

Dear Parents

As your son's or daughter's English teacher has offered the possibility of an English programme in England through SOL, I thought you might like a little more information about us and the opportunity we offer.

We started in 1991 in response to the tremendous new demand for English following the changes in Eastern Central Europe and realising the lack of opportunity there was for teachers and students of English both to meet with native speakers and to travel to England. Since then 34,000 students have attended our short courses here in Devon!!

We recognise at the start the very difficult financial circumstances for most people which made travel to Britain too expensive, especially for any quality language course there. So, from the start we have tried to give the very best course at the lowest possible price, recognising the great financial sacrifice many parents make to send their children to us. The overwhelming feedback has been excellent and the amazing amount of confidence students gain in just a short course benefits them for the rest of their learning lives. Building a relationship with one of our caring host families is a very important part of that. An attractively priced trip to London or Scotland offered by commercial companies may be full of interest, but the gain in confidence in English will be very small indeed. We are confident you will feel your money was well spent!

We are non-profit, which means our income is used ONLY to provide our services (which including appointing British teachers to schools in Eastern Central Europe). We have no expensively paid staff, or buildings to maintain and we spend money carefully, without sacrificing the quality of what we offer.

The courses we offer mean children are away from school for under two weeks. They travel with their English teacher(s), and spend seven to ten days in England. This will give sufficient time for that confidence to speak in English to develop, helped by the special knowledge that our teachers have of their language needs (many have already visited schools in Eastern Central Europe). The creative drama techniques they are skilled in using rapidly give students confidence in using English. That the course is not near London is a huge advantage as well (though all our groups have a great time there at the end of the course and have time to see all the major sights). First, the journey across England takes in Canterbury and Stonehenge. Secondly, the part of the country they will be in - just 12 km from the Atlantic Ocean - is so beautiful! Importantly, the people there live at a much better pace of life, they are much friendlier and have much more time to give to the visiting students. We require our families to spend time with the students on their English and they are very happy to do so and they enjoy their student's company.

- Each programme is discussed, in advance, with the teachers in order to ensure that what we provide is what is requested. Most courses are similar to the ones outlined below. We try to find the right balance between classes, visits and activities. The result is that students not only learn a lot and gain a great deal of confidence in their English (especially speaking it), but also have a very enjoyable experience as well.

Typical programmes might be as follows (families deliver and collect students each day):

10-Day Prog.	7-Day Prog.	
Day 1	Day 1	Arrive Dover 08.00 Visit Canterbury and Stonehenge whilst crossing England. Arrive North Devon 18.00
Day 2	Day 2	Morning : Classes Afternoon : Visit museum and guided tour of the town
Day 3	Day 3	Morning : Visit the Atlantic Ocean and beaches Afternoon : Classes
Day 4	Day 4	Morning : Classes Afternoon : Local visit (by coach)
Day 5		Morning : Local visit (by coach) Afternoon : Classes
Day 6	Day 5	Day Visit : By coach (e.g. Tintagel, Exeter or Plymouth)
Day 7		Family Day (Sunday)
Day 8		Morning : Classes

Afternoon : Local visit (by coach)  
Day 9 Day 6 Morning : Town Quiz and shopping  
Afternoon : Final classes  
Day 10 Day 7 Early departure for London (arrive about 11.00)  
Day in London (under teacher supervision)  
Evening departure for Dover (22.30 ferry)

Yours sincerely

Grenville Yeo  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Poštovani roditelji,

Uz pismo koje vam šalje izvršni direktor SOL-a, kao koordinator ovog jezičkog centra u Srbiji, želela bih da dodam još nekoliko stvari:

Saradnju sa SOL-om uspostavila sam u oktobru 2008. (na međunarodnoj konferenciji predavača engleskog jezika u Mađarskoj, gde sam boravila kao predstavnik asocijacije iz naše zemlje - ELTA). Iako već gotovo 20 godina saraduju sa svim zemljama iz ovog dela Evrope, bio je to njihov prvi kontakt sa profesorima iz Srbije. Na moj poziv, gospodin Yeo je već narednog meseca posetio Beograd i nakon razgovora sa predsednicom ELTA-e, direktorom Britanskog saveta i predstavnicima Britanske ambasade, upoznao se sa prilikama u našoj zemlji vezanim za mogućnosti učenja i usavršavanja engleskog jezika.

Kao što, verovatno, već znate, kod nas postoji nekoliko renomiranih agencija (kao što su KUB ili Egida) koje već godinama posreduju i organizuju odlaske dece i mladih u jezičke centre u Velikoj Britaniji. Međutim, za naša prosečna primanja, cene takvih letnjih škola su veoma visoke (između 1500 i 2500 funti) – i to je bila prva velika razlika u odnosu na SOL: oni su registrovani kao dobrotvorno društvo što im omogućuje da ponude mnogo pristupačnije cene od bilo koje komercijalne škole. Već prvog leta, priliku da usavrše svoje znanje engleskog iskoristilo je oko 40 profesora iz naše zemlje, kao i tri grupe dece (iz Beograda, Šapca i Zrenjanina). Svi nosimo prelepa iskustva: bili smo oduševljeni njihovim gostoprimstvom, prijatnošću, koncepcijom kursa, lepotama Engleske, a za naredno leto već vlada ogromno interesovanje.

Cene za letnje kurseve (Open Courses) za 2010. godinu su sledeće (1 funta=110 dinara):

- 405 funti (prevoz od Londona do Devona i nazad, kurs, boravak u porodici, 3 obroka dnevno, svi izleti, 10 dana/9 noći)
- Oko 70 funti za Britansku vizu
- Oko 250 funti za povratnu avio kartu Beograd/London/Beograd (ako bude low cost kompanija, možda će biti povoljnije)
- Oko 20 funti noćenje i doručak u hostelu u Londonu (ukoliko grupa želi da produži boravak u Britaniji i uključi posetu Londonu)
- Oko 30 funti za profesora koji organizuje i vodi grupu (u taj iznos uključeno je i prevođenje na engleski svih dokumenata za vizu, kao i pomoć prilikom apliciranja za vizu)

Ukoliko ste zainteresovani da pošaljete svoje dete na kurs SOL-a, sve informacije možete naći na njihovom sajtu: [www.sol.org.uk](http://www.sol.org.uk), na sajtu mog Centra: [www.premiercentar.com](http://www.premiercentar.com) ili dobiti od profesora koji će organizovati i voditi grupu.

Srdačan pozdrav,

Sanja Čonjagić