assigned by their tutor, which leads into the topic discussed in the Current Affairs Workshop. The text is followed by a number of critical reading questions, as well as essay and debate topics linked to the text, which students can investigate later in the day.



Current Affairs Workshop

Students work in small groups to research information and stories related to the text of the day in order to develop their understanding of the theme. This is done by analysing contemporary texts taken from various different media sources and then debating and discussing the topic in greater detail.

Language Focus

Students work on language areas with which they have problems. This may be vocabulary fields related to the text of the day, grammar points which become obvious from their writing, issues with accent or pronunciation, or any other areas which the tutors notice need extra attention.

Writing Skills

Students develop their written fluency, focussing both on formats needed to apply to university, such as a personal statement and a CV, and those essential whilst at university, including essay, summary, review and synthesis. They also work on specific skills (e.g. developing arguments, paraphrasing, being coherent), and technical issues (e.g. proofreading, referencing, avoiding plagiarism). Students will be given a written assignment every night for homework, to be submitted to their tutor the next morning.

Lecture

A one-hour session, including an exposition on a given theoretical aspect of the subject the student has chosen for the week (i.e. five different topics throughout the week). The aim of these sessions is to give students a better understanding of the main theories behind their chosen subject in order to enhance their knowledge.

Case Study

Having learnt key concepts in different areas, students are exposed to real-life examples of this theory in practice, examining prominent individuals and key historical events such as Elon Musk (Entrepreneurship), the Cuban Air-Missile Crisis (International Relations), Noam Chomsky (PPE) and Watergate (Journalism).

Project

Students have the opportunity to apply concepts explored in the other sessions to develop a collaborative project in groups of 4, to be presented and recorded on the Friday. The project topics will be as follows: Devising a presidential campaign (PPE), Presenting a crisis at a UN meeting (International Relations), Pitching a business plan (Entrepreneurship) and Presenting a news programme (Journalism).

Assessment

Each student has a learner portfolio which helps students become more autonomous in their learning and encourages self-assessment and reflection. It contains advice on study skills, an area to record vocabulary studied, and a checklist of 'can-do' statements, which are used by the language learners to assess what they can do with the language. They keep a written or video recording showing evidence of their ability to communicate in English.

Progress

Each Friday students have a progress check to measure their progress in the English Language class. The teacher assesses their Learner Portfolios. Having evaluated the students' strengths, the students are coached individually to find ways to develop in the areas that need improving.

Suitability

All levels from beginner (A1) to advanced (C2) can be accepted. Students are divided by ability for the English Language and Life Skills classes. Students of Intermediate level and above continue on to do the Subject and Project Classes in the afternoons. Elementary and Pre-Intermediate students will receive tailored English Language afternoon classes, suitable for their level.