# Norwich Study Centre FLYING CLASSROOMS

STUDENT HANDBOOK for over 18s







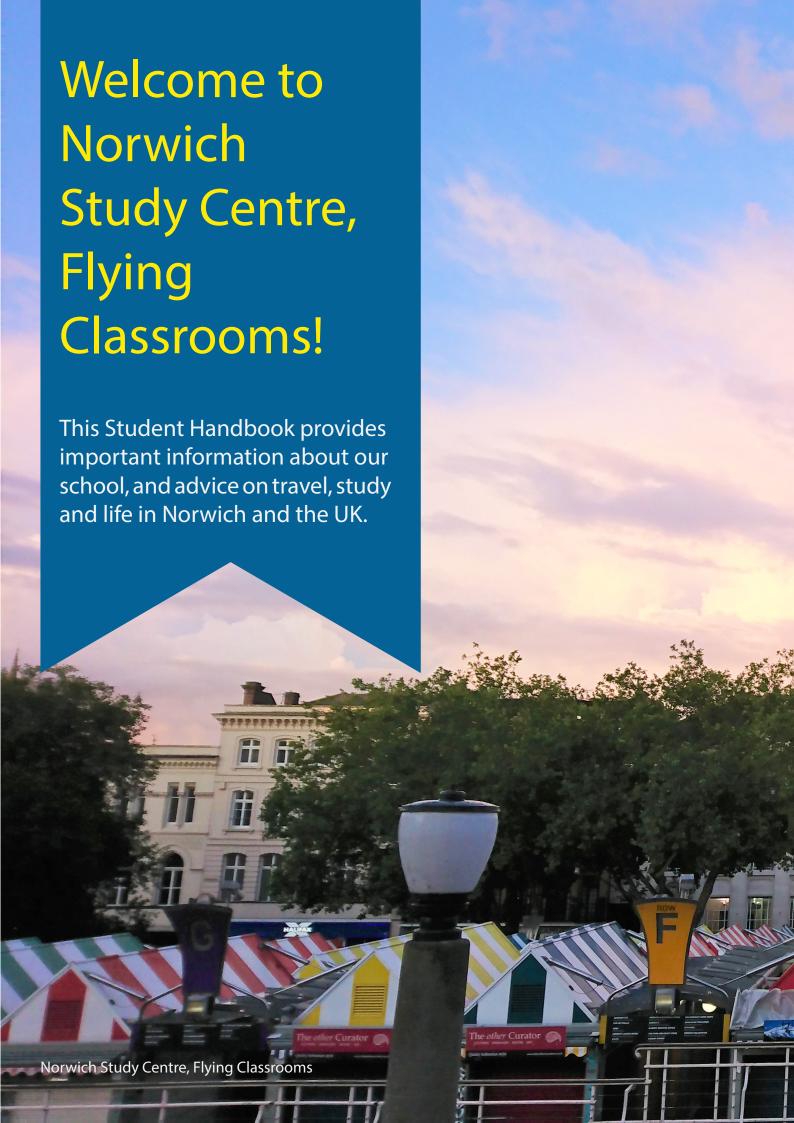
www.flyingclassrooms.co.uk

Accredited by the



for the teaching of English in the UK







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Page 6 Welcome

# Welcome

Welcome to Norwich Study Centre, Flying Classrooms!

This handbook provides information about studying at Norwich Study Centre (NSC). It also offers help and advice about living in Norwich and the UK. You will find information about:

- 1. Travelling to Norwich
- 2. Our staff and school
- 3. Living and studying in Norwich and the UK
- 4. What to do in an emergency

We welcome many students to our school, of a wide range of ages. They come from many different countries, with different levels of English and they have a variety of aims. Whatever you hope to achieve, we can help you succeed.

Our teaching might be different from the teaching at other schools you have attended. In our classes, we aim to help our students to communicate in English. We try to give you lots of opportunities to speak and work together to practise what you learn here.

We care about your goals. We also know that learning English can be hard sometimes. We will help you to manage the challenges that you may face during your studies. We will build your confidence and independence, giving you the support you need to achieve your goals.

We wish you a very happy, rewarding and productive time with us at Norwich Study Centre!

Kumi Wiedmann School Director

# **Important Information**

## School opening hours

Monday to Thursday 09:00 - 17:00

Friday

09:00 - 16:00

#### School contact details

Norwich Study Centre, Flying Classrooms

5 Tombland Norwich Norfolk NR3 1HE



**Q** United Kingdom



+44 (0)1603 619 091



info@flyingclassrooms.co.uk www.flyingclassrooms.co.uk

# Emergency contact



+44 (0)7800 907 804

Travelling to Norwich Page 7

# **Travelling to Norwich**

## Arriving in the UK

Many of our students fly to the UK. There are a number of airports that you might use, including Norwich Airport, Stansted Airport, Gatwick Airport and Heathrow Airport. (See below for details.)

When you book your flight, please tell us when you will arrive in Norwich. (See below for more information about travelling to Norwich, or contact us for help or advice.)

If you are staying with a homestay host, we will contact them with your arrival time.

Airport	Flights To/From
Norwich Airport	Europe
Stansted Airport	International
Gatwick Airport	International
Heathrow Airport	International



Travelling to Norwich by taxi

We can organise a taxi to collect you from Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted or Norwich airports.

Please contact us to book a taxi.

Airport	Time	Price (pay on booking)
Norwich Airport	20 minutes	£20.00 (one way)
Stansted Airport	1-2 hours	£160.00 (one way)
Heathrow Airport	2-3 hours	£230.00 (one way)
Gatwick Airport	2-3 hours	£240.00 (one way)



#### Travelling to Norwich by coach

Coaches to Norwich travel from Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted and Norwich airports.

For travel from Heathrow, Gatwick or Stansted, you can book online or by phone with National Express. (See below for details.)

Airport / Journey	Time
Stansted Airport	2-3 hours
Heathrow Airport	4-5 hours
Gatwick Airport	5-6 hours









#### National Express (coaches)



+44 (0)8456 007 245

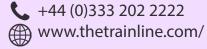


www.nationalexpress.com

#### Travelling to Norwich by train

Trains travel between London Liverpool Street Station and Norwich Station every 30 minutes during the day. The journey takes less than two hours. Trains run from Stansted Airport to Norwich every 60 minutes and take less than 90 minutes. For more information, and to book tickets online.

#### Trainline.com



#### Arriving with your homestay host

If you are staying with a homestay host, we can organise a taxi to transport you from the airport/station to your accommodation. Contact us for more information.

# Arriving on Your First Day

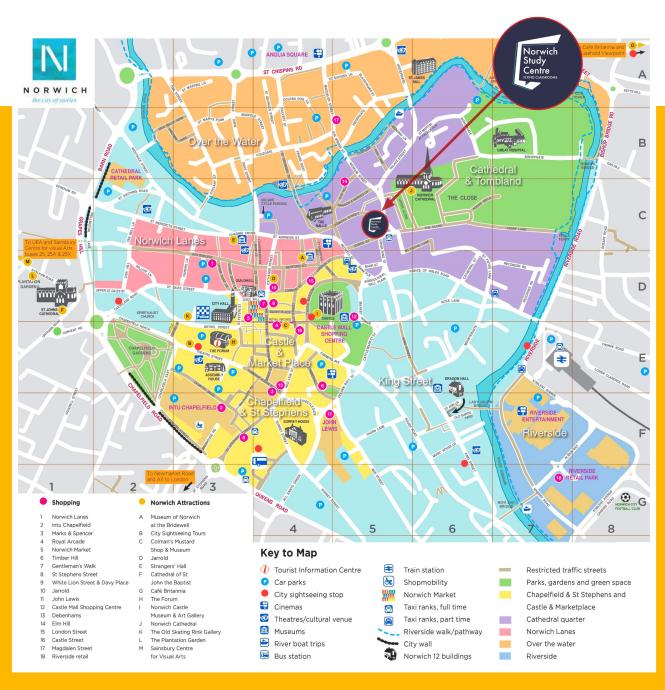
# Finding us

Our address is 5 Tombland, Norwich, NR3 1HE.

Reception opening hours are: 09:00 - 17:00 (Monday - Thursday)

09:00 - 16:00 (Friday)

You can find us opposite Norwich Cathedral. See the map below for more information. If you are staying with a homestay host, they will help you travel to the school on the first day.



Page 10 Our School Timetable

## Contacting us

You can contact us by email and by phone:



info@flyingclassrooms.co.uk



+44 (0)1603 619091 during opening hours

+44 (0)7800 907804 for emergencies

# Registration

On your first day, come to the school office (on the 1st floor) at 09:15. We will provide you with useful information, answer any questions you may have and explain the plan for your first day with us.

# **Our School Timetable**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:30 - 11:00	9:30 - 11:00	9:30 - 11:00	9:30 - 11:00	9:30 - 11:00
Morning Break - 30 minutes				
11:30 - 13:00	11:30 - 13:00	11:30 - 13:00	11:30 - 13:00	11:30 - 13:00
Lunch Break - 1 hour				
14:00 - 15:30 (Afternoon course)				

Note: Each class is 90 minutes long.

How We Can Help Page 11

# How We Can Help

## Our staff

Director			
Kumi Wiedmann			
Teaching Staff			
Senior Teacher Emma Elliott			
Senior Teacher	Jack Griggs-Smith		
Teacher	Emma Harris		
Teacher	Tom Messenger		
Teacher	George Bell		
Teacher	Joy Martin		
Teacher	Hannah Barrah		
Student Support Staff			
Office Manager	Kumi Wiedmann		
Senior Student Officer	Emily Sims		
Student Officer	Julie Ho		
Safeguarding Officer	Kumi Wiedmann/Emily Sims		
Social Activities			
Social Activities Coordinator	Emily Sims		
Caretaking			
Maintenance	Matt Dickerson		

Page 12 How We Can Help

# How we can help

For		See
General help and information	Kumi	Emily
Questions about payments	Emily	Julie
Questions or complaints about facilities	Ku	umi
Questions or complaints about accommodation	Er	mily
Exams classes and booking exams	Jack	Emma E
Questions or complaints about your course, teaching or teachers	Ku	umi

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For		See
Advice on learning and useful academic resources	Jack	Emma E
Information on social activities	Emily	Julie
Safeguarding and welfare (under 18s)	Kumi	Emily
Volunteer work at charity organisation		Tom

# Come and talk to us!

If you are not happy, or if you are having any problems inside or outside school, and you need to talk to someone, come and talk to us at any time.

# The School Office

#### Student cards

On your first day, we will give you a student card with the school's contact details and emergency contact number. If you lose your student card, please come to the school office as soon as possible to get a new one.

# Mobile phone SIM cards

Free UK mobile SIM cards are available. Please come to the office to find out more.

# Contacting us

Please tell us as soon as possible if you change your email, telephone number or address.

# School Facilities and Security

# What you can find here

At Norwich Study Centre, our school facilities include:

- 1. A student common room, where you can relax and enjoy free refreshments like coffee and tea, while you make new friends
- 2. A shared study room and library
- 3. A courtyard with tables & chairs and table tennis

# Personal belongings and valuables

Please keep any valuables with you at all times. Do not leave your possessions unattended in the classrooms between lessons, or anywhere else in the school.



Social Activities Page 15

# **Social Activities**

## Learn, explore and meet new people

The school provides a wide range of social activities throughout the year.

Please note that students under 18 must have consent from a parent/guardian to join social activities.

# Social activities price list

Note: Prices are approximate, based on a minimum of 10 students joining.

student
£70
£55
£25
£35
£6
£5
£16
£12
£10
£10
£10
£10
£45
£13
£10
£15
£5
£15
£28
£5







<sup>\*</sup>Substitute activities available in situations where planned activities can't go ahead Norwich Study Centre, Flying Classrooms

Page 16 Accommodation

# Accommodation

## Feel at home

Staying with a homestay host is the perfect opportunity to experience the British way of life. It is also one of the best ways to improve your English skills outside the classroom. Your homestay host will do their very best to make you feel at home.



Our Courses and Terms Page 17

# **Our Courses and Terms**

#### Our terms

We have 4 terms each year. See below for our 2025 term dates. (Please note we are closed during bank holidays.)

Term	Start		End	Bank holidays
Winter term	Monday 6th January	to	Friday 28th March	
Spring term	Monday 31st March	to	Friday 27th June	18th April, 21st April, 5th May, 26th May
Summer term	Monday 30th June	to	Friday 26th September	25th August
Autumn term	Monday 29th September	to	Friday 29th December	

In the middle of each term you will take a progress test. After the test, you will have a meeting with your teacher. During the meeting you can talk about your progress. Your teacher will give you advice, and will answer any questions you may have about your class or your learning plan.

Page 18 Our Courses and Terms

## The CEFR: A global standard

Our courses are based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). The CEFR is a global standard for learning, teaching and assessment. By designing our courses with the CEFR, we can help you move step by step towards your learning goals, building your skills and knowledge of English.

See below for an outline of the levels used in the CEFR.

Level You can... Understand and use familiar everyday expressions with help Introduce yourself and answer questions about personal details, e.g. where you live Interact in a simple way with help, speaking slowly Understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases to satisfy Introduce yourself and others, and answer questions about people you know and things you have Understand sentences and common expressions relating to basic personal information, activities, geography etc. **B**1 Communicate in simple and routine tasks Describe your background, immediate environment and needs in simple terms Understand the main points of spoken or written discourse on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure etc. Deal with most situations likely to arise when travelling in an English-speaking area B1+Produce simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest Describe events, experiences, dreams etc. and briefly give reasosn and explanations for opinions and plans Understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in your field or specialism Interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction **B2** with native speakers possible without strain Produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topic issue, giving the asdvantages and disadvantages of various viewpoints Understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognise implicit meaning

Express yourself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious difficulty Uselanguageflexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes

Produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices

Our Courses and Terms Page 19

#### General English (15 hours per week)

Our General English Standard course focuses on developing skills in the four core areas of reading, writing, speaking and listening. Using a practical approach based on the CEFR levels for language ability, our General English classes enable you to develop the confidence and skills you need to use English effectively in different situations. Whatever stage you are at in your language learning journey, our experienced teachers can help you progress to the next level and achieve your language learning goals.

We offer General English classes at six levels:

- Beginners (A1)
- Elementary (A2)
- Pre-intermediate (B1)
- Intermediate (B1+)
- Upper-intermediate (B2)
- Advanced (C1)

## General English Plus (21 hours per week)

Students taking a General English Plus course attend morning and afternoon classes. (See Our School Timetable for details.) These classes focus on communicative skills, providing further listening and speaking practice.

In the afternoons, choose from:

SKILLS & CULTURE

You will practise using language in real-life situations, sharing opinions and ideas and discussing information to improve your speaking and listening skills for life.

ENGLISH FOR WORK

This course is practical and focuses on developing communication skills and language needed to work effectively in an English-speaking environment. The minimum level for this course is B1+.

Page 20 Our Courses and Terms

## Exam preparation

We offer IELTS and Cambridge English courses. These exams can be taken at the following levels:

Exam/Qualification	Minimum level
Cambridge Preliminary English Test (PET)	A2
Cambridge First Certifice in English (FCE)	B1
Cambridge Advanced English (CAE)	B2
IELTS	B1/B1+

If you have any questions about your exam, you can speak to your teacher or to our Senior Teacher at school.

Taking the IELTS Exam

The nearest IELTS exam test centre is in Cambridge, which you can reach by train or car. The exam fee is around £200, depending on the location and test that you choose.

• Taking the Cambridge Exam

The exam fee is around £180, please come to the office for more information.

Trinity GESE Exam

Our school is a Trinity GESE exam centre, so please come to the office if you would like to book an exam. The exam costs between £45 - £105.

Our Courses and Terms Page 21

## Teacher training for language teachers

Our teacher training course is designed for both experienced language teachers who want to enhance their skills, and for new teachers looking to improve their pedagogic knowledge and develop teaching techniques that they can use in the classroom to help students with their grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation. Minimum level: B2

## Intercultural training

Our Intercultural Training course is designed to help professional people develop their understanding of the meaning, value and significance of cultural diversity in relation to their professional practice. In addition to developing English language skills, participants will gain a deeper understanding of culture and intercultural communication and develop the skills they need to work or do business in a global and multicultural environment. Minimum level: B1+

# Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL)

This course is designed for primary and secondary teachers who want to develop their specific English language knowledge in their own field or subject, and develop key practical skills for effectively using English in their classrooms. Minimum level: B1+

# **English for professionals**

This course will develop your professional skills and improve your business perspectives in English, enabling you to take the next step in your chosen career or profession. Through a variety of engaging tasks and activities, you will gain confidence in making presentations, taking part in international meetings, intercultural networking, and much more. Minimum level: B1+

# Bespoke courses

Alongside our established courses, we also offer bespoke courses tailor-made to you as an individual or to your group. We can work closely with you to design a programme to meet your specific needs so that your time studying face-to-face or online with us is as valuable as possible.

# **During Your Course and Classes**

## Changing levels

Students can change levels but only if Senior Teacher agrees. Your teachers may recommend a change of levels after a progress test, but if you would like to change your level at any other time, please speak to Senior Teacher. Before any change is approved, you will be invited to discuss your progress with Senior Teacher and your teachers.

#### Coursebooks and resources

All students are required to have a coursebook(if studying more than 2 weeks), which can be purchased from the office for £35 - £37/term. You may be required to buy more than one book, depending on your course and the length of your stay. Your teachers will also provide you with supplementary worksheets and other materials.

Our Study Centre is available for all students at no extra cost. It is designed to provide an area where you can study in your own time and at your own pace, with access to a wide range of resources.

We offer many different resources, including:

- A wide selection of course textbooks
- A range of examination, self-study and practice materials
- A variety of listening materials
- A graded readers' library
- A range of specially designed task sheets
- A suite of language learning software
- Details of websites for language learning and general information

# Mobile phones

Do not use your mobile phones in class. Switch them off during lessons, unless your teacher asks you to use it.

#### Food and drink

You may take bottled water into class. No other food or drink is allowed in the classroom.

# Attendance and Holidays

#### **Attendance**

It is important to attend all your classes, and to arrive on time. If you are absent, you must inform the office. You can contact the school office by phone or email.

If you are taking one-to-one lessons and you need to cancel a class due to illness, you must inform the school the day before or before 09:00 on the day of the class.

If you are absent from school for two days in one week and you do not contact us, we will try to get in touch with you by phone or email. If we are not able to reach you, we will contact the person identified as your emergency contact.

All students must attend at least 80% of their lessons in order to receive a certificate of attendance. If your attendance falls below 80%, you will be asked to attend a meeting with School Director. If your attendance does not improve, you will be given a spoken warning. If it still does not improve, you will be given a written warning. If, after both warnings, you do not start attending regularly, you will be given a final warning.

#### Lateness

Please arrive at your class on time. If you are more than fifteen minutes late, you may be asked to wait until the break. If you are having problems travelling to school, please try to contact us. This helps the teachers plan effectively. If you are consistently late for your lessons, School Director will speak to you.

# **Booking holiday**

Missed classes cannot be recovered, and the start and end dates of your course will be decided at the time of registration. You may request one week's holiday if you book at least one week in advance. If you want to book a holiday, you must fill in the holiday booking form. Holidays must be for a full week from Monday to Friday. You can take a maximum of 2 weeks holiday per term.



# Health and Safety

#### Good manners

It is very important that all of us feel comfortable and safe at the school. Let's think of individual and cultural differences when communicating with others. If you are made to feel uncomfortable by anyone in the school, please speak to us in the school office immediately.

## **Smoking**

Please do not smoke anywhere in the school. This includes electronic cigarettes. Smoking is illegal in any public building in the UK.

# Drugs and alcohol

No drugs or alcohol are allowed in the school and students must never be under the influence of drugs or alcohol in class. Please be aware of UK drug laws so you do not break the law during your stay.

#### Theft

Do not take items that do not belong to you without permission, even if you plan to return them later.

# E-safety policy

When using online devices, you should <u>NOT</u>:

- Put online any text, image, sound, or video that could upset or offend any member of the school community.
- Give out your own personal details, such as mobile phone number, personal e-mail address on social media.
- Disclose any passwords and ensure that your personal data is kept secure and used appropriately.
- Browse, download, upload or distribute any material that could be considered offensive, illegal or discriminatory.

# Abusive Behaviour

We will not tolerate abusive behaviour towards students or members of staff. This includes:

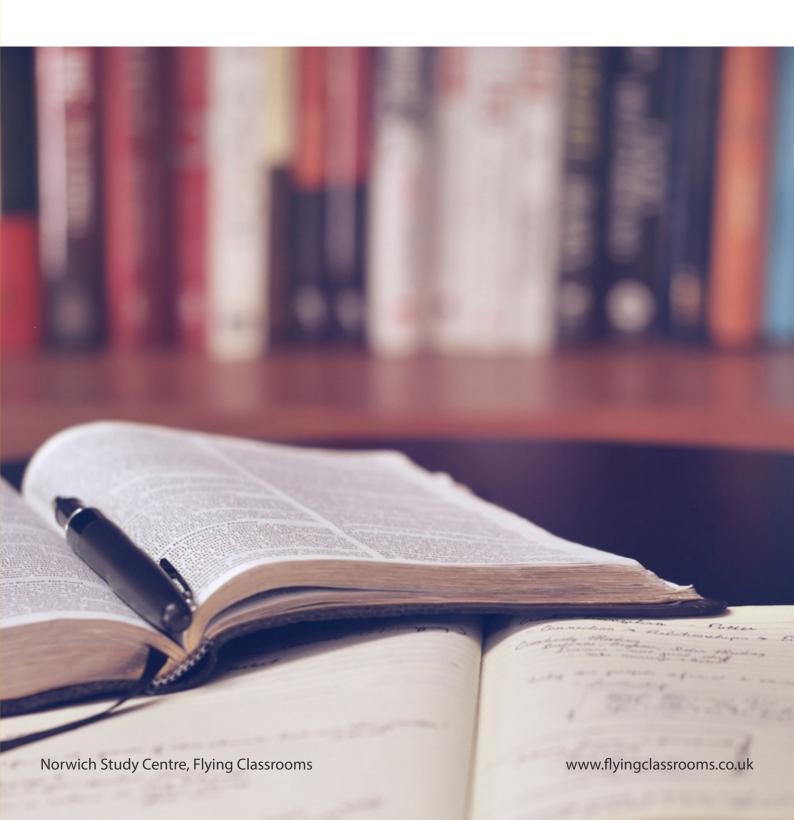
- Violence towards students, staff or visitors (including aggressive behaviour which does or does not cause physical injury)
- Threatening behaviour (including the possession of weapons, even if they are hidden)
- Harassment (negative behaviour towards other people which is unwanted, rude, worrying or stressful)
- Damaging, or attempting to damage, school property or the personal property of students or staff
- Rudeness to staff or other students
- Anti-social behaviour (including being drunk and noisy)
- Bullying of any kind (including cyberbullying)
- Unwanted physical contact or inappropriate attention



Health and Safety Page 25

# Contact with school staff

Students should not have any private contact with staff and teachers. This includes exchanging personal email addresses, phone numbers and social media contact details.



# **Complaints Procedures**



# Formal complaints

If you are not happy with the response from the Director/Safeguarding Officers, you can use our formal complaints procedure:

- Collect a Complaint Form from the school office and complete it
- Submit the form to the school office
- We will investigate your complaint and you will receive written confirmation of the complaint and any actions taken

# If your complaint is not resolved

If you have a serious complaint, and you are not satisfied that your complaint can be resolved by the school, you can contact the British Council or English UK.

#### **British Council Accreditation Unit**

- +44 (0)2076 087 960
- accreditation.unit@britishcouncil.org www.britishcouncil.org/education
- accreditation/information-studentsagents/student-complaints
  - **Bridgewater House**
- 58 Whiteworth Street Manchester M1 6BB

## English UK

- www.englishuk.com/en/students/englishin-the-uk/student-complaints-procedure 219 St John Street
- **Q** London EC1V 4LY

We regularly review policies, procedures and complaints at our Quality Assurance meetings, attended by the Director, Safeguarding Officers and the Senior Student Officer.



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# Medical Treatment in the UK

# If you are staying for 6 months or less

Students coming from the EU or Switzerland should bring their EHIC card with them when travelling to the UK. This gives you acess to medical treatment from the NHS in case of an emergency or for treatment of a pre-existing medical condition. The EHIC card is not an alternative to travel insurance and does not cover private medical care.

Students coming from non-EU countries will have to pay for any treatment they receive.

## If you are staying for longer than 6 months

If you begin a course in the UK that is longer than 6 months, you will need to pay the immigration health surcharge as part of your visa application. This entitles you to free NHS hospital treatment in England - you will still need to pay prescription charges for medication. This applies to students from EU and non-EU countries.

It is still advisable to arrange your own travel insurance for any length of stay. Check that your insurance has the necessary heathcare coverage you need, and inform the insurance company of any pre-existing heath conditions you have.

# Registering with a doctor

You should register with a doctor if you are staying in the UK for more than 6 months. After you have registered, you will be able to book appointments with the doctor.

If you are staying with a homestay host, you can use your family's doctor as a guest. Please ask your homestay host for more details.

If you have any questions or concerns about how to access medical treatment, please come to the office.

If you have not registered with a doctor and need to see someone quickly, you can go to the Walk-In Centre at Rouen House. You do not need an appointment, but you may have to wait before a doctor can see you.

Norwich Study Centre, Flying Classrooms

#### NHS Walk-In Centre (08:00 to 20:00)

+44 (0)1603 677 500

Norwich Practices Health Centre Rouen House

Rouen Road
Norwich
NR1 1RB



Some service such as Accident & Emergency (A&E) and visits to a General Practitioner (GP) are free for everyone.

For advice about a medical condition or in a non-emergency situation, you can call 111.

In the case of a medical emergency, call 999.

www.flyingclassrooms.co.uk

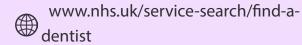
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## Registering with a dentist

You should register with a dentist if you are staying in the UK for more than 6 months. You should do this after you have registered with a doctor.

People usually pay for dental care in the UK, but an NHS dentist costs less. You can find a list of NHS dentists on the NHS website.

#### NHS (Dentist Locations)



Some dentists may say they have no room to take new patients. If this is the case, try another dentist.

You can also register with a private dentist (which costs more than an NHS dentist).

For more information, please come to the school office and speak to a member of staff.

If you have not registered with a dentist and need to see someone quickly, you can go to the Smile Centre and Norwich Community Hospital.

#### The Smile Centre



+44 (0)1603 272 350

The Smile Centre Norwich Community Hospital

Bowthorpe Road Norwich NR2 3TU

# **Medical Emergencies**

#### In school

We have members of staff who are trained in first aid:

Emily & Julie (student officers)

Tell a member of staff immediately if you or someone else requires first aid.

#### Outside school

If there is a medical emergency outside school, you must go to 'Accident and Emergency' at Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital, or call 999 if you require an ambulance.

> Norfolk and Norwich **University Hospital**



Colney Lane Norwich NR4 7UY





999 (emergencies only)

Please do not call 999 or go to **Accident and Emergency unless** it is an emergency.

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## Banks and money

As it can be difficult for visiting students to open a full UK bank account, we recommend using Monzo or Revolut, an online UK bank account provider that focuses on services for foreign and international students. Students can sign up to receive a UK sort code and account number, contactless card, and banking app in under two minutes online. For more information, or if you need to open a full UK bank account, please come and speak with us in the school office.



#### Post office

The nearest Post Office locations to the school can be found at WH Smith on St Stephens Street, or at Roys on Magdalen Street.



# Library

The library is open everyday. You can borrow books, use computers and study there for free.



#### Insurance

We advise all students to arrange medical, personal and travel insurance before travelling to UK.

Useful Information Page 31

#### Legal issues

For legal advice you can go to the Citizens Advice Bureau (The Forum).

#### Citizens Advice Bureau



+44 (0)800 144 8848



www.citizensadvice.org.uk

#### Police

If you need the police and it is not an emergency, the nearest police station is Bethel Street Police Station.

#### Bethel Street Police Station (09:00 to 18:00)

Bethel Street Police Station **Bethel Steet** 



Norwich

Norfolk

NR2 1NN

#### Age restrictions and related sales

There are limitations to what you can purchase in the UK:

- Alcohol, tobacco and cigarettes: You must be over the age of eighteen (18) to buy tobacco or cigarettes, to buy alcoholic drinks or to drink them on licensed premises (pubs, bars etc.). If you look under 25 years old, your age will be checked, so be prepared and bring a form of photo ID (passport, driving licence etc.).
- Drugs: The penalty for illegal drug use depends on the type of drug and the quantity found in somebody's possession. For more information, please see the UK Government's website.

#### **UK drugs information**



www.gov.uk/

penalties-drug-possession-dealing

# Motoring offences

Foreign drivers are expected to know and to follow the British Highway Code. The most serious driving offences include driving after consuming alcohol, reckless driving and driving without insurance. Please remember that in the UK you must drive on the left hand side of the road. For more information about the British Highway Code, please see the UK Government's website.

#### The Highway Code



www.gov.uk/the-highway-code

# Critical Incident Emergency Plan

# What To Do in an Emergency

# Fire and evacuation procedures

The building is equipped with fire alarms which are carefully maintained and tested every month.

The school operates a no smoking policy throughout its buildings and shared spaces.



If you hear the fire alarm, do not panic!





1 Follow your teacher to the fire assembly point. Do not stop to collect any personal belongings.







1 Follow the green fire exit signs. Do not stop to collect any personal belongings.

2 Wait quietly at the fire assembly point. The staff and Fire Marshall will check everybody is present. Do not enter the building again until you are told it is safe to do so.

# Critical Emergency

If you are at school and a critical emergency happens such as a bomb threat or terrorist attack, the school will follow the Major Incident policy and guide you to safety. You can find more information about how to respond to a critical emergency on the display board in the student common room.





- www.flyingclassrooms.co.uk
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- info@flyingclassrooms.co.uk
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