

2026

# HATHEROP CASTLE SUMMER SCHOOL

THE ADVENTURE OF CHILDHOOD



HATHEROP  
CASTLE  
PREP SCHOOL

— 8-12 YEARS —



**Ages:** 8-12 years

**Dates:** 5 – 19 July 2026

**Course price:** from £1450 per week

- ✦ Integration with UK children
- ✦ Small, caring environment for up to 40 students
- ✦ Experience British boarding life - learning, academics, and adventure

# WELCOME TO HATHEROP CASTLE SUMMER SCHOOL

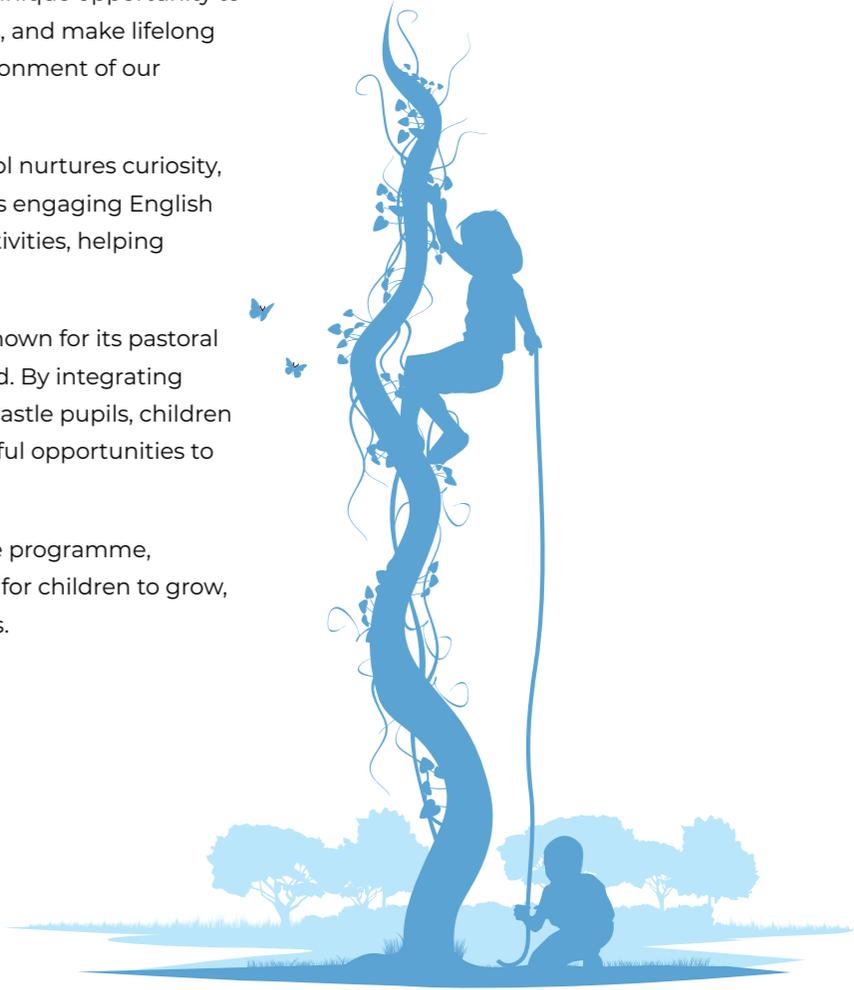
## SPEND A MAGICAL SUMMER IN A HISTORIC ENGLISH CASTLE

Imagine spending your summer in a beautiful English castle, surrounded by rolling countryside and a warm, supportive community. At Hatherop Castle Summer School, children aged 8–12 have the unique opportunity to explore English culture, improve their language skills, and make lifelong friendships – all within the safe and welcoming environment of our historic grounds in the heart of the Cotswolds.

More than just language learning, our summer school nurtures curiosity, independence and personal growth. Each day blends engaging English lessons with fun outdoor adventures and creative activities, helping children to learn naturally and confidently.

Hatherop Castle is a small and vibrant community known for its pastoral excellence, where every child is valued and supported. By integrating with native English speakers and current Hatherop Castle pupils, children experience genuine cultural exchange and meaningful opportunities to practise their English in real-life settings.

With its enchanting setting and immersive language programme, Hatherop Castle Summer School is the perfect place for children to grow, explore, and create unforgettable summer memories.



# A WELCOME FROM THE HEAD

## A WARM WELCOME TO HATHEROP CASTLE SCHOOL

We have a long history of welcoming international pupils to Hatherop Castle School and I am thrilled to open our doors once again to international students that want to learn and improve their English language skills within an immersive environment and our beautiful setting.

At Hatherop Castle School we believe in The Adventure of Childhood, and during their time with us, children are supported, nurtured and encouraged to explore their passions and develop their character whilst making lifelong friends from all corners of the world.

Whether a child is at Hatherop Castle School for a week, a term, a year or more, we believe that every child will enjoy their learning through the wonderful activities and opportunities offered within an historic castle in the glorious Cotswold countryside.



**Nigel Reed**  
Head, Hatherop Castle School



# SUMMER SCHOOL OVERVIEW

An engaging English Language programme and carefully designed timetable provides a great balance of learning, activities and connection.

## ENGLISH LEARNING

Whether a beginner or more advanced English speaker, the Hatherop Castle Summer School programme ensures meaningful progress. English is taught by TEFL-qualified teachers around subject themes so that learning is both immersive and relevant. Lessons structured around science, history, geography and literature enable children to build vocabulary and fluency within an education context.

Our experiential and interactive approach is designed to ensure children use English confidently across academic and social settings. From classroom discussions and project-based learning to engaging excursions, English language skills are built around real-life scenarios.

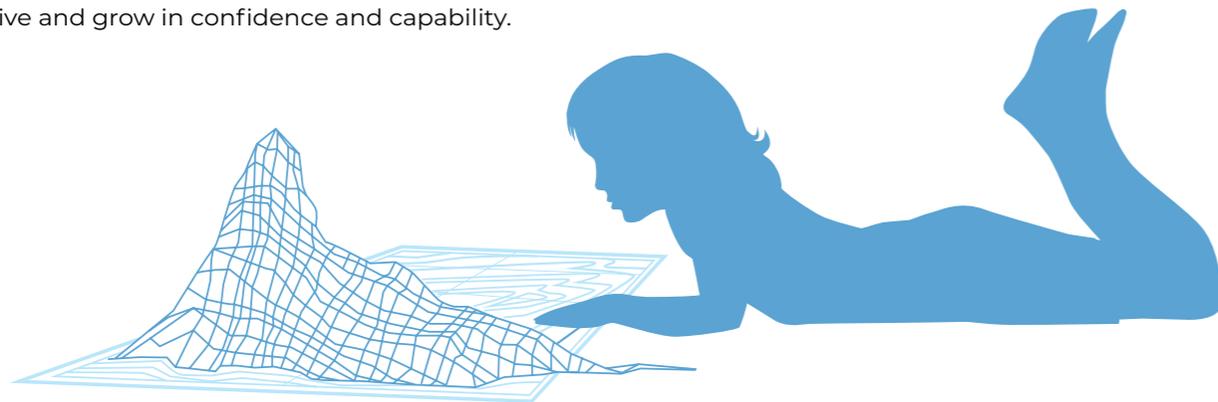
Children take part in lessons five mornings a week, in small groups of 12 or less. The personal attention and supportive environment is an opportunity for every child to thrive and grow in confidence and capability.

## ACADEMIES

At Hatherop, Castle Summer School we want children to have a varied and rewarding experience, learn new things and find new passions. The Academies are a great way to have fun and practice language skills in a relaxed setting. Children can choose to supplement their learning with Horse Riding Academy, Tennis Academy or Performing Arts Academy.

## ACTIVITIES

On the inclusive Multi-Activity programme children join UK students at Discover Activity Camp, the school day camp that runs throughout the summer holiday. The perfect opportunity to socialise in a fun, environment with local children to make lasting summer memories.



## EVENINGS

After dinner, evenings are spent together reading, relaxing and playing games, learning whilst at play and cementing friendships.

## EXCURSIONS

Weekends and Wednesday afternoon, children venture further afield on popular excursions to iconic sights and places of historic interest to enjoy time their new friends.



**MYRON**  
10 YEARS  
FROM UKRAINE

*"My favourite thing about Hatherop Castle Summer School is making friends with students from other countries and learning different languages and cultures."*



# WHY CHOOSE HATHEROP CASTLE SUMMER SCHOOL

## A WARM, CARING ENVIRONMENT:

Your child will feel welcomed from the moment they arrive. Our experienced staff are here to support them through every part of their stay.

## AN IMMERSIVE ENGLISH EXPERIENCE:

Students are fully immersed in English, both in the classroom and during activities, encouraging real-world language use and cultural exchange.

## SMALL CLASS SIZES:

With a maximum of 12 students per class, every child receives personal attention and tailored support to help them grow in confidence.

## A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES:

From sports to arts and crafts, children can explore new hobbies and develop new skills, all while using their English.



**ELLA**  
TEACHER

*“Students get to know each other more quickly when lessons are interactive. There are lots of lovely conversations happening in every corner, and children write lots of funny stories based on their excursions.”*





# IMMERSIVE LEARNING

English language development is at the heart of our academic provision. Designed for international students aged 8–12, the programme is delivered in small classes, to ensure personalised attention and a nurturing environment where every child can thrive.



What sets the programme apart is the integration of Hatherop Castle School curriculum, creating a rich and immersive learning experience. English is taught through daily subject themes, including science, history, geography, and English literature. This approach allows students to build vocabulary and fluency in meaningful contexts, while gaining insight into British education and culture.

## LEARNING IN ACTION

Our experiential approach to language learning encourages children to apply their English in real life scenarios. Through creative and collaborative classroom projects, excursions and activities, there is always an opportunity to practise and grow. Our approach enhances communication skills and intercultural awareness, while developing critical thinking and building confidence.

## ENGLISH FOR ALL

On registering, parents provide an indication of their child's level of English, which is followed up on arrival with a short test to ensure they are grouped appropriately in line with their ability, and can thrive in the classroom.

TIMETABLE								
	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	
	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	
8.50-12.30	Academic options	Academic options	Academic options	Academic options	Academic options	ALL-DAY EXCURSION	Activities	
12.30-13.30	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	
13.30-15.15	Activities with Integration	Activities with Integration	HALF-DAY EXCURSION	Activities with Integration	Reflection, feedback & certificates		HALF-DAY EXCURSION	ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE
15.15-15.45	Refreshment break	Refreshment break		Refreshment break	Refreshment break			
16.00-18.00	Activities & Academies	Activities & Academies	Activities & Academies	Activities & Academies				
18.00-18.30	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
18.30-19.30	House time	House time	House time	House time	House time	House time	House Time	
19.30-21.00	Evening activity	Evening activity	Evening activity	Evening activity	Evening activity	Evening activity	Evening activity	

## FLUENT SPEAKERS

Topic-based teaching, inspired by MYP English for higher level learners, mean that fluent English speakers at levels C1 and C2 enjoy high-level, practical engagement with English language. Children with advanced standards of English, such as those currently attending an international school or have grown up speaking English, are still challenged at the right level.

## KEY FACTS

### Age group:

8-12 years

### Hours:

15 hours of lessons per week

### Class sizes:

Maximum of 12 students per class

### Levels:

Beginner to fluent speakers

# EXPLORE, DISCOVER AND HAVE FUN!

Our carefully designed Summer School programme offers the perfect blend of education and fun. Every day is an exciting opportunity for learning and making new friends. From Academies and excursions to afternoon and evening activities, expect a summer of learning and memorable experiences.

## ACADEMIES

The beautiful setting enable us to fantastic facilities and specialist staff provide specialist Academies for our international students. As well as enjoying their chosen Academy, children have further opportunity to use their English language skills in a relaxed, informal environment.

## MULTI-ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

Children not signed up to take part in a Summer School Academy take part in the Multi-Activity Programme, where they enjoy a range of different activities each afternoon. Activities include basketball, football, touch rugby, badminton, Kwik cricket, volleyball and arts and crafts. The Multi-Activity Programme is included in the standard price.

## EVENING ACTIVITIES

With the long summer evenings there is plenty of time for children to enjoy the 22 acres of gardens and grounds at Hatherop Castle and socialise over games and movie nights.





### HORSE RIDING

The Cotswolds is famous horse-riding country, and home to the internationally renowned Badminton Horse Trials. Students get the chance to develop their riding skills (walking, trotting and cantering), and if their skills permit, enjoy a hack in the beautiful Gloucestershire countryside.

**Session length:** 4 X 45-minute riding sessions per week

**Levels:** No prior experience needed, separate group for advanced riders

**Equipment:** Hats and body protectors are provided; students must bring riding boots and trousers

**Cost:** £250 per week



### PERFORMING ARTS

Hatherop Castle has a great reputation for the performing arts and a fantastic modern Performing Arts Centre. This Academy is a creative combination of music, drama and dance, leading to a short performance at the Talent Show, using the school's performing arts facilities and expert tuition.

**Session length:** 4 x 2-hour sessions per week

**Levels:** Suitable for all levels

**Equipment:** No specialist equipment needed

**Cost:** £150 per week



**ISSY**  
ACTIVITY LEADER  
AND HOUSEPARENT

*"All of the children's varied talents have amazed me, from getting up on stage and performing in front of an audience to having a conversation with someone they met only yesterday. Every day I watch them grow in confidence."*

### TENNIS

Expert coaching for players of all abilities in this hugely popular sport, using Hatherop's tennis courts. Students will learn all aspects of the sport, from understanding grip, forward and backhand strokes, serving, volleying, and court positioning.

**Session length:** 4 x 2-hour sessions per week

**Levels:** Suitable for all levels

**Equipment:** Loan rackets are provided, but students are welcome to bring their own

**Cost:** £150 per week





## EXCURSIONS

Hatherop Castle Summer School isn't just about learning: it's about experiencing the best of British culture. Students take part in weekly excursions to historic sites, popular attractions and the English countryside. Each trip complements the academic theme of the week, and is an opportunity for children to use their language skills and bring learning to life.

### FULL-DAY WEEKEND TRIPS

#### WARWICK CASTLE

**Date:** Week 1

Step into the world of kings, queens and medieval legends. Students explore the castle's towers and interactive exhibitions, where British history comes to life through live shows, storytelling and hands-on activities.

#### LEGOLAND®

**Date:** Week 2

Must-visit destination for all ages, Legoland offers a world of creativity and adventure. From thrilling rides to incredible LEGO® displays, this theme park is sure to captivate and inspire. With everything LEGO® around every corner, it's a fun-filled day that our students will never forget.



### HALF-DAY MID-WEEK TRIPS

#### SLIMBRIDGE WETLAND CENTRE

**Date:** Week 1

This nature-focused trip introduces students to British wildlife and conservation. Guided walks, birdwatching and interactive exhibits help students explore ecosystems and biodiversity — perfect for exploring our science and geography themes.

#### WE THE CURIOUS, BRISTOL

**Date:** Week 2

A hands-on science centre where curiosity leads the way. Students experiment, explore and interact with exhibits covering everything from space to sustainability. It's a fantastic opportunity to apply classroom learning in a real-world setting.



### HALF-DAY SUNDAY TRIP (for those not arriving or departing on the day)



This schedule reflects our plans. However, due to external factors such as weather, travel restrictions or venue availability, we reserve the right to change this and offer suitable alternatives.

#### COTSWOLD WILDLIFE PARK

**Date:** Week 1

A relaxed weekend outing where students encounter animals from around the world, set against the backdrop of the beautiful, 19th century Manor House. It's a chance to enjoy the outdoors and reflect on themes of conservation and animal habitats.





## STAYING WITH US

Spending the summer in a castle, in cosy shared bedrooms, enjoying delicious home-cooked meals make Hatherop Castle a real home away from home.

### ACCOMMODATION

Living in an English castle is one of the most exciting things about Hatherop Castle Summer School. The comfortable bedrooms, shared living spaces and experienced house staff mean every child is cared for in a safe, supportive setting.

### FOOD

Delicious and extremely popular with every visitor to Hatherop Castle School, in-house cooks serve nutritious, freshly prepared meals throughout the day. There is always plenty of choice and tailored options for all cultural and religious requirements. Each day children enjoy a hearty breakfast, morning snack, hot lunch, afternoon tea and two-course evening meal – a weekly menu designed to fuel both learning and fun!

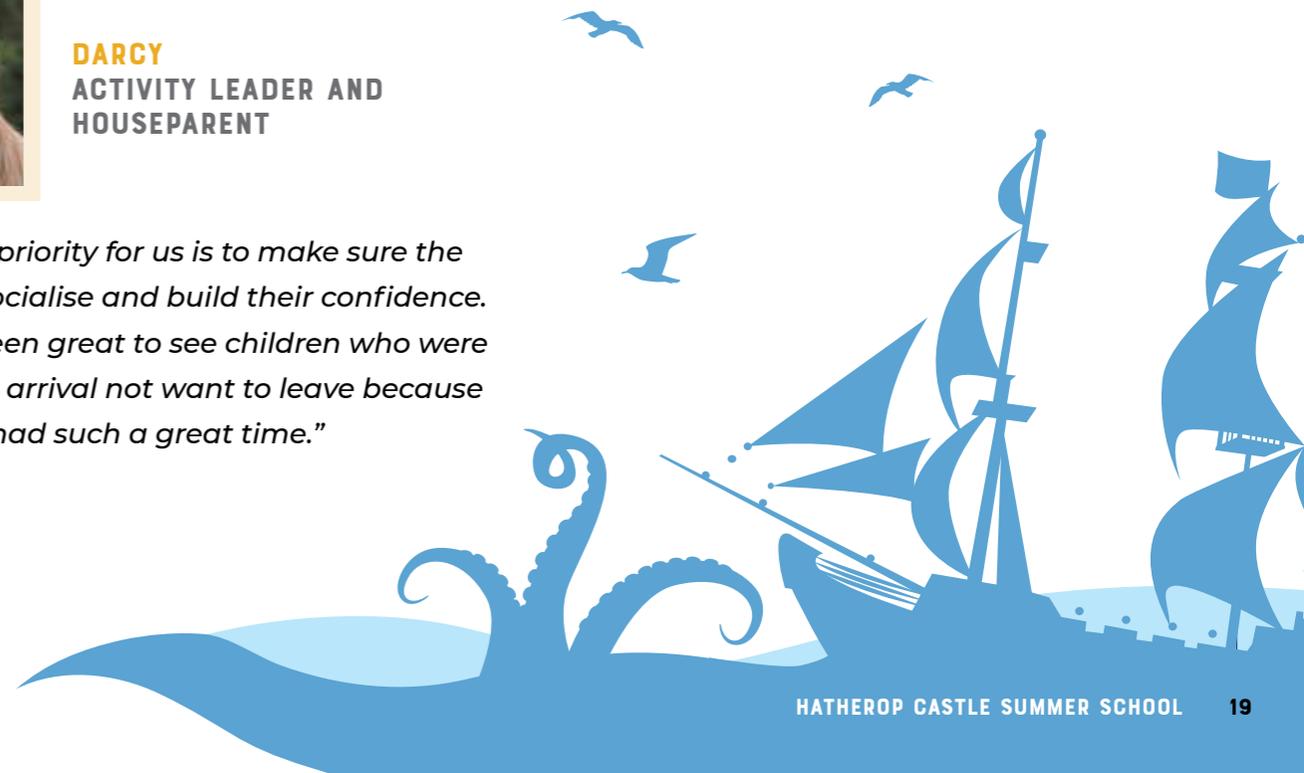
### CARE

Most importantly, we provide round-the-clock care. Our experienced pastoral team is always available to support students, helping them settle in and feel at home. If homesickness arises, our friendly staff are there to offer comfort and guidance.



**DARCY**  
ACTIVITY LEADER AND  
HOUSEPARENT

*“The main priority for us is to make sure the students socialise and build their confidence. It’s been great to see children who were nervous on arrival not want to leave because they have had such a great time.”*



# SAFEGUARDING AND WELFARE



Your child's safety and happiness are our top priorities. We ensure all staff are specially trained in safeguarding, and our school grounds are secure, with supervision provided during all activities and excursions. Hatherop Castle is a place where your child can feel safe to explore, learn, and grow.

## TRAINED AND APPROACHABLE STAFF

All staff are trained in safeguarding, specifically designed for Hatherop Castle Summer School. The staff are supported by a highly trained and experienced Safeguarding Team. Children are supervised and looked after by house parents and dedicated welfare support staff and are invited to approach any member of the team at any time.

## POSITIVE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

We provide a positive, supportive and nurturing environment, where every child can feel safe during their stay. While we have clear expectations for behaviour and conduct, we believe in positive behaviour management, which helps students adapt their behaviour to an environment that may be completely new to them.

## SECURE CAMPUS AND ASSESSED ACTIVITIES

Hatherop Castle School is an exceptionally safe location, a self-contained school campus, where students live in a secure environment. We have specific risk assessments in place for every activity and excursion so that staff and students are as prepared as possible for any eventuality.

## SAFER RECRUITMENT PRACTICES

We follow safer recruitment processes to ensure all staff members are assessed as suitable for working with children. This includes conducting relevant background and reference checks, This applies to any third parties that we work this, such as Transfer providers.



**FRIDA**  
12 YEARS OLD  
FROM NORWAY

*“One of my favourite things about our summer school has been the staff, they’re so caring and nice and helping me when I needed it.”*

## MOBILE PHONE POLICY

While staying with us, students' mobile phone use is monitored and permitted only for a limited time in the evening and only when connected to Hatherop Castle School's safe student network. As well as ensuring that students use their time to communicate with each other, this also helps prevent safeguarding issues linked to the online world. Students do have access to their phones on trips.

## DEALING WITH HOMESICKNESS

We know that younger children may find it challenging to adjust to a new environment far from home, and we have extensive experience in supporting them and their families through periods of homesickness.



# AIRPORT TRANSFERS

We provide two levels of airport transfer service: an **Standard Transfer Service** from London Heathrow Airport, and a **Private Transfer Service** available from several other airports too.

## STANDARD TRANSFER SERVICE

### London Heathrow

The budget-friendly Standard Transfer Service is available from London Heathrow Airport on Sundays. This includes a meet & greet service by a member of school staff or a driver inside the terminal building. On departure, our staff member or driver also takes students to the check-in desk.

**The Standard Transfer Service is only available on Sundays for flights:**

- Arriving between 9am and 6pm
- Departing between 10am and 7pm

**The Eurostar Shuttle Transfer Service is available for trains:**

- Arriving between 9am and 6pm
- Departing between 10am and 7pm

**Waiting times:** A staff member or driver will meet students upon arrival. While we operate multiple transfers throughout the day, students may need to wait up to two hours with a staff member before departing, depending on arrival times.

## PREMIUM TRANSFER SERVICE

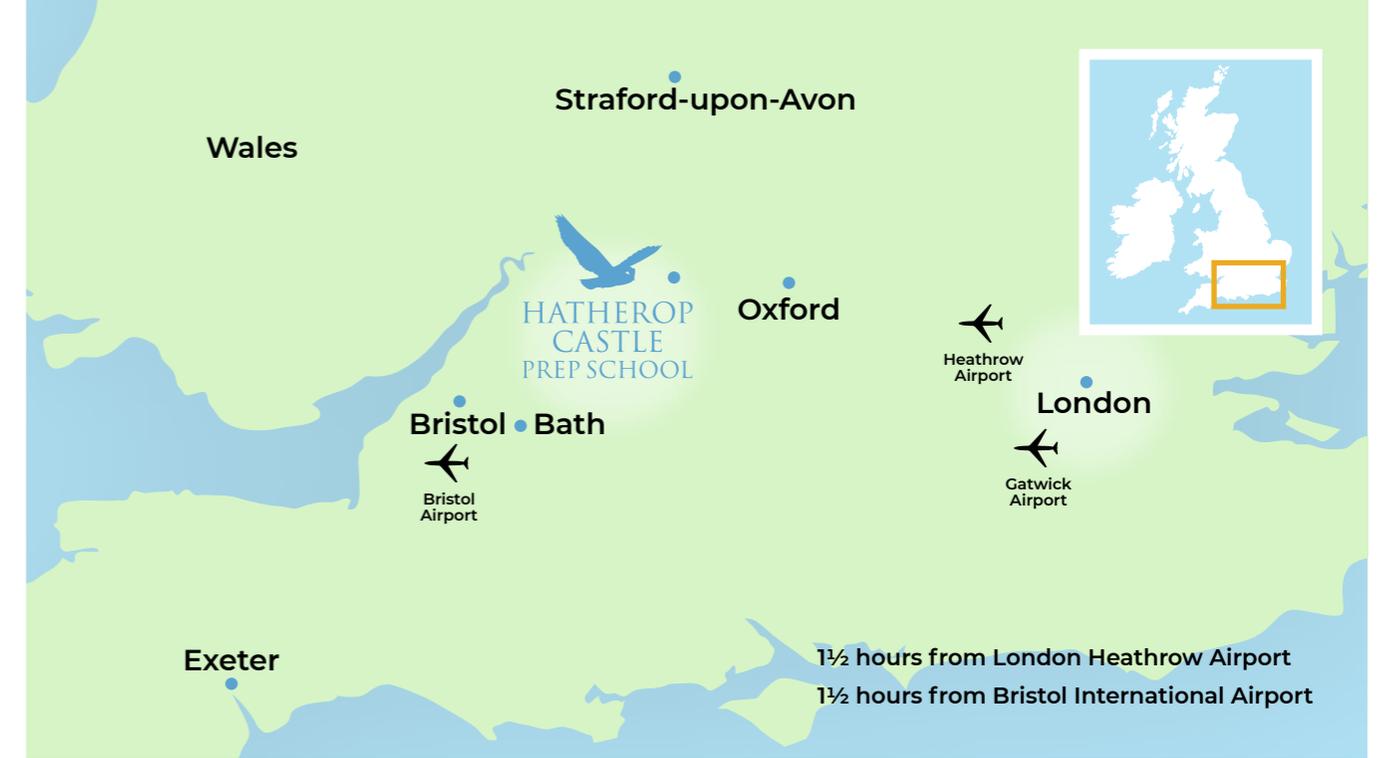
Our Premium Transfer Service is available from all London airports, as well as Bristol Airport and London St Pancras International Station. This option also includes a meet & greet service by a member of school staff or a driver inside the terminal building. On departure, our staff member or driver also takes students to the check-in desk.

Students travelling together can share the same Private Transfer Service.

**Waiting times:** We plan for our staff member or driver to meet arriving students approximately 30 minutes after their flight arrives (or later if there are delays through arrivals). Premium Transfers leave the airport or station immediately after collecting the student.

## UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

We are happy to assist with the arrival and departure of unaccompanied children. It is the responsibility of the family to ensure that this service is available and booked with the airline, and that all necessary paperwork is handed over to us.



**MAY**  
**9 YEARS OLD**  
**FROM VIETNAM**

*"I made friends with students from Norway, China, France, Italy and Korea."*





## KEY INFORMATION

### DATES

**Week 1** 5-12 July

**Week 2** 12-19 July

Arrival and departure days are Sundays.

One and two-week bookings available. Stays for students aged 10+ may be extended by combining this experience with studying at Westonbirt School from 19 July.

### AGES

8-12 years

### FURTHER INFORMATION

**Email:** summerschool@hatheropcastle.co.uk

**Phone:** 01666 881414

Hatherop Castle, Hatherop, Cirencester,  
Gloucestershire GL7 3NB

### PACKAGE

Programme	Weekly fee
English Language	£1,450

### INCLUDED

- The full academic and immersion programme
- Multi-activity programme
- Three meals & three snacks a day
- Accommodation
- Two excursions per week for 1 week bookings; three excursions for 2 week bookings
- Weekly laundry
- Travel insurance

### ADDITIONAL COST

- Flights
- Academies
- Pocket money
- Transfers

### ACADEMIES

Academy	Cost per week
Horse Riding	£250
Performing Arts	£150
Tennis Academy	£150

### TRANSFERS

Economy	Cost per way
London Heathrow (LHR)	£100
London St Pancras International	£150

Premium	Cost per way
London Heathrow (LHR)	£240
London St Pancras International	£395
London Gatwick (LGW)	£280
London Stansted (STN)	£395
London Luton (LTN)	£315
London City (LCY)	£395
Bristol (BRS)	£100

### HOW TO BOOK

A deposit of £500 per student secures a place at Hatherop Castle Summer School.

Bookings can be made on our website by filling out our online form. We will then be in touch to confirm your booking and arrange for payment of the deposit.

**BOOK  
YOUR  
PLACE**



# BEYOND SUMMER SCHOOL

With its incredibly exciting history dating back to Tudor times Hatherop Castle School has been welcoming international students for decades

International pupils come to Hatherop Castle School for a summer, a term, a year or more. On joining the Hatherop School community, within the warm and friendly surroundings of the family run boarding house, children soon settle in and make new friends. Those friendships often last a lifetime

International students can join Hatherop Castle School from age 8 and often stay until they are 12, while preparing to move onto a British senior school. Our international students benefit from all the wonderful opportunities open to all children at Hatherop Castle School and enjoy the rich experience and unique culture that comes with a British boarding school education.

Sharing a cheerful dormitory with other children, not only do children form strong bonds, they use and improve their English as soon as they arrive. Under the care and supervision of our long-standing house parents, it is a truly warm and immersive environment.

The wide variety of after-school clubs such as Lego Robotics, cookery, drama, dance and sport mean there is something for everyone, whatever your child's passion, Weekends are busy with trips and activities, including days out to medieval castles, museums and iconic British sights and fun days out to theme parks and the surrounding Cotswold countryside.

By the time they leave us, our international boarding students are not only familiar with, but confident in life in the UK and ready to move on to some of the finest independent senior schools.

Give your child the adventure of a lifetime at Hatherop Castle School – where learning English this summer is just the beginning.





# HATHEROP CASTLE SUMMER SCHOOL

[WWW.HATHEROPCASTLE.CO.UK/SUMMER-SCHOOL](http://WWW.HATHEROPCASTLE.CO.UK/SUMMER-SCHOOL)  
HATHEROP CASTLE, HATHEROP, CIRENCESTER,  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE GL7 3NB