

Spring Explorer

Bell St Albans

24 MARCH - 27 APRIL 2024

1 - 5 WEEKS



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 active skills.

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



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	£1,060 per week

Course components

1 week

- Lessons
15 hours
- Study tours
1 - 2 days
- Educational Activities
9 hours
- Other activities
9 hours



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.

Educational activities

Students choose 2 activities per week. Sample educational activities include:

- Art and crafts
- British sports
- Football
- Health and fitness
- 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 cross-curricular 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



Comprehensive supervision by qualified staff



Free internet access



Residential accommodation and all meals



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



Free laundry service



A full programme of educational and social activities

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



Comprehensive insurance



A full programme of study tours



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:

-  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





WEEK 2:

Sensational Science

SUNDAY 31 MARCH – SATURDAY 6 APRIL

This project will focus the students on some of the most important and influential scientific developments in human history. Students will also be given the opportunity to take part in discussions and debates on current affairs and speculate on the future scientific achievements still to come this century.

Example learning outcomes

- ✔ Students will learn to use future forms to make predictions and plans about their own lives (B1/B2)
- ✔ Students will develop their fluency in speaking during presentations and debates (B2+)
- ✔ Students will develop their understanding of key global issues and how they can be addressed through scientific developments and international cooperation

Topics may include:

-  Sciences
-  Design and Technology
-  International Relations

Types of activities could include:

- Discussion activities- making future predictions
- Taking part in a mini united nations debate
- Presenting a new, imaginary invention to aid language learning
- Designing and presenting a 21st century learning skills infographic
- Devising and presenting a plan for solving global problems

Week includes:

Study Tour: London (and Cambridge for continuous students)

- The Science Museum
- Punting
- Walking Tour of Landmarks
- Free Time





WEEK 3:

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
- 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)

- 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
-  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
- Free Time





WEEK 5: London Life

SUNDAY 21 APRIL – SATURDAY 27 APRIL

This course will focus specifically on life in London as the main study tour destination looking at the capital through the lens of the past, present and future.

Example learning outcomes

- ✔ Students will learn key vocabulary such as adjectives for describing traits and qualities of different people and places (A1-C1)
- ✔ Students will learn comparative and superlative forms for comparing the differences in lifestyle in London from their home countries (A2/B1)
- ✔ Students will develop their cross-cultural understanding and communication skills

Topics may include:

-  Geography
-  Social Studies
-  History

Types of activities could include:

- Taking part in a group photo challenge of London landmarks on the study tour
- Writing and administering a class survey of hobbies and interests related to life in London and at home
- London landmarks factsheets and/or posters
- A travel guide/vlog on London
- A short documentary video on famous London landmarks and accompanying quiz

Week includes:

Study Tour: London

- River Cruise
- Walking Tour
- Free Time



FOR MORE INFORMATION:
bellenglish.com/locations/school/bell-st-albans



Special
 group
 prices*



Facilities

- Bright, spacious classrooms, many with interactive whiteboards
- Free wireless internet
- Dining room
- Art room
- Disabled access/facilities
- On-site sports fields
- Peaceful, countryside setting

Accommodation

- Twin rooms and dormitories
- Separate accommodation blocks for boys and girls
- A dedicated houseparent in every boarding house

Travel

FREE transfers* on scheduled arrival and departure days from:

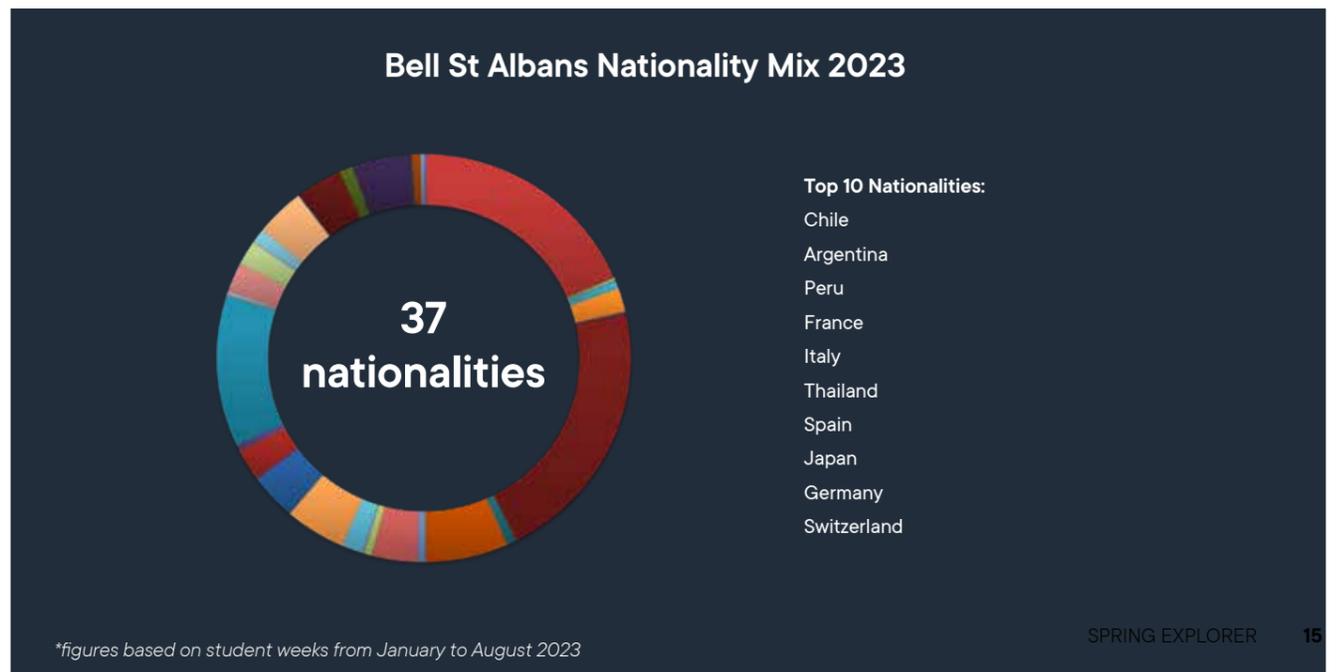
London Heathrow	47 km
London Stansted	60 km
St Pancras	32 km

* For flight arrival/departures between 10am and 5pm or advised train times. Custom transfers can be arranged – ask us for details.

Sample Electives

- Arts and crafts
- British sports
- Football
- Journalism
- Health and fitness

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



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 Money

£150 per week (recommendation).

Electricity

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

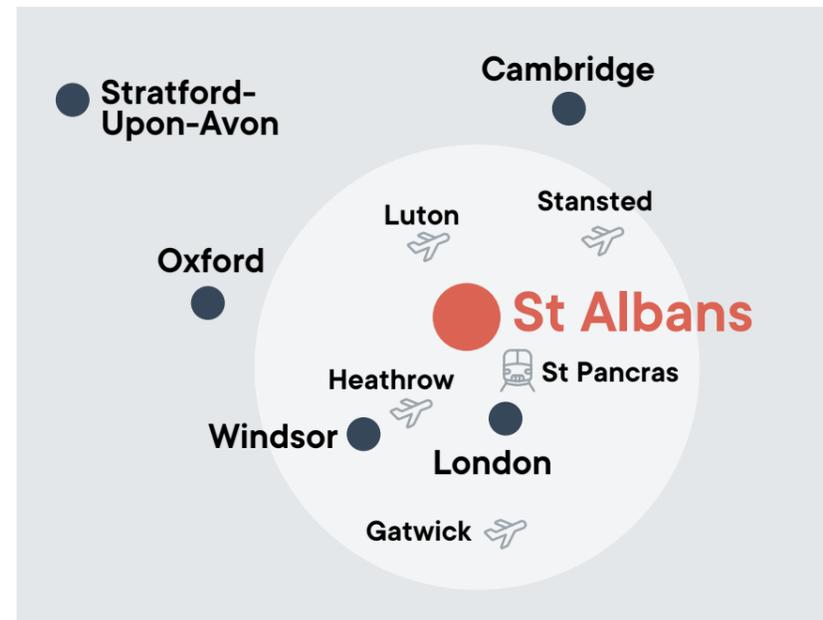
Curfew

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	£100
London Stansted	Free	£170
St. Pancras	Free*	£170

* based on advised train times



Supervision

- ✓ School team available 24 hours a day, all week
- ✓ Houseparents responsible for student welfare
- ✓ Houseparents available for support and advice at any time
- ✓ Staff:Student ratio is at least 1:6
- ✓ All onsite staff are police checked

Local Area Information

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

Maximum Capacity

180
students

available at
Bell St Albans

For more information:

 On our website
bellenglish.com/course-application

 By Phone
Call +44 (0)1223 275598

 In your own country
through a local Bell representative

 [bellenglishstudnts](https://www.facebook.com/bellenglishstudnts)

 [bell_english](https://www.instagram.com/bell_english)

