



The
Devon
School of
English.

Teenager English Courses



Friendly, personal and highly effective teaching in the heart of the English Riviera



Welcome to the Devon School

You will find we have created here a happy, relaxed and friendly environment where everyone is treated as a special guest. We started the school in 1971, and have run it ever since. We, ourselves, have brought up 4 children who have travelled extensively abroad and so we understand the problems and worries that young people might have and the apprehension that parents may feel as they send their children to England, perhaps for the first time.

We are a family school which enables us to be personally involved at every level, ensuring maximum supervision and progress. Our staff and teachers will help make your Teenager course an experience to remember and one that will prove invaluable for your future.

We look forward to seeing you,

Brian & Joan Hawthorne and family

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- *Family-run school*
- *Seaside town*
- *Exciting activity programme*
- *Fun classroom activities*
- *Supervision and security a priority*
- *Genuinely caring families*
- *Transfer service from airport*
- *Families welcome*



Paignton, Devon

Paignton is in the county of Devon, in the South West of England, 350 kilometres from London. It is a small seaside town (pop. 48,000) lying at the centre of a spectacular bay – Torbay – otherwise known as the English Riviera. It is one of England's most popular holiday destinations and attracts young people from all over the world. Torbay is famous for its beaches and wonderful sub-tropical climate and is the only place in England where palm trees and other exotic flowers flourish. It is a paradise for sports lovers: you can go sailing, windsurfing, swimming, play tennis, volleyball, football, golf – the list is endless!

The Devon School

The Devon School was opened in 1971 by Brian and Joan Hawthorne. It is a small, friendly, family school where every student is treated as an individual. We have over 30 years' experience in running Teenager courses. The main school is a bright, spacious Victorian building which has been marvelously adapted for its present use. It is less than half a kilometre from the beach and near to two large parks. Set in wonderful gardens where students can sit and eat their picnic lunches in the summer, play volleyball or croquet or just chat to their friends, it is the ideal setting for young people learning English! Project classes may also take place in carefully selected premises nearby.



The English Riviera



Learning English is Fun!

Classes and Teachers

Learning English with us is fun! Our teachers are all qualified professionals carefully selected for their ability to make the learning experience as effective, but also as enjoyable, as possible. That means the best materials, the most stimulating teaching programmes and real-life projects which help to bridge the gap between the English world outside and the classroom. Teenagers follow a combined programme of lessons and activities and in the busiest weeks lessons may alternate between mornings and afternoons. Students are placed in classes according to their results in our entrance test and progress is continually monitored throughout their stay. At the end of the course they receive their Course Certificate. We have a good mix of nationalities, so students get the chance to meet, and discover the different lives of, young people from all over the world!





We believe in project work – getting students to use their English in real-life situations. Whenever possible, we send each class out once a week on a project.

Over the past years we have used three outside centres. Projects have included a detective and crime project at Torquay museum - Agatha Christie was born in Torbay; a project on English rural life and arts and crafts in the nearby historic village of Cockington; a project looking at the marine environment, investigating the impact of tourism on the bay.

We also believe that the teaching programme and the activity programme are not two totally separate entities. Teachers prepare key trips by integrating useful information into their lessons and by doing follow-up lessons on places visited.

Our ideas about teaching

“We believe in project work - getting students out to use their English in real-life situations.”





Welfare & Supervision

Supervision and security are certainly the major concerns of parents sending their child to England on a study holiday and we, at the Devon School, give these matters top priority. We make sure that parents can feel confident about sending their child to study with us. As far as the host family is concerned, the students are treated as if they were their own children. Students are allowed out in the evenings according to their age and the guidelines set by the school and agreed with the host family. Day and evening activities are closely supervised by our Activity Leaders. Students must take part in the full activity programme and are not permitted to go off on their own in the day-time. These leaders and our other staff are always on hand to deal with any individual problems or requests. On the first day of school students are issued with a personal school identity card stating their name and English telephone number plus an emergency telephone number that can be contacted 24 hours a day. Students will receive, before their stay, a Welcome Pack, explaining exactly what to expect on arrival.

Homestays

Paignton is a small, quiet town. Students are placed in families as close as possible to the school and in any case at a maximum of 20 minutes' walking distance (they are accompanied by their families on the first day). Students usually share a room with a student of a different nationality, unless they ask to stay with a friend. They can also have a single room if they prefer. Accommodation is full board. Students have breakfast with the family and are given a "picnic" lunch (for example, sandwiches, crisps, some fruit, a soft drink) which they eat at school or in the school gardens. They then have dinner with the family in the evening. As a family-run school, we know all our host families personally. These are people who are used to looking after young people, who genuinely care for the welfare of their young guests and who understand the feelings of youngsters away from home – perhaps for the first time. All our families are checked regularly by our Accommodation Staff and also by the relevant authorities in accordance with British Council guidelines. Students often come back year after year to the same family and very often longstanding friendships are formed during their Teenager course in Paignton.





Leisure and Social Programme





There's so much to do in Devon!

Monday 3 July

We went to Paignton Zoo today - it's one of the biggest in England. I liked the gorillas best and the tigers - we saw them being fed!



THIS SPACE FOR WRITING MESSAGES
Tuesday 4 July
The swimming pool at Quaywest is really great! There's this enormous slide, and an island and there are waves, too!
See you soon,
Kristina



Wednesday

Today we went on a boat trip to a place called Dartmouth to see the castle. On the way we saw a seal and some dolphins. Afterwards we tried the Devon speciality Cream Tea. Delicious!

Thursday 6 July

This afternoon we had a volleyball tournament in the school gardens. Our class came second.

This evening was the barbecue party - who said English food was horrible?!





Friday



This is Haytor.

Saturday
This is Haytor. We went in the Devon School bus to visit Dartmoor for the day. This first week has gone so quickly and it still hasn't rained!

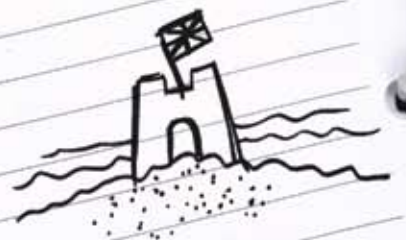
Sunday



Friday 7th July
We saw some fantastic caves at a place called Kent's Cavern. The stalactites were incredible but it was a bit scary when they turned off the lights!



POST
THIS SPACE FOR



Sunday 9 July
We spent the day together at the beach with all my host family and friends. I even tried swimming in the sea. It wasn't as cold as I thought!



Transport and Transfers



Getting to Paignton is easy

Paignton is in the South West of England, 350 kilometres from London. There are 3 London airports: Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted. Heathrow is the most convenient of these for students travelling to Paignton. Teenagers who are not arriving in a group or with their parents have two ways of reaching the Devon School:

1. The Devon School private bus service leaves Heathrow airport every Sunday at approximately 1600 hours. The same service is also available on the return journey. Representatives of the Devon School will be at the airport every Sunday to meet flights and accompany students direct to Paignton. Students wishing to use this service should book flights arriving between 1130h and 1500h and departing between 1400h and 1730h. The transfer must be booked with full flight details at least 3 weeks in advance. Please note no seats can be reserved until these details are received. Juniors with flights booked outside the above-mentioned times will need a Meet & Greet service for the extra time spent at the airport.
2. Teenagers who are over 14 can also be met at the airport and accompanied by a member of our London agency who will then put them on the direct National Express coach service to Paignton (Meet and Greet Service).
3. Teenagers will be met at their drop-off point in Paignton by their host family.



The Devon School of English
The Old Vicarage, 1 Lower Polsham Road, Paignton,
Devon TQ3 2AF, England

Telephone: +44 (0)1803 559718 Fax: +44 (0)1803 551407
E-mail: english@devonschool.co.uk Web: www.devonschool.co.uk

