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# BLC

## Your Future in English



BLC is a dynamic, independent, British Council accredited school which offers a wide range of high quality English language courses. We are a member of English UK, a UKBA Highly Trusted Sponsor and we pride ourselves in taking care of individual students' needs and welfare.

# Why Bristol?

From Brunel to Banksy, Bristol has attracted great minds who have left their mark on this beautiful, vibrant city. Known for its **stunning architecture** as well as its maritime history it is the **cultural and artistic centre** of South West England. With **two world ranking universities** and a **strong local economy**, Bristol has a diverse population and a wealth of opportunities: a top destination for language students.

The **international airport** and good rail links make it a **convenient location** – you can reach Bath in 10 minutes and **London in less than 2 hours**. The **cost of living** is lower than in the capital, the locals are **friendly** and with so many **festivals and events** Bristol is a buzzing city!

"It has been my first time here learning English and I'd like to go again because I really like Bristol."

**Diego Gomez Ruiz, Aged 20 from Spain**

## Contents

BLC Student Services	3
Accommodation	4
BLC Term Dates 2012	5
English for Leisure	6
General and Intensive Programmes	
English for Examination Purposes	7
PET, FCE, CAE, IELTS, TOEIC, TOEFL	
Junior Summer Programme	
English for University	8
University Foundation Programme (UFP)	
English for Academic Purposes (EAP)	
Online Learning	
English for Business	10
Course and Accommodation Fees	11

"At BLC we are committed to providing the best all-round experience for the students. We do this by offering excellent teaching, online learning opportunities and a varied social programme dedicated to full immersion and peer learning. We enjoy seeing students reach their goals, whether they come to us with aspirations for university, their career or to learn English for pleasure. We see BLC as part of that journey, equipping them for a brighter future."

**Seonaid Birkett, Director**



## Why Choose BLC?

**We are fully accredited** by the British Council, a member of English UK and a UK Border Agency Highly Trusted Sponsor.

**We treat every student as an individual** – offering solid academic teaching matched to your goals and aspirations.

**We are flexible to the needs of students** – you can start any Monday for most courses.

**We are innovative with great facilities** – interactive whiteboards, computer based lessons, online and mobile learning, multimedia centre, Wi-Fi.

**We have suitably qualified teachers** – many with several years' experience and Diploma or MA qualifications.

**We are in the centre of the vibrant city of Bristol** – within easy reach of the shops, bars, parks, train station and airport.

**We offer a variety of courses** – with something to suit everyone whatever your aspirations.

**We have an active social programme** – with a dedicated co-ordinator and an activity most days of the week throughout the year.

**We provide excellent accommodation** – both homestay and residential.

**We consider the students' welfare** – we have a named welfare officer and a friendly, welcoming environment.



# Where do you see your Future?

We listen to the goals and aspirations of our students. For example do you want to be able to:

- Communicate effectively in **international business**?
- Secure a **better job** in your home country?
- Improve your English for **leisure or tourism**?
- Progress to a quality **UK university**?
- Learn **real life English** for real world situations?

Our variety of quality courses offer something for everyone, whether you want to go to university, develop your career or learn for pleasure. We teach practical, real life English and we work closely with our students to ensure we are meeting your needs.



## BLC Student Services

Living in another country can be as challenging as learning a language. The BLC Team is well trained and experienced in assisting you before, during and after your studies at BLC.

## For your Welfare

### Airport pick up service

An airport pick up service is available on request for Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted and Bristol.

### First day orientation

On your first day at BLC you will be given a level test and an orientation of the school and Bristol town centre. You will be given essential information about living in Bristol and the UK, as well as local transport information and emergency contact numbers.

### Student support

While you are studying with us The BLC Team will help with any non-academic issues, ranging from registering with the police and medical services through to setting up a bank account. We can also provide longer term students with an International Student Identity Card (ISIC) for cinema, museum and travel discounts.

### 24 hour support

At BLC we are committed to ensuring that you feel safe and supported. All our students are issued with a 24 hour emergency telephone number.

### Student Insurance

BLC recommends that you take out insurance, and can provide details of suitable insurance for students.

### Great Nationality Mix

BLC is proud of the diversity of its students. BLC students come from all over the world and we regularly have students from South America, Europe, Turkey, the Middle East, Russia and South East Asia.

All course fees include: personal study plan, dedicated class teacher, access to guided online learning resources and Wi-Fi internet access

## For your Studies

### Monitoring your Progress

You will be provided with an individual study plan and a dedicated class teacher to monitor progress. This will ensure that you make the most of your studies and that you are progressing well, as well as helping you to plan for the future. You will have regular class tests and receive an end of course report and certificate.

### University Counselling Service

BLC has a dedicated University Counsellor and offers free guidance and assistance on undergraduate and postgraduate university entrance.

### Information technology and computing

BLC has two multi-media centres comprising 24 student computers in total, for computer based learning. We also have interactive whiteboards, screens and projectors, plus free Wi-Fi throughout. Our teachers are trained in internet and computer based learning methods and language lessons. At least one computer based lesson per week is scheduled for all courses.

### Online learning platform

As soon as you enrol at BLC you will be given free access to our specially developed online learning platform MEC. The system includes an individual student profile, access to BLC online guided learning resources, and tutorial support from the BLC teaching team. The system allows access to online and interactive, as well as video based language learning material. We also have an online peer learning site.

### Self Study Centre

At BLC we understand the importance of independent and guided learning. Our self study centre gives you access to a library of graded readers and examination practice material. With interactive, computer and internet based learning materials the centre gives you a great opportunity to maximise your extra study time at BLC.

### Classrooms facilities

BLC has 18 modern, light and well equipped classrooms, including seven new purpose built classrooms. Most of the classrooms have either interactive whiteboards or screens and projectors. There are several break-out areas with access to hot and cold drinks and snacks, as well as a cafeteria.



# Accommodation

## Accommodation Options

At BLC you can choose to stay in one of our carefully selected host families, a private home, university residences, a hostel, serviced apartment or hotel. Some rooms are en suite (with your own bathroom) and students have the option to share a room in homestays if they wish.

### Homestay

BLC homestay providers are conveniently located and our Accommodation Officer visits them regularly to ensure that our high standards are maintained.

### Half board

Homestay half board provides you with a home from home in Bristol. Staying with one of our families will give you with the perfect opportunity to practice English and have a base to explore Bristol. You will live as part of a family or household, in a single bedroom, sharing mealtimes (breakfast and evening meal), and all the facilities at home that you need.

### Benefits

- Single study bedroom
- Shared family bathroom
- Two meals Monday to Friday and three meals at weekends
- Laundry once a week
- Convenient location
- Opportunity to improve conversational English

### Self-catering

Staying in a self catering home provides you will all the benefits of homestay accommodation, but you will be able to prepare your own meals. You will live as part of a family or household, in a single bedroom with all the facilities at home that you need.

### Benefits:

- Single study bedroom
- Shared family or household accommodation
- Self-catering
- Laundry once a week
- Convenient location
- Opportunity to improve conversational English
- Independence

### Residential accommodation

Staying in a residence is ideal if you wish to live more independently yet still spend time with fellow students of many nationalities, with the opportunity to improve your English together. Students must be at least 18 years of age to stay in a residence. BLC offers year round residential accommodation.

### Benefits

- Single study bedroom
- Bathroom
- Self-catering
- Access to laundry facilities
- Shared student living area
- Excellent location
- Independence
- TV and Internet

Please see website for full details of our residential accommodation options:

[www.blc-english.co.uk](http://www.blc-english.co.uk)

"My host family is fantastic! It was a beautiful experience."

**Erika Garizzo, Aged 17 from Italy.**



# BLC Term Dates 2012

Term	Start Date	End Date	Term Length
Winter	3 January 2012	31 March 2012	13 weeks
Spring	2 April 2012	29 June 2012	13 weeks
Summer	2 July 2012	14 September 2012	11 weeks
Autumn	17 September 2012	21 December 2012	14 weeks

The school is closed for two weeks for Christmas and New Year and on UK public holidays. Please see below for details.

England and Wales Public Holidays	
New Year's Day	2 January 2012
Good Friday	6 April 2012
Easter Monday	9 April 2012
Early May Bank Holiday	7 May 2012
Spring Bank Holiday	4 June 2012
Queen's Jubilee	5 June 2012
Summer Bank Holiday	27 August 2012
Christmas Day	25 December 2012
Boxing Day	26 December 2012



# Be successful

## Course description

We offer General and Intensive English courses which are designed to improve your English language proficiency for use in everyday situations. Students may want to improve their English language for further studies, business or leisure. The course uses a course book and supplementary materials and will provide you with essential structures and vocabulary.

## Course outcomes

- Enhanced career prospects by achieving a level of English required for international business
- Potential progression to an academic English language course such as EAP, IELTS, Foundation Programme, examination or Business English courses

## Key course facts

- Elementary to advanced levels
- Minimum length 1 week
- Number of lessons per week: General: 20 (15 hours), Intensive: 30 (22.5 hours)
- Maximum class size 14 (average class size 12)
- Start any Monday during term time
- Course length as required
- Students aged 18 and above (students aged 16-18 can take Intensive or the Junior Summer Programme).



## Social Programme

Our dedicated Social Programme Coordinator provides an all year leisure programme. With activities during the week and a weekend excursion to destinations such as London, Bath and Stonehenge, these activities provide a great way to see Bristol, the surrounding area and the UK, get to know other students and practice your English.

"All the students tried to participate and we exchange a lot all together practising English at our own level and learning from each other. Good idea!"

**Cyril Bellais, Aged 34 from France**

# English for Examination Purposes

## Cambridge ESOL Examinations (PET, FCE, CAE)

### PET (Preliminary English Test), FCE (First Certificate in English), CAE (Certificate in Advanced English)

#### Course description

These courses prepare students for the Cambridge ESOL examinations, which are internationally recognised as exams of excellence, teaching accurate English.

#### Course outcomes

- Successful completion of Cambridge examination at the required level
- Improved career prospects
- PET enables you to progress to the next level and gain good exam training (course level: pre-intermediate to intermediate)
- FCE gives you practical English needed for everyday life (course level: intermediate to upper intermediate)
- CAE enhances your career prospects as it is good training for English at work (course level: upper intermediate to advanced)

#### Key course facts

- Entry level: Pre-intermediate (PET), intermediate (FCE), upper intermediate (CAE) levels
- Minimum length advised: 6 weeks
- 30 lessons per week (22.5 hours: General English plus exam preparation)
- Maximum class size 14 (average class size 12)
- Students aged 18 and above
- Validation: The certificates are valid forever

Programme	Start Date	End Date	Course length	Exam Date
PET, CAE	3 Jan 2012	16 March 2012	11 weeks	17 March 2012
FCE	3 Jan 2012	9 March 2012	10 weeks	10 March 2012
PET, FCE, CAE	19 March 2012	8 June 2012	12 weeks	7 June (PET), 9th or 12th (FCE), 13th June (CAE)
PET, FCE, CAE	17 Sept 2012	7 Dec 2012	12 weeks	7 Dec (PET), 4th or 8th (FCE), 1st or 5th (CAE)

\*speaking dates take place a few days before these written tests. Some exam dates are to be confirmed – please check our website for up-to-date information.

## IELTS preparation

#### Course description

This course is designed for more advanced students who want to improve their academic English language skills to prepare for the internationally recognised IELTS examination.

#### Course Outcomes

- Successful completion of IELTS examination
- Possible entrance to a UK university

#### Key course facts

- Intermediate to advanced levels\*
- Minimum length 1 week
- 30 lessons per week (22.5 hours)
- Maximum class size 14 (average class size 12)
- Start any Monday during term time
- Course length as required
- Students aged 18 and above

\* IELTS Foundation may be available for those at pre-intermediate level during busy periods

## TOEIC

(Test of English for International Communication)

#### Course description

The TOEIC examination is a multiple choice exam preparing you for international communication in a professional environment.

#### Course Outcomes

- Successful completion of examination
- Improved English for international communication and business
- Improved career prospects in home country

#### Key course facts

- Intermediate to advanced levels
- Minimum length advised: 3 weeks or more
- 30 lessons per week (22.5 hours)
- Maximum class size 14 (average class size 12)
- Start Monday and take the exam on the last Friday of the month during term time
- Students aged 18 and above

Programme	Start Date	End Date	Course length
TOEIC	26 March 2012	20 April 2012	4 weeks
TOEIC	18 June 2012	7 Sept 2012	12 weeks
TOEIC	5 Nov 2012	30 Nov 2012	4 weeks

The BLC is a TOEIC test centre. TOEIC is recognised as a SELT by the UKBA. Students returning home on ESVV can take the test before leaving, to support their Tier 4 visa application if required.

## Summer Courses

### Junior Summer Programme

#### Course description

The Summer Junior Programme offers English language tuition in small groups combined with a social activity programme. In this way you can improve your English, while learning about British life and culture in a fun and relaxed atmosphere.

The most recent teaching methods and materials are used to ensure that all classes are imaginative and stimulating.

#### Course Outcomes

- Develop skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening English
- Improve confidence in the language

#### Key course facts

- Elementary to advanced levels
- Minimum length: 1 week
- 20 lessons per week (15 hours)
- From 2nd July to 10th August in two three-week cycles
- Course length: 3 weeks
- Students aged from 13-17
- Fees include: homestay accommodation, 3 meals a day and excursions.

## TOEFL

#### Course description

Running in July and August only, the TOEFL examination tests your ability to communicate in an academic setting and your readiness for academic coursework. For full details please see our website: [www.blc-english.co.uk](http://www.blc-english.co.uk).

# Be academic

BLC has a range of academic English language programmes which will prepare you for university in the UK. These courses, combined with your personal study plan and our university counselling service mean that you will be well prepared for life and studies at a UK University.

BLC's academic preparation courses provide all-round language preparation for university in the UK, including language proficiency, study skills and ongoing academic English support. In addition our dedicated University Counsellor provides help with university applications and we

have built excellent links with a variety of UK universities. These courses give students all they need for an academic future.

*"Personally I feel grateful for the help I've received from some teachers when I have needed it. For me the motivation is the most important and they have given me."*

**Marta Santa Basilica San Bruno, Aged 25 from Spain.**



# English for University Progression

## University Foundation Programme (UFP)

### Course description

The BLC Foundation Programme in Business consists of 39 weeks of intensive study. The programme is the perfect preparation if you are planning undergraduate study in the UK. It includes academic study, Intensive English language preparation, study skills, literacy, numeracy and cultural orientation, plus support from our University Counsellor with applications. The modules cover a variety of topics including economics, marketing, accounting and finance, the basics of business and organisations.

### Course outcomes

- Successful completion of the course offers the opportunity to progress to a quality UK institution for business-related degrees

### Key course facts

- Level: IELTS 4.5 or equivalent
- Minimum length: 39 week course
- Number of lessons: 30 per week (22.5 hours)
- Maximum class size 14
- Students aged 18 and above
- Course start date: September 2012

## University Links

BLC is proud of its links with local and national UK universities and colleges and recognises that studying at BLC is the first step on a student's educational pathway. BLC has built good relationships with several quality UK universities, including Bath Spa, Brighton, De Montfort, Kingston, UWIC, Canterbury Christ Church, Gloucester, Swansea Metropolitan and Buckinghamshire New University.

### University Counselling Service

BLC has a dedicated University Counsellor and offers free guidance on undergraduate and postgraduate university entrance. Our counsellor can advise students on which course is best for them and can assist with university applications.

BLC has progressed students to many institutions including the University of Bristol, University of Exeter, University of Swansea, University of Cardiff, University of Reading and the University of Manchester. BLC has been formally approved and trained by the University of Bristol to provide advice and counselling on its programmes and to assist with applications to the university.

### University Preparation

An academic English language course at BLC can assist you in preparation for:

- A Levels
- Foundation and International Foundation Degree
- Undergraduate and postgraduate programmes

### Connect to us

Twitter: BLC\_Bristol  
 FB: BLC.LearnEnglish  
 Skype: blcbristol

## English for Academic Purposes (EAP)

### Course description

The BLC English for Academic Purposes (EAP) course is a year round intensive English language course for students preparing to enter University in the UK. The course has been carefully designed to help students progress to their academic study routes with excellent study skills and language proficiency.

The course consists of English language training, IELTS preparation, and academic study skills including essay writing, making presentations, note taking, academic reading and summarising.

### Course outcomes

Assuming that you have the necessary academic qualifications, success on this course offers:

- English language proficiency and skills to assist progression to a UK university

### Key course facts

- Intermediate to advanced levels IELTS 4.5 (September), 5.0 (January), 5.5 (April)
- Minimum length: 12 weeks
- 30 lessons per week (22.5 hours)
- Maximum class size 14 (average class size 12)
- Courses start September, January and April
- Course length: 12 weeks
- Students aged 18 and above

Programme	Start Date	End Date	Course length
EAP	9 Jan 2012	31 March 2012	12 weeks
EAP	9 April 2012	29 June 2012	12 weeks
EAP	24 Sept 2012	14 Dec 2012	12 weeks

## Be connected

BLC's online learning resources enable you to communicate in English in an interactive learning environment. Our facilities include:

- Access to Macmillan's online learning platform MEC
- Access to BLC's specially developed members' area where you can interact and learn with other BLC students
- Interactive lessons using online learning environment and materials
- Mobile learning programme
- Interactive whiteboards and computer room
- Online and interactive self-study materials
- Distance learning programmes



# Be professional

## Course description

BLC offers flexible Business English courses for individuals or groups focussing on practical English language use for the workplace and international business communication.

Your language levels and areas of interest are assessed as we can be flexible to your needs. We offer a variety of topics such as international marketing, e-commerce, report writing, negotiation or presentation giving.

You will work with authentic material taken from the media, TV and radio relevant to topic areas.

## Course outcomes

- Helps you improve your English in a variety of business and professional contexts.
- Improve ability to conduct business in an international environment.

## Key course facts

- Intermediate to advanced levels
- Minimum 1 week
- 30 lessons per week (22.5 hours)
- Maximum class size 14 (average class size 12)
- Students aged 18 and above

Start Date	End Date	Course length
26 March 2012	20 April 2012	4 weeks
18 June 2012	13 July 2012	4 weeks
16 July 2012	10 Aug 2012	4 weeks
13 Aug 2012	7 Sept 2012	4 weeks
5 Nov 2012	30 Nov 2012	4 weeks

\*students starting on 18th June can stay for up to 12 weeks

"I think that all I learnt here will be very useful for me soon, especially in the tourism world. Thanks for this experience. I won't forget this. You all make a wonderful team"

**Angelene Penaverde, Aged 20 from Italy**

# Course Fees and Accommodation Fees

## Course Fees 2012

No. of lesson per week	Course	Cost per week			
		1-7 weeks	8-12 weeks	13-23 weeks	24+ weeks
20 lessons* 15 hours	General English	£205	£195	£185	£175
30 lessons* 22.5 hours	Intensive English, PET, FCE, CAE, IELTS, TOEIC, Business	£240	£230	£220	£210

\* Lesson are 45 minutes. There is a summer supplement of £10 a week from 2/7/2012 – 31/8/2012 inclusive

No. of lesson	Course	Cost per lesson
1 Lesson**	One-to-one	£40

\*\* Lesson is 60 minutes. Course prices include access to Macmillan Online Campus Resources

## Academic Course Fees

Course	No. of lesson per week	Start Dates	Cost
BLC Foundation Programme	30 lessons* 22.5 hours	September	£8,495
BLC English for Academic Purposes	30 lessons* 22.5 hours	January, April, September	£2,760

\* Lesson are 45 minutes.

## Accommodation

### Redcliffe House - The BLC Residential

Duration of stay	Price for large/ double room per week	Price for large/ double en suite room*
2 weeks to 4 weeks	£140	£145
4 weeks + 1 day onwards	£135	£140

\*Rooms are subject to availability. If double en-suite room is not available, an alternative double room will be booked.

### BLC Luxury Studios - The BLC Residential

Duration of stay	Price for a luxury studio including kitchen, bathroom and double room
2 week to 8 weeks	£210
8 weeks + 1 day onwards	£200

**For both residences:** Only one student stays in a room at a time. Minimum 2 week stay. Notice period of 2 weeks applies. Damage deposit of £150 required, refundable 2 weeks after departure if the room is clean, tidy and with no damage. Rooms are checked on arrival and departure.

### The BLC Homestay

Host family	Cost per week Year round	Cost per week Summer	Cost per extra night - Year round	Cost per extra night - Summer	Supplement in July & August per week (included in Summer price)
Self-catering	£108	£118	£20	£21	£10
Half board	£130	£140	£25	£26	£10
En suite self-catering	£140	£150	£28	£29	£10
En suite half board	£160	£170	£30	£31	£10

## Terms & Conditions

- Students should arrive on Sunday and leave on Saturday wherever possible.
- Fees must be paid at least four weeks before your course begins. If you book less than four weeks before you start, you must send the full payment immediately to secure your place.
- Fees include tuition, assessment test, use of school facilities including free email and internet access. The Junior Summer Programme fees also include the social and cultural activity programme.
- Fees do not include examination fees, course books, insurance or activities programme (except on the Junior Summer Programme). The activity programme costs approx. £28 per week.
- All students must pay a course deposit of £250 which includes the £50 registration fee. CAS applicants need to pay an additional £10.
- The school will close for two weeks for Christmas and New Year holidays. There is no reduction in fees for courses which include public holidays.
- If you cancel your course, your deposit including registration fee is non-refundable in any event.
- If you send us written cancellation at least four weeks before the start of your course, we will refund the course fees minus the course deposit. If you cancel less than four weeks before the start of your course, we will refund 50% of your course fees, minus the course deposit.
- Refunds cannot be made for late arrival, early departure or absence during a course.
- Courses are subject to availability.
- All Tier 4 students are required to transfer all course and accommodation fees prior to arrival. Visa students must comply with UK visa regulations. Where students fail to attend 10 consecutive sessions they will be reported to the UK Border Agency and there will be no refunds for students who fail to comply with visa regulations.
- All students are required to give contact details for a close relative including a phone number.
- Any unauthorised absences to lessons will count towards your attendance record. Students with less than 80% attendance will not receive an end of course certificate.
- Students must comply with school rules regarding accommodation, attendance on social activities and conduct within the school. Where students persistently break the rules or commit an act of gross misconduct, the school reserves the right to ask the student to leave.
- If you want to take a holiday during your course, you must tell us at least two weeks beforehand and this period will be added to your course.
- Where availability of residences is limited, students may be required to pay fees in advance in order to secure the booking.
- All residences require two weeks' notice for cancellation or change. All accommodation changes for reasons other than those stated on the application form will be charged at £40.
- You must give at least one week's notice before changing or cancelling homestay accommodation.
- We advise you to take out full insurance before you travel. This is particularly important for non-EU students.

## Additional Costs

### Exam Fees\* (fees only, does not include transport to and from examination centre)

IELTS	Cambridge FCE, CAE	TOEIC
£120.00	£120.00	£90.00

\*Exam fees are approximate and may be subject to change

### Registration fee: £50 for all daytime course (non-refundable)

### Coursebooks\*

for General and Intensive English, IELTS, PET, FCE, CAE and Business English	for TOEFL and TOEIC
£25.00	£45.00

\*Students on all courses must purchase a coursebook. Books will be sold to the student on arrival.

## Airport Taxi Transfer Service

Bristol Airport	Heathrow Airport	Gatwick Airport
£39.00 (one way)	£180.00 (one way)	£210.00 (one way)



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