



Learn General and Professional English in Britain's oldest recorded town

- General English
- Specialist English
- IELTS Preparation
- Teacher Training
- English for Professionals
- Young Learners
- Group Courses
- Select
- One-to-One



Established in 1969





Welcome !

Since it was founded over 50 years ago, the Centre has been dedicated to providing high quality English programmes to thousands of students across the world.



Colchester English Study Centre is perfect for students who want to study in a thriving town not too far from London, major airports and the coast, but who also choose to benefit from a more relaxed and secure environment.

The centre is housed in a Georgian building in a peaceful and desirable area of Colchester, close to the town centre and local amenities.

Our teaching staff are qualified native English speakers with considerable experience of teaching English to students of all levels and many nationalities.

We are very proud of our reputation for offering excellent student welfare, our welcoming and friendly study environment and our proven track-record of helping people learn English.

Max Walsh

Principal

Teachers



Brian Cooke
Assistant Principal
Start Date: 1999

Brian has over 20 years of teaching experience since he obtained his CELTA qualification in 1993. Before this, he worked in the banking sector, but he wanted to make a career change, and to do something more rewarding. He has been working for CESC since 1999, and has contributed immensely to General English, IELTS and other specialist courses such as GATTS. This is a special course for German diplomats coordinated by Brian. Brian always has time for students, and can often be seen helping them out in his own time. In addition to his teaching duties, Brian also assists the Principal, and stands in for him while he is away



Isabel Wheelwright
Start Date: 2006

Isabel first qualified with a Trinity TESOL certificate in 2001. She then taught for several years in Spain. She started her professional relationship with CESC in 2002, when she worked in our Summer Schools. After gaining valuable experience teaching in Australia, she came back to teach for us full-time in 2006. Isabel is an enthusiastic and dynamic teacher who has brought a lot to the school, particularly on the General English and Young Learner courses. As a result of her desire to become the best teacher possible, she embarked on the Diploma Course with the school's help, and successfully completed this in 2008. She has a degree in English, Art History and American History from the University of Leicester.



Marianne McKenzie
Start Date: 2000

Marianne started working at CESC in 2000. In addition to being an English teacher, Marianne is also a linguist who speaks French and Russian. While at CESC she has contributed immensely to the General English programme and ESP courses such as the GATTS course for German diplomats. She also has a lot of experience on exam courses for Cambridge exams and IELTS. Marianne also has a wealth of experience with young learners having worked both as a teacher and as a course director on our Summer School courses for many years. She also regularly runs social events such as tea-parties and drama as part of the school's social programme. Marianne holds both a degree in Modern Languages and Linguistics, and a PGCE from the University of Essex.



Rebecca Curry
ILH Summer School Coordinator

Rebecca obtained her CELTA in 2005 and went on to teach in Europe, Asia, South Africa and Angola. She was recruited by CESC to work in the summer school in 2018. Since then she has been working for us teaching General English, Business English and on Young Learner courses. Her main role is to organise and coordinate Summer School. Rebecca's academic background is in drama, she has extensive experience both as an actor and director.



John Irving
Start Date: 1999

John qualified with a Diploma in 1989. He has been teaching at CESC since 1999 having gained a lot of experience in European and Middle Eastern countries before he came here. John has taught on a wide variety of including General English at all levels, IELTS and ESP courses. He also has a lot of experience with younger learners having worked as Centre Manager and Director of Studies at our summer centres over the years. John is a model professional, extremely popular with his students, who insists on high standards and a high degree of focus in the classroom. He is a Law graduate with a degree from the University of Warwick.



Alison Wheelwright
Start Date: 2005

Alison first taught at CESC in 2002, when she was involved as a teacher at Summer School. She had attained a CELTA qualification in that year. Since 2005, she has taught extensively on the General English programme while continuing each summer to play an important role in Summer Schools. Alison has a degree in Psychology from the University of Exeter.



Jason Bullrich

Jason originally comes from South Africa. He attained a Trinity TESOL certificate in 2012 and a Certificate in Education in 2017. He started working for us as a teacher and Head of Activities in our Ipswich Summer school in 2018. The school and the students liked him so much he came back again in the summer of 2019. Now he teaches General English and Young Learners. The students love his energy and enthusiasm.

Meet the Team



Max Walsh
Principal

As the Principal, Max is responsible for all aspects of your academic programme. You can talk to him at any time about your studies or your stay in Colchester. Max has been working for us since 1999 as a teacher and a manager. In fact, he still sometimes teaches now. He is a History graduate from UCL and has a PGCE and an MA in Applied Linguistics.



Steve Bull
Marketing & Admissions Officer

Steve has worked for us since 2013. He has over ten years' experience in marketing and administrative roles and has a degree in Events Management. He manages our relationships with clients and agents and processes all student enrolments. He is always available to help students with practical issues such as financial guarantees, visa letters, student IDs and travel arrangements. He liaises closely with other team members to make sure students have a good experience.



Francesca Ambrosini-Spaul
Accommodation & Marketing Officer

Francesca first came to CESC from Italy as a student. She has been working for us since 2006. She is responsible for providing and managing homestay accommodation for our students. She makes sure that students are placed in a homestay where they will be happy. She also has a degree in Educational Science and is a trained counsellor, so she can help students with any problems they might have. She works in the Student Services Office so is very easy to find and easy to talk to.



Maria Walters
Welfare & Accommodation Officer

Maria has worked for us since 2007. One of her main roles is responsibility for safeguarding and welfare in the school. She also helps with accommodation and organising fun activities for students. She works in Reception and is always available if students have a problem or want to talk about something.



Elaine Murphy
Receptionist and Accounts Assistant

Elaine started working at CESC in 2012 as an Accounts & Payroll Assistant. She is now employed as Receptionist and Personal Assistant to the Managing Director. She has worked as an Administrator for many years. She can help you with general enquiries and take payment for fees.

The Centre offers a range of courses to suit learners at many levels and with different needs.

All class levels are based on the Common European Framework

General English

Our General English course is for everybody from Beginners (A0) to Advanced (C1). Classes are small, 14 at the most, but usually 8-12, with a very experienced teacher. The focus is on improving your English as quickly as possible by communicating with other students. You will learn to talk about many interesting topics, have fun and make friends. The teacher will give you lots of attention and help you to make progress quickly.

IELTS

We have been running IELTS courses for over 20 years and helped thousands of students to achieve the scores they need and move on to University courses, new jobs and other opportunities. Our IELTS course has two main focuses. The first is to help you develop the language and the skills that you need to get a good IELTS score. The second is to practise taking the exam with professional help, high quality feedback and suggestions on how to improve. Our IELTS teachers are all highly experienced.





Young Learner Groups/Mini Breaks

We provide courses for groups of young people (aged 11-17) who come to the UK for a one or two week break. These students stay in Homestays, have language lessons in the morning and do a range of fun activities and trips in the afternoons. The students get a lot of opportunities to practise their English with different people throughout the day. In class, there is a lot of group-work, communication and using technology to inspire and engage the students. We manage these courses very flexibly so that, for example, if you want your children to do an activity or go out together in the evening, this can be arranged.

International language Holidays

Every year in July we have Summer Schools in three sites in the East of England. There are both residential and Homestay options. The students are aged from 11-17 and come for a minimum of a week. In the mornings, they are in international classes learning English and having fun. There is a strong emphasis on project work, developing independence and using English to present and entertain. In the afternoons, evenings and at the weekends, there is a wide range of activities, sports and trips so that this really is a holiday as well as a learning experience.



Online Courses

We are now accredited by the British Council to run online courses and have run both General English and IELTS online courses very successfully. These classes are very interactive and give the students a chance to practise speaking a lot. We use Googleclassrooms to support these classes so you can have a lot of high quality materials.

Specialist English and other Courses

We also run a lot of other courses including English and Work experience, Teacher Training, Fifty-plus, and ESP courses for Doctors, Nurses and other professionals. You can contact us at any time to talk about these courses or any other type of course you might be interested in.

Accommodation & Welfare

Most of our students choose to live with a homestay family. This provides a rewarding cultural experience and helps students to use their *English in a relaxed environment*. Our homestay families offer a welcoming, comfortable environment and great home-cooked food.



We provide accommodation with our local homestay providers. 99% of our homestay providers are native speakers of English.

We are proud to have homestay providers who have been working with us for more than 30 years.



Accommodation is arranged in single rooms. You can choose from a range of options including Half-board, Ensuite, Self-catering and Bed & Breakfast homestay. We also can cater for medical conditions, food allergies and special diets such as Halal and gluten-free.

Our Student services and Welfare team are always available to answer any questions our students may have either before they arrive in Colchester or during their stay.

Social Programme & Facilities

Activities

 Walking Tours	 Drama	 First Site Gallery
 i-Chat	 Bowling	 Castle Museum
 English Tea	 Cinema	 Hollytrees Museum
 Football	 Zoo	 African Drums
 Samba	 Arts and Crafts	 Karaoke
 Team Games	 Bingo	 Board Games



We provide a wide-range of fun and interesting social and cultural activities. We organise these activities throughout the week to help our students to maximise their learning potential, make friends, have fun and have a good experience of England.













Weekly activities start on your first Monday with a walking tour of Colchester introducing you to the town, its history and important places. Other regular activities include on site Conversation club, I –chat (speaking with visitors from the local area), Film Club, Vocabulary and Games clubs.

Our social programme also includes visits to places of cultural interest in Colchester such as the Mercury Theatre, Castle Museum and First-site Art Gallery. Around Colchester, there are beautiful places such as Dedham, Mersea Island and Layer Marney which we also visit.

For those who like sports and entertainment, we arrange Football, Badminton and Tennis in a local sports centre as well as cinema visits and visits to live music and other local arts events. The centre also has its own pool table, table football and table-tennis to use between the lessons.

Many students like to visit Cambridge, London, Norwich and other great British destinations. We often organise trips to these places.

Facilities

 Wi-Fi	 Piano	 Quiet Room
 Student Common Area	 Table Tennis	 Library
 Wii	 Garden	 Student Computers
 Pool Table	 Table Football	 Parking

Accommodation & Summer School



CESC has been offering summer schools under the name of ILH (International Language Holidays) since 1988. These intensive summer courses are designed to maximise students' understanding of English and increase their confidence in using it.

Whether students stay with British homestay providers or in a residential centre, we provide a safe and caring environment where there are many opportunities to socialise and practise English.

For further information about our summer courses and campuses please refer to our ILH brochure.



Current and Previous Clients



	Airport Name	Average distance from CESC by car
1	Stansted Airport	45 mins
2	Southend Airport	55 mins
3	City Airport	75 mins
4	Luton Airport	95 mins
5	Gatwick Airport	95 mins
6	Heathrow Airport	110 mins



		ROAD TO IELTS IELTS preparation and practice	Accredited by the for the teaching of English in the UK
		 Registered Exam Centre: 59256	

