UKLC

Educate | Inspire | Enrich

Cheltenham

Centre Handbook

2027



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Thank you very much for your interest in our centre in Cheltenham, Dean Close School. We hope you find everything you need in the following pages but if you have any questions or specific requests then please get in touch with us at Head Office on 0044 1244 577995.

The contents of this handbook are updated regularly. The latest version will be sent before your arrival.

We look forward to a successful summer 2027 at Dean Close School.

Summary

- Boarding School
- Swimming Pool
- AI & Digital Workshops
- STEM
- Drama
- Dance
- Football
- Community Action
- Short Transfers

The Centre

Dean Close School was founded in 1886 and has many traditional and beautiful buildings on its grounds. Situated on the edge of the town, it is easy walking distance to the centre so students can enjoy everything that Cheltenham has to offer.

It is a closed site with high security; there is CCTV on campus and the buildings have key coded doors for access, the entrance gate is locked overnight.

Student accommodation is divided between 4 main boarding houses: Shelburne House, Gate, Tower. In each house, there is a common room and at least one kitchen that can be accessed by our groups.

We divide the students up according to their age, sex and group where possible. We take into consideration any specific requests, e.g. friends who want to share. Group leaders will stay in the same house as their students. Room allocation is normally done on arrival. If you would like any further information on this, please contact us.

The school is set in 50 acres of parkland, so there are many grassy areas where students can relax or take part in sports and activities.



Location

Dean Close School, Shelburne Road, Cheltenham GL51 6HE

Telephone Number - 01242 258000

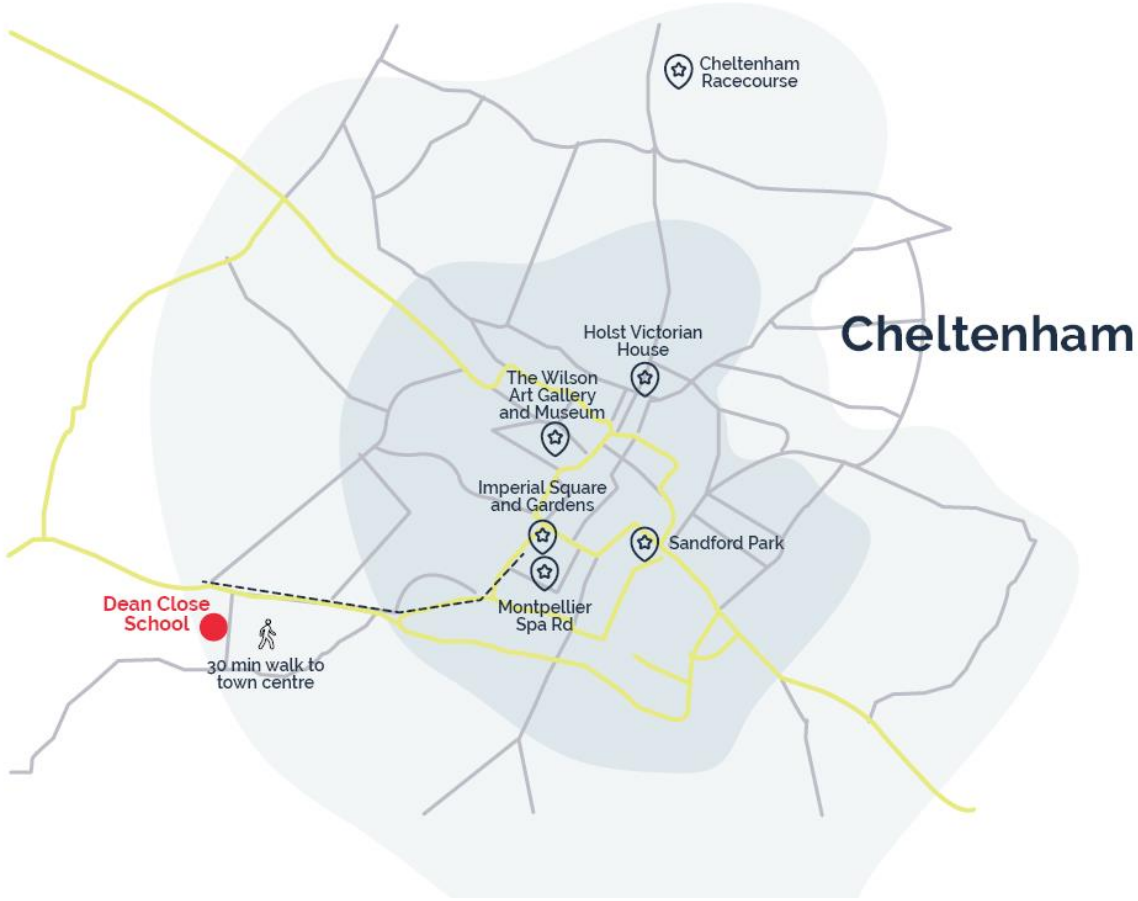
Population of Cheltenham - 116.45K

It is a short distance to the city centre from Dean Close School - approximately 1.2 miles (20 minutes' walk)

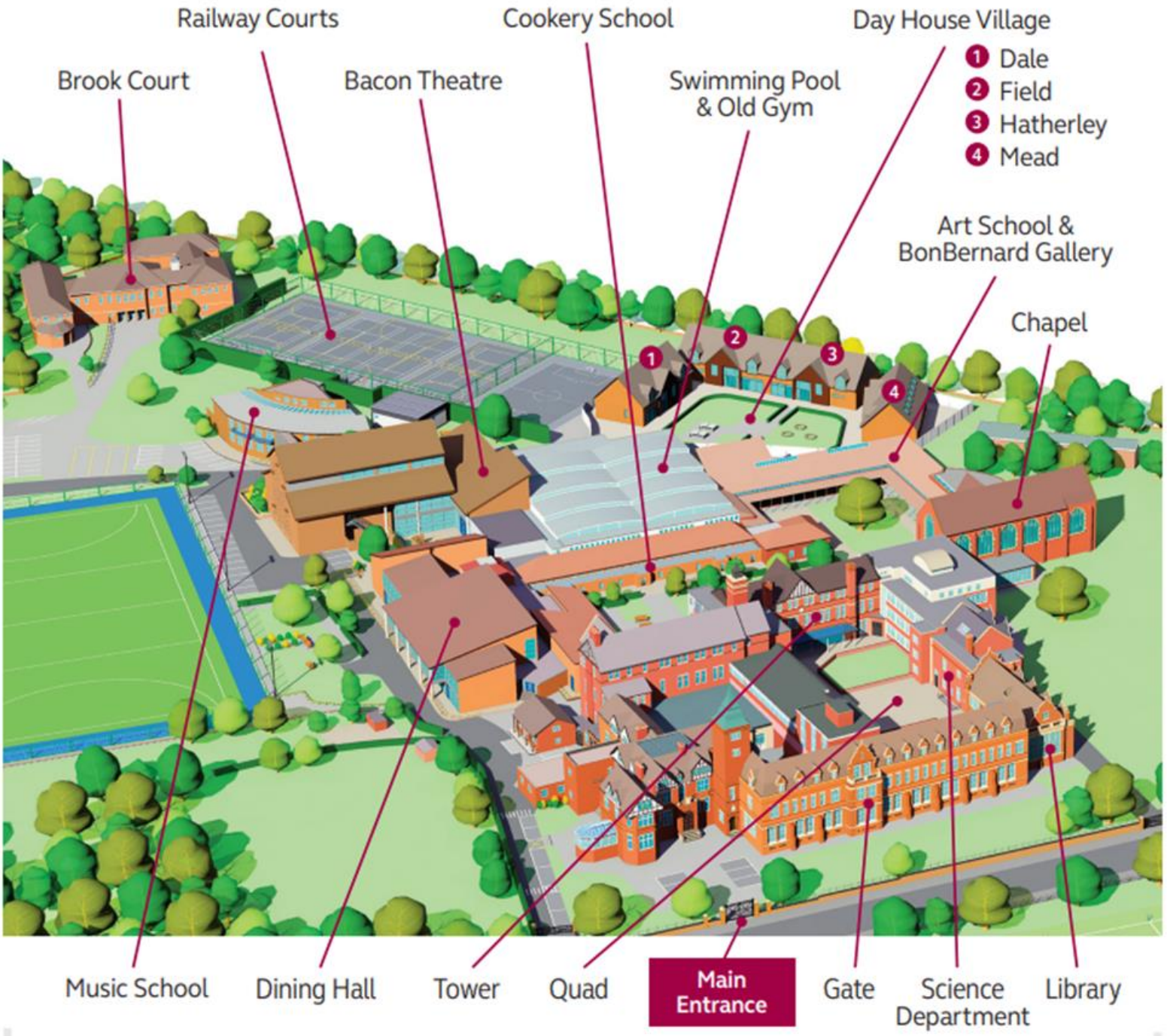
Situated in the beautiful Cotswolds, Cheltenham is full of history and culture. It's the most complete Regency town in the UK. The Regency period lasted from 1811 to 1820 and is well known for it's stunning architecture which you can see scattered all around the town. Students can enjoy the many things to do in Cheltenham, as well as exploring the surrounding local area; famous for it's countryside, nature and historical sites and cities.

Airport Transfers

Bristol: 1 hour
Birmingham International: 1 hour 20 minutes
London Heathrow: 1 hour 50 minutes



MAP OF DEAN CLOSE SCHOOL



Local Amenities

Post Office
Up Hatherley Post Office
Address: 238 Hatherley Rd, Cheltenham GL51 6HB (0.7 miles / 13 minutes' walk)

Supermarket
Tesco Express
Address: Tesco Express, Queen's Rd, Cheltenham GL50 2NH (0.6 miles / 13-minute walk)

ATM
Shell Garage
Address: 352-356 Gloucester Rd, Cheltenham GL51 7AY (0.3 miles / 6-minute walk)

Chemist
The Spa Pharmacy
Address: 12 Rotunda Terrace, Montpellier Street, Cheltenham, GL50 1SW (walking distance to be confirmed from the main reception).

Hospital
Cheltenham General Hospital
Address: Sandford Rd, Cheltenham GL53 7AN (1.6 miles / 30 minutes' walk / 7 minutes' drive)

Doctors
Address: *Underwood Surgery*, 139 St George's Rd, Cheltenham GL50 3EQ (1.1 miles / 22 minutes' walk)
Healthcare: If a student feels unwell, tell a member of UKLC staff immediately. For urgent, non-life-threatening medical advice, UKLC staff will support the student to contact NHS 111 (online or by phone) and follow the advice given, including which service to attend. Do not assume that a GP, walk-in service or hospital can provide a same-day appointment. For a life-threatening emergency, call 999. If hospital treatment is required, the Group Leader must accompany the student. If the Group Leader is unavailable, a UKLC team member must accompany the student instead. Centre Management must be informed and the Senior Leadership Team notified. If a student is injured during an excursion and requires hospital treatment, both a UKLC team member and the relevant Group Leader must accompany the student. Any costs or charges incurred in connection with the hospital visit, including transport, are the student's responsibility. UKLC staff will support arrangements and communication.

Dentist
Address: *Gratton House Dental Surgery,* Gratton Street, Cheltenham GL50 2AS (1.3 miles/ 26 minutes' walk)

Bus Stops
In front of the school, approximately 60 meters away. There are frequent buses that run to the city centre and neighbouring towns.

Train Stations
Cheltenham Spa Railway Station
Address: Cheltenham GL51 8NP (0.5 miles / 11 minutes' walk)

Coffee Shops
The Butterfly Box
The Butterfly Box is the first ever coffee shop situated in the incredible grounds of Hatherley Park. Stop by daily to enjoy a delicious barista style coffee or grab a freshly baked cake or one of Ruby's Cookies. You will find a mass of alternative milks to suit your requirements.
Address: Hatherley Park, Cheltenham GL51 3AL
Walking distance from Dean Close School: 0.6 miles (11 minutes' walk)

The Coffee Dispensary
The Coffee Dispensary is a friendly local coffee shop that love nothing more than giving customers coffee advice, as well as brewing, drinking and talking about all things coffee related. They also really love to showcase local musicians and photographers with frequent music nights and photographic exhibitions.
Address: 18 Regent St, Cheltenham GL50 1HE
Walking distance from Dean Close School: 1.6 miles (33 minutes' walk)

Restaurants
TGI Fridays
Make every day seem like Friday! Along with mouth watering food and tempting drinks, TGI Fridays brings fun, friendliness and an extra large helping of good vibes to the table!
Address: 374 Gloucester Rd, St Mark's, Cheltenham GL51 7AY
Walking distance from Dean Close School: 0.3 miles (7 minutes' walk)

The Lansdown
A charming British pub and restaurant hosting live music and serving real ales and pub grub.
Address: Lansdown road, Cheltenham, GL50 2LG
Walking distance from Dean Close School: 0.8 miles (16 minutes' walk)

The Daffodil
The Daffodil restaurant is a renovated 1920's Art Deco cinema located in the Suffolk Parade area of Cheltenham. Serving British cuisine with a strong focus on vegetarian options.
Address: 18-20 Suffolk Parade, Cheltenham GL50 2AE
Walking distance from Dean Close School: 1.3 miles (26 minutes' walk)

Accommodation

The school has six residential houses with single, twin, triple and multi-bedded rooms and shared shower and toilet facilities. Some of the single rooms have an adjacent bathroom which is also accessible by the bedroom next door – two students therefore share a bathroom. Each house has its own common room with TV. The houses are called Shelburne, Brook Court, Tower and Fawley.

Shelburne is made up of single and double, Jack and Jill bedrooms (two bedrooms with an adjoining bathroom). There is one large common room and kitchen.

Brook Court is made up of single, double, triple and quad bedrooms, with a bathroom ratio of 1:5. There are also some single Jack and Jill bedrooms (two bedrooms with an adjoining bathroom). There is one large common room.

Tower is made up of single, double, triple and sext bedrooms, with a bathroom ratio of 1:5. There is one large common room.

Fawley is made up of single, double, triple, quint and sext bedrooms, with a bathroom ratio of 1:5. There is one common room.

Room Allocation

We divide the students up according to their age, gender and group. We take into consideration any specific requests, e.g. friends who want to share. Group Leaders will stay in the same house as their students. Room allocation is normally done on arrival. If you would like any further information on this, please contact us.

Housekeeping

Bedrooms are cleaned 5 days a week. Bedding is changed once a week. Bedding is provided. **Towels are not provided at this centre**. House kitchens are available to use and are to be kept clean by students, Group Leaders and UKLC team.

There are washing machine and tumble dry facilities located in the boarding houses and are free of charge. Students must provide their own washing powder and need to be supervised by an adult at all times.

Key Loss

Room keys are not given at this centre (can be arranged upon request for Group Leaders). If any key card is lost during the stay, there will be a £25 fee for a replacement.

Deposits

We will ask each student for a deposit of €25/£25 on arrival. We will check their rooms before they arrive and before they leave and return the money if everything is in order. If there is damage to the houses and nobody admits fault, we will ask everyone in the house to share the cost.

Meals

When the students are on campus, they will eat their meals in the dining hall on site. When they are out on full day excursions, they will be provided with packed lunches.
Cooked breakfast is supplied three times a week, and the rest will be continental.

Meal times

Breakfast*: 08:00 – 08:45
Lunch*: 12:30 - 13:30
Dinner*: 18:00 – 18:45

If we are aware in advance, we can advise the catering staff of any dietary requirements or allergies and the canteen staff can cater to these.
*Mealtimes are subject to change

Dean Close - Sample Menu

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Breakfast	Cereal Selection Grilled Bacon Scrambled Eggs Grilled Tomato Mushrooms Baked Beans Pain au Chocolat Fresh Fruit	Cereal Selection Sliced Ham Sliced Cheese Sliced Tomato Toast & Preserves Croissant Fresh Fruit	Cereal Selection Local Pork Sausages Vegetarian Sausages Poached Eggs Plum Tomatoes Baked Beans Pain au Chocolat Fresh Fruit	Cereal Selection Sliced Ham Sliced Cheese Sliced Tomato Toast & Preserves Croissant Fresh Fruit	Cereal Selection Grilled Bacon Scrambled Eggs Grilled Tomato Mushrooms Baked Beans Pain au Chocolat Fresh Fruit	Cereal Selection Sliced Ham Sliced Cheese Sliced Tomato Toast & Preserves Croissant Fresh Fruit	Cereal Selection Sliced Ham Sliced Cheese Sliced Tomato Toast & Preserves Croissant
Lunch	Homemade Pizzas Sautéed Potatoes Broccoli Sweetcorn	Beef Chilli Con Carne Bean & Vegetable Chilli Rice Fine Beans Sliced Carrots Tortilla Chips Sour Cream	Roast Turkey Lentil & Veg Seeded Loaf Roast Potatoes Peas Honey Roast Parsnips Gravy	Sweet & Sour Chicken Sweet & Sour Tofu & Veg Rice Broccoli Prawn Crackers	Battered Cod Mushroom Risotto Chips Baked Beans Peas	Tandoori Chicken Legs Vegetable Pulao Bombay Potatoes Sliced Carrots Naan Bread Mango Chutney Roasted Coconut	Roast Pork Lentil & Vegetable Sweet Potato Cottage Pie Roast Potatoes Peas Honey Roast Parsnips Gravy
Dinner	Pasta Carbonara Roast Vegetable, Tomato & Basil Pasta Homemade Garlic & Rosemary Focaccia	Stir Fry Chicken Noodles Stir Fry Tofu Noodles Baby Corn Prawn Crackers	Beef Burgers Hot Dogs Vegan Hot Dogs Homemade Potato Wedges Corn on the Cobs	Chinese Style Pork Rib Eye Chinese Style Jackfruit & Veg Egg Noodles Stir Fry Vegetables	Homemade Lasagne Lentil & Veg Lasagne Garlic Bread Sweetcorn	Turkey & Chorizo Risotto Bean & Courgette Risotto Fine Beans	Chicken Stroganoff Mushroom, Pepper & Vegetable Stroganoff Rice Red Cabbage

Technology

Wi-fi is available campus wide and is password protected. Each individual will be given a Wi-fi access code. Being a private boarding school, the internet access is firewalled as per the boarding school regulations. However, it is at the Group Leader's discretion whether they give these details to their students. Wi-fi will be switched off between 23:30 and 06:00.
There are no public phones on site. The nearest are in Cheltenham town centre.

Security

There is CCTV coverage on campus and 24/7 duty security/wardens. The main gate is locked at midnight.

Emergency contacts: Each student will be given a wristband when they arrive, and this will have the following emergency telephone number printed on it: 00 44 1244 567695. If you need to contact the centre in the event of an emergency please call this number and follow the options for the relevant centre, this will then put you through to the person on duty.

Certain basic guidelines are common to all centres and students. Students should:

- Never walk away alone!
- Never leave the residence without permission in the evening!
- Always make sure they have understood when and where the meeting point is whilst out on excursions!
- Always wear their identification lanyard and their UKLC wristband! *
  *students found not wearing their lanyard or wristband will be fined £1

Safety

- Remember that there is a 24-hour emergency telephone number on the wristband **(0044 1244 567695)** and that the number for the emergency services (Ambulance/Police/Fire) in England is **999**, or the single emergency number for the EU including the UK is **112** or you can call **101** to report a crime where you do not need an emergency response
- The police are there to help and protect and can be asked for assistance!
- Never respond to someone if you feel threatened, simply walk away!
- Always give your money to the UKLC management team to put in the safe and never to carry large amounts of cash around!
- Be careful crossing the road. Remember that in the UK we drive on the left!
- If you feel unwell, tell a member of UKLC staff immediately.
- Keep all windows closed when not in your bedrooms!

Insurance and valuables

Although all houses will be accessed via swipe cards, it is suggested that students try to avoid bringing very expensive items with them. If they are bringing valuables with them, it essential that they have sufficient insurance to cover any loss of damage as neither the centre nor the company can be held responsible if anything goes missing. The Centre Manager will have access to a safe if it is required.

Teaching

We know how important it is for each individual student to find their own path in language learning. We use a wide range of methods to engage and stimulate our students. This is why we have created a curriculum based on the students' age, level and needs, structured into four different programmes:

FUN (ages 8-10)
Engaging lessons that offer a wide range of materials and activities specific for our young learners, making games into lessons and lessons into games. Available in levels A1-B1.

CONNECTION (ages 10-13)
Dynamic lessons covering a variety of topics and media, designed to engage students using tools native to the fast-paced world they are growing up in. Available in levels A1-C1.

ACTION (ages 13-16)
Lessons tailored for learners stepping into their teenage years. This programme focuses on activating students' knowledge and competencies to balance developing a personal voice while contributing effectively to a team. Available in levels A1-C1.

PURPOSE (ages 16-18)
Lessons tailored for our students approaching adulthood, designed to kickstart their lives not only as maturing youths but also as forward-thinking global citizens. Available in levels A1-C2.

The Connection, Action, and Purpose programmes consist of three different lessons a day:

FOCUS ON LANGUAGE
These lessons aim to empower our students' linguistic awareness and capabilities by working on all language skills (reading, writing, listening, speaking) and systems (grammar, phonology, lexis, discourse), as well as using materials relevant to exam preparation (KET, PET, FCE, CAE, TOEFL, IELTS, GESE).

FOCUS ON LEADERSHIP
This programme is designed to equip students with essential 21st-century skills, focusing on leadership development, communication and teamwork. Students build the confidence and competencies needed to grow into empowered young adults.

FOCUS ON CULTURE
These lessons combine CLIL and British culture, allowing students to use English to explore a range of disciplines, including art, literature, natural sciences, as well as the history and geography of the UK

Placement tests

We offer classes at four levels, from elementary to advanced. Students take a placement test on their first day of classes to ensure they are placed at the correct level.
Once the tests have been marked, students won't be told their score unless they specifically ask for it but will be placed into a class based on these results.
If students are not happy with their level, they can speak with the Course Director who will decide if it is necessary for the student to change levels.
We always try to split groups into different classes to mix nationalities, but this does depend on their levels and the numbers of students that we have on site.
We will provide all course materials including a journal and a pen.
Students are taught in class sizes up to 16.

Programme

All UKLC summer programmes include:

- 15 hours or 21 hours of English lessons per week
- Full board accommodation in residence.
- A full programme of excursions, activities and evening entertainment.
- 1 free group leader for every 15 students.
- Placement test on arrival and End-of-Course Certificate.

15 Hour Programme:

• 15 hours of English lessons
• 6 hours of Activity Sessions
• 6 hours of English Plus Electives

21 Hour Programme – Intensive English:

• 21 hours of English lessons
• 6 hours of English Plus Electives

English Plus Electives – new for 2027

Students can choose from a range of English Plus electives and sign up during their stay. These sessions allow students to personalise their programme, enjoy activities they love and continue developing their English skills.

English Plus Electives available at this centre

- **Community Action Sessions:** Students explore ways to support local charities and organisations in the surrounding community. The precise format is still being finalised to ensure safe and appropriate participation; options may include engaging with local organisations or developing a fundraising initiative.
- **Football Coaching:** Structured football coaching develops technical skills, teamwork and game awareness. Sessions also place importance on preparation and recovery, including appropriate warm-ups, cool-downs and nutrition to support healthy sporting participation.
- **Dance Classes:** An energetic, inclusive programme introducing a range of dance styles while developing musicality, coordination, confidence and creative expression. No previous dance experience is required, and students can participate at their own pace.
- **Drama Lessons:** A practical, confidence-building programme exploring storytelling, character, improvisation and communication. Students develop vocal expression, imagination, collaboration and everyday speaking skills, with activities adapted to different ages and English levels.
- **STEM Workshops:** Four hands-on workshops encourage students to think like scientists and engineers as they investigate, design, build, test and improve ideas. The emphasis is on teamwork, problem-solving, practical discovery and explaining outcomes in English.
- **AI and Digital Workshops:** Four practical workshops help students explore AI and digital tools creatively and critically. Students develop digital literacy, problem-solving and responsible AI habits, while building or shaping a digital outcome and explaining their ideas.

At centres operating a zig-zag programme, lessons may also take place in the afternoon. This is confirmed on the final programme provided before arrival.

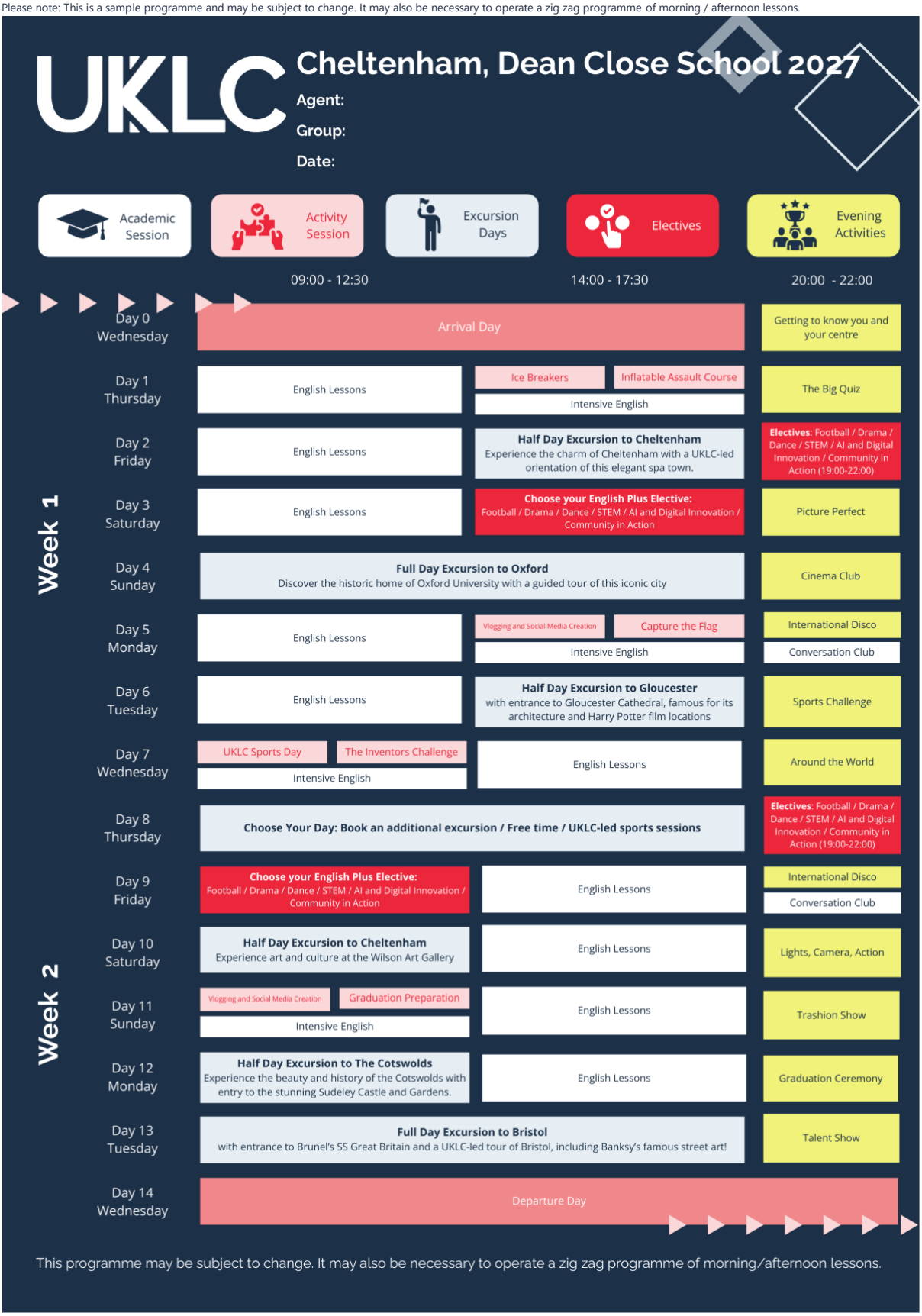
A typical day for students

08:00 – 09:00	**Breakfast**
09:00 – 10:00	**Lesson 1 or Activities or chosen programme or excursion**
10:00 – 10:15	**Break**
10:15 – 11:15	**Lesson 2 or Activities or chosen programme or excursion**
11:15 – 11:30	**Break**
11:30 – 12:30	**Lesson 3 or Activities or chosen programme or excursion**
12:30 – 13:30	**Lunch**
14:00 – 15:00	**Lesson 1 or Activities or chosen programme or excursion**
15:00 – 15:15	**Break**
15:15 – 16:15	**Lesson 2 or Activities or chosen programme or excursion**
16:15 – 16:30	**Break**
16:30 – 17:30	**Lesson 3 or Activities or chosen programme or excursion**
18:00 – 18:45	**Dinner**
20:00 – 22:00	**Evening Activities**
22:30	**Bedtime**

This centre runs on a 'zig-zag', meaning the order of lessons and multi-option activities/excursions will change after a week. See example below.

Cheltenham, Dean Close School Sample Programme

Please note: This is a sample programme and may be subject to change. It may also be necessary to operate a zig zag programme of morning / afternoon lessons.



Facilities

- Heated Indoor Swimming Pool
- Astroturf Pitches
- Sports Hall & Tennis Courts
- Outdoor Amphitheatre

Evening entertainment

UKLC Activity Teams deliver fun and engaging evening activities for students to practise their English, make new friends and enjoy their time at the centre.

Students receive their evening activity programme on their first day. Activities can include:

Lights, Camera, Action – students re-enact famous film scenes, create scripts in English and perform for the centre.

Talent Show – students can perform singing, dancing, acting and other talents.

Trashion Show – students create outfits from recycled or unexpected materials and take part in a catwalk.

International Disco – students socialise and dance to music from around the world.

Around the World – teams take part in activities inspired by different countries.

Picture Perfect – a creative team activity designed to encourage collaboration and English communication.

The Big Quiz – students work in teams to test their knowledge across a range of fun topics.

Conversation Club – an opportunity for students to practise speaking English while discussing interesting topics.

New for 2027: ***Evening Electives*** – once a week, students can choose from a range of evening activities, giving them more opportunities to personalise their programme.

We look forward to welcoming you to Dean Close, Cheltenham in summer 2027!