

Why Active Learning?

When you decide to invest in your future by learning to speak English you want to be sure that you are going to the best school for your needs.

*The Winning Formula:
Quality courses
Friendly atmosphere
Value for money
Active Learning!*

Active Learning was founded in 1991 and is one of London's favourite learning centres.

We are justly proud of our reputation for high academic standards in an atmosphere that is creative and productive. Our teaching method focuses on individual achievement and our motivated team, teachers and administration, are highly goal oriented in terms of student accomplishment.

Why should you choose Active Learning?

- British Council Accredited and a member of English UK
- Extremely helpful, motivated teaching and administrative team.
- Weekly teacher-training sessions
- Excellent academic results
- Student focussed teaching approach
- Variety of courses
- Internet high-speed access
- Excellent resources library
- Friendly host families
- International friends
- Value for money



Introduction

Dear Student

I want your time in London to be an experience of a lifetime and my aim is that you will always remember your time with us – the friends you made, the places you visited and of course, the English you learned.

I know what it's like to live away from home – I did it when I was younger and loved it so much that I have been in the world of English language tuition ever since. I love working in an international environment and meeting people from all over the world.

Since opening in 1991, we have taught students from all over the world. My students are always saying how friendly Active Learning is and that the 'Team' is excellent and the location is ideal. To know this, makes me very happy.

The British Council accreditation demonstrates that we are one of the best schools in London. I believe that it is our unique combination of overall quality, friendly atmosphere and value for money that contributes to our success – and students agree!

I would be very happy for you to contact me to give you advice on a course which is suitable for you.

*Come and make friends in London.
We're waiting for you!*

Elizabeth Curran

Elizabeth Curran
Principal



Elizabeth Curran, Principal

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The Active Learning Team

"Teachers are our most important resource"

The Active Learning team are here to help make your stay in London a positive and rewarding experience.

We all belong to one team: teachers, administrators, senior academic staff and directors. We share ideas and materials so as to provide the best possible teaching for your maximum progress.

When you are doing well on your course and enjoying life in London then we're happy too. We are all available if you have any questions or concerns. Talk to us.

James Mendonca Artiaga, a student from Brazil says...

"I am now studying at Brunel University and this is due to the excellent teaching I received at Active Learning."

Teacher Profile



Robyn Bowman-Zayade

Director of Studies

"It's refreshing working with the group of enthusiastic and highly motivated staff and students that we have at Active Learning."

Dan Bernstein

"I have been teaching for several years and I really enjoy my global village."



Antonia Delgado

"Being bilingual, I relate very easily to language problems that students may have. I love to see my students succeed."

Chris Edwards

"Through my teaching I have been able to meet students from all over the world and it is always fascinating. I have my own band and we regularly play live at Active Learning."



Carol Taylor

"I particularly enjoy working with exam classes and preparing students for their exams. It gives me great satisfaction seeing my students achieve their aims."



The Courses

“English, the international language – your key to a successful future”

English for a better job and a better future

Wherever you are from, you can be sure that being able to speak English will help you in life and give you a competitive advantage in your career. Many employers expect their staff to speak English – hardly surprising when you consider that 1.5 billion people speak the language.

Speaking and listening in the real world

Confidence is essential if you want to be able to have fluent conversations in English, either in a social or a professional environment. We work hard to develop your communicative confidence by teaching you pronunciation, stress, intonation – the “music of the language”. We also teach you to understand a variety of accents that you are likely to encounter in the real world in both formal and informal situations.

Reading and writing in the real world

We use all sorts of texts – newspapers, magazines, corporate brochures, popular fiction, music, classical literature – to help you develop your reading and writing skills.

Vocabulary and grammar

These are the building blocks of the language: words and how to put them together to make good English. Our teachers know that this can be the most challenging part of learning English, so they are as creative as possible in making these lessons interesting and rewarding for you.

What level are you?

On your first day you will be given a grammar and writing test after which you will have an interview with either the Principal or Director of Studies who will decide which class you should go into. We will then discuss your future studies and career plans. Throughout your time with us, we monitor your progress to ensure you are in the most appropriate class for your level. Active Learning levels are as follows:

Beginners	Level 1a
Elementary	Level 1b
Pre-Intermediate	Level 2a
Lower Intermediate	Level 2b
Intermediate	Level 3a
Upper Intermediate	Level 3b
Advanced	Level 4
Proficiency	Level 5

Test your English

If you are abroad and want to get an idea of your level, you can complete an online assessment test by going to our Website: www.active-learning.co.uk. Remember you will need to complete your assessment test and interview on your arrival.



Prof. Erdal Karaoz (histology and embryology) says ...


“My 8 week intensive course at Active Learning gave me just the boost I needed in building up my confidence before going on to Harvard Medical School.”



Our Courses

What course is for me? We offer:

- General English
- General English and IT
- General English and English for Business
- General English and English for Academic/Specific Purposes
- Examination Courses: IELTS. Cambridge Examinations, FCE, CAE, CPE, BEC (Business English) LCCI. WEFT (Travel & Tourism) TOEIC
- University Preparation Courses
- Teacher's Refresher Courses (see separate information sheet)
- Group 8 for Professionals (see separate information sheet)
- One to one. Private lessons designed for you (see separate information sheet)
- Year Round Courses (Full-time and part-time from 5 to 30 lessons per week)
- Course Length from 1–47 weeks

Key to symbols

Lessons per week 
(Each lesson is minimum 45 minutes)

Average class size 
Maximum class size 

Standard Course



These concentrate on improving your General English. This course allows time for private study in our computer/study room. Once you are at intermediate level and above you can choose different options to improve any weak areas you may have such as writing, reading, listening or speaking. This will be discussed with you, your teacher and the Director of Studies.

Standard Plus Course



The English 20 Course offers an additional 5 lessons per week to the Morning classes. The extra classes will give you the opportunity to hone your skills and develop your fluency. After your entry test and interview with either the Principal or Director of Studies, it will be decided which classes will best suit you, according to your level and future study plans. Options offered: (according to demand) IELTS, Business English, Pronunciation.

Semi-intensive Course



This is semi-intensive, offering an additional 10 lessons per week to the morning classes. Again after your entry test and interview with either the Principal or Director of Studies it will be decided which additional modules will best suit you, according to your level and future study plans. Options offered: (according to demand) IELTS, Business English, Pronunciation, English for Travel and Tourism.

Recommended for short courses



Recommended for extended courses



Levels

1–5

1–5

1–5

Start dates

Any Monday[#]

Any Monday[#]

Any Monday[#]

Course 1




Morning

09:00–12:00

Course 3




Morning

09:00–13:00

Course 5




Morning and Noon

09:00–12:00
12:00–13.15 Break/Study
13:15–15:00

Course 2




Noon

12:00–15:00

Course 4




Noon

12:00–15:00 x 5 days +
16:00–17.30 x 3 days

Course 6




Noon and Afternoon

13:15–15:00
15:00–16:00 Break/Study
16:00–19.15



Learning with Carol is enjoyable and productive



School can be fun!

Intensive Course 30

The very intensive nature of this course allows you to progress rapidly. The first three lessons of this course follow the same guidelines as the standard course. It will help you to develop the communication skills needed in today's Global Economy. After your entry test and interview with either the Principal or Director of Studies it will be decided which additional modules will best suit according to your level and future study plans.

Economy Standard Course 15

By attending these classes you can make substantial savings if you have other commitments in the morning. We maintain the same high quality content and teaching as in our morning and noon classes.

Academic Year/Semester /University Preparation 25

This is one of the most economical ways to learn English in London. Choose to study for two or three semesters. On this course you will have the summer free to relax, travel around the UK and the Continent or work full-time if you prefer. Choose 20, 21 or 25 lessons per week. Both include General English and Academic English leading to the IELTS or Cambridge examinations and BEC or LCCI. (according to demand).

Part Time 10, 8 or 7 lessons 10

These part-time courses are suitable for Au-pairs and full-time workers. Students may go on to take examinations if they so wish but should take into consideration it may take longer than for those who are following more intensive courses. *These courses are not suitable for those requiring a student visa.*

	✓		
✓	✓	✓	✓
1-5	1-5	1-5	1-5
Any Monday [#]	Any Monday [#]	<i>Please note that it is not possible to change, cancel or vary this course in any way. Academic Year: September to June. Semester: September to March or January to June.</i>	Any Monday [#]

Course 7 30 10/17
Morning
 09:00-15:00

Course 8 15 14/21
Afternoon
 16:00-19:15

Course 12 25 10/17
Morning and Noon
 09:00-12:00
 12:00-13.15 Break/Study
 13:15-15:00

Course 9 10 14/21
Afternoon
 13:15-15:00 x 5 days

Course 13 20 10/17
Morning
 09:00-13:00

Course 10 8 14/21
Afternoon
 16:00-17:30 x 4 days

Course 14 21 15/21
Noon
 12:00-15:00 x 5 days +
 16:00-17:30 x 3 days

Course 11 7 14/21
Afternoon
 17:45-19:15 x 3 days
 17:45-18:30 x 1 day

Preparation Courses and Examinations

Apart from our general English Courses we also offer the following:



IELTS

These courses are designed to prepare our students for the IELTS examination. IELTS is recognised as an entrance requirement by universities worldwide. At Active Learning we prepare students for the Academic Module.

Entry Level: Intermediate and above

We do not follow the philosophy that one level fits all. Our IELTS classes are different at Active Learning. How? We run these classes at different levels – intermediate, upper intermediate, advanced 1 and advanced 2. You must be at Intermediate level or above to enter.

By the end of the course you will be able to:

- Achieve the best possible mark in your exam
- Approach the 4 different components of the Cambridge IELTS exam (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking) with greater confidence
- Handle the language more effectively and with greater confidence
- Understand what you hear and what you read more easily
- Write more accurately
- Speak more fluently
- Use a wider range of vocabulary in your written and spoken English
- Understand your own areas of need and continue to improve in the future

University Preparation Programme

This is suitable for under-graduate and post-graduate students intending to go on to a British University or for those who are on a gap year from their own universities.

What is included in the course?

- Academic culture and writing
- Problem solving
- Critical thinking
- Research and referencing
- Presentations
- IELTS examination strategies

What are the entry level requirements for the 6 and 9 months courses?

9 months programme

The equivalent to an overall IELTS band 5.0 (listening, speaking, reading, writing)

6 months programme

The equivalent to an overall IELTS band score of 5.5

What is special about the Active Learning University Preparation Programme?

- Classes at different levels. Students are assessed and placed according to their level. Thus, the higher level student makes optimum progress and is not held back. The lower level student understands and keeps pace with the class and ultimately will achieve his/her ambitions. Everybody saves time, frustration and money in the long run.
- Highly qualified, very experienced teachers.
- A very good record

Former Active Learning students have been accepted by the following universities

- The London Institute Central St Martins
- Manchester University (UMIST)
- London University including:
 - Goldsmiths College
 - Kings College
 - Imperial College

- Kingston University
- University of Westminster
- Universidad Carlos 111 de Madrid

Examinations

Cambridge/LCCI/WEFT/TOEIC

Our examination courses fully prepare you for all elements of the examinations: Reading and Writing, Use of English, Listening and Speaking. Intensive practise in examination techniques and practice examinations with feedback from your teachers included.

(FCE) (CAE) (CPE) (BEC)

When can I start?

IELTS	Any Monday
University Preparation Programme	September or January
TOEIC® Preparation	See separate date sheet
Cambridge	Any Monday

Which exam should I take?

If you are not sure of which examination to take, we are very happy to advise you. Remember, during your interview we will discuss your future plans and with regular tutorials these can be reviewed and adapted according to your progress.



Active Learning Levels	UCLES	IELTS	BEC
	General English	Academic English	Business English
1a Beginners			
1b Elementary	KET Key English Test		
2a Pre-Intermediate			
2b Lower Intermediate	PET Preliminary English Test		
3a Intermediate			
3b Upper Intermediate	FCE First Certificate Exam	✓	✓
4 Advanced	CAE Cambridge Advanced Exam	✓	✓
5 Proficiency	CPE Cambridge Proficiency Exam	✓	✓

How do I know if I am at the right level?

Screening tests are given before the examinations to ensure you are entering the correct examination at your level. Any areas of difficulty you might be experiencing will be shown in further mock tests, which are given 4 weeks before the examinations. In addition to these tests and exams, progress tests are given approximately every six weeks to ensure that you are at the correct level.

Active Learning has a very good pass rate in all exams and we are very proud of this.

London Life

"The City for Everyone"

London truly has everything that one could want in a city. It is a leader in international finance, communications, entertainment, fashion and the arts.

London's population includes an extremely diverse range of peoples, cultures, and religions, making it one of the most cosmopolitan, vibrant and energetic cities on earth.

Over 300 languages are spoken in London, making it the most linguistically diverse city in the world.

It is the home of many global organisations, institutions and companies, and as such retains its leading role in world affairs.

A city where cutting-edge meets tradition. It has many important buildings and iconic landmarks, including world-famous museums, theatres, concert halls, galleries, airports, sports stadia and palaces.

London is ideally located for visiting other parts of Britain and Europe.



Maribi Gonzalez from Spain says ...

"London is the best city in the world with lots of things to see and do."

Location and School Facilities

Where?

We chose Hammersmith because it is centrally situated and is only 20 minutes by underground from Heathrow Airport. The Lyric Theatre and the Riverside Studios are on our doorstep, as well as cinemas, nightclubs, bars and restaurants. In short there is something for everyone.

The location offers:

- Pleasant walks
- A safe and friendly family neighbourhood
- Various meeting places
- Easy access to transportation

The school itself is opposite the Underground and main bus terminus, so finding us is very easy.

Marika, from Poland says...

"Hammersmith is a really nice place. The school is situated on the high street and after lessons you can improve your English with the locals."

Facilities

The most important thing for students is to have a pleasant environment in which to study. Active Learning is a bright, spacious school with a busy and friendly atmosphere.

- 12 classrooms
- Study Area
- Multi Media Centre
- Reading Room for quiet study
- 33 Networked PCs
- High Speed Internet Access
- Lending Library
- School Café



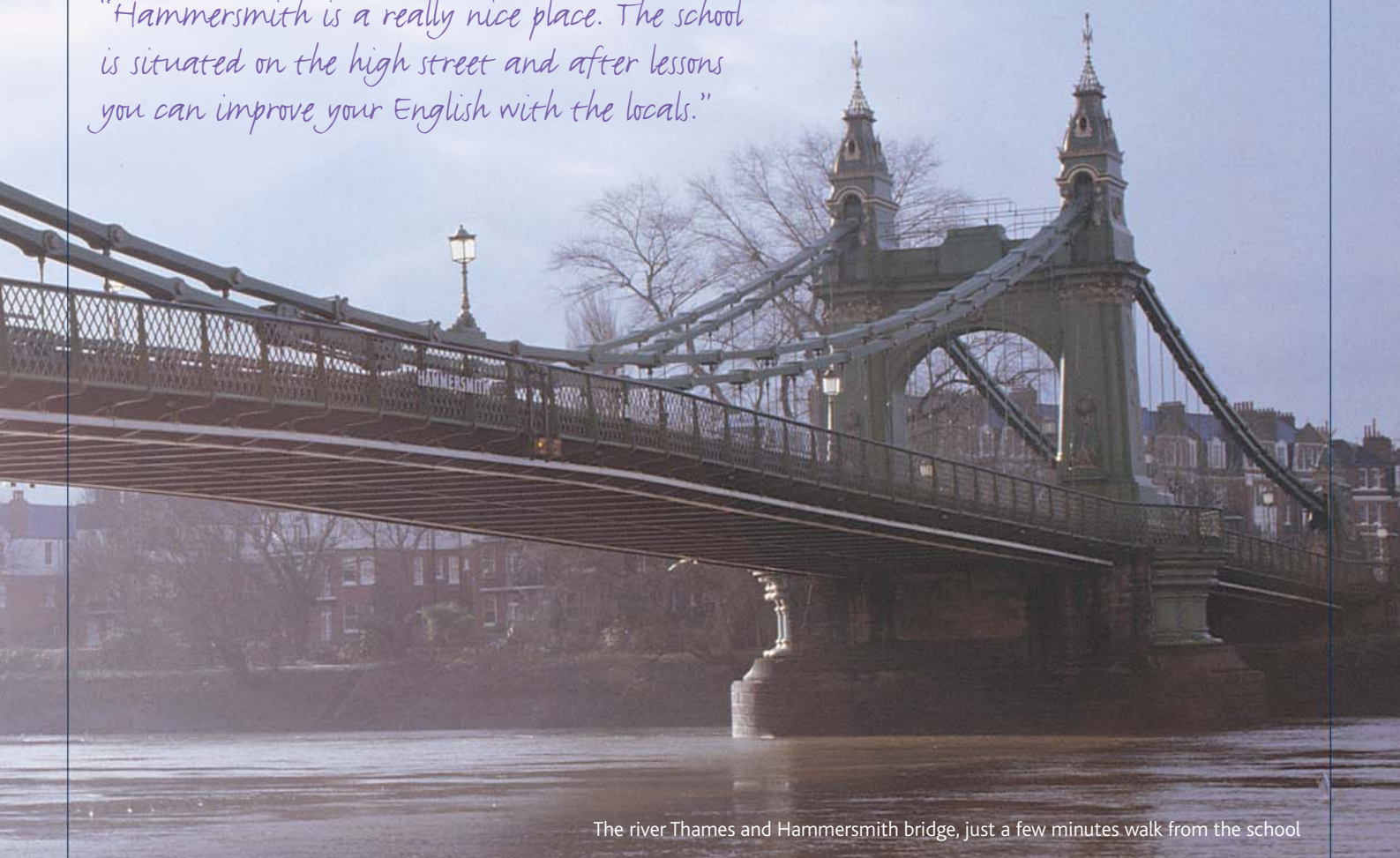
Park in central Hammersmith



Surfing in the internet café



Can I help you?



The river Thames and Hammersmith bridge, just a few minutes walk from the school

Accommodation



Kasia Koniec

"I realise the importance of the first few weeks in a foreign country. I was in that situation myself here in London a long time ago. That's why, as Student Welfare officer, the families I choose offer you a place you can call home. They will be there, not just to welcome you, but to help you with everyday life in London"

Kasia, Student Welfare Officer

Where you stay in London is very important. We know that being away from home can sometimes be challenging, so we work hard to make you feel at home here as quickly as possible. We offer students various types of accommodation, but all options give you value for money and a safe and comfortable environment.

We can arrange your accommodation for the whole of your stay in London or for just the first part of your stay.

Host Family

Selecting host families is something we take very seriously. We regularly visit our families. They must provide students with a safe and friendly home in which they can learn about the English way of life and practise their English.

Most are in West London – typically a 20 minute underground or bus journey from the school.



Ipek enjoying a traditional Sunday roast with her family.

"Hi, my name is Ipek Ozturk and I'm from Turkey. When I decided to come to London I asked the school to arrange a host family for me, just for a short time, as I wasn't sure about staying with a family. However, I quickly changed my mind. I'd like to advise students to live with an English family. It really makes a difference to your progress"

You can choose to share a bedroom with another student or to have your own room. You can have breakfast and your evening meal provided (half board), or if you prefer, just

breakfast (B&B). You can also have a 'Home stay' Meal Plan as follows:

4 DINNER PLAN	4 Days Breakfast & Dinner and 3 Days Breakfast only
7 DINNER PLAN	7 Days Breakfast & Dinner and 7 Days Breakfast only

You can stay with a family on a Self-Catering basis but these are very limited in number. Staying with an English family is a good way to develop your language skills and help you settle quickly into life in London.

Our families are:

- Carefully selected
- Regularly inspected
- Value for money
- Safe and friendly
- Great for practising English
- Ideal for learning about the 'English Way of Life'

Student Hostels and Hotel Accommodation

Please talk to us if you would like advice.

University Residences (summer only)

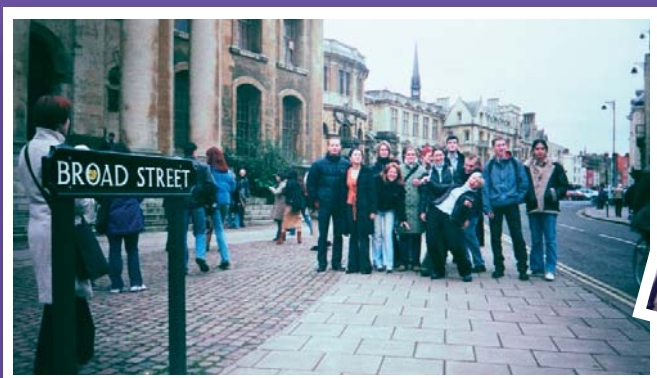


Social Activities

"Our students really immerse themselves in London life. Learning English with Active Learning is not just about the classroom – it's about friends, social activities, London life and English culture. We offer you a combination of quality academic study, pleasant accommodation and a rewarding social life, all in a friendly atmosphere."



Theatre land – Les Misérables



Smile please! Day trip to Oxford



One of the beautiful riverside pubs in Hammersmith

See website for regular updates and current activities schedule



Fun falling over!

Of course, London has every type of entertainment, sport and activity you could ever want and you will have plenty of opportunity to explore for yourself or with your new friends from the school. However, we at Active Learning feel it is important to have organised activities for students to enjoy.

- Choose from a number of weekend excursions to other cities (e.g. Oxford, Bath, Cambridge, Brighton, Stratford-upon-Avon)
- Enjoy regular social parties
- See your favourite film on the Big Screen
- Visit museums and other places of interest around London with your class
- Guided walks



Singing and dancing in the rain

Chisato from Japan says ...

"I have been to lots of places: Wales, Scotland, and even Paris with the school. There are many interesting people to meet and amazing places to go."



Student welfare / Student life – What to expect

Your Arrival in London

When you arrive in London we can arrange for you to be met at the airport and taken directly to your accommodation. Or, more economically, you can make the journey by public transport (we will provide you with detailed directions).



Help and advice from Osman at reception

On your first day, you will be given your entrance test and interview followed by an introduction to the school. You will then be shown to your classroom. On Monday afternoons new students will be escorted on an orientation tour of the immediate area of Hammersmith.

Cultural differences

Moving to London is an exciting experience and our aim is to make sure you feel at home as soon as possible and that is why we have prepared the following:

Student Information Pack

We have developed an information pack to help you with various aspects of life in London as an Active Learning student. The following are just some of the areas covered in this comprehensive folder:

- Useful contact numbers (school emergency, doctor, dentist, police, etc)
 - General information and London travel map
 - List of places of worship
 - How to open a bank account
 - Emergency procedures
 - Leisure facilities
- (See website for details)



Last day, collecting our certificates, Yippeel



Picnics by the riverside

Student Visas

European Union Students can study and work in the United Kingdom without any restrictions.

Non European Union Students should visit www.ukvisas.co.uk for further information.

Healthcare and Insurance

We strongly advise all students to take out comprehensive insurance prior to arrival in the United Kingdom. European Union Students should remember to obtain an E111 form for healthcare in the United Kingdom.

Active Learning can offer you a student insurance policy which covers you for the following:

- Medical expenses
- Personal accident and injury benefit
- Personal belongings and documents
- Cancellation of your study trip
- Personal liability
- Legal expenses
- Course fees

Please contact Active Learning or your Agent for Insurance Policy details.



Making international friends
Johann and Gaye (Venezuela and Turkey)

Ei Ei Aung, from Burma says ...

"Everywhere English is important. Come and learn at Active Learning School!"

Location

Detail



Active Learning Families

The majority of our families are located in the highlighted area below.



Terms and Conditions

Deposits, enrolment fees and accommodation arrangement fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.

- 1 There is a £55 enrolment fee for all courses. There is a £45 accommodation arrangement fee. Course fees include placement test, welcome pack, tuition, study centre facilities and a leaving certificate / report.
- 2 Course fees do not include course textbooks or registration for external exams, nor social programme, personal health insurance or bank charges.
- 3 In all cases, there is a deposit payable. This is 20% of your course fees or £200, whichever is the greater plus £100 for accommodation.
- 4 Fees must be paid in full before arrival at the school or on the first day. Your course will be confirmed upon receipt of the deposit payment.
- 5 Students are recommended to take insurance in case of the need to return home early, medical conditions or other unpredictable circumstances. Students can arrange their own insurance or we offer a policy designed specifically for international students who are studying in the UK.
- 6 Each lesson is a minimum of 45 minutes.
- 7 School holidays: there is no reduction in fees if the course includes a bank holiday. When Monday is a bank holiday courses start on Tuesday.
- 8 Holidays: according to the school calendar any time taken outside these weeks cannot be made up.
- 9 Age. Students must be aged 16 years or above when they begin their course.

10 Cancellation

Four weeks before starting date:
20% of the course fee or £200, **whichever is the greater** will be retained.

Two weeks before starting date:
50% of the course fee will be retained.

5 working days or less before starting date:
100% of the course fees will be retained.

We **strongly** recommend you take out insurance in case you are unable to start your course, or to complete it, for reasons outside your control such as illness or family circumstances.

Any non-EU student who fails to arrive at Active Learning on the start date of his/her course will be reported to the Home Office.

11 Postponement

Minimum one week's notice in writing prior to course starting date.

Original Certificates of Enrolment must be returned to Active Learning before replacements can be issued.

12 Refund and Cancellation Policy

No refund will be given:

- If a student has given false or misleading information, not complied fully with Police registration requirements or has tried to use Active Learning to illegally gain entry into the United Kingdom
- If a student leaves the UK during the course without a covering letter from Active Learning and is subsequently refused re-entry.
- If a visa is refused as a consequence of non-attendance.
- If an appeal is pending.
- Active Learning is unable to issue a refund unless original documentary – evidence is provided.
- In the event of cancellation due to a change in circumstances. (Students are **strongly** advised to take out insurance against this possibility).

Refunds are made via a bank transfer or a Sterling cheque only to the agent or person who has paid.

An Active Learning Refund Application Form must be completed (available from the school office)

- 13 Every attempt will be made to place you in the course or Centre of your choice. However, Active Learning cannot guarantee a particular course or Centre. In the event of insufficient applications for the course, the school reserves the right to offer an alternative course of equal value. Should the school be unable to offer the student another course, the school shall refund the fees already paid, thereby excluding any further liability on the part of the school.

- 14 Active Learning or its employees accept no responsibility for damage resulting from accident, injury or illness and for the loss of personal property, whether on the school premises or when students are on school trips. Neither Active Learning nor its employees are liable in cases where Active Learning is unable to fulfill any services to which they are contractually bound because of labour disputes, insufficient demand or other reasons beyond their control.

Applicable law, jurisdiction

UK law exclusively shall be applicable to the present contract. Both parties (student and school) have stipulated London, United Kingdom as the legal venue.

How to enrol

- 1 Decide on your course, your accommodation and your start date
- 2 Complete the enrolment form and send to us by post, fax or email
- 3 Make payment
(send confirmation if making a bank transfer)
- 4 You receive a confirmation letter
- 5 Apply for UK visa if necessary
- 6 Confirm your arrival details
- 7 Receive accommodation details
- 8 Full payment before arrival
- 9 Start your course

If you are unsure about any aspect of the enrolment process, please talk to us.





“The difference is experience”

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Accredited by the
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COUNCIL**

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member 



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SCHOOL OF ENGLISH
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“Experience the difference”