

Sidmouth

International School



English for Everyone
in England

ESTABLISHED IN 1976



Spring



Summer



Autumn



Winter

WELCOME TO SIDMOUTH

AND TO SIDMOUTH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Where is Sidmouth?

Sidmouth is in the county of Devon in the Southwest of England, an area of outstanding natural beauty. The town is on the beautiful Jurassic coast, a World Heritage site.

What is Sidmouth like?

Sidmouth is a small, safe and friendly seaside town with excellent leisure facilities. It is quintessentially English, with traditional architecture, shops, restaurants and cafes for you to enjoy and the opportunity for many sports such as horse riding, golf, walking and water sports. There are lots of places to visit - see Social and Cultural Programme

Where is the school?

The main school is in the centre of town, 5 minutes from the sea. There are 11 classrooms for adults in the main building and separate teenage and young learner departments nearby (14 classrooms).

When is the best time to come to Sidmouth?

It depends on you, Sidmouth is a town for all seasons.

Spring - new life, new friends, new skills
Easter courses for all ages

Summer - bright sun, blue sea, vacation courses for the family

Autumn - changing colours, carnivals, culture

Winter - log fires, bright lights, festivities
Open over Christmas

What is the weather like?

Sidmouth is in the warmest part of the country. We have quite good weather (for England!) We don't usually freeze in the winter (average 9 degrees C) and the summer is often a comfortable 20-25 degrees C. The sea temperature up to 17C.

How can I travel to Sidmouth?

We make it as easy as we can.

(Please see travel details on back cover)

What is Sidmouth International School (SIS)?

SIS is an English language school for students of all ages. We have different departments for adults, teenagers and juniors. We are also an examinations centre and teacher-training centre.

When is the school open?

All year. We have courses starting every Monday.

Who runs the school?

Sidmouth International School was started in 1976. It is an independent English language school with a small management team. We are not part of a chain or group.

We work as a team for you as an individual. We look after you from the beginning (when you first contact us) all the way through your stay.

Where do your students come from?

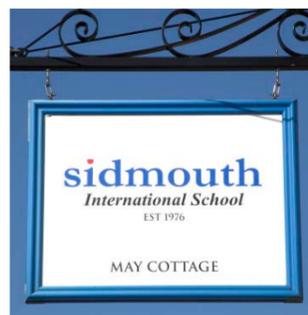
We usually have students from over 30 different countries every year and we try to make sure that we really are an 'international' school. In the summer season we aim to have no more than 20% of students of one mother tongue.

Who will teach me?

All your teachers will have appropriate qualifications (as recognised by the British Council) and many of our teachers have been trained at the school on our teacher training course (Trinity College London, Cert TESOL). The teaching team use a wide range of materials so that your learning is both current and rewarding.

What courses do you run?

We run a lot of different courses at all levels from beginner to advanced. The school is open all year for Adults (18+) and Teenagers (14-17yrs). At Easter and in the summer season we have courses for the Young Learner (8-13 yrs). If you would like any help in choosing your course, please contact us.



ADULT COURSES

18+

We have a range of courses and will be happy to help you decide which one is best for you. Please see our course sheets or contact the school for more details.

- **Adult General:** mornings only. The ideal opportunity to combine study and holiday
 - **Adult Intensive:** mornings and 3 afternoons. An opportunity to make the most of your time at the school
 - **Combination Courses:** General Plus One-to-one or Intensive Plus One-to-one, the perfect way to combine practice in mixed nationality groups with a focus on your individual study needs.
 - **Courses for Overseas Teachers of English:** We offer courses throughout the year, combining English language development in mixed nationality groups with specialist ELT sessions designed to meet the individual needs of teachers. We can also arrange specially-designed course for groups of teachers. Contact us for details.
 - **Examination Courses:** We can help you to prepare for the main examinations in General English and English for Business or Academic Purposes. These include:
 - Cambridge PET, FCE, CAE, CPE
 - IELTS
- SIS has a long and successful record of preparing candidates for examinations. We are happy to share our experience as teachers to help you get the best results.
- **Business Executive & Professional English:** We offer a full range of courses to suit the needs of individual business people and companies.

TEENAGE COURSES

14 – 17 YEARS

What courses do you offer for Teenagers?

- **Year-round Teenage Intensive:** This course is suitable for students aged 14 – 17 years who require a general English course with a personalised study programme. It is also suitable for students wishing to gain entry to a UK boarding school or college, or an international school where classes are taught in English.

We can prepare students for exams that will help them continue their education.
- **Teenage Vacation:** in summer and at Easter we offer a vacation course for students aged 14 – 17 years. This course includes morning lessons and a sports and social activities programme in the afternoon and evening.
- **Young Adults:** In summer and at Easter we also offer the Young Adults courses for students aged 16 – 18 years. These courses are for mature, well-motivated students and are based in our adult department. Lessons can be mornings only, or mornings and afternoons taught in a smaller class size than teenagers, plus a social activity programme.

Our teenage courses are ideal for this age group focusing on the aims and interests of the students, making language learning not just effective but enjoyable!

YOUNG LEARNER COURSES

8 – 13 YEARS

What courses do you offer for young learners?

We have a separate department which offers courses at Easter and during the summer months. There are two groups:

- Tweens** students aged 12 – 13 years
- Juniors** students aged 8 – 11 years

Vacation course: morning classes only with full activity programme of fun and games in the afternoons.

Intensive course: morning classes and classes on 3 afternoons designed for the younger learner who wishes to concentrate on his/her individual needs.

Who looks after the Young Learners?

We have a specialist Head of Department and a team of qualified teachers who are enthusiastic about teaching young learners. A team of activity leaders supervise the young students outside the classroom.

What do Young Learners learn?

They learn English in a way that is fun, and have the chance to communicate with children from other countries as well as with English people.

Do you arrange special transport for Young Learners?

Yes. We can arrange for an SIS leader to meet students at the airport when they arrive and escort them on our Free bus (see back page). We can also arrange for one of our school drivers to meet them. There is a similar service for the return journey. Young Learners are driven to and from school each day by the school minibus or their homestay family.

The courses are specially designed to teach English to the young learner in a holiday atmosphere, with the emphasis on improving fluency and increasing their language skills.

CARE OF UNDER 18'S

The safety and well-being of our students are our top priorities and we aim to provide an environment where young people and children feel comfortable and safe.

Who looks after the students?

The whole team at Sidmouth International School! The teachers, leaders, administration staff and homestay families are all involved in the welfare of the students. Daily meetings highlight any problems and good communication is central to the way we work.

Who can a student talk to if they have a problem?

They can speak to their activity leader or any other member of the school staff. The students will be made aware of the names and roles of all key staff on their first day in school.

We work hard to ensure that our students are happy and safe. We are a small school in a small town and communication is good between staff, homestay families, students and local residents and any concerns or feedback are noted and dealt with quickly.

For more information on the care of under 18's and a full copy of our Safeguarding Policy please go to our website at www.sidmouth-int.co.uk or contact the school at efl@sidmouth-int.co.uk Telephone +44 1395 516754

For full details and prices of any of these courses please ask the school for the specific course sheet or download it from our website at www.sidmouth-int.co.uk



ACCOMMODATION & WELFARE

Where can I stay in Sidmouth?

We can arrange homestay accommodation for you and our booking service is included in the price. Our homestay families take students only from SIS so we can guarantee no other students of the same nationality, no overcrowding, and no mixing of adult, teenage and junior students.

What does homestay include?

Single or shared bedroom, breakfast and evening meal. Homestay also offers you;

- The opportunity to live as a part of a British family.
- The chance to practise English in everyday situations.
- A quiet and comfortable place to study.

Do you have dedicated accommodation for young students aged 8 – 13 years?

Yes, we have special homestay families who only take our young students. These families have school-aged children of their own and have experience of looking after our younger students. All meals and travel to and from school each day are included.

What if I don't want to stay in homestay accommodation?

We can give you information about the other options so you can make your choice. Self-catering is popular with many of the families who come to SIS every year and there are also many hotels and B&B's in Sidmouth.

How does the school recruit homestay families for students aged under 18 years?

These families are selected very carefully and have the following checks:

- Two visits by school staff
- Staff meet all members of the family
- All required checks are completed including checks by both a local and national government service to ensure the suitability of the family to host young students



SOCIAL PROGRAMME

Do you offer a social programme?

Yes! In fact we offer three separate social programmes for Adult, Teenage and Young Learner students. These include a half-day and a full-day excursion each week (except on weekend of departure). All admission charges are included for Young Adults, Teenagers and Young Learners except for occasional specialist activities for Teenagers (e.g paintballing, quad-biking). Adults pay for all excursions and some activities.

The social programme is a great way to have fun, meet people and practise your English while you relax. Come and join us!

Adults (18+): We arrange theatre visits, walks on the Jurassic Coast, fishing trips, shopping, cream teas, cultural excursions(including National Trust properties) and much more. Some afternoon activities and evening activities are organised for you and are free of charge!

Teenagers (14-17 yrs): The Teenage and Young Adult courses include a full programme of excursions, afternoon and evening activities, sports and games. There is a social centre with WiFi.

Young Learner (8-13 yrs): These courses include a full programme of excursions and afternoon activities: sports and games, art & craft, competitions, walks, beach visits, music and drama. There are also some early evening activities for the 12 - 13 year olds: discos, beach barbecues etc.

Can I play any sports?

Yes you can! You don't need to be an expert to enjoy some of the sports we can arrange for you (or help you arrange for yourself). These include:

- Tennis (grass court or hard court)
- Golf (including driving range, pitch + putt and mini-golf)
- Horse-riding
- Water sports: Swimming, paddle-boarding and sea kayaking (adults only)
- Badminton, basketball and squash

Who supervises the students outside the classroom?

We have two teams of activity leaders who work with the Teenagers and Young Learners during the summer months and they supervise the students. Outside the summer months we have a smaller team led by our Social Activities Organiser. The supervision ratios are as follows:

- Teenagers (14-17 yrs) 1: 15
- Tweens (12 -1 3 yrs) 1: 12
- Juniors (8-11 yrs) 1: 12 in class, 1:10 on activities



How can I travel to Sidmouth?

We make it as easy as possible for you!

Free SIS Bus

We run a FREE escorted school bus between London Heathrow Airport and Sidmouth every Saturday, all year round. Average journey time (including comfort stop) is 3.5 hrs approximately.

Full information about the free bus service, including required flight arrival/departure times, meeting point locations and staff contact numbers, will be sent with confirmation of registration. Homestay families will transfer students to/from the bus on arrival/departure.

Escort Service

This service is available for younger students travelling on Saturdays between London Heathrow Airport and Sidmouth. Students aged under 14 years and travelling without an adult must use this escort service.

Sidmouth International School cannot be held responsible for any late arrivals or departures but a member of our staff will remain at the airport to wait for delayed flights for all students under 18 years booked on the Free Bus service (all expenses will be added to the student's account).

If you don't use our Free Bus there are other ways to get to Sidmouth and we can send you transport information to help you plan your journey.

Possibilities include:

- National Express coach from Central London and London airports to Exeter
- National Train services to Exeter or Honiton stations
- Easy transfer from Exeter and Honiton to Sidmouth by school car, taxi or public bus
- Other local airports: Exeter and Bristol
- School car from any UK location direct to your accommodation



For more information please ask the school for a Transport Information Pack or see our website www.sidmouth-int.co.uk



For further details please contact:

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