

# SEVENOAKS SCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAMME





# WELCOME

Sevenoaks School Summer Programme is unique.

You will have the opportunity to meet students from all corners of the globe who have come together to take part in an exclusive summer programme which has been planned, organised and delivered by staff from Sevenoaks School.



Here at Sevenoaks, academic excellence is achieved by bright, motivated students, inspired by expert and dedicated teachers. State-of-the-art facilities, together with high level instruction, provide a wealth of opportunities for students to learn, as well as to participate in a wide variety of sporting and creative activities.

Last year, we welcomed students from over 30 different countries and we anticipate even more diversity in 2020. The most amazing thing was the incredible strength of the bond that the students formed in their two-week stays with us. It truly was inspiring.

As a former Sevenoaks student, I know that every student here is encouraged to be ambitious, inquisitive and internationally minded. All the staff cultivate in our students the habit of reflecting on their learning and on the way they interact with others. Students leave Sevenoaks with a heightened capacity for independent thought and intellectual risk-taking, equipped with the skills and personal qualities necessary for a happy and successful life.

I very much look forward to welcoming you to Sevenoaks to experience this wonderful school for yourself.

Ed Gibson, Director of the Summer Programme





# SEVENOAKS SCHOOL



Founded in 1432, Sevenoaks enjoys a global reputation as a centre of academic excellence and a flagship school for the International Baccalaureate. A co-educational day and boarding school, it offers a stimulating, intellectually demanding and balanced education for pupils from the age of 11 to 18.

Inspiring facilities, together with expert, enthusiastic and imaginative teaching, provide rich opportunities for students participating in lessons and a wide variety of sports and the performing and visual arts.

The school's international student body and outlook promote the principles of tolerance and open-mindedness. About 365 pupils board in the seven boarding houses, and students originate from over 45 countries worldwide.

Sevenoaks is one of the world's most successful IB schools, and is the top-performing fully co-educational IB school in the UK. In 2018 Sevenoaks was, for the second time in ten years, named The Sunday Times Independent Secondary School of the Year.

In 2019, 224 students took the IB Diploma, one of the largest cohorts among UK and global IB schools. The average Diploma score for 2019 was 39.4 points; about ten points above the world average. Sixteen students achieved the maximum 45 points, with 19 securing 44 points and another 14 securing 43 points. Well over 50% of the cohort achieved 40 points or more.





# BOARDING



## GIRLS' BOARDING HOUSE: PARK GRANGE

Park Grange has been a boarding house since 1948 and is in a wonderful position, in close proximity to the main school campus, with views across Knole Park, the rooftops of Sevenoaks and the school's own grounds.

The main house retains many of its original Victorian features and is full of character, combining the friendly atmosphere of a family home with excellent facilities. There is also an attractive, purpose-built Sixth Form wing, set around a peaceful courtyard. The superb central kitchen, complete with the old cast iron stove, provides a focal point for different age groups and nationalities to meet and socialise.

## BOYS' BOARDING HOUSE: AISHER HOUSE

The newest member of the thriving Sevenoaks boarding community, Aisher House is situated in the heart of the Park Grange estate, alongside Park Grange (the girls' house). Completed in 2019, Aisher is in the enviable position of being well located, close to the school's extensive facilities but also tucked away from the immediate hustle and bustle of the busy school.

Single and double bedrooms are en-suite, with boys in the younger years sharing larger rooms. The north lawn provides a great site for recreational sports while the sunny terrace is the perfect collective locale, with students spilling out from the kitchen to socialise.





# ACADEMIC

Sevenoaks School Summer Programme is an academic enrichment course for bright, ambitious students aged 13-17 with a strong level of English. The academic side of the course involves four modules: Critical Thinking, Social Leadership, Creativity and Digital Skills. Each module is a ten-hour course and the variety on offer gives students a taste of what academic life is like at Sevenoaks School. Classes are separated by age and parents receive a detailed report from their child's teachers at the end of their stay at the school.

## CRITICAL THINKING

It has never been more important for students to possess the critical skills they need to tell good arguments from bad, to learn how to discriminate between information and propaganda and to be able to balance different perspectives with their own views. This module is designed to teach students about a range of real-world political and cultural issues, and to develop the skills of critical interrogation. Topics covered include, but are not limited to, bias, fallacies and 'fake news', while each two-day course ends with a fiery debate.

## SOCIAL LEADERSHIP

This module will enable students to appreciate the role of social leadership in creating social change.

On the first day of the course, we aim to deepen students' understanding of the world around them through the close examination of different social problems and reflecting upon their impact on particular communities. We examine different paths towards effective social change, assessing and advancing students' own leadership skills in the process. On the second day, students have the

opportunity to work on a practical challenge in which they apply their leadership abilities to a current social issue which they care deeply about, creating innovative solutions. Students leave empowered with the leadership tools and mindset to enable them to make a positive impact on the lives of others, and create the world they wish to see.

## CREATIVITY

Too easily, young students can become so immersed in their critical reactions to, and appreciation of, creative works that their own creativity can become stifled. Keeping a young person's passion for creation and self-expression burning is a key responsibility of a progressive education and is one that we at Sevenoaks School take extremely seriously. This module encourages students to think about what is meant by 'creativity' and delves into its various forms including creative writing, drama, theatrical technology and film. It is a crucial message to learn that a creative approach across the board will be perhaps the most important characteristic to set the next generation of graduates apart from their peers.

## DIGITAL SKILLS

The ongoing digital revolution has brought us deep and powerful tools and resources to push human knowledge and understanding further forwards. The digital revolution has also brought challenging and disruptive elements which threaten to distract and subvert our assumptions about education and society. Soft skills such as team-work, problem-solving and patience are cultured in this challenging module which utilises the world-class technology that we have access to at Sevenoaks School.

This module involves coding, design and robotics while equipping students with the skills they need to develop as independent learners in an ever-changing world.



# CO-CURRICULAR

## AFTERNOONS AND EVENINGS

Sevenoaks School prides itself not only on being a centre for academic excellence, but also for its rich and varied educational atmosphere. Our aim is that students should become well-rounded individuals, and the key to this is participation in co-curricular activities. There are a large number of interesting, useful and challenging activities happening in the afternoons and evenings as part of the Sevenoaks School Summer Programme. All activities are planned and delivered by trained staff and coaches. Students choose one activity per week and they take part in a total of 12 hours of activities during the two-week session.

### Afternoon activities:

| WEEK 1            | WEEK 2           |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Badminton         | Basketball       |
| Explore Sevenoaks | Cooking          |
| Fitness           | Dance            |
| Football          | Squash           |
| Golf              | Tennis           |
| Musical Theatre   | Touch Rugby      |
| Swimming          | Ultimate Frisbee |
| Volleyball        | Visual Arts      |

### Evenings

After a busy day of lessons and co-curricular pursuits, the evenings are a chance for students to get to know one other in more informal circumstances. Our team of dynamic and enthusiastic Activity Leaders organise a variety of evening activities, ranging from Mindfulness to Karaoke, Futsal to a late-night shopping trip to Bluewater. The course ends with the eagerly anticipated Leavers' Ball.





# EXCURSIONS

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We make the most of our enviable location by going on three excursions in each session. Whether it is an action-packed day at Thorpe Park, the UK's premier theme park, a visit to a world-famous London attraction or a day in one of the world's leading university cities, the excursions are a chance for students to take in some of the UK's top attractions while continuing to bond with their friends. Excursions also include meals at top local restaurants and takeaways at the boarding house, enabling students to sample some new food, with a wide range of choices available.

## SUNDAYS

Sundays start with a late wake-up, something very popular after such an action-packed week. This is followed by brunch and an afternoon to explore Sevenoaks and beyond. It is important that students recharge their batteries in preparation for the coming week as well as have time to reflect on what they have learned and achieved so far. On Sundays, there are a number of optional activities organised by boarding house staff and discreet supervision for those who do leave the school campus.

# TIMETABLE

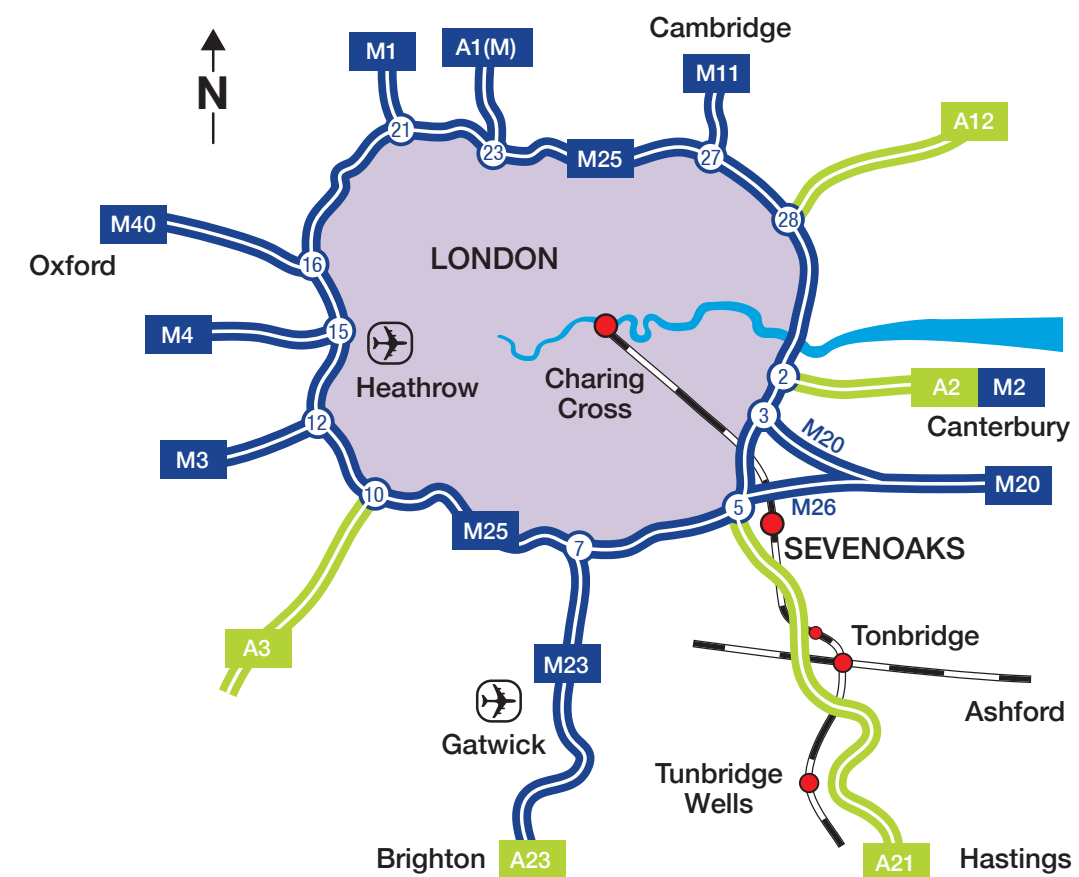
| DAY                  | 07:45–08:30              | 08:30–12:00                        | 12:00–13:00 | 13:00–15:15        | 15:30–17:00   | 17:45–18:30        | 18:30–20:15   | 20:15–21:45                       | 21:45–22:30 |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Wednesday 1/15 July  | ARRIVALS                 |                                    |             |                    |               | BBQ                | Induction     | Team Building                     | Quiet Time  |
| Thursday 2/16 July   | Breakfast                | Lessons                            | Lunch       | Lessons            | Co-curricular | Dinner             | Free Time     | Futsal/<br>Mindfulness/<br>Art    | Quiet Time  |
| Friday 3/17 July     | Breakfast                | Lessons                            | Lunch       | Lessons            | Co-curricular | Dinner             | Free Time     | Disco                             | Quiet Time  |
| Saturday 4/18 July   | Breakfast                | FULL DAY EXCURSION                 |             |                    |               |                    | Street Food   | Free Evening                      | Quiet Time  |
| Sunday 5/19 July     | Quiet Morning and Brunch |                                    |             | Free Afternoon     |               | Dinner             | Free Time     | Free Evening                      | Quiet Time  |
| Monday 6/20 July     | Breakfast                | Lessons                            | Lunch       | Lessons            | Co-curricular | Bluewater Shopping |               |                                   | Quiet Time  |
| Tuesday 7/21 July    | Breakfast                | Lessons                            | Lunch       | Lessons            | Co-curricular | Dinner             | Cinema        |                                   | Quiet Time  |
| Wednesday 8/22 July  | Breakfast                | Admissions<br>Talk and<br>Workshop | Lunch       | HALF DAY EXCURSION |               |                    | Dinner Out    | Free Evening                      | Quiet Time  |
| Thursday 9/23 July   | Breakfast                | Lessons                            | Lunch       | Lessons            | Co-curricular | Dinner             | Free Time     | Dodgeball/<br>Mindfulness/<br>Art | Quiet Time  |
| Friday 10/24 July    | Breakfast                | Lessons                            | Lunch       | Lessons            | Co-curricular | Dinner             | Free Time     | Karaoke                           | Quiet Time  |
| Saturday 11/25 July  | Breakfast                | FULL DAY EXCURSION                 |             |                    |               |                    | Dinner Out    | Free Evening                      | Quiet Time  |
| Sunday 12/26 July    | Quiet Morning and Brunch |                                    |             | Free Afternoon     |               | Dinner             | Free Time     | Free Evening                      | Quiet Time  |
| Monday 13/27 July    | Breakfast                | Lessons                            | Lunch       | Lessons            | Co-curricular | Dinner             | Free Time     | Talent Show                       | Quiet Time  |
| Tuesday 14/28 July   | Breakfast                | Lessons                            | Lunch       | Lessons            | Co-curricular | Graduation         | Formal Dinner | Leavers' Ball                     | Quiet Time  |
| Wednesday 15/29 July | Breakfast                | DEPARTURES                         |             |                    |               | BBQ                | Induction     | Team Building                     | Quiet Time  |

# LOCATION



The school is situated in the Kent town of Sevenoaks, and has an excellent and most admirable location at the top of the High Street. The 40-hectare site, which includes a number of listed buildings, is beautifully landscaped and adjoins the medieval deer park of Knole. Sevenoaks School is just 30 minutes away from Central London and Gatwick Airport, and one hour's drive from Heathrow Airport.

Airport transfers between Heathrow Airport, Gatwick Airport, St Pancras International Station and the school are included in the fees.





# STAFF

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Sevenoaks School Summer Programme is written, designed and taught by Sevenoaks School teachers. All academic staff at Sevenoaks have excellent professional experience of teaching international students to a very high level, as attested by the school's spectacular IB results. This experience, allied with unparalleled passion and knowledge, means we are extremely proud of all the staff involved in Sevenoaks School Summer Programme.



# SEVENOAKS SCHOOL PUPILS

A number of Sevenoaks School day pupils play a full part in the academic and co-curricular aspect of life on the Summer Programme. Living and learning alongside these Sevenoaks pupils adds real meaning to the experience for our Summer Programme students and long-lasting friendships are formed all the time.

For students interested in studying at Sevenoaks or in the UK in general, it is invaluable to be able to learn first-hand from the opinions and experience of Sevenoaks pupils.

# TESTIMONIALS



**"SEVENOAKS SCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAMME IS EXACTLY THE TYPE OF CHALLENGING WORK I'VE BEEN CRAVING!! I'VE LEARNED SO MUCH AND AM ONLY MOTIVATED TO WORK HARDER!"**

Celia, 15, France/UK



**"I'VE FORMED SO MANY LIFELONG FRIENDSHIPS HERE... IT WAS UNFORGETTABLE!"**

Enya, 15, Mongolia



**"EVERY DAY, WE WERE PUSHED OUT OF OUR COMFORT ZONE AND THE TEACHERS WEREN'T THERE FOR THE MONEY, THEY WERE SIMPLY PASSIONATE ABOUT TEACHING US, YOU COULD TELL. A PART OF ME WILL ALWAYS BE IN SEVENOAKS."**

Diego, 16, Spain

**"WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SAY THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEART FOR TAKING LOVING CARE OF OUR DAUGHTER THROUGHOUT HER STAY, RIGHT FROM THE TIME SHE LANDED IN THE UK."**

Parent, India

**"I WOULD DESCRIBE THIS PROGRAMME AS ACADEMICALLY RIGOROUS BUT INSANELY FUN."**

Brycent, 14, USA



**"I HAVE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH THIS PLACE AND THE PEOPLE!"**

Leah, 15, Italy



**"HOW WOULD I DESCRIBE SEVENOAKS SCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAMME? LIFE CHANGING."**

Audrey, 14, Indonesia



**"THIS EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN EXTRAORDINARILY POSITIVE FOR OUR SON. EVERYTHING RESULTED MUCH BETTER THAN EXPECTED AND, BELIEVE ME, THE EXPECTATIONS WERE REALLY HIGH."**

Parent, Spain



## SEVENOAKS SCHOOL

**Further information about  
Sevenoaks School Summer Programme**

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