



The course

The Octorial programme

**For career preparation
and professional development**

The unique advantage of the course is that it offers a mix of both closely tutored core skills and collaborative project work.

The Octorial programme is a carefully structured programme, crafted by educationalists and which includes continuous assessment with daily, weekly and monthly milestones for each student according to their personal objectives.

The course includes:

Language skills lessons to develop language competency

The **Grammar, Logic and Rhetoric lessons** build the core skills of grammar and sentence structure and the art of constructing an argument. Inspired by the trivium of a classical Liberal Arts education, these are the foundation stones of language knowledge.

The **Language Analysis and Practice lessons** use a wide variety of authentic materials such as literary texts, news articles, research reports and current affairs audio and video to build new vocabulary and develop listening comprehension skills and speaking skills. There is an emphasis on intonation and pronunciation. The art of editing and summarising is practised in the précis exercises. For flair in written English, students work on practice exercises in a range of styles and registers including creative writing, short stories, improvisation, essay writing, reports on researched topics, reviews, commentaries and literary criticism. Reading comprehension and understanding of the written word is developed in the text analysis sessions.

Communication skills sessions to build confidence and fluency

Plenary Sessions

Designed to bring students together at the start and end of the school day. The morning plenary acts as a warm-up session. The afternoon plenary gives students an opportunity to reflect on the learning experiences of their day.

Actualisation of Purpose

With the tutor, students identify the concrete steps which are needed in order to build the soft skills they seek to develop.

Spoken Performance Workshop

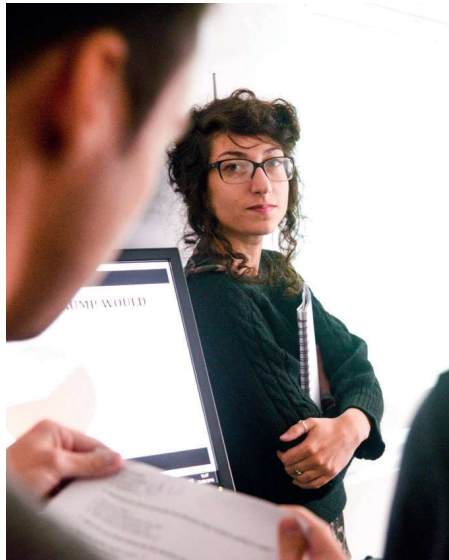
Students are set tasks which challenge them to develop their speaking and active expression in the language. There is also a focus on non-verbal communication such as body language

Team Project

Each week, students work in small teams to produce and deliver a project at the end of the week. Students also develop problem solving, collaboration, organisation and planning skills. Digital connections with sister schools allow students to collaborate with other teams from outside the school, to create real-life examples of authentic digital connections.

Mentored Dissertation

The Mentored Dissertation is a piece of work which is personal to the learner's study objectives and which is completed over the duration of the course. It is tailored to the level of the student and can include: a piece of research, a video project, a collection of essays, a piece of creative writing, a personal statement and CV, written texts for a personal portfolio, exam practice texts and exam essay writing under timed conditions. At the beginning of each week, the Dissertation Tutor sets individual goals with each student and works with the student during the week to support them in the achievement of these weekly targets.



How the course programme can be enhanced for areas of specific interest

Individual lessons can be added to the programme to focus on specific objectives.

Individual lessons in the afternoon focus on specific content for exam preparation or specific content for professional purposes or specific content for the revision of linguistic weak points.

The preparation of important exams such as IELTS and Cambridge Exams

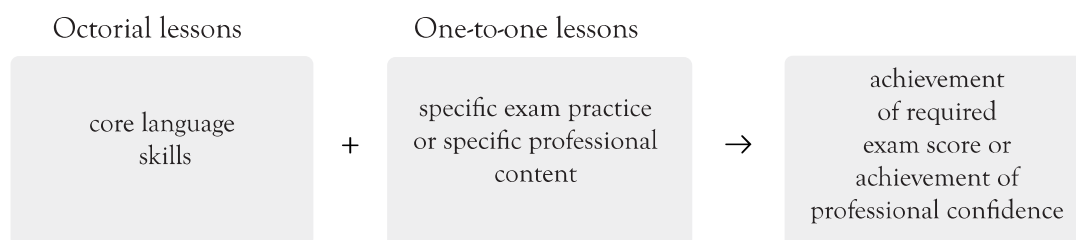
Weekly review tests highlight areas which need attention and are a good way to track progress. The student is given regular exam practice under timed conditions, drills and exercises from past papers, essay writing practice and is coached in personal success strategies for their exam by tutors.

For specific professional requirements

Lessons focus on the content which is essential to the learner such as specialised vocabulary or practice in specific areas such as presentation skills or written accuracy.

The dedicated time with the tutor allows for topics to be studied in depth and for very specific content to be introduced into the course. Both tutor and student are equally invested in the aims of the lesson. The learner can study at their own pace and work towards their personal objectives while setting agreed milestones with the tutor.

A fast track to accelerated progress



Alternatively one-to-one lessons can be chosen for the entire programme, both morning and afternoon. This option suits those seeking fast progress or the highest level of personal specification in their field of interest.



The Octorial course programme and the learner outcomes it delivers

Morning Plenary

Each day begins with a group discussion or personal presentation.

Actualisation of Purpose

Students identify strategies to achieve soft skills.

Lesson Content

- Analysis of which skills are needed
- Create action plans

Learner Outcomes

- An understanding of the value of the skill
- Ability to set concrete milestones towards an abstract goal

Grammar, Logic and Rhetoric

The core skills of grammar and sentence structure and the art of constructing an argument.

Lesson Content

- Writing tasks in different styles and registers
- Grammar and structure practice drills

Learner Outcomes

- Deep understanding of the language
- Ability to manipulate the language

Spoken Performance Workshop

Students are set tasks which challenge them to develop their speaking and active expression in the language.

Lesson Content

- Exercises to practise active expression in the language
- Exercises for clear pronunciation

Learner Outcomes

- Ability to adapt tone, register, pace, emphasis of the spoken language
- Speak with clarity and be understood

Language Analysis and Practice

A wide variety of authentic materials such as literary texts, news articles, research reports and current affairs audio and video to build new vocabulary and develop listening comprehension and speaking skills. For flair in written English, students work on practice exercises in a range of styles and registers including creative writing, short stories, improvisation and essay writing.

Lesson Content

- Summarising tasks
- Critical analysis of a text or podcast
- Enhanced vocabulary acquisition

Learner Outcomes

- Ability to edit and summarise
- Communicate a message in clear written and spoken English

Team Project

Students work in small teams to develop a project or work on a problem solving task.

Lesson Content

- Field work
- Research
- Preparation tasks

Learner Outcomes

- Collaboration skills
- Cultural awareness
- Academic knowledge

Mentored Dissertation

A personalised workshop which develops critical thinking skills for either professional or academic purposes and can be used to prepare students for external qualifications.

Lesson Content

- Preparation tasks
- Research assignments

Learner Outcomes

- Critical thinking skills
- Independent study skills

Lesson Content for Exam Candidates

- Mock exams
- Revision of exam content

Learner Outcomes for Exam Candidates

- Exam success strategies
- Confidence in writing and speaking

Or One to one lesson for specific purposes

An individual lesson with a personal tutor to focus on areas of specific interest or exam preparation.