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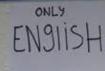
# Spring Explorer Bell St Albans

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# Spring **Explorer**

#### **Overview**

Spring Explorer is a perfect getaway for students to embrace that 'springtime' feeling and freshen up their language at our English countryside school, Bell St Albans. The course focuses on developing core English language skills through project-based learning activities and interactive learning - an effective way to learn language quickly and successfully. Our activity programme is also an integral part of the course and allows young learners to practice and develop what they have learnt in lessons.

On this course, students will:

- Develop their English in all four areas: reading, writing, listening and speaking
- Practise new vocabulary, pronunciation and improve their grammar structures, as appropriate to their level
- Become confident, independent learners with essential 21st century life skills like: communication, critical thinking, collaboration, creativity and cultural awareness
- Make friends with students from a diverse mix of countries across the globe

#### Who is this for?

Young learners who want to combine English language study with activities and educational day trips and excursions.

#### Our approach

#### English lessons

English lessons include projects that are designed around the school's weekly theme. Small groups of students work together on their projects based on the language knowledge and skills development needs.

#### Activity programme

Students at Bell 'learn by doing', so the activity programme is an integral part of the course and allows young learners to practise and develop what they have learnt in lessons. Our afternoon activities are designed to improve communication and confidence while developing academic, creative and

All Spring Explorer students will also enjoy a wide variety of whole-school evening activities, such as games, competitions, discos and shows.

active skills.

#### **Study Tours**

Students take part in one full-day study tour per week to a London-based venue, with a walking tour of the sites and time for shopping. Students staying longer than one week will also have a weekend excursion.

Students have the opportunity to add optional activities to enhance their experience, available on certain weeks only (see page 8 for more details)

- ► Warwick explore the grounds of the medieval Warwick castle and wander through the historic streets of the town centre
- ▶ London see the London Eye, British Museum, Westminster Abbey, Natural History Museum, Science Museum or the Houses of Parliament
- **Cambridge or Oxford** tour the city and university colleges, try punting along the river or visit one of the many world-class museums
- ► Windsor discover a lively town in a glorious riverside location, best known for the Windsor Castle - one of the Queen's official royal residences and the largest and oldest occupied castle in the world.

## Minimum staff to student ratio 1:6



#### **Course summary**

Age	11-17
Min. language level	All levels
Course length	1 - 5 weeks
Location	Bell St Albans
Start dates	Sunday 24 March Sunday 31 March Sunday 7 April Sunday 14 April Sunday 21 April
Course fees	<b>£TBC</b> per week

#### **Course components** 1 week



## **Educational activities**

Students choose 2 activities per week.



Art and crafts









🕒 Journalism

# **Project-based** learning

## **Explore the themes and topics**

Project themes have been intentionally designed for students and teachers to take their project in a direction that best meets the group's needs and motivations.

This means that every group of students will learn something different with each student receiving a personalised learning experience. This unique aspect of our Explorer courses ensures they are consistently motivating and engaging, and students often return year after year.

## **Develop language skills**

The content of lessons, study tours and activities are designed with a focus on the project theme, giving the students a holistic experience which accelerates their learning.

## Create a personal response

Each project has a theme which begins with a central guiding question to start the students on their learning journey. This guiding question focuses the project and the students work collaboratively towards the production of a tangible project outcome which often combines each of the different aspects of the course.

## **Practise everywhere**

Project-based learning on an Explorer programme is a fully-integrated approach to language learning that provides our students with lots of crosscurricular opportunities for learning everywhere, both inside and outside the classroom.

## Present at the end-of-course show

The end of the Explorer project gives students the chance to share their learning experiences with each other in the form of a course show (presentation).

#### **Course includes:**

Tuition, study materials

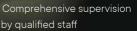
and course portfolio

Residential accommodation and all meals

A full programme of educational and social activities

A full programme of study tours

by qualified staff



Transfers to and from designated airports/stations on scheduled arrival and departure days \*

\* For arrival and departures between 10am and 5pm or advised train times



Free internet access



Free laundry service



Comprehensive insurance



## WEEK 1: Welcome to Britain

SUNDAY 24 MARCH - SATURDAY 30 MARCH

Britain is a country full of hidden secrets and this course will take the students on an epic journey through their host nation to discover the places and people that make this country what it is today.

#### Example learning outcomes

- Students will learn key vocabulary such as adjectives, for describing traits and qualities of different people and places
- Students will learn functional language for giving and justifying their personal opinions
- Students will develop their cross-cultural understanding and communication skills

#### Topics may include:

- စိုဂိုဂို Social Studies
- Geography
- History

#### Types of activities could include:

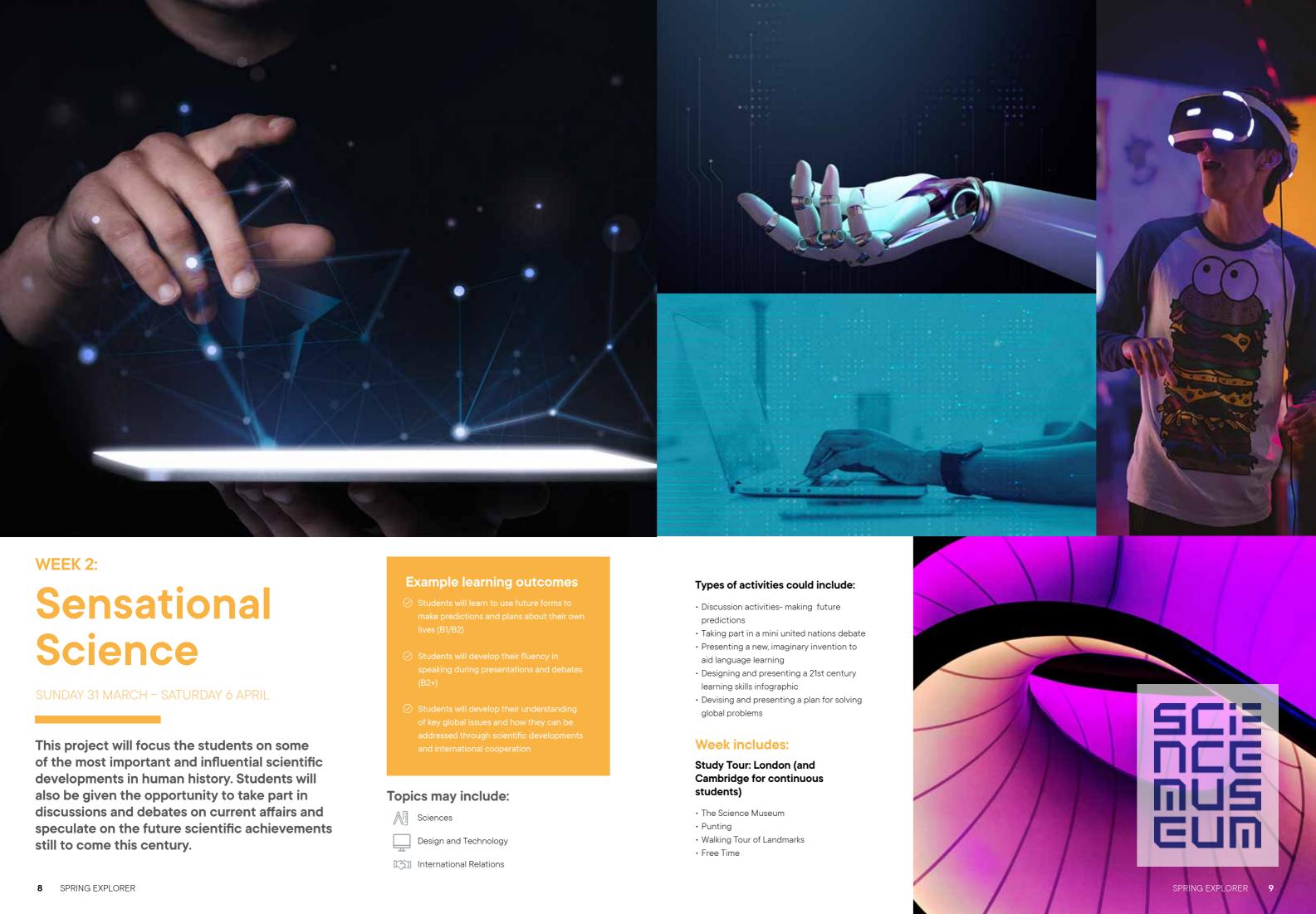
- An enquiry into the history and origins of the British people
- Research into the different geographical regions of the UK
- An investigation into historical landmarks and key people of British culture and history
- Designing an educational treasure hunt for fellow students
- Interviewing different members of British society to find out about the most highly regarded figures in British life
- Designing and building a 3-D model of a famous and/or historic landmark

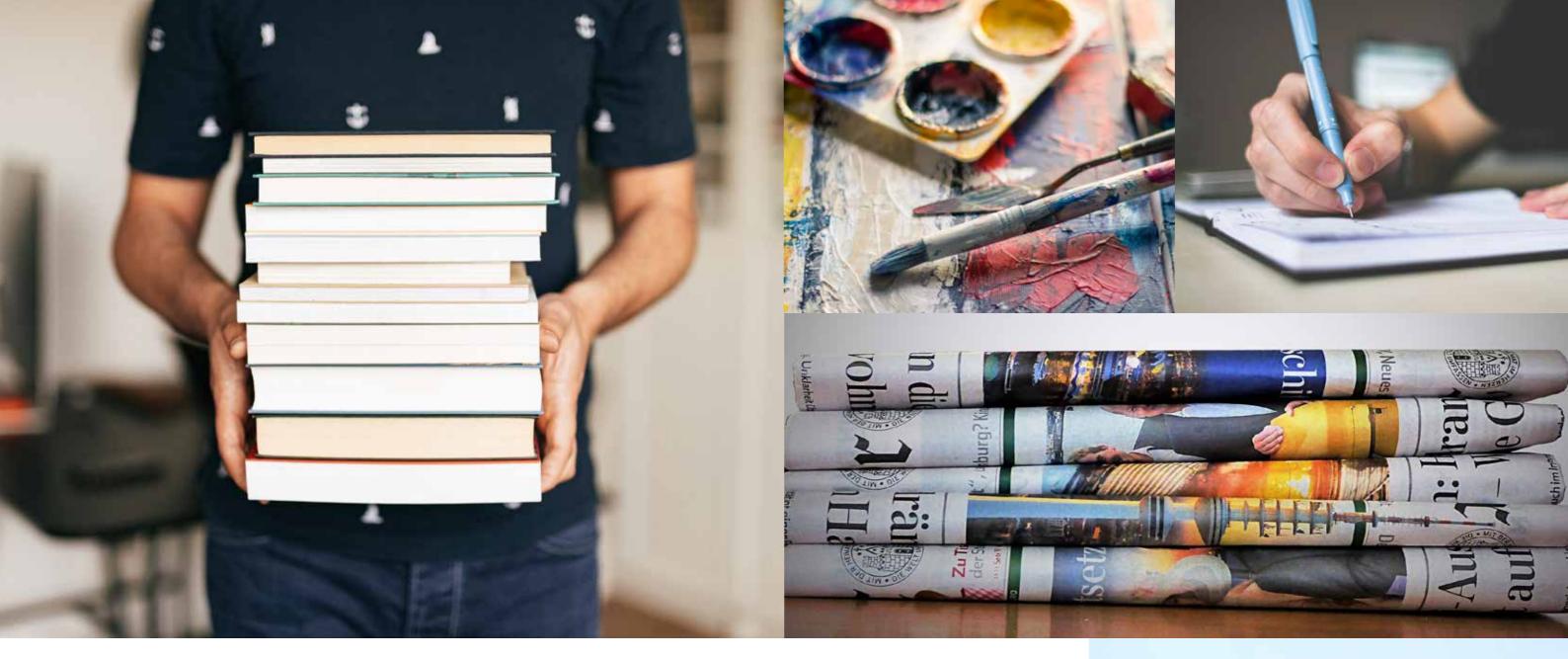
#### Week includes:

## Study Tour: London (and Oxford for continuous students)

- London Eye
- Ashmolean Museum
- Walking Tour of Landmarks
- Free Time







# Mind The Art

SUNDAY 7 APRIL - SATURDAY 13 APRIL

Students may study a range of media and employ critical thinking skills in relation to how they learn about current affairs. Alternatively, they might focus on some examples of British literature, both classical and contemporary, from Shakespeare to J.K. Rowling.

#### Example learning outcomes

- Students at a A2 -B1 levels will learn to use relative clauses to describe works of art or fiction which they have created
- Students will practice and improve their spoken fluency and confidence in discussion activities on the pros and cons of social media
- Students will develop their critical thinking skills when analysing a range of online news articles

#### **Topics may include:**

- Social Studies
- Media Studies
- British Literature

#### Types of activities could include:

- Working together in small groups to create a dramatization
- Designing a new form of future entertainment
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$  Writing a Bell magazine, blog or newspaper
- Designing a fictional social media page for a character from their favourite book or story
- Designing and describing the features of a new social media platform
- Memorizing a speech for a modern dramatization based on a piece of Shakespearean literature

### Week includes:

#### Study Tour: London (and Stratford-Upon-Avon for continuous students)

- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$  The National Gallery or Tate Modern
- Shakespeare's Birthplace
- Walking Tour of Landmarks
- Free Time





## WEEK 4: Protecting The Planet

SUNDAY 14 APRIL - SATURDAY 20 APRIL

Students will discover some amazing facts about the natural world and increase their awareness of global issues and the effects of human civilization on the planet.

#### Example learning outcomes

- Students will learn to use functional language for debate, discussions and giving presentations
- Students will employ critical-thinking and problem-solving skills to tackle 'real-world' issues affecting the planet
- Students will develop presentation skills in order to be able to speak confidently in front of others

#### **Topics may include:**

- Natural Sciences
- Environmental Studies
- နိုဂ္ဂိစ္နိ Social & Cultural Studies

#### Types of activities could include:

- Discovery learning and practical tasks highlighting the impact of human civilization on the environment and ways of reducing the negative effects
- Making posters and information leaflets
  Webquest style research into the effectiveness of different types of
- renewable energies

#### Week includes:

## Study Tour: London (and Windsor for continuous students

- Natural History Museum
- Windsor Castle
- Walking Tour
- $\cdot$  Free Time







## **Facilities**

Bright, spacious classrooms, A many with interactive whiteboards

Free wireless internet

Dining room

Art room

Lisabled access/facilities

On-site sports fields

Peaceful, countryside setting

### Accommodation

Twin rooms and dormitories

 $\operatorname{Separate}_{\operatorname{COM}} \operatorname{Separate}_{\operatorname{accommodation}}$  blocks for boys and girls

A dedicated houseparent in every boarding house

## Travel

FREE transfers\* on scheduled arrival and departure days from:

London Heathrow 47 km London Stansted 60 km 

St Pancras

32 km

## **Sample Electives**

Arts and crafts

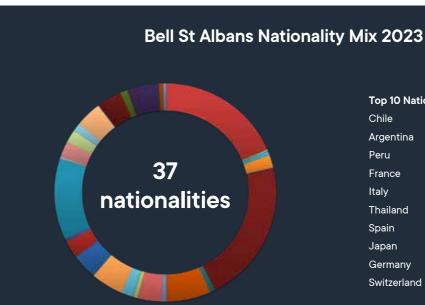
Ŷ British sports

Football

0 Journalism

Ľ Health and fitness

\*Contact us for special group rates throughout the year at St Albans



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5pm or advised train times. Custom transfers can be arranged – ask us for details.





- Top 10 Nationalities: Chile Argentina Peru France Italy Thailand Spain Japan Germany
- Switzerland

#### Transfers

Free transfers will be available for arrivals and departures between 10am and 5pm, depending on student travel requirements.

Any students travelling as an Unaccompanied Minor are subject to an additional £60 fee (per single journey).

#### Important:

Arrival details for each student must be sent to Bell at least 10 working days before the start of course to guarantee an airport transfer. Please also notify us at least 7 working days if there are any changes to your departure date.

#### **Bell St Albans**

London Heathrow	47km
London Stansted	60km
St. Pancras	31km

#### **Bedrooms**

All bedrooms contain bunk beds and can accommodate between two and six students. Every room also has a wardrobe, chest of drawers and chair. Please note: towels and hair dryers are not provided..

#### **Bathrooms**

Shared showers and toilet facilities are situated at convenient points throughout the accommodation.

#### Housekeeping

Bedrooms and bathrooms are cleaned regularly. Fresh bed linen is provided every week.

#### Meals

Full board (breakfast, lunch and dinner are served at the school and a packed lunch is provided on study tours). As well as a variety of global cuisines, students will experience traditional British meals such as roast dinners and fish and chips.

#### Laundry

Free laundry service for machine washable clothes once a week. Bell cannot take responsibility for any items lost or damaged during the laundry process.

#### **Pocket Monev**

£150 per week (recommendation).

#### Electricity

220-240V, 50Hz AC. UK-type 3-pin plugs are used.

#### Curfew

Lights are switched off between 22:30 and 23:00. Students are not allowed outside the school site without supervision.

**16** SPRING EXPLORER

BELL ST ALBANS	10AM - 5PM	OUT-OF-HOURS
London Heathrow	Free	£TBC
London Stansted	Free	£TBC
St. Pancras	Free*	£TBC
* based on advised train times		



### Supervision

## Local Area Information

- Nearest town: St Albans is a 15min drive with shopping centre and supermarket  $\odot$  Nearest train station: St Albans **City Train Station** Nearest airport: Luton is a 20-min
- Travel time to London: 1 hour and 30 mins by train an 41 mins by taxi

## **Maximum Capacity**

180 students

available at **Bell St Albans** 

# For more information:



Call +44 (0)1223 275598

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In your own country through a local Bell representative

bellenglishstudnts | 4 (၀) bell english

