



Sparsholt College

Juniors Centre Guidebook

2026

Welcome to Oxford International



Founders David Brown and Robert Darell meeting HM King Charles III again in May 2014

Dear Group Leader,

Thank you for joining us in the UK this year. At Oxford International Junior Programmes, we aim to provide young students from all over the world with a safe, fun, friendly, and structured environment to improve their knowledge of the English language.

We are one of the top providers of junior programmes in the UK, and a unique British Council-accredited education provider. Oxford International Junior Programmes is part of the Oxford International Education Group (OIEG), founded in 1991 as ISIS Education and Travel by David Brown and Robert Darell. Oxford International has grown to be one of the top 10 businesses sponsored by the Prince's Trust after it provided Oxford International Education Group a £5,000 loan.

Oxford International now offers a wide range of university pathways, spring, summer, and year-round academic programmes and educational tours, and vocational training. Our Junior programmes have grown steadily in size and popularity, and we now run 15 centres in the UK; 11 Residential and 4 year-round schools, plus 11 centres in North America and 1 centre in Australia, in total welcoming over 10,000 students each year.

We create life-changing learning experiences that help students worldwide to develop personally and professionally and that enrich their future opportunities.



Sparsholt College

Sparsholt College, located just outside Winchester, is one of the UK's leading land-based colleges, with a history dating back to 1899. It specialises in agriculture, animal management, equine studies, horticulture, and countryside and wildlife management, offering students a unique blend of academic study and hands-on experience.

Sparsholt combines expert teaching with a lively, supportive student community set in the beautiful Hampshire countryside, a perfect place for students passionate about the natural world to thrive.



DID YOU KNOW?

Sparsholt College is home to over 1,200 animals from 200 different species, giving their students a hands-on experience with a huge variety of creatures!



About Sparsholt College

Westley Lane, Sparsholt, Winchester, Hampshire, SO21 2NF



**Additional key information will be provided in your welcome pack and during the first group leader meeting on centre.*



Wi-Fi Access

Wi-Fi is available across the campus. It is available to group leaders only in their accommodation with details provided in the first meeting.



Shop/Café

The shop carries a wide range of stock which caters for most students' daily requirements. The shop will be accepting cards and contactless payments only. The shop is open from 8.30 to 13.30 Mon-Fri.



Security & Curfew

There are university staff that live onsite in the case of any out of hours emergency. All students must be in their accommodation by 22:30. We ask that you monitor your own students after this time.



Meal Times

Breakfast: 07:30 – 08:45
Lunch: 12:30 – 13:45
Dinner: 17:30 – 19:00



Laundry

The launderette is located next to Dean building and is available at times to suit. The price of a wash and a dry approximately costs £5.00 for the wash and £3.00 for the dry. Laundry payments by card only.



Local Transport

Winchester trains go direct to Waterloo (1h/ 1h 10min). The bus from Sparsholt College to Winchester Rail Station is Route 7 or 77 – Stagecoach Bus. The bus reaches the centre of campus at 31 minutes past the hour.



Nut-Free Campus

All nuts are strictly prohibited in this centre due to allergies. Please do not bring any nut products to the campus.

Staff at Your Centre



Centre Manager (CM)

The **Centre Manager** is responsible for the smooth running of the centre. Our Centre Managers are chosen for their experience, professionalism, and personalities, and you will have daily contact with them.

Activity Manager (AM)

The **Activity Manager** oversees the delivery of the activity programme. You will meet with them regularly to discuss your excursion plans.

On-site Activity Coordinator (OSAC)

The **On-site Activity Co-ordinator** assists the AM with the activity programme, taking the lead to ensure the onsite activities are inspiring, dynamic focused, enjoyable and ran safely.

Student Support Manager (SSM)

The **Student Support Manager** looks after all safeguarding and welfare of people on-site, including you. They are First Aid trained and have knowledge of local medical services. You will meet with them a few times a week to discuss any concerns.

Activity Leaders (AL)

The **Activity Leaders** are responsible for running everything outside the lessons! This includes on-site activities, meal duty supervision, and airport transfers.

Director of Studies (DoS)

The **Director of Studies** is responsible for the academic management of the centre and ensuring the teaching and learning component of the programme is delivered to the highest possible standards.

EFL Teacher

Teaching staff are responsible for planning and delivering lessons from the OI syllabus. Some centres will also have 1-2 Senior Teachers who teach 50% of the time and spend the remainder providing academic support to the teachers and DoS.



London Excursions



During a two-week programme, your group will visit London twice! These are extended day excursions, where you will depart the centre at 9:00 hrs and leave London around 20:00 hrs. Both trips are by coach.

When you are in London, you will have travel cards, which can be used on buses as well as the Underground, also known as the Tube. This is valid for zones 1-6, which covers all of central London.

London Visit 1

Students will explore the fascinating exhibits at the Natural History Museum and the Science Museum in London, before enjoying a stroll through Hyde Park and some shopping on Oxford Street. For any special requests, please speak to the Activity Manager in advance.

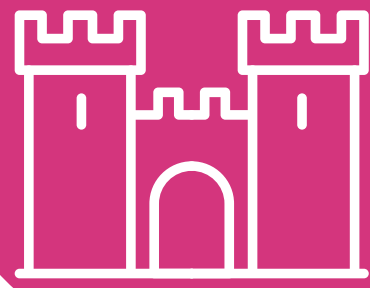
London Visit 2

The group will take in the sights of Westminster. From the home of the King to the home of the Prime Minister and everything in-between, our Activity Leader will guide you around some of the most famous places in the world! At the end of the tour, you will head to the National Gallery to see some amazing pieces of artwork. In the afternoon/evening, you will have free time to explore, which is a good time to add any optional entrances.

**The order of these visits may vary based on your programme.*



Cultural Excursions



From Sparsholt, you will visit Oxford! On this excursion, by coach, you will leave the centre by 09:00 and return for 18:00. **You will also visit nearby Winchester for two half days!** Here it could be either the morning or afternoon, depending on your programme

Lunch on Excursions



At Sparsholt you will receive packed lunches for Oxford, London and the Optional Day. In London you have a £10 meal voucher for dinner.



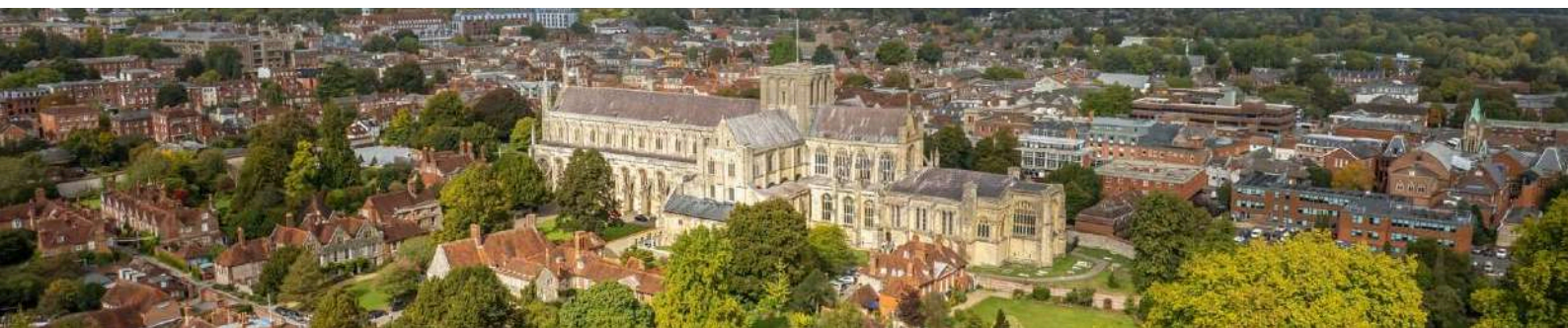
Oxford

During this excursion to Oxford, you will enjoy a specially designed walking tour led by one of our activity leaders, followed by free time to explore the historic city centre. The visit also includes entrance to Magdalen College and time to discover Oxford at your own pace.

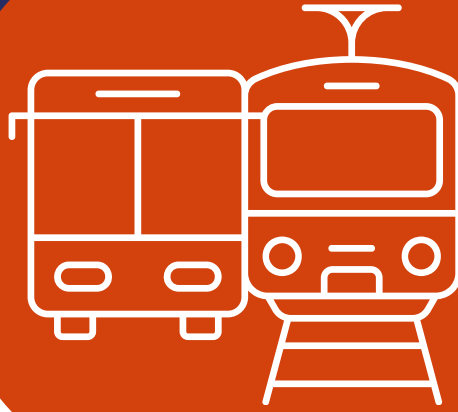


Winchester

During the programme there will be two half days to Winchester. In one of the excursions, students will have the opportunity to visit the Great Hall which was one of the finest surviving aisled halls of the 13th century. The second excursion is a chance for you and your students to have some free time off campus. Perhaps you could shop, grab a coffee or just use the time to explore Winchester more. Timings for these excursions are from 9am to 12pm or 2pm to 5pm.



Optional Excursions



England

Optional Excursions 2026/27



Oxford International Juniors



Whilst we love our summer programmes and think they are brilliant as they are, we also know that for some students, it's a long journey to travel to the UK, and they want to see more! **Our Optional Excursions booklet contains information about destinations across the UK and key attractions you can visit.** If you would like to supplement your programme by purchasing one of these entrances or excursions, and haven't organised this prior to arriving in the UK, please speak to your Activity Manager.

You should have received the Optional Booklet in your Welcome Pack. If not, please also refer to your Activity Manager for more information. We highly recommend booking in advance to guarantee access to the excursions!



Roman Baths



Stonehenge

On-Site Activities



On-site activity sessions are compulsory and if your students do not wish to take part, then you must sign them out to say you are taking responsibility for them during that time.

During these sessions, we encourage students to challenge themselves individually, as well as work as part of a team in a fun and friendly way. The on-site activities are divided into six categories that will allow your students to explore different skills, techniques, and talents throughout the programme.

On-Site Activity Categories



Icebreakers



Workshops



Relaxing activities



Whole-campus activities



Sports



Challenges

Timings of Activities

During the morning or afternoon On-Site Activity Sessions, these will be split in two. For the first 1.5 hours, there will be a choice of activities, followed by a small break and then another 1.5 hours with different choices. We recognise that having shorter sessions allows us to offer more options for students. In the evening sessions, these are 2 hours long. Many of the whole-campus activities take place in the evening so we know students will enjoy the full 2 hours on them.

Sign-Up Activities

These sessions will require students to sign up for a specific activity. This process allows students to choose the activity that best suits them, and will help the staff ensure all students attend the activities. Please make sure you help the on-site team encourage students to sign up in advance. Further details on this process will be explained by the centre staff during your Group Leader meetings.



On-Site Activities



Discos

The highlight of the activity programme is the Discos! With a DJ on stage, lights everywhere, props, and activity leaders showing off their dance moves, what more do the students need? Each disco we run has a theme attached to it. This could be Neon or UK themed as examples. Themes for the discos will be planned by the centre staff and will be advertised before each disco, so your students can prepare.

The OI Games

The Oxford International Games stands as one of the signature moments of the programme, an evening that blends celebration, challenge and the unmistakable thrill of friendly rivalry. Students join their house teams from the outset, creating an instant sense of identity and shared purpose.

The OI Games will run on selected days and evenings. Groups are organised through a house-based system, with an Oxford International staff member acting as Team Manager. Students are encouraged to put themselves forward for challenges and competitions, contributing their skills, energy and creativity to their team's overall score.



Talent Show

'Sparsholt's Got Talent' is back for 2026! If your students have a talent they would like to share, this is the time to do it! Hosted on the Big School stage, this is a big event on campus. Information on how to sign up will be provided by the centre staff during the programme.

Group Leader Programme



As a Group Leader, by joining our summer programme at Sparsholt College, you are invited to join us for special activities while your students are in lessons or in activities. We appreciate the pressure you are under from parents and students, so it's important that you have time to socialise with other Group Leaders during your stay with us. We have designed an activity programme that allows you to do this!



Afternoon Tea



Cheese & Wine Evening



Teacher Training



Half-Day Trip to Southampton

Group Leader Meetings

During this meeting, further meeting details will be scheduled, and it's important that you attend all meetings with senior staff. Information we will give you at this meeting include:

- Centre-specific contact details
- Meeting times and points
- Group Leader programme details
- Lunch and dinner rota
- Lesson and excursions procedures

During the Afternoon Tea and Cheese & Wine, the centre staff will run activities for you. This could include, Bingo, Painting or Quiz, depending on what your Centre Manager chooses to run.

Group Leader Responsibilities

- ✓ Attend all meetings with the staff.
- ✓ Ensure your students are punctual and attend all lessons, excursions, and on-site activities.
- ✓ Supervise students on excursions, in their accommodation, and during mealtimes.
- ✓ Report any allergies/medical issues to the Centre Manager on arrival at the centre.
- ✓ Maintain a lively, courteous, and friendly atmosphere throughout the programme.
- ✓ Report any issues with the programme/campus whilst in the UK rather than waiting until the group is home. That way, the staff can fix the issue ASAP.
- ✓ Have fun!



Group Leader Checklist



Group Leader Programme

Activity	Date	Time	Venue

Excursion Plans

Excursion	Date	Time	Meeting Point	Notes

Optional Day

Option	Activity/Location	Cost Per Student
OPTION 1		
OPTION 2		
OPTION 3		

We Want Your Feedback!



Your feedback gives us an opportunity to know and understand your opinions about the programme, the service provided, and what can be improved in the future.

First Day Feedback

Please scan this QR code with your phone and fill the feedback form on **Day 4** of the programme



End of Programme Feedback

Please scan this QR code with your phone and fill the feedback form **at the end of the programme**



Excursions Feedback

Please scan this QR code with your phone and fill the feedback form **after each excursion**



Safeguarding Concerns?

Please scan this QR code and report any **Safeguarding concerns** you may have seen while with us.



FAQs



Do you have any questions?

Contact the admissions team or our OI staff if you are on campus!



What happens if someone loses their passport?

We strongly advise that passports are stored safely in the accommodation and remain there. If a passport is lost, the Group Leader will need to accompany the student to the embassy of their home country, where they will be issued a temporary replacement or a permit to travel. The CM will be able to help locate the embassy and print any forms that might be helpful. We recommend that you have a photocopy of every student's passport as a backup



What happens if a student is lost on an excursion?

The first thing to do is contact the student on their mobile. If this is possible, then a member of the staff will collect the student whilst you wait with the rest of the group. If they are uncontactable, the Activity Leader will contact the CM, who will in turn, contact Head Office. Every student is issued with an Emergency Number lanyard and ID Card. Students should call this number if lost, and it will be answered by a member of Head Office.



Can students lock their rooms?

Yes. At Sparsholt College students will receive keys for each room and a master key in case the students lose theirs. We ask that students take particular care of their keys/key cards as room 'lockouts' take a significant amount of time to rectify. If a key is lost, there will be a charge £65 for its replacement.



Is there a deposit?

A £30 cash deposit per student will be collected upon arrival, which will be returned at the end of the programme if there is no damage to the rooms, loss of keys, etc.



What should we do if there is a problem with a bedroom?

All accommodation blocks are checked prior to the students' arrival. However, if you do notice a problem when you get to the centre, it is essential you report this to the Centre Manager straight away.



What happens on departure day?

Prior to your departure day, Group Leaders will be invited to attend a departure meeting, where the full procedure is explained. At this point, Centre Managers will indicate the following... Check out time, departure from centre time and your groups final meal information.

Meet the Head Office Team

Say hello to us when we visit your centre!



Gary
OIDI & EL UK
Managing Director



Paul
Head of EL UK



Bob
Operations Director
EL UK



Kamila
Academic Director
EL UK



Jamie
EL UK Recruitment &
Ops Manager



Nicole
EL UK Global Sales &
Operations Manager



Berta
EL UK Programmes
Manager



Cassandra
EL UK Academic
Manager



Guy
EL UK Marketing
Manager



Nayeli
EL UK Operations
Coordinator



Kat
EL UK Operations
Coordinator



Josh
EL UK Operations
Coordinator



Efe
EL UK Marketing
Assistant



James
EL UK Juniors
Admissions Manager



Olga
EL UK Juniors
Admissions Officer



Onika
EL UK Juniors
Admissions Officer



Oxford International Junior Programmes

Head Office

259 Greenwich High Road, SE10 8NB
London, United Kingdom

 juniors@oxfordinternational.com

 [OIJuniorProgrammes](https://www.instagram.com/OIJuniorProgrammes)

 [Oxford International Junior Programmes](https://www.facebook.com/OxfordInternationalJuniorProgrammes)

 oxfordinternationaljuniors.com

L'astrolabio headquarters:

Via Boccaccio 14, Milan 20123 - Italy

+39 0272003311 - info@lastrolabio.it

Accredited by the
 **BRITISH
COUNCIL**
for the teaching
of English in the UK

