



ELEA | 2025

ENGLISH LANGUAGE EXPERIENCE AND ACTION

COURSE PACK

MEET **#TeamELEA**



WELCOME NOTE

Welcome to our English Language Experience and Action summer programme!

Our ELEA team is very excited to have you onboard for this innovative, challenging and experiential two-week programme organised by UWC Atlantic Experience and Peartree ELEA.

We have some news we'd love to share with you. In 2024 a routine British Council inspection of ELEA took place and we received a very positive outcome. The programme was awarded 12 areas of strength including in Course Design, Leisure Opportunities and Safeguarding Under 18s, and we're proud to share that ELEA has been awarded 'Centre of Excellence' status, placing us among the top 8% of English as a Foreign Language schools in the UK and making us the highest-ranked new entry this year! You can read our full report [here](#).

This recognition highlights the exceptional quality of the ELEA experience, and we warmly welcome you to enjoy this incredible summer journey of learning and discovery.

Each year we continue to build on the foundations of the ELEA programme and 2025 will be our fourth course. The vision of ELEA is to improve your English language level as you develop important life skills for your future, while also equipping you with the soft skills and experiences needed to positively impact the world. Through the wide range of adventures we have planned, you can develop team-building, leadership, communication and listening competencies, along with resilience and confidence.

ELEA will be attended by young people from diverse backgrounds from across the world. This represents a unique opportunity to share experiences and make friends that will last forever, but also to have fun!

Please read this document carefully as the contents form part of our terms and conditions for enrolment in ELEA 2025.

I look forward to meeting you this summer and welcoming you to the Peartree ELEA UWC family.



Ms. Nicky Partridge
Founder and Course Director
Peartree ELEA
(Cert. DELTM Dist., Cert. TESOL, BA
Hons)

CONTENTS

 TAP TO SKIP TO THE PAGES BELOW:

- Location and Contact
- Travel Information
- Visa and Insurance
- Travel Documents
- Transfers and UM Service
- First Aid
- Medication
- Accessibility
- Valuables
- Food & Dietary Requirements
- Packing List
- Accommodation
- Get Involved Before You Arrive
- Arrival Days
- Assembly
- Code of Conduct
- The Rules in Details
- Basic School Rules
- Communication
- Non-direct Supervision & Free-Time
- The English Language Course
- Information Guidance
- Safeguarding
- Frequently Asked Questions

Please read the information carefully and contact us if you have any concerns. Please use this checklist to prepare for the programme. The boxes that are left empty are for you to complete and help you plan.

CHECK LIST (Please check carefully prior to departure)	WHEN
Pay course fees for ELEA	14-days
Submit travel and logistics form	31st May
Purchase travel insurance (if required)	31st May
Ensure you have all items in the suggested kit list	31st May
Update changes to personal and emergency details	As soon as possible
Pack your bag (don't forget your travel documents)	A few days before
Get ready for ELEA!	Now!

LOCATION & CONTACT

Address: UWC Atlantic, St Donat's Castle, Llantwit Major CF61 1WF, UK (Wales)
Detailed travel information on how to get to UWC Atlantic by road or by rail can be found here: www.uwcatlanticexperience.com/get-in-touch/
Email: elea@uwcatlanticexperience.com
Telephone and 24hr emergency contact: +44 (0) 1446 799 000

TRAVEL INFORMATION

We recommend booking travel as soon as the participant's place on the ELEA programme is confirmed. You must complete the Travel and Logistics Form sent to you by 31st May 2025. Transfers are only available from/to Heathrow Airport, inclusive of the course fee, and all participants not arriving directly at the College should arrive and depart from this airport.

PARTICIPANT ARRIVAL | HEATHROW AIRPORT PICKUP

Should the participant require a transfer to the College they must fly into Heathrow Airport with an arrival time between 9am-5pm (BST). A member of staff wearing bright Blue UWC uniform with a sign will be present in the arrivals hall from 9am at Terminals 2,3,4 and 5. Those arriving at terminals 2,3,4 will be transported to the airport final meeting point which is 'North Meeting Point' at Terminal 5.

Participants arriving before 9am will remain unchaperoned in the airport.

Please ensure you have mobile data allowance that can be used in the UK to inform your parent/guardian of your safe arrival. A contact mobile number for the ELEA airport manager will be provided to you a few weeks before.

There will be three coach departure times leaving Heathrow Airport to the College, at approximately 1pm, 4pm and 7pm. Therefore, please expect some waiting time at the airport and have spending money to buy snacks and drinks. The journey from Heathrow Airport to UWC Atlantic is approximately three hours and is an opportunity for you to start getting to know your coursemates. Food will be available at the College on your arrival.

Please note that some airlines and immigration services may require an accompanying service for minors, particularly those aged 15 and under. If you book the Unaccompanied Minor Service with your airline, please read the relevant section below.

PARTICIPANT ARRIVAL | DIRECTLY AT THE COLLEGE

Participants must arrive at UWC Atlantic on the Saturday of the course between 12pm midday and 10pm. Food will be available for participants at the College. Please report to Main Reception on arrival and from there, a member of the ELEA team will escort you to the accommodation day room for check-in. Parents/guardians will have the opportunity to meet the ELEA leadership team in the Arts Centre and take a brief tour to the sea front before departing. It will not be possible to explore the castle and gardens on arrivals day, this is possible on the departure day, please see relevant section for details. For travellers aged 16-17, please see the relevant section below.

PARTICIPANT DEPARTURE | HEATHROW AIRPORT DROP-OFF

If you require the transfer to London Heathrow, you must book a departing flight on the final Saturday of the course (02/08) with a flight departure time between 12pm-7pm BST. Breakfast is provided before departing the College. Please ensure you have money to purchase food for throughout the day.

Participants who will be met by a parent/guardian will be dropped off at Terminal 5 North Meeting Point. Participants flying alone will be chaperoned to Terminals 2,3 and 4.

PARTICIPANT DEPARTURE | COLLECTION FROM COLLEGE

Participants must be collected from the College by 2pm BST at the latest. For participants being collected from campus, breakfast and (if applicable) lunch will be provided. A castle tour for families will be available on the departure day along with free access to the Street Food Circus (SFC) festival taking place at the campus. Please tell us in advance if you would like a campus visit with SFC entry. For travellers aged 16-17, please see the relevant section below.

Final travel plans will be communicated to parents/guardians and participants approximately two weeks before the start of the programme.

Please ensure that the participant has the emergency number in their phone and keeps their phone charged at all times: +44 (0) 1446 799 000.

ELEA does not hold themselves liable for covering the costs of any participant missing a flight for any reason or having a flight cancelled or delayed. However, a member of staff will ensure the participant is safe and is able to organise alternative travel arrangements. The emergency contact number for participants, parents and guardians is +44 (0) 1446 799 000. This line is available 24 hours a day and you will be transferred to the appropriate staff member.

DISRUPTED TRAVEL FEES

Should you need to make last minute changes to travel i.e. cancelled/delayed flights or changing of arrival/departure days, a supplement fee of £200 GBP per person plus additional transport costs (i.e. taxis) applies, payable in advance. This fee is also applicable in the case of disrupted travel related to a parent or guardian who is coming to meet the student that involves additional ELEA supervision outside the arrangements specified on the travel form.

TRANSFERS

In line with our safeguarding policy, participants aged 15 and under are not permitted to travel unsupervised at any time while in the UK; for example, waiting unaccompanied in the airports due to flights arriving or departing outside our specified times or ongoing travel to alternative departure points, such as travelling from Heathrow Airport to other airports or train stations. Students aged 12-15 are only permitted to arrive and depart the College either on the organised transfer or accompanied by a parent, guardian or airport service.

We strongly encourage students aged 16/17 to only take the organised ELEA transfer or be accompanied to and from the College by a parent or guardian. In case of an alternative or independent travel request for a student aged 16/17 only, please contact us before applying and booking any travel. Our team will review your request and should this journey be considered a low risk according to our risk assessment, you will be able to apply to ELEA with the next steps explained by the team. Please note, we reserve the right to refuse independent travel and admission to ELEA where the travel plan is not compliant with our duty of care to all junior students.

UNACCOMPANIED MINORS' FLIGHT TRAVEL

Parents/guardians of unaccompanied minors (participants under 18 travelling on their own) should carefully check 'accompanied flight' policies which may vary widely from airline to airline. It is very important that parents arranging an unaccompanied flight service investigate the specific policies of the airline in question. Do not hesitate to ask the airline detailed questions about any policy that seems confusing.

If you plan to use your airline's unaccompanied minor service, you will also need to book additional support service with the ELEA team to facilitate this. The cost payable to ELEA for this additional support is £150 GBP total (includes both ways).

VISAS AND INSURANCE

Participants who require a VISA to enter the United Kingdom should apply for a [Standard Visitor Visa](#). Should you need additional documents to support your VISA application, you should contact us in advance to ensure your application can be processed in time for the course start date. We will not be able to guarantee the refund of the programme fees in case of participants missing the course due to unsuccessful VISA applications.

For eligibility information please visit: www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa/eligibility

To apply for a Standard Visitor Visa please visit: www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa/apply

Although we provide Guard Me international travel insurance as standard, participants travelling from overseas may also wish to purchase travel insurance for the duration of their travel and stay at UWC Atlantic. Missed flights and baggage are covered in the Guard Me + cancellation policy - please see the insurance policy document for full details.

We will set up an insurance policy for each student individually, valid for the exact dates of the ELEA course (from arrival to departure day). However, in the unfortunate case of needing to make a claim, this can only be done by the student with support from their parents/guardians and through Guard Me directly, not through the ELEA programme.

Any claims must be made within 28 days via the Guard Me online portal (<https://claimsform.axa-travel-insurance.com/>). The details of your individual insurance policy will be sent to the parents/guardians in good time before the start of the course and you will also receive a link to download the 'Doctor Please!' app.

Please note that additional travel or tourist arrangements outside the dates of the course will not be covered by this policy.

If you are visiting the UK from an EU country or Switzerland and you fall ill or have a medical emergency during your temporary stay, you can use a valid EHIC issued by your home country to access healthcare. If applicable, please ensure you bring your EHIC along with your ID/passport documents.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

All participants travelling to the UK alone will need to have a printed copy of the course confirmation letter provided by ELEA, for immigration purposes.

Please note: you may be refused entry into the UK without this letter.

FIRST AID

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

MEDICATION

In line with our safeguarding procedure, on arrival all medication including painkillers must be given to the ELEA team who will store and distribute medication according to the instructions provided on the application form.

This is with exception to the following:

- Asthma inhaler - must be kept on the participant at all times
- Epinephrine autoinjector (e.g Epi-pen) - must be kept on the participant at all times
- Topical creams - can remain with the participant

We must still be made aware of the above, but they can remain with the participant

If participants are found in possession of any medication, including medication that can be bought over the counter in the home country, this would be considered a breach of the code of conduct and relevant action taken.

If the participant's medical status changes for any reason between the time of completing the application form and arrival, you must inform us immediately to allow us

to consider any possible implications for participation in the course. Failure to inform us truthfully and accurately of such changes would result in an unacceptable compromise to our duty of care and the participant's removal from the course. No refund or compensation of any kind would be given in these circumstances. Should the participant already be in the UK, parents/guardians would be entirely responsible for repatriation and all costs incurred.

ACCESSIBILITY

UWC Atlantic campus is set in the grounds of a medieval castle; there are many steps and narrow walkways. Moving around the campus could be challenging for people with limited mobility and/or fitness. Many of our activities are physical in nature and include walking, climbing, recreational games and more. We do not want this to be a barrier to participation and if you would like to discuss the accessibility of our campus and course programme, please get in touch.

VALUABLES

Participants will have access to their own locker to store any valuables as well as their passport.

Please note:

- You are responsible for safely storing your own valuables (excluding medication) in your lockable area and ELEA takes no responsibility for any loss or theft.
- We strongly recommend you do not bring valuables or cash.
- In the case of bringing cash, we strongly recommend bringing a minimal amount.
- We strongly advise participants to bring debit cards that can be topped up by parents/ guardians online, NOT cash as many outlets in the UK are now contactless only.
- We cannot facilitate the transfer of money to participants.
- If participants bring cash, be sure to bring Pounds Sterling (UK currency only) as there is no facility to exchange money at the College and we can not provide external assistance to exchange foreign currency.
- If you bring cash or coins, please check that they are new and not old money as it will not be possible to go to a bank or post office to make the exchange. In the UK there is no requirement to carry a form of ID at any time so your passport should remain in your locker at all times.

FOOD & DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

All dietary requirements and allergies should be indicated in the application form. If we do not receive this information from you, we assume you have no specific dietary requirements and you can eat meat, eggs, fish, nuts and dairy products. All main meals will be prepared by our catering team at UWC Atlantic and we can cater for a wide and diverse range of requirements, but this must be clearly specified prior to your arrival.

In the case of more complicated dietary requirements, we will send you a short questionnaire and ask for specific suggestions for meal plans and menus. It is essential that this is filled in a complete, accurate and timely way.

Our meals include a range of healthy options, including vegan, vegetarian and halal. Hot and cold drinks, snacks and fruit will also be available throughout the day, and cereal, milk, toast, fruit and preserves will be available in the student houses throughout the whole duration of the programme.

The dining hall caters for many international students and offers a range of dishes; some may be familiar and some may not. It is important that students are open-minded, try as many new types of food on offer as possible and understand that the food will be different to their regular meals in their home country. Participants are welcome to bring any food or snacks of their choice, but these should not be substitute meals. Please do not bring any food which may contain nuts as the campus is strictly nut-free.

On excursion days a packed lunch is prepared by the catering team and provided to the students on the morning of the trip. Weather permitting, we will enjoy some picnic-style meals outside; where cold food or a barbecue will be served.

PACKING LIST

ESSENTIAL

- Appropriate clothing (day-to-day clothes); include some warm options
- Loose-fitting clothing that can be worn for outdoors and sports activities e.g. tracksuit, hooded sweatshirts, shorts, leggings etc.
- Towels (including beach/swimming towel)
- Waterproof jacket and hat or cap for a range of weather
- Hiking boots and suitable footwear for taking part in outdoor sporting activities
- Several changes of underwear/socks (complimentary laundry facilities available)
- Swimming costume
- Sports shoes
- Water bottle
- Flip flops
- Sunscreen
- Wash kit (personal hygiene items)
- Pyjamas or similar sleeping clothes
- House shoes/slippers
- Medication (this must be declared on the Application Form and clear instructions for administration must be provided)
- Mobile phone charger and adapter plugs for the UK
- Alarm clock

OPTIONAL

- Hairdryer (we do not have hairdryer facilities on campus)
- Flag of your country/region - get your friends to sign it at the end of the programme!
- Musical instrument (if you have/play one and would like to bring it and share your musical talent with the rest of the group)
- Reading book
- Favourite card game or small board game
- Personal journal/diary
- Camera
- Mobile phone
- Writing stationery
- Other waterproof clothing e.g. waterproof trousers
- Formal dress for the Gala dinner
- Any items required to take part in the 'International Show' e.g. a small musical instrument, some items of traditional costume or other small items to demonstrate a specific talent

ACCOMMODATION

We will be using student houses on campus. Students live in houses containing dormitories where up to four students share a room. Houses are allocated by gender, and rooms within the houses are assigned according to age and a deliberate nationality mix. Each house has a common room with plenty of space to relax and a kitchen stocked with daily supplies of snacks. Socialising in mixed-gender groups will be encouraged in communal spaces such as the Moondance Café and the Sports Hall.

All houses are located within the grounds of the College, with wonderful views of the sea and woodland and are an easy walk to all facilities (dining hall, lessons, activities, pick-up points). All participants are encouraged to socialise in the house day rooms, college common areas and outside, weather permitting. If participants require additional space under specific circumstances, such as a requirement to pray, this must be identified on the application form. Participants are strongly encouraged to respect each other's space, and must not access any house other than their own, including houses of ELEA participants of a different gender. Every participant must respect this throughout the programme and ensure all participants and staff feel comfortable at all times.

Included in the houses are laundry and drying facilities which participants will have self-access to use throughout the course. Laundry powder will be available.

DAILY ROOM INSPECTION

Rooms are inspected regularly and participants are expected to keep rooms tidy. No damage to property and/or the local environment of any kind will be tolerated on campus and off-campus throughout the whole duration of the course. Parents/guardians may be liable for any damage.

GET INVOLVED BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

A few weeks before the course begins, participants will be invited to join an online platform to get to know other participants. Joining instructions will be sent to the participant email address provided on the application form.

Parents/guardians will be invited to view the online platform to see what activities participants are involved in over the two weeks! We politely ask parents/guardians not to post on the platform, which is intended for the participants only.

ARRIVAL DAYS

DAY 1

When you arrive, you will need to check in. You will head over to your accommodation and you will meet more members of the ELEA staff team who are going to help and support you during your experience. We will ask for your name and check your passport/ID, which you should then store in your personal locker for the duration of the course. You will be provided with a lock for the lockable area of your room to safely store any other valuables.

Next, you will receive your ELEA t-shirt, notebook, drawstring bag, lanyard, the Wi-Fi code and a copy of the timetable. We will show you to your room with your luggage and also show you the location of the bathrooms and the laundry room. We will then give you about half an hour to settle in and then ask you to report back to the main day room where you can get something to eat and drink before you start to take part in activities to get to know your new coursemates and make some friends.

We understand that you might feel a little tired, and may be a bit nervous, but we would like you to stay active and awake until lights-out at 10pm to get used to the new routine and time zone as quickly as possible. If you arrive very late, you may be asked to go directly to bed after check-in and dinner to ensure you are fresh for the first full day of ELEA.

DAY 2

You will have a slightly later than usual wake-up, between 7:30am and 8am, and you will be guided by pastoral staff to have breakfast in the dining hall.

At 9.30am we will all go to our first daily assembly. You'll meet more members of the ELEA staff team and receive an induction. From here you'll head to a classroom with a teacher for the day one English language assessment. You'll be placed in your class groups from the following day as we need a little time to check your tests. In the afternoon you'll have a tour of the campus, the castle, and enjoy leisure time before dinner then, in the evening you'll take part in some dynamic team-building games on campus to mix together and meet more new friends from the ELEA course.

ASSEMBLY

Every morning (between breakfast and the first lesson or activity), and evening (after dinner, on non-excursion days) we will hold an assembly. As with all aspects of the course, you must be on time for these meetings.

This will be the time when we tell you:

- all the news - including the winners of any competitions
- any changes - especially about the weather
- what times you need to be in certain places
- a reminder of the daily timetable

You can also ask us any questions. A summary of this information is also displayed in the houses and on the online course platform.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Our code of conduct is written to protect everyone on the ELEA course and make sure that we all have a happy and supported experience.

We will not tolerate:

- Forceful projection of opinions
- Breaking our ELEA course rules
- Raised voices due to anger or strong feelings
- Impersonation or mockery
- Possession or use of cigarettes, electronic vapes, alcohol or illegal drugs at any time either on or off campus (the College is a completely smoke-free zone)
- Bullying or persecution of any kind
- Inappropriate or foul language
- Violence
- Lack of respect for the general rules of the school
- Breach of health and safety rules and regulations
- Theft

Anyone who breaks this code of conduct and causes distress to a fellow student or member of staff will be subject to the levelled rule breaking policy of the school.

THE RULES IN DETAIL

We will operate a colour-coded (levelled) rule-breaking system as follows:

Level 1 - Blue

Example: Being late or absent without reasonable excuse. Being disruptive in classes or on activity (including using mobile devices when asked not to e.g. during assembly). Being noisy. Not keeping your room tidy. Being casually rude or disobedient. Being disrespectful. Swearing. Not listening to people in authority.

Consequence of breaking Level 1 rules: Verbal warning and ongoing monitoring

Level 2 - Brown

Example: Repeated occurrence of any Level 1 rules being broken (+2). Any destruction of any property at any time when on the course. Accessing rooms without consent. Heavy petting (heavy public displays of affection) at any time. Accessing accommodation of the opposite gender. Total disregard of rules or curfews. Setting off any alarms for no good reason. Smoking, vaping or being in possession of cigarettes or electronic vapes at any time during the course on or off-campus. Going missing on campus, unacceptable behaviour on campus during unsupervised free time, accessing off-limits areas of the campus.

Consequence of breaking Level 2 rules: Course Director informed. Head of UWC Atlantic Experience informed. Parents / guardians informed. Written notes taken and the student is placed under strict monitoring until the end of the course.

Level 3 - Red

Example: Repeated occurrence of any Level 2 rules being broken (+1).

Example: Consumption of drugs or alcohol, including possessing these substances. Breaking the law. Threatening, intimidating, hurting or bullying any other person at any time. Sexual intimacy, including sexual intercourse. Breach of safeguarding rules. Going missing on external activities or excursions. Staying away overnight. Gross destruction or property. Endangering yourself or others.

Consequence: All managers informed, including the Head of UWC Atlantic College. Parents/guardians informed. Police will be called in the case of lawbreaking or going missing. Immediate removal from the course. Parents/guardians must make arrangements to assist with the removal of the student from the course as soon as possible. No refunds will be given under any circumstances.

OUR CORE BRITISH VALUES

You are expected to uphold our core British values:

- (i) democracy
- (ii) the rule of law
- (iii) individual liberty
- (iv) respectful tolerance of different faiths or beliefs

BASIC SCHOOL RULES

- Do NOT add any member of staff to your social media account - they will say no!
- Please add @peartreelanguages and @uwcatlanticexperience to your Instagram and feel free to tag us into photos using the hashtag #teamELEA
- Do NOT take a photo or video of anyone without their permission!
- Respect the buildings
- Respect the furniture
- Respect all teachers
- Respect all activity providers
- Say 'please' and 'thank you' all the time; it is a part of British culture
- Be respectful towards all ELEA course participants
- Speak in English as much as possible and when in groups; this is polite and will help you to learn more English

SOCIAL INTERACTION

No violence/harassment/bullying, either physical or verbal, of any kind towards participants, staff and members of the public will be tolerated on campus and off-campus throughout the whole duration of the course.

SEXUAL INTERACTION

No sexual interaction of any kind will be permitted on campus and off-campus throughout the whole duration of the course. Access to other participants' dorms will not be permitted during daytime time activities and after curfew. Participants are expected to use designated areas (eg. dayroom) to interact with each other when back in their houses.

PROPERTY AND LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

No damage to property and/or the local environment of any kind will be tolerated on campus and off-campus throughout the whole duration of the course. Students must respect the rules of acceptable behaviour when on campus.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Free Wi-Fi is accessible on the campus to all participants, but participants are encouraged to limit its use in order to maximise face-to-face social interactions with peers. As an educational institution, internet use is monitored and inappropriate use will be reported.

Misconduct, including cyber violence/harassment/bullying using UWC Atlantic equipment and/or internet facilities, will not be tolerated throughout the whole duration of the course.

COMMUNICATION

CONTACTING HOME


Participants will generally have the opportunity to contact parents/guardians between 5pm-7pm UK time, daily. On some occasions, such as returning from excursions, this may change. The participant will be primarily responsible for staying in touch with parents/guardians, but if at any time you wish to speak to the ELEA team, please contact us on elea@uwcatlanticexperience.com. For emergencies, please call (+44) 1446 799000.

We encourage you to only communicate with your child occasionally to ensure they are fully immersed in this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Participants should make the most of every moment and live in the present! Try to avoid communicating frequently with people back home and instead use the time getting to know your new friends. You will use your mobile phone in class to carry out some project work or play some games as part of the lessons, but your teacher will take your phone away if they believe you are not using it for class reasons. Also, let your friends and family know your timetable so that they respect your time and don't bother you while you are enjoying a lesson or an activity.

PARENT/GUARDIAN UPDATES

The ELEA team will be fully engaged in delivering the programme to the highest possible standards. As such, communication to parent/guardians will be provided by the participants, but we invite parents/guardians to follow us on our social media channels below:

 Peartree Instagram

 Atlantic Experience Instagram

By the end of the course, academic course reports and a link to a folder of photos will be shared with parents/guardians and participants.

COMPLAINTS

Should you wish to make a complaint at any time, please email elea@uwcatlanticexperience.com. Complaints are taken very seriously and will be investigated by a manager as soon as possible. Complaints can also be made directly to the British Council on accreditation.unit@britishcouncil.org.

NON-DIRECT SUPERVISION AND FREE TIME

ELEA is dedicated to providing the highest level of pastoral care for its participants, while also giving you the freedom to enjoy the UWC Atlantic campus. ELEA has the same rules for all participants of all ages, allowing you independent time on campus within clearly defined boundaries and areas, with clear codes of behaviour, which will be explained when you arrive and repeated during the welcome meetings on your first full day. This means that during free time you can discover designated areas of the College campus, make new friends, and enjoy the communal and sports facilities available on site.

The residential houses will be supervised at all times by a member of the pastoral staff team. Participants will be permitted to walk across the campus directly to lessons, activities and take meals in the dining hall with other friends without direct supervision. Participants must complete all compulsory activities on the course, but will be permitted freedom to move independently around the campus during unstructured free time, but must strictly follow any curfews or other restrictions communicated by staff and only access specifically designated areas. During these times there will be members of staff assigned to support and monitor participants around the campus.

There will be times when all participants can relax in their accommodation. There is a day room, a TV room and also a study room with computers in each house, in addition to a large space outside the houses to play games or relax outdoors. We suggest that you use free time to also prepare for your next activity or work on your class projects. Socialising in mixed-gender groups will be encouraged in communal spaces such as the Moondance Café and the Sports Hall. Participants will also be able to spend time in their own house common rooms for more relaxed social interactions.

REMEMBER...

Boys and girls are not allowed in each other's houses under any circumstances. Participants should not access rooms which are not their own.

If you are close to one of your friends, or another course participant, think about how

your behaviour with them may make others feel. For example, heavy public displays of affection may make others feel uncomfortable. You must only use the parts of the campus specified for your free time.

OFFSITE

During the offsite activities and excursions, all participants will be given the opportunity to enjoy free time with friends, which is not directly supervised. Participants will be given a very clear area in which to spend their time, and must stay in pairs or groups at all times. There will be a staff member monitoring the designated area and another staff member in a centrally identified location at all times.

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE COURSE

Our custom, unique ELEA English Language programme was awarded a Strength in the areas of Course Design, Teaching and Academic Staff Profile and Academic Management in our 2024 ELEA British Council Inspection Report.

The ELEA programme places a strong emphasis on developing productive English language skills and activating spoken language in a collaborative, fun and inclusive classroom environment. A key aim of our programme is to increase our students' confidence and fluency when communicating in English. Students join English language group classes, divided by level (B1, B2 etc.) according to the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) for language competence.

Our classes follow the standards set by the British Council for the teaching of English in the UK. Lessons help students develop communicative, authentic English language skills through themes based on important real-world characters and events and how they connect to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), appropriate to the age group. The curriculum is specially developed for ELEA, and reflects our values, the UWC mission and our students' lives and interests. It uses 21st century skills and activities like critical thinking, debating and teamwork to build confidence and language ability, and helps students consider local and global impacts related to the SDGs. The course builds towards a final presentation, where students have the chance to use all of the language, confidence, skills and knowledge gained during ELEA.

Our teachers, all qualified to the standards of the British Council for the teaching of English in the UK, use a range of classroom methodologies that place the student at the centre of the learning experience and incorporate ICT, audio-visual and real-world resources into the classroom materials.

Each lesson lasts 1.5 hours and there will be a total of 30 hours of classroom time over the full duration of ELEA. Participants are divided into two teaching cohorts according to age group (12-14 and 15-17), and within each cohort there will be between three and four classes/levels based on the CEFR, with 8-15 participants per class. 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. At the end of the course, students receive a certificate of participation and a course report, which is also sent as a PDF to parents and guardians, summarising the language, topics and skills studied during the course, along with a short individual comment from the class teacher.

INFORMATION & GUIDANCE

OUR COMMITMENT TO A 'SAFER SCHOOL' ENVIRONMENT

ELEA will be carefully monitored by the Peartree Academic Course Manager and the ELEA Course Director to ensure that the highest standards of teaching and learning are achieved at all times in a safe and positive environment. Our Peartree Safer School Policy details not only general safeguarding but also codes of conduct on inclusion and diversity that must be respected by all members of the ELEA community.

Our teachers will cascade our Safer School information to their students through the creation of 'Class Missions' on day one that will be developed by the students themselves, with teacher support. These sets of rules establish norms on classroom behaviour through consensus, while also ensuring that our set standards are adhered to.

Should you wish to discuss any aspects of the ELEA English language programme, please contact Nicky Partridge, the ELEA Course Director: nicky@peartreelanguages.com

ACTION: PHYSICAL AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

The ELEA programme will involve a wide and diverse range of activities including an outdoor and action learning programme. This may include activities on land, water, underground, and those based on the sea. UWC Atlantic has a range of on-site facilities (e.g. climbing wall, swimming pool), and it also benefits from its coastal location.

Taking part in any adventurous activity involves some element of risk and it is not possible to totally eliminate all risks. The management of safety is the shared responsibility of the participant, parent/guardian and ELEA/other appointed staff. Where

the risks are managed effectively, a balance is achieved between having fun, learning and everyone's safety.

OUR COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

Atlantic Experience is a College department with specific responsibility for outdoor and adventure activities. As part of its safe management, our qualified staff will provide risk-managed activities. Our safety management system is externally inspected by the Adventurous Activities Licensing Authority as per UK Regulations and Legislation (License number R0118). In addition, we are an Approved Training Centre offering Royal Lifesaving Society Awards and Qualifications.

Should you wish to discuss any aspects of the outdoor, adventure and physical activity or if you have any questions about the delivery of the programme and/or service you can contact the Head of Atlantic Experience. Parents/guardians are entitled to withdraw the participant's consent for any aspect of our services/activities at any time by stating so in writing to the Head of Atlantic Experience, Tom Partridge: tom.partridge@atlanticcollege.org

To ensure all participants and staff make the best out of this experience, we would appreciate it if you could reflect on these expectations, which are to be respected and followed by everyone at all times. Should participants fail to adhere to these, parents/guardians would be informed and a decision of withdrawal from the programme may be taken without prior warning. We hope you appreciate that the physical, emotional wellbeing and safety of all participants and staff is our priority.

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding all members of the UWC Atlantic and ELEA community, and in particular our participants, is the main priority for us.

We affirm our commitment to the wellbeing and safety of all members of our community in reflection of UWC's core values of personal responsibility and integrity, autonomy and mutual responsibility, respect and compassion. We also affirm our full commitment to safeguarding and to promoting the wellbeing of all children and young people in the care of UWC schools, colleges, national committees, projects and educational programmes. Peartree Languages also adheres to a 'Safer School' Policy which is in line with the standards set by the British Council for the teaching of English in the UK. All members of staff at the College are enhanced DBS checked.

We confirm our belief in the right of all children to be protected from all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence, as set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

We welcome any member of the UWC Atlantic community who wishes to report an experience of sexual misconduct, harm, abuse or neglect to do so at any time. Individuals who choose to come forward can do so knowing that we are here to listen to whatever experience they choose to share, we will always take them seriously and will follow up to help ensure the safety of our whole community.

REPORTING CHANNELS

You can contact the College in the first instance by emailing our Programme Designated Safeguarding Lead: safeguarding@atlanticcollege.org

To view the Safeguarding and Respectful Community Policy please click [here](#).

To view the Peartree Languages' Safer School policy, please click [here](#).

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT DOES ELEA MEAN?

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

ARE LARGE PRE-ORGANISED GROUPS PERMITTED TO JOIN ELEA?

ELEA is for student participants joining independently, or for small friend/sibling groups, without an accompanying group leader. Participants will not know each other before the start of the experience and the initial sessions of the programme will have a heavy focus on familiarisation sessions, helping participants to quickly make new friends and connections. Participants will be divided by age into two groups of classes who enjoy the same course programme but on different schedules. Within the age groups, we try to mix participants as much as possible to encourage new friendships and the use of English at all times. ELEA is not suitable for large pre-organised groups.

HOW MANY PARTICIPANTS WILL THERE BE IN TOTAL?

There will be a minimum of 60 participants.

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 20% of participants who share the same first language.

IS THERE A MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEVEL ACCEPTED?

Yes, applicants must be able to demonstrate that their level is between B1 (Pre-intermediate) and C1 (Advanced) on the CEFR by completing the Peartree ELEA pre-enrolment assessment test. This will be graded by the Peartree Academic Manager. In case of any queries, we may ask applicants to complete a second test for clarification or to attend a short online meeting with a member of the Peartree teaching team to assess their speaking competency level.

Please note that ELEA is an English language development course and is not suitable for students with bilingual or near-bilingual English language proficiency.

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 from the second day of the course appropriate to their level demonstrated during the ELEA assessment test. Please note that if there is a significant difference between a student's English language level on arrival compared to the competency demonstrated on the pre-arrival assessment, it may result in the course no longer being viable and the student needing to return home.

WHAT IF THE PARTICIPANT THINKS THE CLASS IS TOO EASY OR DIFFICULT? IS THERE A POSSIBILITY TO CHANGE CLASS?

Participants can speak to a facilitator, a teacher or the Academic Course 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.

WHEN ARE THE LANGUAGE CLASSES?

Each lesson lasts 1.5 hours and there will be a total of 30 hours of classroom time over the full duration of ELEA. Classes will take place in the mornings and afternoons. On days when there is a full-day excursion, there may not be any classes.

WHAT ARE THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE TEACHERS/STAFF?

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 an Adventure Activities Licence (reference: R0118).

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 tasks to be completed outside of the classroom, for example working with others to develop the project ideas. Also, as lessons are integrated with the social programme, students will be expected to activate the new language learned in class while enjoying their leisure time.

WILL THE PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE?

Yes, all participants who complete the course, will receive a certificate stating the course dates. 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 will be sent a digital version of this report after the course ends.

HOW ADVENTUROUS IS ELEA?

Participants should be ready for a challenging social programme, which mainly takes place outdoors and involves high levels of integration with other students. Participants should be prepared for, and willing to fully experience, this challenge and be busy at most times of the day.

WHAT TYPES OF ACTIVITIES TAKE PLACE?

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.

ARE THERE ANY EXCURSIONS?

Yes. There will be two full-day excursions and two half-day excursions including visits to the cities of Cardiff and Bath.

HOW IS THE ACCOMMODATION SUPERVISED?

The supervision of the houses falls under the pastoral care of the UWC Atlantic team and 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.

WHAT DOES THE DAILY ROUTINE LOOK LIKE?

On all days when English language classes take place, there will be an optional early morning activity. 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. On most evenings there will be a recreational activity such as a cinema evening, concert, sunset walk, and sports, among many others.

WHAT ABOUT BAD WEATHER?

We will attempt to fulfil all aspects of the social programme, even when there are 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 action-based programme and participants should be aware that rain will not stop play!

WHAT ARE THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEALS?

Most meals will be enjoyed in the main dining hall 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 when students take a full-day trip or need to set off early for an afternoon excursion, full packed meals will be provided.

WHAT IF A STUDENT 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 bread late into the evening.

WHAT ARE THE GENERAL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS?

UWC Atlantic College is a gated campus with 24-hour reception 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.

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.

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 (nighttime, 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 reception located on site would be mobilised in the case of needing supplementary first aid, and in the case of any significant emergency or fire

DO I NEED A PASSPORT AND VISA TO TRAVEL TO THE UK?

Yes, all foreign nationals entering the UK now require a passport (not only an identity card). If you need to apply for a VISA in advance, you should use your ELEA course confirmation document, which you will receive when you have paid in full for your course.

Parents/guardians are required to make their own, private travel arrangements to ensure the safe and legal arrival of their child in the UK at the specified airport ready for transfer to UWC Atlantic. We are not able to offer specific advice on any airline policy or UK entry requirements.

HOW DO I BOOK?

In order to book a place, please apply through the UWC Atlantic website or via your Educational Tour Operator (ETO). You will be asked to complete an application form which also includes a medical section, parent/guardian section and assessment test. These documents will then be reviewed by the ELEA team and, if your application is successful, we will issue you with an invoice for the full course fees.

WHEN IS PAYMENT REQUIRED?

Once your ELEA application is approved, you will be issued an invoice that you are asked to pay within 14 days via the payment link on the invoice.

When we receive your full fees, you will be issued a booking confirmation letter that can be used for visa applications. This letter must also be printed for presentation to immigration on arrival in the UK. If you require an extension of the payment deadline, please contact us directly to discuss this further.

ARE FEES NON-REFUNDABLE?

All fees are non-refundable from the point of payment; however, please note the benefits of the included insurance policy, full policy documents for which are available on the UWC Atlantic ELEA webpage.

WHAT ARE THE FULL TERMS AND CONDITIONS?

This FAQ document forms the basis of our core ELEA terms and conditions. In addition, ELEA falls under the umbrella of all summer programmes taking place at UWC Atlantic Experience and as such is governed by the standard terms and conditions of all summer courses at the College, a copy of which will be provided.

ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS?

Please email us on elea@uwcatlanticexperience.com for any further questions and we will reply as soon as we can!