

ACADEMIC PREPARATION COURSE

IMPROVING ENGLISH AND DEVELOPING ACADEMIC SKILLS IN
READINESS FOR FURTHER UK STUDY.





The Academic Preparation Course (APC) at DLD College London prepares international students for either GCSE, BTEC, A Level or International Foundation Programme (IFP) study at the school.

This is a one-year programme for the academic year prior to them joining the relevant course. The target exam is IELTS, the result of which will determine which pathway the students will follow.

CORE AIMS

The course develops English language skills and helps students to familiarise themselves with the challenges of learning in a typical British classroom environment. This includes skills development in areas such as pair work, group work, independent reading, and discussion work.

Overall, the aim of the Academic Preparation Course is to give students a solid foundation of academic skills and academic expectations, and to familiarise them with the demands (including pastoral needs) of a UK-based study course.

COURSE CONTENT

Academic Preparation Course students study the following:

APC Subjects	English
	Mathematics
	Social Sciences (Understanding the World Around Us).
	Art

These classes help the learners to develop essential academic skills, while simultaneously enabling them to gain an in-depth understanding of the variety of lesson content that will become available to them after they have successfully completed the course.

In terms of Reading, students are provided with authentic newspaper articles from quality newspapers, written in graded language, rendering the articles suitable for English language learners. This practice assists in the development of the students' vocabulary and reading skills, at the same time providing them with an insight into world events as they develop their reading skills.

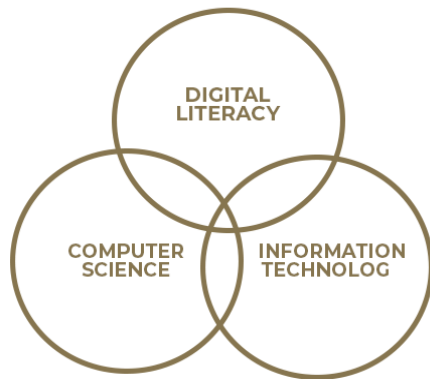
To help the students develop into healthy, responsible, and socially aware young adults, Sport and Personal Health and Social Education (PHSE) also form part of the Academic Preparation Course curriculum.

There is also an 'enrichment' element of the course, designed to enhance the experience of studying in central London - 'London is our classroom'.

DIGITAL SKILLS

Digital Skills is a strand from Computer Science and is defined as a range of abilities to use digital devices, communication applications, and networks to access and manage information. They enable people to create and share digital content, communicate and collaborate, and solve problems for effective and creative self-fulfilment in life, learning, work, and social activities. The digital age is expanding to all areas in our lives, not just for those who work in IT.

In this course, students learn important aspects of the digital age, including topics such as eSafety, the Cloud, social media, eCommerce, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, digital research methods, UI and UX, Digital Career Pathways, Ethical Hacking, and more. As well as some practical lessons in using Office 365 (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, etc), Introduction to Animation, Coding in HTML and CSS, Video Editing, and Virtual/Augmented Reality.



ENRICHMENT

This enrichment programme is incorporated into the Communication Skills element of the course and involves a regular interactive session (often in the form of an external excursion) that requires the students to explore and interact with aspects of British culture. For example, students attend local art galleries and museums to enrich their understanding of British history, creativity, and innovation. These sessions also provide an abundance of opportunities for the students to practise their English in real-life contexts, helping them to grow in confidence and to feel part of the local community.

All these activities aim to diversify the range of educational experiences; they also enrich the range of language contexts to which the students are exposed. The increased range of contexts and vocabulary building this promotes, helps students to get ready for their IELTS test as it prepares them to express themselves on a variety of topics.



ASSESSMENT

Students have regular tests in the four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking) and sit an IELTS exam at the end of the winter term to experience sitting an external exam, and for official evidence of progress made after one term. The final IELTS exam is taken at DLD College at the end of the summer term. Progression is dependent on the result of this final exam.

CLASS	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI
1	Study	Tutor Period	Mathmatics	Mathmatics	Digital Skills
2	Study	Study	Mathmatics	Mathmatics	Digital Skills
3	Academic English	Communication Skills	Art	Art	Art
4	Academic English	Communication Skills	Art	Art	Art
Morning Break (10.10-10.25am)					
5	Communication Skills	Study	Stud	Communication Skills	Study
6	Lunch (12.10 - 12:45)				
7	UWAU	Reading & Study Skills	Mathmatics	Mathmatics	Academic English
8	UWAU	Reading & Study Skills	Art	Academic English	Academic English
9	Reading & Study Skills	Study	Art	Academic English	Sport
Afternoon Break (2.30-2.45)					
10	PSHE	Academic English	Digital Skills	UWAU	Sport
11	Study	Academic English	Digital Skills	UWAU	Sport
CCAs/ Enrichment / Study Clinics / Academic Societies					

PROGRESSION

Progression depends on IELTS scores and previous studies:

	IELTS score
Year 10	4.5
Year 11	5.0
IFP	5.0
A Level	5.5*
BTEC	5.5*
Medicine IFP	6.0

(* Students must have 5.0 minimum in reading and writing components.)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR APC

Equivalent to 4.0 IELTS/B1/OPT 40 to 46 minimum.



APC at DLD College London

- Improve English language ability
- Develop academic skills
- Prepare for UK academic expectations
- Familiarisation with UK boarding school
- Progression to GCSE, A Level, BTEC or Foundation programmes

Contact us today for more information

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