



Nº1

The UK's Number One
Summer School

COURSE OVERVIEW

Young Explorers

8-12yrs

📍 Camp Dragon

Young Explorers



At a Glance

Introduction to Young Explorers

Our Young Explorers programme combines fun, adventure, and academic enrichment in a safe and nurturing residential setting. Perfect for building independence and making lifelong friends, Young Explorers ignites curiosity and creates unforgettable summer memories.

Academic Content

15 hours of lessons per week, delivered through interactive lessons and activities.

English Language Level

Students require a minimum English level of A2+ to enrol onto this programme.





About the Programme

The Young Explorers programme invites 8–12 year olds to enjoy a rich mix of English, maths, science, history, art and design through hands-on days that build confidence, curiosity and teamwork. Across two immersive weeks at Dragon School, Oxford, students take 15 hours of lessons each week in a fully English-speaking environment.

Created by language experts and experienced play workers, the programme offers children from around the world a unique and engaging way to learn. Students are encouraged to be Safe, Brave and Curious, making the most of their time with us. Camp Dragon is not about traditional English lessons or coursebooks. Every moment is treated as an opportunity to learn, whether in class, on the playground or at the cafeteria. This approach helps students explore freely, use language in real-life

situations, and grow in confidence as they try new things.

Our daily structure – Discover, Develop, Dare, Showtime – makes learning feel like an adventure while ensuring real progress. Each stage builds skills, sparks imagination and strengthens communication, all within a supportive and nurturing community.

Evenings bring a choice of activities, from sports and STEM challenges to arts, crafts and performances, alongside more relaxed options like board games or nature walks. From creating a masterpiece to tackling hands-on challenges or simply unwinding with friends, there's something for every child. Whether trying something new or practising a favourite hobby, evenings are a chance to connect, explore interests and enjoy memorable experiences together.





Typical Day

Every day is carefully structured to spark curiosity, build confidence and create lasting memories. Our day begins with 'Rise and Shine', uniting the whole school for songs, chants, and a lively preview of activities. It sparks energy, imagination, and readiness, helping students feel safe, brave, curious, and excited for the learning ahead. Followed by a blend of hands-on learning, creative challenges and themed activities designed to stretch imaginations and develop key skills.



1.

Discover

Introduces subjects in fun, hands-on ways. From science experiments to maths escape rooms, students predict, puzzle, and play. These sessions build curiosity, creativity, and teamwork, encouraging children to ask questions, think differently, and approach challenges with enthusiasm and imagination.

2.

Develop

combines academic growth with language skills. Linked to themed excursions, lessons prepare students with knowledge and functional English, from history to science. Activities include practising instructions, opinions, presentations, helping learners apply subject understanding while building confidence using English in real contexts.

3.

Dare

Surprises students with unexpected workshops and challenges, from drumming sessions to coding robots. By encouraging creativity, adventure, and stepping outside comfort zones, these unique experiences promote bravery and self-confidence, ensuring every child feels supported as they explore new interests and abilities.

4.

Showtime

Celebrates learning through collaborative events like Mystery Night, Trashion Show, and Talent Show. Students demonstrate creativity, teamwork, and leadership, applying skills from the week. These activities nurture confidence, problem-solving, and achievement, while giving every child the chance to shine in front of peers.





Science Day

Example Daily Routine

Curiosity, experimentation, and discovery!

Rise and Shine!

A whole-camp energiser kicks off the morning. Students join their Dragon Teams, buzzing with excitement for a day of curiosity, creativity, and discovery.

Discover Science!

The day starts with a trip to the Pitt Rivers Museum, where students explore fascinating artefacts that show how humans have used science and engineering throughout history. It sets the scene for thinking about innovation and invention.

Develop Science!

Back at camp, students dive into hands-on experiments. From fizzing lava lamps to vinegar and baking soda balloons, they explore cause and effect in fun, messy, and surprising ways.



Dare!

In small groups, students rotate through science taster activities: erupting Mentos and Coke, making Oobleck, testing “dancing raisins,” and revealing secret messages with invisible ink. The excitement builds as they uncover the “magic” behind scientific principles.

Showtime!

The day concludes with The Big Science Quiz Show! Dragon Teams compete in a lively, interactive quiz that blends fun challenges with scientific knowledge, reinforcing teamwork, critical thinking, and the joy of discovery.





History Day

Example Daily Routine

Get ready for a historical journey!

Rise and Shine!

The morning begins with a lively time-travel icebreaker. Students join their Dragon Teams and prepare to journey back to Medieval Oxford, full of chants, cheers, and energising games to spark curiosity for the day ahead.

Discover History!

Students design their own coats of arms, learning about colours, animals, and symbols while creating shields that reflect their personality and values. This creative session introduces them to medieval identity and life in castles.

Develop History!

In "Castle Bootcamp," students explore how castles were built and defended. They test their engineering and problem-solving skills



by designing a mini catapult and experimenting with attack vs defence strategies, learning first-hand about medieval innovation.

Dare!

The afternoon takes students outdoors for Medieval Sports and Games. From tug of war to archery and bowls, they experience how people in the Middle Ages played and competed, all while working as a team.

Showtime!

The day climaxes with Castle Conquests! Students use their new knowledge to construct castles from creative materials, then test their strength as their fortresses are challenged by siege and storm. Teams present their castles proudly, celebrating learning and teamwork.





Who Is the Programme For?

Camp Dragon is designed for children aged 8–12 who are ready to explore, grow, and make international friendships in a safe and welcoming environment.

It is especially suited to students experiencing their first time away from home, as our highly trained staff provide round-the-clock care, encouragement, and support. The programme attracts curious, adventurous young people who want to try something new – whether it's taking part in a science experiment, performing in a show, or joining a team challenge outdoors. It's also ideal for those looking to build confidence in English while enjoying fun, interactive experiences. With students from more than 35 nationalities, Camp Dragon is perfect for children eager to connect with peers from around the world.





Key Learning Outcomes



Confidence in Communication

Students practise English naturally through games, teamwork, and performances. From group discussions to ShowTime presentations, they learn to speak clearly, listen actively, and share ideas with growing confidence.

Collaboration and Friendship

Camp life encourages teamwork at every stage. Whether solving challenges in Dare sessions, designing projects in Discover, or cheering at ShowTime, students learn how to cooperate, respect different perspectives, and build lasting friendships.

Curiosity and Creativity

Each themed day invites children to ask questions, try new things, and think outside the box. From science experiments to art workshops, they develop imagination and problem-solving skills while learning through play.

Independence and Resilience

Living away from home helps students take responsibility, adapt to new routines, and manage small challenges. They grow in independence, developing resilience and pride in their ability to thrive in a supportive environment.





Safety and Welfare

For many children, Camp Dragon is their first experience of being away from home. We place their safety, wellbeing, and happiness at the very centre of camp life. Each child is cared for by our staff team, who live alongside students and provide round-the-clock support. From morning wake-up to bedtime routines, staff are there to guide, encourage, and reassure.

Our team is carefully selected for their warmth, patience, and experience working with young learners from all over the world. They receive specialist training in safeguarding and behaviour management, ensuring that every child feels secure and valued. Small group structures and clear routines help students settle quickly, while fun ice-breaker activities and House systems build friendships from day one.

Parents can be confident that their children are in safe, professional hands – supported, encouraged, and part of a caring camp family.





Dragon Adventures

Beyond the campus, Camp Dragon students embark on unforgettable adventures that bring learning and exploration to life. . Each adventure is carefully chosen to balance excitement, culture, and fun, ensuring students make lasting memories with new friends while practising English in real-world settings.

Legoland, Windsor

Where creativity meets engineering, giving students the chance to enjoy thrilling rides and interactive learning zones.

Warwick Castle

History comes alive with dramatic performances, medieval towers, and immersive exhibitions that spark imagination.

Oxford

Students explore the Pitt Rivers Museum and the Oxford University Museum of Natural History, discovering artefacts, dinosaurs, and cultural treasures in hands-on, curious ways.

Optional Extra

Harry Potter World

Experience the magic of the wizarding world first hand as you go on a spellbinding adventure to Harry Potter World. Captivated by the fascinating world of Hogwarts – from authentic sets, costumes and special effects.





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