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BRITISH
COUNCIL





#### Learn English by the sea

#### The school that specialises in courses for adults



## **ABOUT US**

For more than 35 years Meridian School of English has been teaching English language courses to students from all over the world. Our two schools are located by the sea and provide a range of standard and intensive English courses.

"To be the best you need to focus - at Meridian we focus on teaching English to adults. Our students are discerning and we meet their demands by providing quality language courses." **NEIL PICK, CHAIRMAN** 



## **OUR PHILOSOPHY**

Our philosophy is simple.

We believe the best way to learn English is in a native speaking environment; in a way which helps students reach their full potential and realise their goals.

We keep our classes small and of mixed nationality (unless otherwise stated) to ensure that our teachers can give their students the personal attention they need.

We also understand that it's not just about the teaching, but the overall experience of spending time in the UK, meeting people from other cultures and engaging in a complete social experience.

"We are committed to making sure our students feel comfortable, safe and supported by the school." **ANNIE DYSON, HEAD OF OPERATIONS** 



## **OUR COURSES**

We have been enriching our students' language skills and learning experiences for over 35 years, so we know what makes a programme successful.

**Our English courses include:** 

- General English
- Exam Preparation IELTS/Cambridge/Trinity
- One to One English courses
- Courses for Teachers Portsmouth only

Additional practical work placements available with General English Course (EU Nationals Only).

"We only recruit teachers who provide the best support so they can deliver high quality English language training." **ANDY TYRRELL, DIRECTOR OF STUDIES** 

SMALL CLASSES (MAX 8 STUDENTS) | FAST RESULTS | MIXED NATIONALITIES | ALL LEVELS



#### OUR UK SCHOOLS AND LOCATIONS

Our schools are based in Plymouth and Portsmouth, both located on the beautiful English coastline close to the sea and set in historic buildings to enhance the authentic British learning experience.

Each of our schools provides an opportunity for adults to learn English whilst appreciating both the city and the beautiful surroundings. Whether you love the sea or the countryside you will be spoilt for choice!

#### Facilities at our schools include:

- classrooms equipped with technology to aid teaching and learning
- use of interactive online activities during lessons
- student recreational area
- a space to relax
- FREE use of WiFi and a computer area
- study room
- quiet room
- 24 hour welfare support

aid teaching and learning lessons



## **PLYMOUTH**

Our Plymouth school occupies the historic Swarthmore Centre, which was originally a Quaker house. It has been used for delivering education since 1919 but today it has been transformed into a busy, modern language school.

Plymouth is a friendly, safe city full of history and located near some of the UK's most beautiful beaches. Plymouth is located between the beautiful Devon coast and the wild open spaces of Dartmoor National Park, which inspired the novels of Sherlock Holmes, and boasts its own breed of wild ponies.

The school is close to the city centre, which ensures quick and easy access to shops, the beautiful waterfront, and the prestigious Plymouth University campus – home to over 33,000 students.

The stunning landscape and beaches of Cornwall are only a 15 minute ferry ride from the city.



## PORTSMOUTH

Our Portsmouth school is based in the prestigious Guildhall, which was built in 1890 in the neo-classical style designed by architect William Hill. The building was badly bombed in 1941, during World War II, leaving the interior damaged beyond repair. In 1959 the Guildhall was restored to its current structure to include a concert hall, café and beautifully decorated business lounge areas. The school is on the 3rd floor (easily accessed by lift or stairs) of the building, which is located in the heart of Portsmouth close to cafés, bars and the Gunwharf Quay shopping centre.

Portsmouth is an attractive South Coast seaside city 95 minutes from the city of London, which makes a trip to the capital easy for many students who want to experience the best of British culture, fashion and history (Charles Dickens and Lord Nelson). Portsmouth is also a short ferry trip away from The Isle of Wight, home to beautiful sandy beaches, white cliffs and the world famous Cowes Sailing Week. Brighton and Bournemouth are approximately one and a half hours away by train.



#### ACCOMMODATION

Meridian can offer a variety of accommodation options to ensure students get the best out of their time studying with us. Our accommodation is within walking distance of the schools and is carefully chosen and monitored to ensure high standards are maintained.

"Our hosts are loving families who welcome international visitors into their homes and not only provide secure accommodation, but also share a friendly home environment that often results in life-long friendships." **KERRY SHERLOCK, ACCOMMODATION OFFICER** 



#### HOMESTAY

Staying in a homestay is, without doubt, the best way to practise English and generally learn about the British way of life. You will stay with an English family that has been vetted and is used to welcoming foreign students into their home.

The following options are available:

- BUSINESS CLASS private bedroom and use of a guest bathroom facilities
- STANDARD CLASS single or twin room and access to shared bathroom facilities
- FULL BOARD provides breakfast, lunch and dinner 7 days a week
- HALF BOARD provides breakfast and dinner Monday to Friday and breakfast, lunch and dinner Saturday and Sunday

#### **UNIVERSITY RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION**

We understand that for many students having your own space is important. Our residential student accommodation in Plymouth and Portsmouth is close to the university and the city centre shopping and night life.

Student accommodation offers a private room, with en-suite bathroom and shared kitchen facilities. Student residences also have access to WiFi, as well as social and recreational areas. This is a great way to experience English life with other foreign students.



# ACTIVITIES

Your stay with us won't be just about learning English in the classroom. We have prepared a range of activities to give you the opportunity of experiencing British culture, exploring the city you are studying in (and the surrounding areas) as well as having fun with other students from all over the world!

Each week we run a range of social events many of which are free to all our students. These include:

Orientation walks, English conversation class, British culture afternoon with book discussion group, film club and seminars, social evenings in traditional English pubs, a chance to taste world cuisine in the popular, local restaurants, listening to live music, karaoke, challenging your classmates at bowling, pool and skittles or going shopping.

If, however, you are looking for something a little bit more adventurous then we can organise a range of activities for groups and individuals such as sailing, surfing, hiking, canoeing, riding, football and rugby.

For further details check out the events calendar on our website for more info.



#### **"MY TEACHER WAS FANTASTIC**"

"My time at Meridian has benefitted my skills, and certainly improved my spoken English. My host family was amazing, and I certainly experienced real British food at its finest." **CORINA CIOBANU, ROMANIA** 

"My teacher was fantastic – demanding and motivating at the same time. I can't believe how quickly my language skills improved." **DR ANGELA SCHWEIZER, SWITZERLAND** 



#### SAMPLE TIMETABLE

	MORNING				AFTERNOON			
	Class 1	Break	Class 2	Lunch		Class 3	Break	Class 4
Monday	9:00 - 10:30	30 Minutes	11:00 - 12:30	1 Hour		1:30 - 2:30	15 Minutes	2:45 - 3:45
Tuesday	9:00 - 10:30	30 Minutes	11:00 - 12:30	1 Hour		1:30 - 2:30	15 Minutes	2:45 - 3:45
Wednesday	9:00 - 10:30	30 Minutes	11:00 - 12:30	1 Hour		1:30 - 2:30	15 Minutes	2:45 - 3:45
Thursday	9:00 - 10:30	30 Minutes	11:00 - 12:30	1 Hour		1:30 - 2:30	15 Minutes	2:45 - 3:45
Friday	9:00 - 10:30	30 Minutes	11:00 - 12:30	Free time - no lessons				

15hrs per week (9:00 - 12:30) | Maximum class size 8.

23hrs per week (9:00 - 15:45) | Maximum class size 8.

**NOTE:** Our courses take place all year round starting every Monday (except Christmas and public holidays).

# **OUR COURSE FEE INCLUDES**

- Tuition
- Entry level test
- Learning materials
- Mentoring and welfare
- Individual Learning Plan (for students studying for 4 or more weeks)
- Mid-week afternoon and evening activities
- 24/7 emergency helpline
- Award ceremony and Academic Certificate

Learning English is the gateway to life changing opportunities and experiences.