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BIRCHWATER EDUCATION SCHOOL BROCHURE



A close-up photograph of a young woman with long brown hair, smiling warmly at the camera. She is wearing a white t-shirt and holding an open blue book or folder. The background is a bright, slightly blurred outdoor setting with greenery.

Contents

Overview	p 2
What We Offer	p 3
Accommodation	p 4
Our Location	p 5
Residential Summer	p 6
Homestay Summer	p 8
Mini Stay & School Groups	p 10
Summer Family Stay	p 11
Academic Year Placement	p 12
Guardianship & Homestay	p 12

Overview



Established in 2016 in the heart of Limerick on the banks of the River Shannon. In its short history, Birchwater Education (BWE) has been ILEP listed, a Trinity College Exam Centre, ICM and NCC accredited. Our Founders, Ian and Nora are leading industry professionals with over 25 years of combined experience both inside and outside the classroom. Together they have dedicated over 4 years into making BWE the location of choice in Limerick for summer schools, academic placements and guardianship services.

BWE has developed steadily over the course of the last 4 years forming partnerships with local and international schools, establishing a sister company for guardianship and homestay placement services (ISGI) while continually improving our English language offerings. In 2020, Birchwater Education was shortlisted by the prestigious Study Travel Magazine for a Star Award in the 'New English School' category. While 2020 has been a challenging year, we look forward to 2021 and working closely with our international partners and improving the services we offer in Limerick and throughout Ireland.



August 2018



March 2018



Summer 2019



WHAT WE OFFER

- Junior Summer School
- Mini Stay/Short Stay Activity Programme
- Academic Year School Placement
- Guardianship and Homestay Placement
- Short Term Adult Summer Courses
- Family Stay Programmes



03

COURSE INFO

Junior Summer School July 10th - July 25th

Our summer school residential camp will be located in Villiers International IB School. Situated in a secluded area of the city centre, it's safe and picturesque surroundings make it the perfect setting.

Mini Stay/Short Stay Jan 2021 - May 2021

Students increase confidence in English through immersion in the language. The mini stay does not include any formal classroom English lessons. It is based on 'learning by doing' through the activity programme and homestay immersion with local Irish families.

Adult Summer General English

Our summer adult programme is ideal for short term intensive English language learning. Small class sizes and native English teachers help students progress quickly.

Family Stay - Summer July 10th - July 25th

Families that wish to travel to Limerick together are very welcome. Our self catering accommodation is available in the city centre while children attend the summer school, parents may attend the adult courses or enjoy the sites and sounds of the area.

Academic HighSchool Placement

We work with a select number of local High Schools in Limerick and the surrounding area. We place students in both public (EU Citizens only) and private fee paying schools according to parents needs and preferences.

Guardianship and Homestay

Our experienced local Guardians and our Homestays are selected based on a proven track record. Our sister company, International Studnet Guardianship Ireland (ISGI), provides homestay and guardianship placement services during the academic year for all international students studying in both public or private schools.

**We believe that each child
deserves an enriching
environment to learn and grow.**



Homestay

Students attending our summer school have the option to stay with our wonderful homestay families renowned for their warm and friendly welcome. Students get an opportunity to immerse themselves in the Irish way of life and practice their English language skills throughout the day.



Residential

Students attending our summer school in Villiers IB school, stay in beautifully enclosed residential accommodation. This safe and friendly environment is located within the gates of the school. All our nutritious meals are provided on site in the main dining hall.



OUR LOCATION

LIMERICK, IRELAND

Limerick is Ireland's third biggest City and offers a great location to study given it's close proximity to Ireland's top tourist destinations. Situated in the South West of Ireland on the River Shannon, Limerick is only 2h15mins from Dublin airport and 20mins from Shannon airport.

Summer 2021

The Summer Residential programme in Limerick is based in Villiers International IB School. This prestigious school is one of Ireland's oldest and established private boarding schools, modernised with onsite residential accommodation, dining halls, indoor and outdoor sports facilities, a large open garden area all within a beautiful gated enclosure in a scenic area of the city.



05



Villiers IB School

JUNIOR PROGRAMS

Course Overview

Our International English language summer school is designed to be fun and exciting while inspiring and motivating our students to improve their English language skills and cultural awareness. The programme consists of a minimum of 15 hours English language tuition per week with action packed afternoon activities and evening electives.

Increase motivation and Confidence

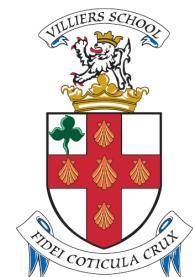
The summer school is perfect for improving English proficiency while making lots of new friends and building your confidence speaking English. Everyday is filled with amazing activities to practice and learn new skills. All our classes are with native English speaking teachers and are designed to be fun!

Classes

Classes are 45 mins in duration and can be tailored to be 15 or 20 hours in length per week. Our cheerful staff are there to motivate students to speak and engage in the activities and lessons. Our modern teaching approach develops all English Language skills with a focus on listening and speaking skills ensuring the students use and apply the English they learn through group work, hands on activities, presentations and mini projects.

Accommodation and Meals

Our on site residential accommodation is available with nutritious meals provided on site. Our vetted host families have a reputation for being friendly and warm hearted providing nutritious and healthy meals on a daily bases.



Residential

VILLIERS IB SCHOOL LIMERICK

July 10th - July 25th

Committed to making every
child feel safe, inspired, and
motivated

**Villiers School is one of
Ireland's oldest
Residential Boarding
Schools. Our
International Summer
School allows students
to experience tradition
and culture in a
beautiful, safe and
friendly environment.**

RESIDENTIAL STAY

Dates: July 10th - July 25th

Ages: 11 - 17 years

Location: Villiers, Limerick

Camp: Residential

Camp Highlights

- Student mix with local Irish students and students from all over the world
- On campus residential with boys and girls housed separately
- Dining hall located on campus
- Students immersed in the culture and history
- Gated enclosure in a secluded area of the city with scenic surroundings
- Close proximity to City Centre
- Safe and friendly environment
- Excellent activity programme
- 24 hours supervision

Residential Accommodation

The residential stay accommodates 130 students in total with separate boys and girls living quarters. Students are supervised at all times. Rooms vary from 4 per room to 8 students sharing.

Meals and Facilities

All our nutritious meals are provided on site. Four meals are provided per day including breakfast, lunch, dinner and a light evening snack. The school is equipped with excellent facilities including an outdoor astro hockey and football pitch, indoor gymnasium with basketball and volleyball courts, school cafe, computer room and dining hall.



Villiers Residence Sample Timetable

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8.00am	Wake up call						
8.35am	Morning meeting with Leader						
8.45am	Breakfast in main Dining Hall						
9.15am	English Language Tuition (45 min per class) A1 to C1 levels						
1.00pm – 2.00pm	Lunch time meal						
	Sample Afternoon Activities may include (but not limited to)						
2.00pm – 5.00pm	Adventure	Sports	Arts & Irish Culture	Calm, Leisure & Tours	Half Day Tours		
	Kayaking	Soccer	Pottery*	Shopping	Walking tour		
	Archery	Basketball	Painting	Zumba	King John's Castle		
	Wall Climbing	Tag Rugby	Crafts	Free time to relax	Museum Tour		
	Team games	Volleyball	Cooking	Yoga	Stadium Tour		
	Horse Riding *	Hockey	Irish Dancing	Picnic	Art Gallery		
	Paint Balling	Irish sports	Print Making	Nature Walk			
6.00pm – 7.00pm	Dinner in Main Dining Hall						
7.30pm- 9.00pm	Evening Electives and social activities: Includes cookery classes, Irish culture classes including dance and music, arts and crafts, games, table tennis, table quiz, bingo, yoga, extra English class, guest speakers, cinema, bowling, disco, Karaoke						
10.00pm	Return to sleeping quarters and prepare for sleep						
10.30pm	Lights out						

07



Established in 1821, Villiers is one of Ireland's oldest and well known Boarding Schools





Homestay

LIMERICK

July 10th - July 25th

**Committed to
developing a passion
for learning in all our
students**

**Limerick is the gateway
to the Wild Atlantic Way.
The Cliffs of Moher are
only 45mins away from
Limerick and are one of
Ireland's top tourist
destinations, known for
breath taking natural
beauty.**

HOMESTAY

Dates: July 10th - July 24th

Ages: 11 - 17 years

Location: Limerick

Camp: Homestay

Camp Highlights

- Students immersed in Irish way of Life with traditional homestay families
- Students dropped off and collected at school if not within walking distance
- Mix with Irish students during afternoon activities
- Excellent mix of activities
- Practice speaking English with family
- Safe and friendly environment
- Student mix with children from all over the world
- 24 hours supervision

Homestay Accommodation

Our carefully selected homestays are fully vetted and are all within close proximity to the school. Students unable to walk to school are dropped off and collected daily. Our homestays welcome the children like part of the family and are often considered the highlight of the summer school. Students often use this extra time to improve their English speaking skills

Facilities and Meals

Three meals are provided per day including breakfast, a packed lunch for school and a nutritious dinner. A light snack before bedtime is often provided should children still feel hungry. Students that wish to have a hot lunch at school are welcome to do so with a small supplement fee added.

Junior Programme

Homestay



The international junior summer school homestay option offers the perfect mix of English language learning, sports activities, cultural and educational trips. It's a great chance to learn about a new culture, enjoy the fresh Atlantic air, practice and improve English language skills and make new friends. This full immersion Programme is perfect for building confidence, maturity and fluency.

Students study up to 15 hours English per week in the morning. Afternoon activities take place directly after lunch with a variety of land and water sports, arts & crafts, adventure activities, games, music and leisure time. Students explore the world famous tourist areas of Clare with excursions planned every Saturday.



09



Sample Programme

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7.45am	Wake up call						
8.10am	Breakfast with Family						
9.00am	Arrive at school (Walk to School/dropped off by family)						
9.15am	English Language Tuition (45 min per class) A1 to C1 levels						
1.00 – 2.00pm	Break for lunch. Packed lunch provided by host family						
	Sample Afternoon Activities may include (but not limited to)						
2.00pm – 5.00pm	Sports Soccer camp Basketball Tag Rugby Volleyball Hockey Irish Sports	Adventure Kayaking SUP Archery Wall climbing Team games Horse Riding*	Calm, leisure & Tours Zumba Yoga Picnic Nature walk Shopping Free Time	Half Day Tour Walking tour King John's Castle Museum Tour Stadium Tour Art Gallery	Culture Irish Music Cooking Irish Dancing Pottery* Painting Arts & Crafts Print Making	Full Day Excursion may include one or more of, <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cliffs of MoherKillarney National ParkGalway CityBunratty CastleLahinch BeachDoolin Cave, (The Great Stalactite), nature trail and Fanore BeachChocolate MakingAran Islands (tide and weather dependent. Extra fee applies)	
5.00pm – 7.00pm	Return to Homestay after afternoon activities(5pm) Dinner with Family in homestay						
7.30-8.30pm	2 evening activities included (may include) - disco night, karaoke, bowling, Irish culture classes including music and dance, arts and crafts, games, table tennis, table quiz, bingo, yoga, extra English class, movie club, fun run etc.						
8.45pm	Return to home Stay after evening activity						
10.00pm	Evening Curfew						

Mini Stay and School Groups

Tuition Programme

The Tuition Programme includes a traditional mix of English language tuition in the morning with activities in the afternoon. Students receive at least 15 hours of English per week in closed groups. The afternoon activities include adventure, land and water sports, arts and crafts and culture with leisure time for students to shop and enjoy the city freely. One half day trip is included with an historic tour of King Johns Castle. The weekend includes one full day excursion. Favourites include trips to The Cliffs of Moher, Lahinch Beach, Killarney National Park and Bunratty Medieval Park and Castle.

Activity Programme

Our activity programme is designed to learn English 'by doing' rather than in the traditional classroom setting. Our tailor made courses are designed specifically for groups of students travelling together and looking for a programme to provide an opportunity to learn and use English language through fun-filled social events, sports, activities and excursions. The programme is specially designed with extra activities in the morning and afternoon. Along with the half day tour and weekend excursion, students have the opportunity to spend more time with the family. This increased immersion in the language helps improve overall confidence and fluency.



Homestay

Dates: Jan - May 2021

Ages: 11 - 17 years

Location: Limerick City Centre

Group: Closed

Class Details

- Maximum 15 students per class
- Lessons - 45 min
- Number of lessons - 20+
- Closed group

Accommodation

- Host Family - Max 2 per family unless requested.

Included

- Tuition
- Activities and excursions
- Accommodation and Meals
- Registration fee
- Placement test
- English materials
- Airport transfers
- End of course certificate
- Excursion and school transfers
- 1 free leader for every 15 students



Family Stay

Self Catering Stay

Our family stay summer course offers the opportunity to combine a holiday with your family while learning English language in Limerick. Lessons are provided by highly qualified native teachers with years of experience. Parents may attend classes for adults while the children join our summer school for juniors. For young learners (6-9), please contact the school for further details.

Accommodation

Families are provided with excellent well furnished self-catering apartments in the city centre within walking distance of all amenities. Families can enjoy 24 hour security, free wifi and sports facilities. The programme includes optional English tuition for parents with children attending all activities, events and excursions at the summer school.



Adults English

General English

Our classes focus on increasing confidence and fluency. Following completion our students should

- Have improved their ability to use English, both orally and in writing with improved grammatical structures
- Communicate with greater confidence
- Be fully aware of their language level and progression routes
- Have developed study skills and strategies for independent study
- Gain in-house certification

IELTS Preparation

IELTS has become very important for University applications and a variety of professional occupations. This course is ideal for reaching your personal goals whether for university or work. This course is specifically designed to prepare you for all aspects of the exam to ensure your success. Following completion, students should

- Be prepared for the IELTS exam format
- Have improved your ability to use English, both orally and in writing, with improved grammatical structures
- Be able to communicate with greater confidence
- Be fully aware of their IELTS level

Business English

The class is aimed at establishing and developing strong communication skills which are essential in the business environment. This is achieved through practicing real life business scenarios including presentation skills, role plays, mock meetings along with debates on current topics. Following completions students should

- Have improved their ability to use English, both orally and in writing, with improved sentence structures and business vocabulary
- Be able to communicate with greater confidence in real life business situations



International School Placement

Academic Year

Ireland offers a safe, friendly and affordable location for international junior students to study the academic year with local Irish students. We offer consultation and placement for international students that wish to study in public (EU Students) and private fee paying schools (EU & Non EU) in Ireland. We work with an excellent selection of quality schools in Munster and the greater surrounding area including Villiers IB School, Rockwell College, Glenstal abbey, Cistercian College, brookfield College and many more. Students can join a variety of year groups including the Junior Cycle, Transition Year (TY) and the Senior Cycle.



Guardianship and Homestay

www.guardianshipireland.ie

Our carefully selected families are fully vetted and are all within walking distance of the school. Our families welcome the children like part of the family with nutritious meals provided daily, spacious rooms and lots of interaction to help improve their English making our homestays a highlight for international students. Our Guardianship service is the only professional full time service in the area with 24 hour on call personnel and comes highly recommended, from both our school partners and parents.



Villiers IB school



Rockwell College



Glenstal Abbey



Cistercian College

Our Locations



ILEP
Interim List of
Eligible Programmes



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