

United Kingdom



High School Programmes in the UK





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Going abroad to study is a unique opportunity and experience.

But it can also be a little scary and most students are uncertain if they will like it, or if they will succeed, and sometimes even if they will survive it!

We are here to take the uncertainty away – to make certain that you enjoy the experience, succeed in your ambitions and become a better person because of the experience. Our business is your success and our team of professionals is dedicated to ensuring that you have access to the best that the UK and the British education system has to offer you.

We have been providing opportunities for international students since 1988. We have developed a wealth of expertise and experience in all areas of international study programmes – from classroom excellence to the excellence of our support services. Our programmes are staffed by professionals in the fields of education, welfare and languages. From our own experience we understand and appreciate the particular needs of International students, and all our programmes are based on this understanding and appreciation.

Our Expertise

HSI UK

With HSI you can be sure that you are getting the best that the UK can offer.

HSI in the UK is a local company, staffed by local professionals. Our local expertise – of the local school, education system, locations, host families – and our international experience – international students, education systems, cultures – is your guide to the best choice of programme to meet the specific educational, career, social and personal needs of each and every student.

UK

British Education has a worldwide reputation for its quality. Its schools are of the highest standards, with British Examination qualifications recognised throughout the world. An overseas study programme is about a lot more than the quality of the classroom. It is also about environment – cultural, social, personal, educational - and how this environment encourages students to study, to be happy, to make friends, to feel at home. The UK combines a diverse and vibrant culture to create an environment full of history, tradition and modern creativity - welcoming all international students.

Programme Options

School Type	Age	Duration	Academic Background	English Level*	Available to
Prep School	8 -13	1,2, 3 + terms	Above average	Upper Intermediate	All Nationalities
Private Day	16 – 18	1, 2, 3 + terms	Average plus	Upper Intermediate	All Nationalities
Private Boarding	11 - 18	1, 2, 3 + terms	Average plus	Upper Intermediate	All Nationalities
State College	16 – 18	1, 2, 3 + terms	Grades C and above	Upper Intermediate	Non – EU/EEA Students only**
State College	16 – 18	1, 2, 3 + terms	Grade C and above	Upper Intermediate	EU/EEA
State Boarding	11 - 18	3 terms	Grade C and above	Upper Intermediate	EU/EEA

* Preparation Options available for students who do not meet these requirements

Note: There is limited availability for one term programmes (these are generally not available for the final school term).

Some students need to improve their English before enrolling on a regular academic programme. If this is not undertaken in their own country before arrival in the UK, it can be undertaken in the UK. For students enrolling in the State sector some schools offer an English + Academic Programme and for students enrolling in the Private sector, some schools offer the option of International Study Centres (ISC) which also provide English + Academic programmes. Once a students level of English has reached the required level they can then progress into the regular mainstream academic programme.

** Certain fees/restrictions may apply to Non-EU/EEA students who wish to enroll on this programme.

Who / What / When / How

Who should apply?

- Students who want to spend a term or year in the UK, experience a British school and British life and who want to perfect their English
- Students who want to gain entry to an Irish or British university
- Students who wish to follow the full British Secondary School programme from the age 8 - 18

What do I need to apply?

- You must be aged between 8 and 18 years
- You must have a reasonable level of English
- You must have achieved average or higher than average grades in your last two school years
- You must be in good health
- You must be positive about participating in the programme and be prepared to make the effort to adapt when you arrive.

When should I apply?

We continue to accept applications as long as there are suitable vacancies, however certain schools may have only limited availability. We strongly recommend that you are **guided** by these dates:

- **September start – Apply by 30 June**
- **January start – Apply by 30 November**

It is always worth checking with us for suitable vacancies – no matter what time of year.

Can I graduate from a UK school?

To graduate you will need to have completed a two-year A level / IB course and successfully taken your A Level or IB Exams. To achieve this, you need to study for two years in a UK secondary school starting your studies in Year 12. With passes in three or more A Level exams you will be able to apply to university. Younger students can also take other internationally recognised UK examinations: the two-year GCSE course for students who are 14 and the one-year AS Level course for students 16 and over.

Can I choose my location and school?

HSI chooses the locations and schools based on availability, student background, subject speciality and preference as stated at time of booking. HSI staff have many years experience of placing overseas students, therefore we believe that we are best placed to be able to match a student application to a school rather than a student or parent. It cannot be guaranteed that a student can be placed in a chosen school; however, we will always try to accommodate the preferences of the applicant when making our selection.

Can I choose my subjects?

Once you have completed your application form and provided us with all the information we need, we will suggest schools which best meet your needs and overall study objectives. It is important to remember that not all schools offer the same subjects. Therefore an initial selection of subjects for you is chosen based on what you have studied previously, what you need to study, and what is available in the school. It is normally possible after arrival on the programme to rearrange some of the subject choices.

IF AN INTENDING STUDENT HAS SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS OR HAS TO MEET SPECIFIC STANDARDS IN SOME SUBJECTS, PLEASE CONSULT WITH HSI BEFORE CONFIRMING ACCEPTANCE OF THE BOOKING.



How to apply: Simple 3 Step Process

To make an application you need:

- 1 Completed Pre-Application form
- 2 Completed English Test and School Report/grades from the last 2 years
- 3 Payment of programme deposit

When you have been accepted for the programme you will be required to provide:

- 1 Fully completed HSI Application form + passport sized photographs
- 2 Signed Terms and Conditions + Medical Release form
- 3 Next or final payment

The UK School System

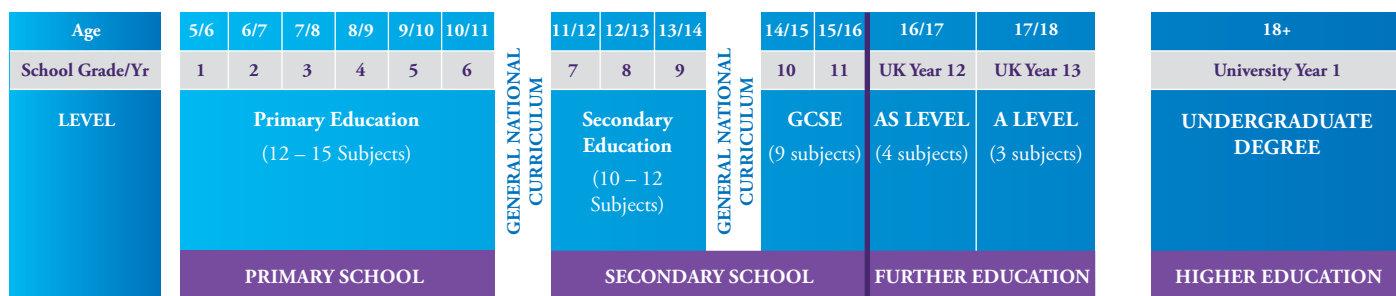
Students in the UK start school in Junior/Primary School for six years, followed by Secondary School for five years ending with GCSE examinations, and can then move on to Further Education for two years. Each of these final two years ends with a State examination (AS Levels in the first year and A Levels in the second year).

As you progress through the UK system it becomes more specialised, with Primary students taking a non-specialised general curriculum; Secondary students start with between 10 and 12 subjects for the first three years, reducing to nine subjects for the final two years. Compulsory education finishes in the UK at age 16 and students who decide to continue in school enter Further Education, which prepares them for university entrance. A Level exams (normally students take 3 or 4 of these) are both an exit exam from school and an entrance exam for university.

All UK secondary schools offer the following national curriculum examinations:

GCSE – General Certificate of Secondary Education | AS Level – Advanced Standard Level | A Level - Advanced Level

Many schools are now offering the increasingly popular IB (International Baccalaureate) Programme, a 2 year course for students aged 16 – 18 as an alternative to A level studies



Years 1 – 9 General National Curriculum

<i>Core Subjects</i>	English	Mathematics	Science		
<i>Optional Subjects</i>	Art	Drama	Design & Technology	Computers	Foreign Language
	Geography	History	Music	Physical Education	Technology

Years 10 & 11: GCSE programme with nine subjects

<i>Core Subjects</i>	English	Mathematics	Science		
<i>Optional Subjects</i>	Art & Design	Business Studies	Latin	Greek	Drama
	Economics	French	German	Spanish	Geography
	History	Information Technology	Music	Sports Science	Religious Studies
	Physical Education				

Year 12: AS level programme

<i>4 subjects chosen from the following list</i>		Art & Design	Biology	Business Studies	Chemistry
Latin & Greek	Design & Technology	Drama	Economics	English Literature	French
Geography	German	History	Information Technology	Mathematics	Music
Physical Education	Physics	Russian	Religious Studies	Sports Science	Spanish

Year 13**: A level programme

Students continue with three of their four subjects from Year 12 (AS Level).

A level results are used to gain admission to university and other 3rd Level programmes.

**Please note there is no direct entry into Year 13

Note: No schools offer the complete range of subjects – the normal range offered is between 15 and 18 subjects

Academic Timetables & Calendars*

The British school year runs from the first or second week of September to the first or second week of July and is divided into 3 terms as follows:

Autumn Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 3
September to December	January to April	April to July

Note: State examinations: GCSE, AS Levels and A levels take place in May and June.

* Individual schools may vary this calendar of terms substantially. Students obliged to take the final GCSE exams in Year 11 or the AS level exams in Year 12 or the A level exams in Year 13 finish 2 or 3 weeks earlier than other students. Private Day and Boarding School Programmes are shorter than State School Programmes.

British schools finalise calendars approximately one term in advance. Term dates will be sent to you with the school brochure upon student placement.

Typical daily timetable in a day school (Monday to Friday)

09.00 – 09.45	English Literature	10.40 – 11.20	History	12.50 – 14.00	Lunch	15.20 – 16.00	Business Studies
09.45 – 10.30	Mathematics	11.20 – 12.05	Physics	14.00 – 14.40	Chemistry		
10.30 – 10.40	Short break	12.05 – 12.50	Physics	14.40 – 15.20	Computer Studies		

Most Private schools have “Prep” (study) after normal school hours.

Accommodation Options - Residential or Homestay

Your living environment is crucial to your success in The UK. Some students prefer the option of boarding or residence whilst others may prefer a host family environment.

HSI is very careful about selecting families to host our students. There is no such thing as a ‘typical’ Host Family - people and families come in all shapes and sizes, so you must be prepared to share your life in your new country in any sort of family structure. Apart from providing a comfortable and clean house, your host family has to provide a warm, caring family environment – they have to welcome you as an additional member of the family – with the rights and obligations of any family member.

(Please note that students staying in permanent Host Family accommodation must be aged 16 on arrival).

Living in Boarding / Residence:

For students who prefer to be part of a residential community there is a variety of boarding accommodation available.

Dormitory living provides you with the opportunity to share your daily life with a large group of students. The important thing to remember is that this is a closed environment in which your daily life is regulated by a timetable and many of the benefits of family life will not be available – such as privacy. Students in private boarding accommodation have the option of staying with a host family during school holiday periods (Half Terms and Exeat weekends) should they not wish to return home. To be successful in a boarding school, you should be able to integrate into existing groups of students easily, make friends easily and like group activities and sports.

Role of HSI Student Advisors

From the time you arrive until the time you finish your programme, your HSI Student Advisor will be your main contact. All of our Student Advisors are experienced in education and student exchange. They spend their time talking to you, your teachers and your host family. They represent your best interests in the school, ensuring you are doing the programme that meets your academic requirements. They are your best resource, along with your family and school community, to help you create a social life in the area and to use local resources to pursue your interests.

Emergency Contact

You can always contact HSI. Your safety and well-being is important to us. You will receive information from HSI confirming our emergency telephone number which you can reach 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Guardianship

HSI is an accredited member of *AEGIS* (Association for the Education & Guardianship of International Students), the premier accrediting body in the UK for guardianship companies. Our accreditation means that our students, their parents and our partners can be assured that we meet and surpass the most rigorous standards set in law and practice for student support and supervision.

In addition to your HSI Student Advisor, our office in Brighton is directly involved in ensuring that your programme runs smoothly. Staff are available to provide practical support on everything from visas, registration, transfers, local information and all of the details that you will need help with, prior to your arrival and whilst you are on the programme.

Reporting

With the cooperation of your school, your host family or boarding staff, and of course you, your HSI Student Advisor prepares regular progress reports for your family at home. These reports contain a commentary on your academic, social, personal and general progress. They also contain details of any examinations or tests you take in school. These reports help your family to stay in regular touch with your progress.

Your HSI Programme

Standard Inclusions for all programmes:

- Selection of a suitable school
- Standard school tuition fees
- Placement & Registration in a selected UK school
- Final school transcripts and British Ministry of Education documentation

Our Support Services include:

- Assistance and support of your HSI Advisor
- Progress reports (2-3 per term)
- Local orientation upon arrival
- Emergency telephone contact 24/7
- Assistance with Visa application
- First and Final transfers
- Assistance with other transfers
- Accommodation in a carefully selected host family (excluding Christmas and Easter holidays)

Our Boarding Accommodation includes:

- Dormitory accommodation
- Full board
- Family accommodation during official school closures (mid-terms, long weekends)

Our Homestay Accommodation includes:

- Single room family accommodation
- Monday – Friday, half board (lunch not included)
- Saturday & Sunday, full board
- Access to all house facilities
- A warm, friendly environment



Programme Exclusions: Of course there are some things that we cannot include. These are:

- Travel to and from the UK
- Local travel and transportation
- Mid-term, weekend and other transfers except first and last transfers
- Accommodation during Christmas and Easter holiday periods
- School uniform / text books & other extras, e.g. extra English lessons, trips, stationery, additional uniform items, books, state examination fees, etc
- Required Boarding school equipment (duvet, linen, towels, etc)
- Private travel and medical insurance
- Pocket money

Programme Options in UK

Description <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uniquely British school system • Caters for children aged 8 to 13 • Can be part of a senior school campus or stand-alone campus • Excellent recreational facilities and extra-curricular programmes • Superior supervision and pastoral care • Focus on progression to senior school • Privately funded from fees and donations 		Private Preparatory Schools 	Key Features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The highest academic standards • Excellent facilities • A high level of individual attention • The UK National Curriculum • Religious and non-religious schools • Boarding accommodation • Co-Educational and single sex schools • Many extra curricular activities 	
Age 8 - 13	How Long 1,2 or 3 terms +	Academic Background Above average	English Level Intermediate plus	Status All international students
Description <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government Inspected • Funded from tuition fees, donations and alumni activities • Fully accredited (by, eg, ISC – Independent Schools Council) • Unique part of British education system • Renowned for quality and tradition • Focus on university preparation and entrance 		Private Day / Boarding Schools 	Key Features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent academic standards • Superb facilities • Small class sizes • A wide range of academic subjects • Excellent reputation with a high acceptance rate into leading universities • A high level of individual attention • The UK national Curriculum • Religious and non-religious schools • Co-educational and single sex schools 	
Age Private Day 16-18 Private Boarding 11-18	How Long 1,2 or 3 terms +	Academic Background Average Plus	English Level Upper Intermediate Intermediate Plus	Status All international students
Description <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government funded • Regular inspections • Mature student body – 16 years and older • Academic and vocational • Focus on career development & university entrance • College campus atmosphere 		State Colleges 	Key Features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide range of academic and vocational subjects • Emphasis will be placed on self study • A high university acceptance rate • Your college will form an important part of the community • Non-religious colleges • Local host families • The National UK Curriculum • Co-Educational Colleges 	
Age 16 - 18	How Long 1,2 or 3 terms +	Academic Background Grade C and above	English Level Upper intermediate	Status All international students
Description <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct Government funding • Frequent Government inspection • Academic and vocational focus • Excellent local community integration • Local host families (or campus accommodation) 		State Boarding Colleges 	Key Features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent value for money • Convenient locations in towns of various sizes • Your school will form an important part of the community • Local host families (state day) • Accommodation on campus (state boarding) • The chance to mix with a wide range of people and be a part of community life • A high university acceptance rate • Mainly co-educational schools • The UK National Curriculum 	
Age 11 - 18	How Long 3 terms +	Academic Background Grade C and above	English Level Upper intermediate	Status EU/EEA students



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Other HSI Programmes & Locations

IRELAND	CANADA	USA	AUSTRALIA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard/Public Schools (13 – 18 yrs) • Private Day Schools (13 – 18 yrs) • Private Boarding Schools (13 – 18 yrs) • University Foundation • International Summer Programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Schools (14 – 18 yrs) • Catholic Schools (14 – 18 yrs) • Private Day Schools (14 – 18 yrs) • Private Boarding Schools (14 – 18 yrs) • French-Speaking Schools • IB Schools • Short Term Programmes (min 2 months) • City, Premium City & Rural locations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Schools (15 – 18.5 yrs) • Private Day Schools (13 – 18 years) • Private Boarding Schools (13 – 18 yrs) • University Undergraduate • Pathways Plus (leading to Yr 2 of Bachelors) • Masters Programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Public School (13 – 18 yrs) • Catholic Schools (13 – 18 yrs) • Private Day Schools (13 – 18 yrs) • Private Boarding Schools (13 – 18 yrs) • Short Term 12 Week “Experience Australia” • Public High School + Homestay - with start dates in January, April, July and October

HSI Guardianship

HSI UK is an accredited member of **AEGIS** (Association for the Education & Guardianship of International Students). With our extensive experience of caring for international students we can provide a superior level of care, supervision and reporting for students in UK boarding schools. Whether you want to book directly with a UK boarding school or book through HSI, we can guarantee a safe, pleasant and productive experience. We apply the same standards and use the same procedures in all of our other programmes – so that you can always assume that all staff, host families, and ancillary staff are fully vetted – and equally importantly are the best at what they do.



www.hsinet.org

HSI is an accredited member of the following organizations

