



Sharing One Language

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE & CULTURE PROGRAMMES FOR STUDENTS 2017

Our very successful English language immersion programmes have been running for 25 years. We have welcomed over 45,000 students on these, almost all from Eastern Central Europe. Students come as part of a group with their regular teachers. Our pre-course consultation ensures that what we provide is what will most help your students! Our aim is to not replicate what you do, but to take full advantage of them being in England by using their own experiences to develop their knowledge of real English and especially their confidence in using it.

We have consistent outstanding feedback and our 2017 programmes will see the continued emphasis given to the integration of visits, the time in the family with their classroom time - and ensuring it is made appropriate for all levels. Fieldwork provides real opportunities to use real English as well as to give a better understanding of the English way of life and the context of the language. Tasks are set for the evenings and give host families a chance to help too and where students then learn things they can share with their friends the next day. It is this student-centred approach to the language which is so important in a SOL programme.

If a student only has a short time with us, we want to make maximum use of that time, and all their time with us is very important – as well as enjoyable!! Our great locations in Barnstaple, Bideford, and Tiverton further enhance our courses - and in Tiverton, the climbing wall will be an added attraction (instruction, cooperation, team work and achievement, all in English!) as well as meeting the Mayor!

The daytime is divided into two; one half in our centre, the other short trips or activities. Time in the centre involves a great deal of practical use of language, dealing with real situations, and often relates to work done with the families or in the visits undertaken. The visits are to beautiful places and always with interesting language or observational tasks to do as well.

POINTS TO NOTE

- We are more than a typical “language school”, and offer an outstanding language development experience for both students and teachers
- This offers the best value in terms of motivating students and giving them confidence to use English for real purposes
- Our experience with students and teachers from central and eastern Europe is second to none
- One teacher comes free for every complete group of 8 students, sometimes less
- 10% deposit confirms the booking – we hold an initial booking provisionally for one month.
- We are open ALL year! The climate is moderate, and winters are mild - the Atlantic Ocean is just 10 km away!
- The price is INCLUSIVE - no hidden extras, other than any special visits or requests or bookings before or after leaving Devon.
- Full 8½ hour programme each day including **fieldwork** on visits, plus **tasks** with the family in the evening. Sunday is family day.
- Students are placed in friendly and supportive families, preferably with friends as they will speak more English this way.
- 1 half price place is available, for children of accompanying teachers for every 15 students brought – but not counting towards the number of teaching groups or free teacher places.
- We can book hostels or hotels to extend the stay in the UK, but must be paid for at the time of booking (exact price + £20 fee/group)
- For schools with small groups of students who wish to travel by coach we try to find similar schools to join with them to keep the cost down.
- We offer to cover expenses incurred by the organising teacher, so no teacher will be out of pocket organising a group.
- Additional teaching groups can be agreed. The prices quoted are based on a maximum of one group per 20 students or part of 20.
- **Safety and security** of students are paramount. Evenings are with the families unless written responsibility is transferred to the visiting teacher
- Adults are welcome but only as full participants - and there is a small daily supplement to pay.
- SOL is a small organisation and we like to treat everyone personally before, during and after the stay.

LOCATION

SOL has three centres in Devon; Barnstaple & Bideford and Tiverton. All three towns are safe environments, have populations under 30,000 and are situated 300 km due west of London in the beautiful South West of England. This is the REAL England!!!

TEACHER COURSES RUN BY SOL

Each July we run 2 great 12-day in-service courses in Devon for TEACHERS led by our own Mark Andrews. Because our mission is to support teachers of English in their work and never make a profit out of them, we run these on a non-profit basis - just €725 for those without a grant. It is definitely the lowest UK price by far!! Both courses are eligible for Erasmus+ funding but the price is then unsubsidised at €1225. Full details are on our website from mid-September.

In August, we also run 2 truly international camps abroad for TEACHERS, “SO(u)L camps”. These include yoga and one is in Slovakia and one in Serbia (by The Danube). These 8-day programmes are unique and inspirational, and cost just **€375**. Full details (as far as it is possible to describe these experiences in words!) are on our website from mid-September.

THE FAMILIES

All families have been carefully selected and approved – they are personally visited in their homes by SOL, to ensure that we only use good, supportive friendly hosts. They provide all meals (including packed lunch on course days), and take responsibility for getting the student to and from the SOL centre. If any problems arise, we deal with them on a personal level. Bedroom accommodation will provide necessary privacy, though much of the evening time and Sunday will be spent with the family itself. Most families enjoy welcoming more than one student at a time and when friends are placed together they normally will speak much more English than when on their own or with a student from another country. They help and encourage each other as a more relaxed situation is created. The language of the home is English and the students are not guests but are PART of the family!!

Students and teachers are asked to complete a simple information sheet about themselves in order to help us match them up with families. These sheets need to be received by us at least 6 weeks before the course begins.

TRAVEL By your own coach: This is usually the most economical way of travelling for many, as long as the coach can be filled. Students see a lot of Europe en route! Transport is arranged by you in your own country, but we organise driver accommodation in Devon and the cross channel ferry to Dover. The coach is then used for all visits. Linking with other schools may make it more possible to fill the coach and our coordinators can help in this.

By air or public service coach: We meet you at your arrival point in London (usually) and provide all the transport within England. The price is for a direct service between London Heathrow and Devon with a stops en route usually Avebury or Salisbury. There will be a supplementary charge for meeting you at a different airport or location but we will and make things as easy for you as possible. Stonehenge can't now be booked by us but we can help you to do so if you have a full group and are a bone fide school. Accommodation in London will be required for flights arriving after 14.00 (12.30 Stansted) or leaving before 14.00 (13.00 Heathrow).

WHEN TO VISIT

The summer is always too popular and busy. Coming in winter, spring or autumn is recommended as it is cheaper and there are less traffic jams and the weather can be just as good. The climate is moderate in all seasons, and the good sunshine record is one of the reasons why it is such a popular holiday area. Although it can be unpredictable most groups find it much better than its reputation!! When it rains, it rarely lasts long, and, even in winter, day temperatures are always above 0°C.

Arrival in Devon will normally be on a Sunday (for one week programmes) or Monday. When leaving, the departure at 06.30 allows a full 8+hour day in London for groups using their own coach. In Devon the whole programme is fully organised, but after leaving Devon the responsibility lies with the group leader, though SOL is ready to give as much assistance as needed in planning further visits. Many groups plan extra nights near London or elsewhere enabling the group to visit other places of interest (e.g.: Bath, or Oxford). There is a supplementary charge for this, although in Open courses our priority is to get everyone to the airport on time!

LANGUAGE COURSE PRICES 2017

Full groups booked and 50% paid for by Dec 19th you can have a choice of one extra free place OR £5 less for all students booked in at that point in time

COACH GROUPS: (min group size 36): The price includes Devon family accommodation with full board, a full daily programme, all admission charges in Devon, return ferry crossings and guest-house accommodation for 2 coach drivers. A small budget for each group is set aside to cover any organising teachers' expenses in planning the group..

Days in UK <i>(Includes transfer from and back to London).</i>	Nights in Devon	STANDARD PRICE 2 Apr – 24 June 16 Aug - 7 Oct	Winter Season To 1 Apr and From 8 Oct	Mid Season 25 Jun – 2 Jul 6 – 15 Aug	Summer Season 3 July - 5 Aug
10	9	£385	£340	£415	£455
9	8	£357	£312	£387	£427
8	7	£329	£284	£359	£399
7	6	£301	£256	£331	£371
6	5	£273	£228	£303	£343

Additional days beyond 10: + £28 per day

Less days than 6: - £20 per day

Additional teaching groups: are provided automatically for groups of 41 fully paying participants or over, as long as the numbers have been confirmed as final at least 6 weeks beforehand. A third teaching group can be provided at cost (please ask for a quote). Such a request must be made 6 weeks before the course.

For smaller coach groups prices hold for 34 + 3 teachers. For each student less than 34 in number add £15 per day to the total GROUP price. So bringing 30 students on a 7 day course means $\pounds(34-30) \times 15 \times 7 = \pounds420$ is added to the TOTAL group cost.

For special diets a supplement is required: £20 for Celiac and gluten free, £10 for diabetic and lactose intolerant diets

AIR GROUPS (or other groups arriving by public transport) The price excludes the travel to the UK, but includes everything else including all the Devon programme travel, plus **direct transfers** between London Heathrow and North Devon at suitable times (we are 4-5 hours from London). All arrivals in Devon are between 18.30 and 20.30, all departures at 06.30). There is a supplementary charge for any change from the direct route to and from Devon or for picking up from a different location. Stonehenge can only now be booked by the school itself – it is free for a bona fide full-time school but your curricular reasons have to be made very clear! A small budget for each group is also set aside to cover visiting teachers' expenses, except travel.

The prices given below are per student for groups between 18 and 22 in number. Otherwise the price will vary with the size of the group, as indicated. All prices are reduced by 5% during the winter season above.

6 – 7 students	+ 40 %	13 – 17 students	+ 10%	35 – 39 students	- 15%
8 – 9 students	+ 25%	23 – 28 students	- 5%	40 – 45 students	- 20%
10 – 12 students	+ 17.5 %	29 – 34 students	- 10%	46+ students	- 25%
7 days**	£445	8 days**	£485	9 days**	£525
10 days**	£565	11 days**	£605	12 days**	On request

NOTE ** the number of nights in Devon is one less than the number of days IN the UK.

Adult participants will be charged **£4 per night extra** (full-time non-employed University students (up to 24) count as students).

OPEN COURSES run in the summer at fixed prices. **£530** per student for a 10 day courses starting on Jun 22, July 2, 17 & 20, Aug 14. **£450** for 8 day courses starting on July 8 & 12, Aug 6 & 20. **£410** for 7 day courses starting on June 25, July 2 & 30, Aug 14. These courses are for smaller groups which come by air or public coach and combine together in our centres. The price is independent of the number of your students but the free teacher ratio is 1:8 (can be less if <8 students!)

The prices include **direct** transfer between London Heathrow and Devon. Supplements from elsewhere. Pick up times are subject to the different flight arrangements of each group. **Flights in to London on arrival day must be before 13.30 (12.00 Stansted).** Return flights must be booked **after 14.00** (13.00 Heathrow) unless arrangements are made to stay in London.

Your local contact / co-ordinator is