

UK



HIGH SCHOOL CULTURAL EXCHANGE



UK

The United Kingdom, boasts a diverse cultural heritage and historical prominence. It is renowned for iconic landmarks such as Buckingham Palace and the Tower of London. The UK is celebrated for its rich culinary traditions, from classic fish and chips to high tea, and its thriving arts scene has left an indelible mark on global culture. English, the primary language, is a global lingua franca. The UK remains a sought-after tourist destination, drawing millions of visitors annually.

Religious beliefs in the UK vary widely. Historically, the UK has been predominantly a Christian nation, with Atheism now challenging for popularity and other religions well represented. Church attendance is relatively low in the modern era, with most services taking place on Sunday mornings.



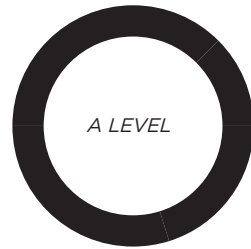
OUTLOOK

Embarking on a high school exchange brings excitement and expectations. Consider these aspects:

- 01** - *Embrace a new culture and lifestyle, stay open-minded.*
- 02** - *Build connections with hosts, peers, and teachers for a memorable experience.*
- 03** - *Seize educational opportunities, adapt to different subjects.*
- 04** - *Join clubs or sports for immersion and friendships.*
- 05** - *Stay flexible and resilient through challenges, seek support.*



*(3 Subject s)
AGE: 16/17 - YEAR 12*



*(3 Subject s)
AGE: 17/18 - YEAR 13*

Students receive their grades at the end of each term with their grades transcript.

In conclusion, embrace adaptation, relationships, education, activities, and resilience for a fulfilling exchange journey.



International students choose A-level classes during the application process as part of a cultural exchange. This British learning experience fosters skill development, knowledge acquisition, and critical thinking for a successful future career, along with unforgettable life experiences.

Please note that the curriculum varies among UK schools, so choose subjects aligning with your interests and academic goals when enrolling. Classes typically run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with short breaks between time blocks.

*Additionally, the UK Classic programme allows students to select a preference from **Bournemouth, Oxford, Brighton, and Edinburgh** regions for an extra “preference fee.”*

Attention: Do not book airline tickets until you have received the exact dates confirmed by the hosting organisation.

PERIOD:	EXCEPTED START DATE:	END DATE:
AUTUMN TERM	4TH SEPTEMBER	15TH DECEMBER
SPRING TERM	4TH JANUARY	28TH MARCH
SUMMER TERM	15TH APRIL	21TH JUNE
1ST SEMESTER	4TH SEPTEMBER	9TH FEBRUARY
2ST SEMESTER	4TH JANUARY	24TH MAY



SCHOOLS

BOOKS

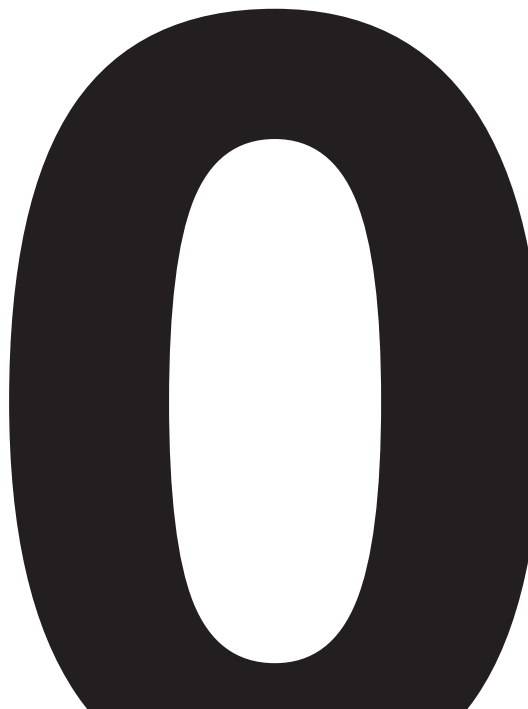
You may need to buy your school books, and some can be resold at local bookstores at the end of the year. Consider getting secondhand books or renting them from the school, if available. Additionally, some schools may require you to purchase uniforms at the programme's start.

LUNCH

in the UK Cultural Exchange Programme, lunch is provided as an additional package. Please make sure to highlight if lunch should be included or student to buy their lunch at school. Packed lunches are standard for the included option, generally with a sandwich, snack, fruit and a drink.

TRANSPORTATION

You may need to take a bus to school from your host family. In this case we recommend selection the bus pass option we can provide at GIE. This bus pass covers students for their entire stay and taking public transport in there area of study.



FAMILY

All families are different and thus have their own habits and way of life. Your host family will feel responsible for you and will expect you to tell them of your whereabouts. Students will be treated as a member of the family, will have to abide by house rules and UK law with regard to going out at night and socialising as an under 18. At home, host parents expect you to participate in their family life and not too spend too much time withdrawn in your bedroom.

British families expect their kids to tidy and clean their room regularly. It is a sign of self-respect. They also expect their kids to have good grades. In UK, students repeat a class if their grades are not good enough. This explains why parents are sometimes over concerned about school, as some foreign students have said.

You should have a positive attitude towards school and do homework like the other kids in the family. British families never get tired of helping their exchange students with their British kids and have high expectations of their new «child» from abroad! We recommend that you do something outside of academic classes: sports, drawing, music, etc.



PLACEMENT

Students are placed with host family who live relatively close to the chosen school. Often, it is necessary to take public transportation between the host family's home and the school. These families come from different ethnicities, religions and family structure, reflecting the rich tapestry of cultures in the host country.

It is crucial to approach this experience with an open mind and heart, embracing the diversity you will encounter.

POCKET MONEY

You will need some money for your day-to-day expenses. We recommend having around 400 Pounds per month. You should bring a Credit Card (Visa or Mastercard). You must avoid carrying large amounts of cash. You will be responsible for your personal expenses, and should never be left without pocket money.

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TIMELINE

- 01** - *Talk with the Agent: After visiting Greenwich's partner agency and interviewing one of the specialists, the first step is to register. At this point, you will have your destination and program duration defined.*
- 02** - *Deposit made, securing place - on successful review and acceptance of application.*
- 03** - *LOA (Letter of Acceptance): After reviewing the organisation, you may receive the LOA (Letter of Acceptance).*
- 04** - *Visa: With the documentation in hand, you will be able to proceed with the visa application, if required.*
- 05** - *Home stay Placement: Prior to departure, you will receive home stay placement, in this moment you can contact the family.*
- 06** - *Boarding Preparation: The agency will assist you in preparing for the moment of departure. Upon arrival at your destination, you will be greeted by a representative from the hosting organisation.*
- 07** - *Programme Experience: You will then experience one of the most memorable moments of your life, the High School exchange. Remember to keep your heart and mind open to new and different experiences, so that your adaptation can be even better.*
- 08** - *Return: The exchange period usually goes by quickly. Enjoy it until the moment of return.*

Remember, your High School exchange will be one of life's most memorable moments. Stay open to new experiences and make the most of your time abroad. Enjoy every moment until it's time to return.



VISA & IMMIGRATION

Depending on your country of origin, you may need to require a visa, even for short periods such as a term or academic semester.

It is important to note that schools in the Classic programme do not issue Tier 4 visas; If you wish or need to pursue a programme with this type of documentation, we recommend applying to a school in the Select programme for a full academic year.

TRIP

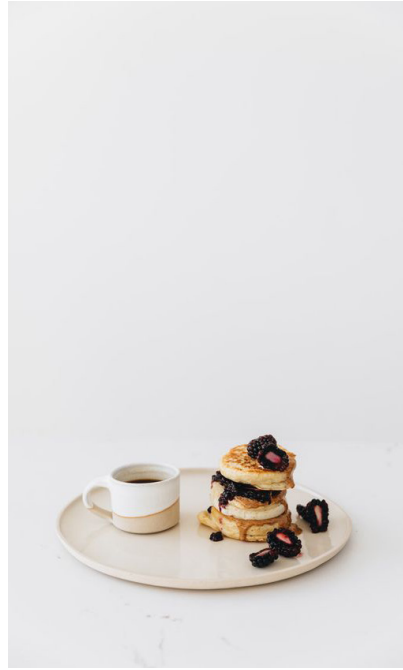
There may be opportunities to join trips through the school where additional fees apply. These could include sporting, band, drama, and cultural excursions. For international students, there is also the possibility of weekend trips being offered under the supervision of the host organisation. If this occurs, the costs will be shared with the students so they can discuss them with their families.

RULES

You must sign the programme rules. You must abide by the decisions made by the sending oice, its representatives and the host family. Students who have already graduated in their home country and who are 18 upon arrival in UK must follow the same rules as the younger students. Failure to respect the programme rules may result in warnings, and in more serious cases, expulsion from the programme and cancellation of the visa.



PROGRAMME INCLUDES



- 01** - *Enrolment in a Public School - Enrolment in a British school for the chosen period.*
- 02** - *Host Family Accommodation - Accommodation in a local family home, including in the community where you will live.*
- 03** - *Half or Full Board - Your exchange programme option determines meal inclusions, with at least breakfast and dinner provided. You can choose to add weekday lunches, but weekend lunches are always included.*
- 04** - *Extras - Return airport transfers, bus pass for the length of stay and weekday lunches can be added as an extra package.*
- 05** - *Meet and greet at the destination - Meet and greet at the destination when you arrive on your destination is included.*
- 06** - *Supervision- Local supervision and regular contact with local representatives.*
- 07** - *24-hour emergency contact- Before boarding, you will receive a 24-hour emergency contact.*
- 08** - *Insurance- Health insurance for the country is included in the programme.*

CAMPS

ORIENTATION

Add a 3 night orientation camp to your programme and meet the other GIE students from around the world enrolling on their High School Programme. Stay at the famous, Royal Holloway University Campus on the edge of London and take part in lectures and seminars that prepare you for your time in the UK, with your family placement and with your academic journey.

- Full board, residential accommodation is provided
- Multiple excursions into London with a trip on the London Eye and on the Thames River Cruise
- 9 hours of High School prep programme
- Transfers to Royal Holloway campus from LHR or LGW airports
- NB - Onward transfers to High School destination to be arranged on request

Note: Welcome Camp has an additional value, happens only in the fall intake, and is not mandatory.

At the end of camp, you will go to your host family by train, plane or will be picked up directly by your host family.





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