



International House
London
Young Learner Centres

Academic Programme

2026





The IH London Young Learners Academic programme takes students on an engaging journey through topics that connect them to the world and to each other. Each week combines language development with meaningful exploration of themes that matter to young people today.

Students will build bridges across cultures as they explore identity and belonging, investigate how technology is shaping our future, and discover what it means to feel good and thrive. They'll engage with environmental challenges and green solutions, and explore how creativity influences the world around them.. Throughout the programme, students develop their English skills through authentic discussions, collaborative projects, and real-world content.

They'll share their own experiences and perspectives while learning from classmates from around the globe. By the end of their stay, students will have grown in confidence, expanded their worldview, and developed the language and intercultural skills they need to connect, communicate and contribute in our diverse, interconnected world.





At the IH London Young Learners summer schools, socio-emotional learning is at the heart of our approach to language education. We create safe, supportive classrooms where students feel valued, inspired, and ready to thrive as confident communicators.

Each learning experience offers the right level of challenge: we spark linguistic growth and curiosity while making every student feels comfortable taking risks with the language. Our teachers encourage exploration, model empathy and clear communication, and celebrate effort, helping students build both fluency and confidence.

We also bring creativity into every lesson, using movement, play, discussion and collaboration to make language learning engaging and dynamic. Through interactive activities, students develop not only accuracy but also the confidence to express themselves naturally and connect meaningfully with others.

Our goal is simple: to help every student grow in language fluency, confidence, and to empower them with skills that help them communicate with ease and curiosity far beyond the summer.



Inventing the future

technology, innovation and the
digital world



This week, students will explore how technology shapes our lives and imagine the innovations that could transform our future. They'll investigate important questions about digital wellbeing, online safety, and the ethical challenges of AI, while discovering inspiring innovators from around the world who are solving real problems through technology. Students will have hands-on opportunities to create, design and innovate their own projects, developing the critical thinking skills they need to become responsible digital citizens and future changemakers.

- Students will expand their speaking skills and confidence by discussing how technology affects their lives, debating ethical questions, and presenting their own ideas for future inventions
- Students will develop their reading skills by exploring articles about technology, digital wellbeing, and innovators from around the world who are shaping our digital future
- Students will enhance their listening skills by hearing different perspectives on technology and learning from people who use innovation to solve real problems
- Students will practise writing opinion pieces where they express and support their views on digital issues such as AI ethics, online safety, or technology's impact on communities



Living Green

environment, sustainability and green tech



This week, students will explore environmental challenges facing their communities and the world, and discover how green technology and innovation can help solve them. They'll investigate real-life examples of green initiatives from the UK and around the globe, share ideas about living more responsibly, and learn about people and projects making a positive difference. Students will develop the knowledge and confidence to propose their own solutions and take meaningful action for a greener future.

- Students will expand their speaking skills and confidence by discussing environmental challenges and presenting their own ideas for green solutions and innovations
- Students will develop their reading skills by exploring articles about green technology, environmental projects and climate action from around the world
- Students will enhance their listening skills by hearing different perspectives on environmental issues and analysing how speakers present their viewpoints
- Students will practise drafting and editing persuasive texts where they propose solutions to environmental problems and explain the impact of green initiatives



Connecting Worlds

culture, community and belonging



This week, students will explore what it means to belong and build friendships across cultural differences. They'll share their own stories and traditions while discovering connections with classmates from around the world. Through conversations and activities, students will learn how people create belonging in new places, challenge stereotypes, and build bridges across differences. By the end of the week, they'll have developed the confidence and skills to become active participants in a global community connecting with people wherever they go.

- Students will expand their speaking skills and confidence by sharing personal stories about their culture and belonging, and engaging in conversations that build bridges across differences
- Students will develop their reading skills by exploring articles, stories and personal accounts about how people create community and challenge cultural stereotypes in different contexts
- Students will enhance their listening skills by hearing classmates and speakers share meaningful experiences of culture, identity and belonging from around the world
- Students will build intercultural communication skills by identifying connections between cultures and practising ways to navigate and contribute to diverse communities



Feeling Good

identity, wellbeing and lifestyle



This week, students will explore what makes them who they are and what helps them thrive. They'll reflect on their personality, personal growth, and the relationships and habits that support their wellbeing. Through sharing experiences and comparing lifestyles, students will build self-confidence and develop practical strategies for maintaining their physical, mental and social wellbeing.

- Students will expand their speaking skills and confidence by sharing their own experiences and discussing how personality, relationships and healthy habits shape who they are
- Students will develop their reading skills by exploring health and wellbeing information from different cultures, and comparing how people around the world approach physical, mental and social health
- Students will enhance their listening skills by hearing advice and different perspectives on staying healthy and maintaining wellbeing from classmates and speakers
- Students will practise writing advice texts where they share practical health tips for building confidence, maintaining friendships, and staying physically and mentally healthy in different situations



Exploring Creativity

arts, entertainment and the media



This week, students will explore how creativity shapes our world through music, film, art, theatre and digital media. Whether they enjoy performing, creating behind the scenes, or experiencing entertainment as an audience, there's something for everyone to engage with and enjoy. Students will discover how artists and creators express ideas, tell stories and influence culture, from Shakespeare and the Beatles to contemporary media makers around the world today.

- Students will expand their speaking skills and confidence by discussing their favourite arts and entertainment, presenting ideas for creative projects like playlists or festivals, and sharing their opinions on different forms of media
- Students will develop their reading skills by exploring different creative genres including poetry, drama scripts, reviews and articles about artists and cultural movements
- Students will enhance their listening skills by experiencing songs, performances and interviews with creators, and analyzing how artists use voice, tone and expression to communicate meaning
- Students will practise writing reviews where they express and support their opinions on films, music, performances or other forms of entertainment

