



The background of the entire page is a composite image. The upper portion features a globe with a focus on North and South America, showing the Atlantic Ocean and parts of Europe and Africa. The lower portion shows the pages of an open book, with the text on the pages being out of focus. In the bottom-left corner, there is a decorative graphic consisting of a grid of squares in green, blue, and tan colors.

*“English is the premier communicative language throughout the world and our school provides the courses you need in a caring and professional environment.”*

**Suzanne Sparrow Hon D.Ed, Principal**

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# About

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We have been providing English courses since 1978 with a dedicated team of teachers who make every effort to ensure our students gain the most from their courses. When not studying, students can relax in the student lounge or enjoy refreshments whilst chatting to friends and teachers.



## OUR STUDENTS

Our students come from all over the world, many originating from family or friends' recommendations. Many students return to update their English to obtain higher levels for university entry and for professional needs.

Students are tested before their course starts so that they are placed in a class at the appropriate level. We closely monitor progress and listen to our students to try to fulfil their needs. Long term students receive a monthly tutorial to help guide them with their studies and ensure any welfare matters are dealt with.



## SUZANNE SPARROW

The school was founded in 1978 by Suzanne Sparrow and was the first professional English Language School in Plymouth. Suzanne was awarded an honorary doctorate from Plymouth University in 2009 for services to education.



## THE SCHOOL

All our students have free access to the school's Wi-Fi and internet access. The school is located only 5 minutes walk from the city centre so everyone is able to take advantage of the many nearby cafes, restaurants and shops.



## TEACHERS

Our team of teachers specialise in teaching different course types including General English, Business and examination training. Many also have experience of teaching and living in other countries, giving them an insight into and expert knowledge about students' language difficulties.

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**WITH  
PLYMOUTH  
UNIVERSITY**

We have an official link with Plymouth University, which means we can help you with your application to the university.

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# Plymouth

Plymouth is a fantastic coastal city which has the best of everything. It is located between the River Plym and the River Tamar, the natural border between the stunningly beautiful counties of Devon and Cornwall. It is an area steeped in history and has some of the most beautiful countryside and breathtaking coastline to be found in the UK.

You will be able to explore this maritime city with its magnificent harbour and historic Barbican waterfront. The city centre has a wide range of shops, cafes and restaurants and a newly designed shopping precinct. A few minutes walk from the school you will find Plymouth's Central Park where the new Life Centre has an Olympic swimming pool and diving facilities and is one of the Country's leading centres of sporting excellence.

Plymouth is also home to some of the best music venues, theatres, pubs and clubs in the South West of England. Plymouth has a magnificent harbour and daily life revolves around the city's links with the sea, whether hosting international sailing events or supporting its strong Navy presence.



## HISTORY

Plymouth is a city with a strong maritime history dating back to Sir Francis Drake and the Pilgrim Fathers who departed from Plymouth to America



## DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK

This ancient moorland is only 20 minutes drive from Plymouth. A paradise for walkers and nature enthusiasts



## SEA

The South West is renowned for its unique and magical coastline with numerous sandy beaches where you can surf, swim or take part in various other water sports



## EDUCATION

Plymouth University situated across the road from the school offering use of the campus facilities to our students





# courses for individuals

## GENERAL ENGLISH

You will be able to enrol at any time during the year, with courses normally starting on a Monday. You can expect to improve all your skills with a particular focus on building confidence in speaking. Your course will enable you to speak more fluently and accurately with better pronunciation. You will also increase your knowledge of English Grammar and leave with a wider range of vocabulary. We accept all levels from beginners to advanced. Lessons are given in a friendly, relaxed but professional atmosphere. Adult classes are small, often 4 to 6 students with a maximum of 12 students per class.



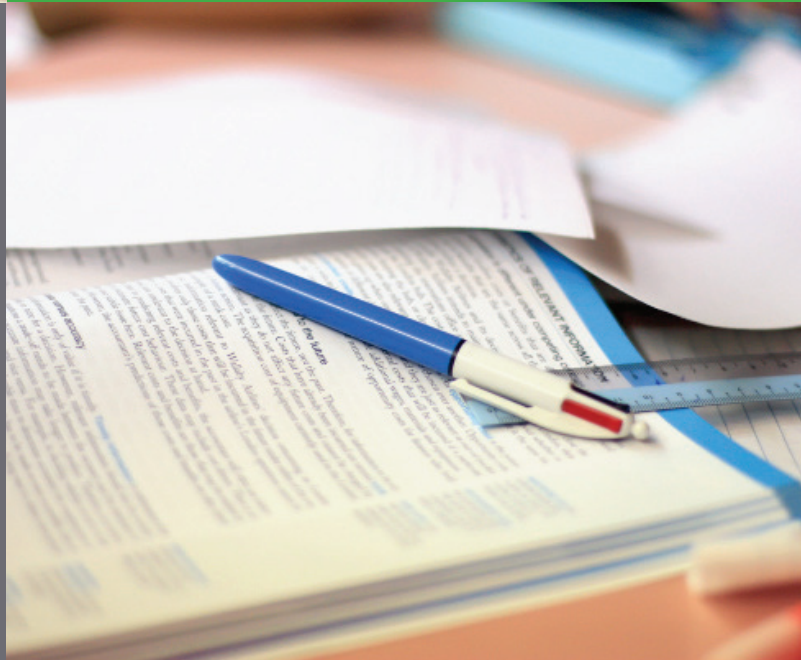


## ENGLISH FOR BUSINESS & PROFESSIONALS

Our team of experienced business trainers will help you to achieve your objectives whether they be in giving presentations in English confidently, negotiating a deal or networking. We have been working with many businesses for years and have successfully helped employees at all levels. We understand your needs and will work closely with you to guarantee that your stay will be time very well spent.

## TEACHERS' COURSE

You will benefit from our considerable and practical experience of successfully delivering quality English lessons to monolingual and mixed nationality classes of all ages and levels. You may focus on methodology, CLIL, subject specific language, e.g. mathematical lexis, as well as refreshing your own English and exchanging ideas with other teachers.



## JUNIOR COURSES

We provide the perfect environment and atmosphere for our junior students. The classes provide a balance of serious learning whilst having fun. Half day activities and visits give further opportunity to practise your language skills, make new international friends and enjoy a wonderful cultural experience. Summer vacation classes run from June to the end of August.

We also receive school groups throughout the year and have worked in tandem with a large number of excellent schools in Europe for many years.





# Examination *e*ourses

We run preparation courses for internationally recognised examinations at the school and we are also an examination centre for the Cambridge suite exams. Full length courses and short crash courses are available to help students have the confidence and ability to succeed in their examinations.

Cambridge examinations are accepted by many employers worldwide as an indication of proficiency in English for use in many employment fields.

The IELTS preparation courses are based around the requirements of the IELTS examinations, but the skills and strategies covered are transferable and relevant to students planning to undertake academic courses in English.



# Cambridge

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UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE  
ESOL Examinations

- First (FCE) – B2
- Advanced (CAE) – C1
- Proficiency (CPE) – C2

Our long successful record of guiding students to pass Cambridge exams will guarantee you the best opportunity to achieve the grade you require. These are available as long and short courses. Your language will receive a massive boost from following the course suitable for your level. You will be able to sit the exam in the school as we are an Open Centre for the examination.

# IELTS

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This course will help you to achieve the IELTS score you need to gain entry into a UK university, for example the University of Plymouth, with which the school is officially linked. You will focus on academic English whilst having sufficient practice and preparation for the exam. Plymouth has its own exam centre where we can register you for a test when you are ready.

# TOEIC

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As well as concentrating on improving all your language skills, we will guarantee that you will be extremely well prepared for the TOEIC examination. You will learn strategies and tips for dealing with exam questions and be furnished with the grammar and vocabulary you need to maximise your chances in achieving the score you require.

# TRINITY

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We can also offer Trinity Examinations at the school. Trinity ESOL qualifications are recognised internally as reliable evidence of proficiency in English. The exams assess and promote the skills needed for effective communication in real life situations.







# Group Courses

We welcome group bookings for Intensive English Language Programmes and cultural stays, throughout the year, for students of all ages.

Programmes are tailor-made to suit each group's requirements and can include lessons based on various topics i.e. history, literature or the environment. Afternoon activities, to complement these studies, are arranged and the programme will also include a full day excursion at the weekend. Students can be taught in closed groups or where possible, mixed nationality classes will be offered. Classes are small with a maximum of 14 students per class.



## Group Activity Course

This is available for juniors aged from 12 to 16 years old and runs throughout the summer from June to the end of August. The course includes 15 hours of English lessons per week and a full programme of cultural and sports activities e.g. swimming, ice-skating, 10 pin bowling, golf, tennis. Excursions to Cornish fishing villages, Dartmoor National Park, Tintagel Castle, Eden Project, Exeter and other nearby towns and cities are also included in the programme. All group activities and excursions are accompanied by an appropriately trained school leader.



## 50 Plus Course

Courses are organised for groups of senior citizens who wish to combine education with enjoyment. English for travel and interest is taught at all levels. The course includes 15 hours of English lessons per week with cultural visits to country houses, gardens and National Trust properties. The programme may also include a visit to Elliot Terrace, Civic Residence of the Lord Mayor of Plymouth.



# Social *Activities*



The school is a great place for you to meet people, make friends and learn about the local culture. To help you do this the school offers a wide variety of excursions and activities for you to take part in when you are not studying. Whatever your age and interests there will be something for you.

Evening activities and weekend excursions are often included in the price of your course. You will also be invited to join staff and students in their regular trips to Plymouth's Theatre Royal and to take part in other excursions and visits at an additional cost of approximately £10.







## CULTURE & HISTORY

If you wish to experience some of the history, there are splendid country houses and stately homes to visit, countryside walks and parklands to explore. Visit the museum and art gallery which have topical and interesting exhibitions on a regular basis. Walk in the footsteps of the Pilgrim Fathers before they set sail in 1620 to found their new colony in America. Visit Plymouth Hoe where Sir Francis Drake is remembered for his defeat of the Spanish Armada.

## SPORTS & LEISURE

For those wanting to keep fit – there are numerous sporting facilities in the city; indoor and outdoor swimming pools, gyms and running track, bowling and ice-skating. You can hire bikes and cycle along the Plym Valley Cycle Trail or swim or sail in the clear waters off the beautiful sandy beaches of the South Devon Coast.

## NIGHTLIFE

Plymouth has an amazing variety of evening and late-night entertainment for you to choose from. There is a fine selection of pubs, cafes, clubs and live music venues for all tastes. Cinema, opera, and concerts are all possibilities for a great night out. Plymouth is also home to one of the best theatres in the country, previewing many London West End shows.



# Accommodation

Most of our students live with an English homestay provider during their course.

If you choose to do this it will give you the opportunity to practise your English and experience our country and culture. Most of our homestays are within walking distance of the school and you will be given a warm welcome by our experienced hosts. Full board accommodation will be provided and will include a packed lunch during the week, whilst at weekends you will eat with your host. Before you travel you will be given details of your accommodation and you will also be met on arrival in Plymouth.

For business students we are pleased to offer the possibility of staying with one of our Executive homestay providers. Here you will be encouraged to continue your learning over informal mealtimes and through constructive debates on relevant topics.

For those who prefer there are many hotels and guest houses of a good standard very close to the school. Please let us know your accommodation requirements when you book with us.





# Travel to Plymouth

## BY AIR

You can fly with a large number of airlines to nearby Exeter and Bristol airports. There are also excellent fast connections from London's Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted airports.

## BY TRAIN

High speed trains run regularly from London Paddington, Bristol and Exeter. There is also an overnight sleeper train service from London.

## BY COACH

National Express Coaches from London Victoria take approximately four and a half hours. You can also use this service direct from Heathrow, Gatwick, Exeter and Bristol.

## BY FERRY

An excellent ferry service connects Plymouth to Roscoff and St Malo in Northern Brittany and Santander in Northern Spain.



## YOUR ARRIVAL

Your homestay provider will personally welcome you on your arrival to Plymouth and take you to your accommodation at no extra cost.

## ENROLMENTS

You will be required to pay a deposit to secure your course booking. We ask you to pay your fees in full, 2 weeks before the start of your course. Your deposit is not refundable in the event of cancellation except under exceptional circumstances as set out under the conditions of enrolment.

## WAYS TO PAY

### By bank transfer

HSBC bank  
4 Old Town Street, Plymouth  
PL1 1DD, England

IBAN GB39MIDL4036221823337  
SWIFT MIDLGB22

### By credit or debit card

You can pay by credit or debit card – there is a 2.5% charge for this. We do accept payments by card over the telephone.

### Online

See our website  
[www.sparrow.co.uk/  
payment-details/](http://www.sparrow.co.uk/payment-details/)



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