

SUMMER SCHOOL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

Q: Is it possible to visit the school?

A: Yes, we are always pleased to welcome you, but an appointment is required in order to give you the time and information you need.

Q: Is there any flexibility within the age groups?

A: In exceptional circumstances we may decide that is best for a student to be placed in a class outside their age range. This may happen if the other students in the class are of a very different academic level or level of maturity. On the whole, however, we find that students succeed best when learning alongside students of a similar age. As mentioned above, we do accept very young learners but they have to be toilet trained.

Q: I want my children to be in the same class. Is this possible?

A: This will depend on the age of the students and their level of English. If they are in different age groups or their levels of English are different then putting them together would not be the best thing for them. Also, summer school is a great opportunity to make new friends from other countries.

Q: My children are of similar age and level of English but I want them to be in different classes. Is this possible?

A: Yes, we will do our best to put siblings in different classes, as we find that this motivates them to make new friends and be more independent. Please speak to the Director of Studies for clarification.

Q: My child speaks quite good English but really struggles with reading and writing. How is the class level decided?

A: The students are put in a class that reflects their level of understanding and ability to communicate in English in all ways. Following the written placement test teachers interview the students to assess this. Language in class will be appropriately scaffolded to help students progress with their reading and writing skills.

Q: Is it possible to attend the course only in the morning?

A: No. The Summer school is a full day programme.

Q: Do I have to send anything to school with my child?

A: We provide all stationary items (pens, pencils etc.) and scrapbooks for the student's work. Course books and text books are also provided for use in class. Please send a healthy snack for morning break (no sweets, chocolate or fizzy drinks please) and a bottle of water with your child. You will receive a welcome letter on the first day outlining more details of your child's stay at ICS.

Q: What do I have to bring on the first day of school?

A: We have to see student's passport in original in order to make copies for our records.

Q: How the first day of school runs?

A: First, we welcome and brief both you and your child. Then, we ask you to fill a form listing student name, medical conditions, emergency contact number, address and relation to the student. In case of food allergy we also require a photo of your child. Finally, we do ask for student's passport in order to make a copy. Please do not bring copies because we have to see the originals. Your child will bring home the weekly timetable so that you are informed about their activities.

Q: What is the ratio of students to adults for the Discover London Excursions?

A: We have a ratio of at least 1:8 when going out on excursions in the Primary school. This is more like 1:5 for any Nursery excursions. In the Secondary school the ratio is 1:12, but we try to have a higher ratio of staff than this, where possible, depending on the situation. All teachers are trained and experienced at taking students out on excursions and follow clear safety guidelines set out by

the school. Students have identification with the school address and telephone number displayed. It may also be possible for a limited number of parents to accompany the excursion (please speak to the DOS about this if you would like more information).

Q: Can I collect my child earlier?

A: Yes, you can. We require to be informed in advance so that it will be easier for both you and us. Because for that day your child could be involved in some activities (park, excursion, etc.).

Q: Is it possible to choose the hosting family?

A: We would like to consider parents requests and preferences but unfortunately it is not possible. We consider just special requests related to allergies or medical conditions and pets.

Q: When a week course is fully booked, is it possible to pay more to get the place?

A: No, it is not. When a week course is full booked you may only ask to be put in a waiting list.

Q: I don't need/I need the school bus service. Can I change my mind?

A: Yes, you can. However, we need one week notice to arrange the service.

Q: Can I bring my child to the school although he/she is on the bus regularly?

A: Yes, you can. However, you have to inform the school bus company.

Q: Can I collect my child although he/she is on the bus regularly?

A: Yes, you can. However, you have to inform the school bus company.

Q: Can I get on the bus with my child?

A: No, it is not possible. It is a school bus for children.

Q: Can I have the bus service for 2 days in 1 week and 3 days in the next and paying for 1 week?

A: No, you cannot. In this case a full 2 week fee will be charged because your place will be kept vacant and always available for your child, no matters if he comes everyday or not.

Q: Can I attend 2 days in 1 week and 3 days in the next and paying for 1 week?

A: No, you cannot.

Q: Is it possible to choose a menu for my child?

A: We have a delicious vegetarian international menu representing a great opportunity of celebrating diversity and learning also from food.

Q: What if in case of food allergies?

A: On the first day we ask parents to fill in a form where you can write info about your child's medical conditions. There you can list allergies if there are any. This information together with a photo of your child will be forwarded to the catering service. In case of particular medications, please be informed we are not allowed to give/provide any medications. You are asked to come and give your child his/her medication.

Q: Is it possible to have ONE- to-ONE tuitions in addition to the school timetable?

A: Yes, it is possible, depending on the availability of teachers.