



## ELEA INDIVIDUALS 2021 | FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Hello **#TeamELEA**

A very warm welcome to ELEA 2021, a joint programme between Peartree Languages and Atlantic Experience, based at UWC Atlantic, Saint Donats, U.K.

### *Key Details*

**Dates:** ELEA Individuals: 31st July - 14th August 2021

**Levels:** A2 - C1

**Ages:** 12 - 17

**Gross price:** £2,150 GBP per person

Please read this document carefully as if you decide to participate in this fantastic new programme, the contents of this document will become the basis for our Service Agreement and Terms and Conditions for participation in ELEA 2021.

### *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)*

#### 1. OVERVIEW

##### 1.1 What does ELEA mean?

ELEA is an acronym which stands for English Language Experience and Adventure. These are the key elements of our programme.

##### 1.2 How many students can I enroll onto ELEA?

ELEA Individuals is specifically for student participants joining independently, or for friend/sibling groups of a strict maximum of 4 people **without** an accompanying group leader. The participants on ELEA Individuals will not know each other before the start of the experience and the initial sessions of the programme will have a heavy focus on icebreaker sessions, helping participants to quickly make new friends and connections. Participants will be mixed in accommodation and classes, generally according to age, and as per our availability. **ELEA**





**Individuals is not suitable for pre-organised groups.** If you are interested in bringing a pre-organised group, please contact us to find out more about our ELEA Groups programme.

## 2. PROGRAMME PROFILE

### 2.1 How many participants will there be in total?

There will be between 30 - 60 international participants in total as part of ELEA Individuals.

### 2.2 Will there be a maximum or minimum of any one nationality?

As part of our commitment to a diverse and international programme where English is the main language used at all times, there will be a maximum of 10 participants who share the same first language in ELEA Individuals and no minimum number of any one language group.

### 2.3 Will there be native speakers on campus?

Yes. Peartree ELEA is one of three courses that will take place under the umbrella of Atlantic Experience. The two other programmes are mainly aimed at English native language speakers, or those with near native proficiency (although there may also be international students on these courses). Participants will have the opportunity to mix and get to know each other during free time as we will all share the same campus.

## 3. ENGLISH LANGUAGE COURSE

### 3.1 Is there a minimum and maximum English language level to be accepted?

Yes, applicants must be able to demonstrate that their level is between A2 (elementary +) and C1 (advanced) on the CEFR or complete a Peartree ELEA pre-enrolment assessment test. This will be graded by the Academic Manager. In case of any queries, we may ask applicants to complete a second test for clarification or attend a short Skype meeting with a member of the Peartree teaching team to assess speaking competency level.

### 3.2 Will there be a level test on arrival?

Yes, on the first morning of lessons all participants will take a full placement test which includes a written and spoken element. Students are then placed into a language class appropriate to their level from the second day of the course.





### **3.3 What if the participant thinks the class is too easy, or difficult, is there a possibility to change class?**

Students can speak to a facilitator, a teacher or the Academic Manager if they feel that the class is not the right level for them. We will then make a decision together about the right class for the student and this may involve taking a supplementary level test.

### **3.4 How many levels/classes are there?**

There will be between four and six classes/levels based on the [CEFR](#), with between 8-14 participants per class.

### **3.5 How many lessons per week will there be?**

Each lesson lasts 1.5 hours and there will be a total of 30 hours of classroom time over the full duration of E.L.E.A. Most of the lessons will take place in the mornings, with the exception of two shorter afternoons of lessons to allow enough time in the schedule for the full day trips during the week.

### **3.6 What is the focus of the lessons?**

The classes will place a strong emphasis on communication skills and activating spoken language. Lessons are based on 21st Century skills, such as creativity, communication, developing initiative and critical thinking, and language acquired is also integrated with the social programme.

### **3.7 What are the qualifications of the teachers?**

All teachers will be qualified to the standards set by the British Council for the Teaching of English in the UK. All activity staff are appropriately trained and experienced to offer activities. UWC Atlantic Holds and [Adventure Activities Licence](#) reference: [R0118](#)

### **3.8 Will there be homework?**

There will not be homework in the traditional sense of completing exercises or writing essays. There will be project-based sessions and there could be some work to be done outside of the class working with others to develop the project ideas. Also, lessons are integrated with the social programme and students will be expected to activate the new language learned in class while enjoying their leisure time.





### 3.9 Will the participants receive a certificate?

Yes, all participants, who complete the course, will receive a certificate stating the course dates and the level they worked at in class. There will also be further prize certificates such as 'Student of the Class' and 'Student of the Course', these prizes are awarded to students who are helpful to others, try hard and speak as much English as possible. Participants will also receive a course report detailing the themes and language studied in class along with a personalised comment on their performance and attitude from their class teacher. Parents can be sent a digital version of this report on request.

## 4. THE LEISURE PROGRAMME

### 4.1 How adventurous is ELEA?

The A of ELEA stands for Adventure. Participants should be ready for a challenging and adrenaline based social programme, which mainly takes place outdoors. Participants should be prepared for, and willing to fully experience this challenge.

### 4.2 What are the main activities?

The highlight of Peartree ELEA will be an overnight camping trip where participants will be required to hike to the camp group, put up their tent and maybe even forage for their own supper! The UWC Atlantic College campus boasts its own beach, forest, lake, brand new indoor sports centre, concert / theatre venue, cinema, an indoor and outdoor swimming pool, outdoor and indoor volleyball, climbing tower and a gym. Full use of these facilities will be made to offer a schedule of high-octane activities such as climbing, raft building, kayaking, hiking, orienteering and also a relaxing programme of evening activities where students can easily mix and make new friends from all over the world.

### 4.3 Are there any excursions?

Yes. There will be two full day excursions. One to the city of Bath, with entry to one museum, and another to the Big Pit Mining Experience, where participants will descend underground 90m, guided by a local miner. Additionally, there will be two half day shopping trips, one to Cardiff and another to a retail outlet.

### 4.4 What does the daily routine look like?

On all days when English language classes take place there will be an optional early morning wellbeing activity. This could include swimming, yoga, meditation, a short sport activity or gym session. After breakfast the students will begin the morning lessons and then have lunch. In the





afternoons the social programme will take place followed by dinner. Every evening there will be a recreational activity such as a BBQ / camp fire, concert, sunset walk, cinema, sports, among many others.

#### 4.5 What about bad weather?

We will attempt to fulfill all aspects of the social programme, despite adverse weather conditions. However, in the event that bad weather could pose any kind of risk to safety or the significant enjoyment of the participants, a substitute activity will be provided. Again, ELEA is an adventure based programme and participants should be aware that rain will not stop play!

#### 4.6 What if my child does not want to participate in any activity?

We will strongly encourage participation in all activities although we can make small amendments to the programme should any participant feel nervous or unsure of any element of the course, however, we stress that participants should be ready for a challenging and adventurous experience. The full programme will be made available to parents in advance of the start date.

#### 4.7 Can I, or another family member contact or visit my child during the course?

Participants will not be permitted to leave the campus or any activity/excursion for any reason. This includes meeting friends or family members in the local area. Parents, other family members or friends are **not** permitted to visit at any point during the course, including when your child is on an excursion. In the case of an emergency, parents must contact Peartree ELEA on the emergency number and relevant arrangements will be made.

Participants will have access to Wi-Fi while on campus, however, it must be understood that Peartree ELEA is an immersive experience for students with an emphasis on communicating and experiencing the programme to the fullest. We, therefore, reserve the right to temporarily confiscate electronic devices if they distract your child, including if your child uses devices after the 'lights out' time (11pm). We ask parents not to encourage their children to communicate constantly with them and to restrict contact, allowing your child space to fully immerse themselves in the course. We also expect parents to be mindful of the 11pm night-time curfew when contacting their children. For accompanying Group Leaders we ask you to refer to the Group Leader guidance information.





## 5. ACCOMMODATION AND MEALS

### 5.1 Where will my child sleep?

We will be using one or two of the student houses on-campus – male and females will be on separate floors, areas or buildings. Participants will be sharing a room with up to 4 other students. Showering and toilet facilities are available within the houses. All participants are encouraged to socialise in the house day rooms, college common areas and outside, weather permitting. Participants are strongly encouraged to respect each other's space, and there will be no mixing between the houses. It is important that all participants respect this throughout the whole duration of the programme ensure all participants and staff are made to feel comfortable at all times.

The supervision of the houses falls under the pastoral care of the UWC Atlantic team and house parents or facilitators will be available 24 hours a day in the case of emergency or needing to provide any type of care or support to the students.

### 5.2 What are the arrangements for meals?

Most meals will be enjoyed in the main cafeteria within the castle in the 'Harry Potter style' dining room. All dietary requirements can be catered for and a full range of hot and cold food is offered. There will also be snack points throughout the day appropriate to the timetable but will typically include an additional mid-morning and mid-afternoon snack.

On days where students take a full day trip or need to set off early for an afternoon excursion, full packed meals will be provided.

### 5.3 What if my child is still hungry?

In addition to the standard meal schedule, snacks will be made available in the common kitchen of each student house in the form of hot / cold drinks and also fruit, spreads and breads late into the evening.

## 6. PASTORAL CARE

### 6.1 What are the general security arrangements?

UWC Atlantic College has 24-hour security on the campus and participants will be clearly informed of the security arrangements as part of the first-day inductions. Participants will be strictly monitored at all times with attendance being taken at regular intervals of the day.





## 6.2 What are the supervision ratios?

The supervision ratio will differ depending on the activity. For adventure based activities the ratio is 1:10, for excursions / trips the ratio is 1:15.

## 6.3 How is wrap around care organised?

The wrap-around, comprehensive pastoral care package provided by ELEA is a three layered system, which covers all aspects of care outside of designated, supervised activity (lessons, activity sessions etc).

**Layer one:** One member of staff is allocated to each house and is responsible for all students living in that house (night time, meal times, short free time sessions)

**Layer two:** A Duty Management System at the campus ensures that an additional, Senior Staff Member is always on call, 24 hours a day, on a rota system

**Layer three:** The 24-hour security staff located on site would be mobilised in the case of needing supplementary first aid, in the case of any significant emergency or fire.

## 6.4 What if my child feels unwell, what are the arrangements for medical care?

Should any participants require medical assistance, transport to the nearest medical facility or hospital will be available 24h/day, and parents/guardians will be kept informed accordingly at all times. In case of minor injury, there is always a member of staff on duty who is first aid trained, and will be able to aid on site.

## 6.5 What if my child feels homesick?

There will be pastoral care available 24 hours a day on-site. Any child experiencing homesickness will be looked after as part of our wrap around care to ensure their needs are met.





## 7. TRANSFERS

### 7.1 Direct arrival to UWC Atlantic

Participants within the UK should aim to arrive at UWC Atlantic between 16.00 pm (GMT) and 19.00 pm (GMT) on the course start date and to depart 12.00 pm (GMT) on the final day of the programme. Parents or guardians are welcome to drop off and collect participants to the address mentioned above. Those wishing to travel by train should aim to arrive/depart from either Bridgend or Llantwit Major stations, and arrangements for transfer to the College should be made prior to your arrival using the correct section in the travel and logistics form.

### 7.2 Arrival at a specified UK airport

Participants travelling from overseas should aim to arrive at London Heathrow Airport, Bristol Airport or Cardiff Airport (which is approximately 10.3 miles from the College) between 11.00 am (GMT) and 16.00 pm (GMT) on the course start date and to depart from the same airport with a flight scheduled between 14.00 pm (GMT) and 18.00pm (GMT) on the final day of the programme. Please be informed that alternative arrival times may include a supplement.

## 8. PAYMENT AND CONDITIONS

### 8.1 How can I enroll my child and when would we need to pay full fees?

#### Apply now, pay later.

We would kindly ask you to complete the application process via the UWC Atlantic Experience website, including the level test. This will then be evaluated by the Peartree Academic Team and we will officially issue you with a confirmation letter of acceptance. We will email you on 1st May 2021 with terms and conditions and an invoice for payment in full. The payment deadline following receipt of the invoice will be 10 working days. Please note that once you have received your confirmation letter, we have reserved your place until May 1st 2021.

### 8.2 Can I receive an Early Bird Discount (EBD)?

An EBD for applications made by 24/01/2021 will be available for enrolments of participants of the ELEA Individuals programme. Remember, we will not ask you for any payment until May 2021, but provided you submit an application by 24/01/2021, the EBD will be applied to your final booking invoice.

### 8.3 What if a student needs to cancel due to Coronavirus? Can we have a refund?







It will be possible to apply for and reserve places on ELEA 2021 immediately with no fees to pay until May 2021. We all understand that we are in an evolving and unpredictable situation at present and we will issue a full set of Terms and Conditions, including refund policies and procedures in case of cancellation in the early spring of 2021. We strongly recommend taking our adequate travel insurance.

