

# University Pre-sessional **English Courses**



**LSI PORTSMOUTH**  
International House  
Portsmouth





# Why the LSI / IH Portsmouth Pre-Sessional?

- **History and reputation:** LSI / IH Portsmouth was founded in 1985 and has been offering recognised Pre-Sessional courses since 2002. In the last ten years we have enabled over 1,500 students to join their chosen degree programmes.
- **Direct progression:** By passing the LSI / IH Pre-Sessional, you will be able to progress directly onto your degree programme without taking a further IELTS test.
- **Range of university partners:** Our courses are recognised by a range of high quality partners across the UK, who offer a huge variety of programmes.
- **High quality teaching:** All of our Pre-Sessional teachers are highly qualified and have either a Master's or a Diploma in English language teaching. Our teaching across the school has been recognised as a point of strength by the British Council.
- **Individual support:** Small class sizes (maximum 12) mean that our teachers are able to offer extensive focused support to each individual. This is one of the reasons for our 98% pass rate.
- **Effective course:** We offer a carefully structured and well-organised course which is designed for maximum impact to give you the best preparation possible for your university course.
- **Excellent facilities:** Over 50 well-equipped classrooms, a student lounge, two study centres and a restaurant on the ground floor. We also have access to both Portsmouth City Library and Portsmouth University Library.

## Sample Timetable

08.45	10.00	10.15	11.30	12.45	14.00	14.15
Lesson 1	Morning coffee break	Lesson 2	Lunch	Lesson 3	Afternoon coffee break	Lesson 4








2 hours each evening: Homework/assignments.

There are no lessons on Friday afternoons: this is spent on homework, weekend assignments and project research. Exact starting and finishing times may change, but there will always be 22.5 hours of taught classes per week (except where there is a public holiday).

## Available online

- Visa-free, to overcome any uncertainties relating to travel restrictions.
- Delivered by the same experienced teachers and to the same standards as our face-to-face course.
- If your flight or visa is delayed, you can start online and then move to face-to-face when possible.
- We offer flexibility to suit your needs.

## Key Facts

-  22.5 hours a week (60 minutes)
-  3 intakes per year for most courses
-  Courses range from 4 to 36 weeks depending on level and improvement needed
-  Maximum students per class 12
-  Minimum age 18
-  Direct progression to range of partner universities
-  Access to online learning platform Sensations English for one year



# Course lengths and entry scores required

LSI / IH Portsmouth offers a range of short and extended courses from 4 to 36 weeks which mean that we can meet a wide range of needs. We also have three intakes a year for most courses so that you can finish in time for September and January intakes and avoid studying during Ramadan if you wish. The course that you'll need will depend on your current English level (based on a recent IELTS score or equivalent) and the English requirements needed for your chosen university course (as outlined in your offer letter). Please see the table below to work out which course you need.

**English Qualifications we accept for our Pre-sessional course:**

- UKVI or Non-UKVI IELTS taken from an approved test centre
- Duolingo
- Pearson English test
- IELTS Indicator
- TOEFL iBT

This list is subject to change in accordance with UKVI guidance.

Please contact us if you have a different English Qualification from the list above.

## Language levels

The levels required for each course are as follows:

Level required in offer letter	Course length	IELTS (or equivalent) required to start the course
6.5 with nothing less than 6.0 (Some Master's courses)	36 weeks	No minimum score required
	20 weeks	4.5 with nothing less than 4.0
	16 weeks	5.0 with nothing less than 4.5
	11 weeks	5.5 with nothing less than 5.0
	7 weeks	6.0 with nothing less than 5.5
6.0 with nothing less than 5.5 (Most Master's and Bachelor's courses)	36 weeks	No minimum score required
	20 weeks	4.0 with nothing less than 3.5
	16 weeks	4.5 with nothing less than 4.0
	11 weeks	5.0 with nothing less than 4.5
	7 weeks	5.5 with nothing less than 5.0
5.5 with nothing less than 5.5 (Foundation courses and 2+2 joint Bachelor's programmes)	36 weeks	No minimum score required
	20 weeks	4.0 with nothing less than 3.5
	16 weeks	4.0 with nothing less than 4.0
	11 weeks	4.5 with nothing less than 4.5
	7 weeks	5.0 with nothing less than 5.0
Unconditional	4 weeks	No minimum score required

Both individual and overall IELTS (or equivalent) scores will be taken into account when assessing length of course needed. For example, if you have 4.5, 4.0, 6.0, 5.0 for reading, listening, writing and speaking and 5.0 overall, and your offer letter requires 6.0 with nothing less than 5.5, you would need to do a 16 week course. This is because the biggest difference is between the current and required reading score (current: 4.0, required: 5.5). This is a difference of 1.5 bands and this requires a 16 week course. In some exceptional cases, students with uneven profiles which do not meet standard entry requirements may be accepted. Admission under these circumstances is entirely at the discretion of LSI / IH Portsmouth.

If you are applying for a Student Visa, you will need to have a minimum of IELTS 4.0 overall and for each individual element.







# Our Standard Courses: **20, 16, 11, 7 and 4 weeks**

## Who can apply?

### **You can apply for our Pre-Sessional programmes if:**

- You are over 18 years of age
- You have a conditional offer from one of our partners for one of the following programmes:
  - Foundation Programme
  - International Year One
  - Bachelor's Degree
  - Pre-Master's Programme
  - Master's Degree
- You have a valid English Qualification (see list on previous page) equivalent to IELTS 4.0 overall (with no element below 3.5).
- Your lowest IELTS (or equivalent) score is no more than 2.0 bands lower than the minimum required for your course

## What you will learn

- A range of language and study skills to prepare you for a university course taught in English
- A Better understanding of the expectations and culture of British universities
- How to become a successful independent learner
- How to adapt to living and studying in the UK

### **The course therefore includes the following key elements:**

- Research skills
- Academic writing including grammar, vocabulary, referencing and avoiding plagiarism
- Academic reading
- Academic listening and note-taking
- Speaking in seminars and tutorials
- Presentation skills
- Pronunciation
- Critical thinking
- Time management
- Basic IT skills

## How you will be taught and assessed

You will be regularly assessed on a range of language and study skills. Assessments will involve both individual and group tasks and include in-class tests, written assignments and projects, homework, and oral presentations.

You will not need to take the IELTS test at the end of the course as long as you successfully complete all the elements of the Pre-Sessional Programme which means you must:

- Successfully complete all assessed tasks
- Demonstrate that your reading, writing, speaking and listening meet the level required in your offer letter
- Attend at least 90% of the course

When you have completed your course, LSI / IH Portsmouth will send a report confirming your progression to your chosen academic programme. Provided you have met all conditions stated on your offer letter, you will then receive an unconditional offer.



# Our Extended 36 week course

## Our new 36 week course offers a number of advantages to lower level students:

- No minimum entry level
- No IELTS required to start the course
- No offer letter required to start the course
- 36 weeks of intensive tuition focused on achieving your goal

The course involves two stages. The first stage aims to raise general levels of fluency and confidence before beginning intensive IELTS tuition which leads up to an IELTS test in February.

In the test, you will need to score between 2.5 and 3.5 depending on the IELTS score required for your intended university course. The score you achieve must be no more than 3.0 bands below the score you need for your course.

Once the target IELTS score has been achieved, the second stage focuses purely on academic English and is aimed at raising your English level by at least 3.0 IELTS bands.

## Who can apply?

### You can apply for this course if:

- You are over 18 years of age
- You plan to study at one of our partner institutions

## What you will learn

### Stage 1

- 4 weeks of General English: This aims to improve the four skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking) as well as building general everyday vocabulary and grammar needed to survive in an English-speaking environment
- 4 week of IELTS: This aims to introduce you to different exam techniques and skills and to give you the best possible chance of achieving a good score in the test

### Stage 2

28 weeks of Pre-Sessional English: This part of the course focuses on academic English and aims to help you learn:

- A range of language and study skills to prepare you for a university course taught in English
- A better understanding of the expectations and culture of British universities
- How to become a successful independent learner
- How to adapt to living and studying in the UK

### The course therefore includes the following key elements:

- Research skills
- Academic writing including grammar, vocabulary, referencing and avoiding plagiarism
- Academic reading
- Academic listening and note-taking
- Speaking in seminars and tutorials
- Presentation skills
- Pronunciation
- Critical thinking
- Time management
- Basic IT skills

## How you will be taught and assessed

For both Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the course, you must achieve at least 90% attendance

**Stage 1:** During this part of the course you will take small tests at the end of every week to check your learning. These are not formal assessments. At the end of the 4 week IELTS course, you will take your IELTS test which will enable you to progress onto the next stage.

**Stage 2:** As with our standard Pre-Sessional courses, you will be regularly assessed on a range of language and study skills during this part of the course. Assessments will involve both individual and group tasks and include in-class tests, written assignments and projects, homework and presentations.

You will not need to take an IELTS at the end of the course as long as you successfully complete all assessed tasks and demonstrate by the end of the course that your reading writing, listening and speaking meet the level required in your offer letter.







# Our University **Partners**

The LSI / IH Portsmouth Pre-Sessional is recognised by a number of high-quality colleges and universities which offer a range of courses from Foundation and Pre-Masters programmes to Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral degrees. On passing our Pre-Sessional, you will therefore have direct access to programmes at:

- Bangor University
- City of Glasgow College
- Kingston University
- ICP Portsmouth (Navitas)
- The University of Chichester
- The University of Portsmouth
- The University of South Wales

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## Visa

For Pre-Sessional courses, unless you are exempt, you will require a valid visa. To find out if you will need a visa for your course, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>

If required, you must apply for a visa at your local UK Embassy visa office in your home country. Student Visas will either be sponsored by LSI / IH Portsmouth or by your university.

Student visas sponsored by LSI / IH Portsmouth will cover your Pre-Sessional course only and you will need to return home at the end of the Pre-Sessional course in order to apply for a visa to cover your degree programme. This will be sponsored by your university.

If you are on an 11, 7 or 4 week course and have an offer for the University of Portsmouth, you may apply for a Student Visa which is sponsored by the University of Portsmouth. This covers both your Pre-Sessional course and your degree programme. In this case, you do not need to return home to renew your visa at the end of your Pre-sessional course.

All students applying for a Student Visa will need a CAS Number (Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies Number). If you are applying for a visa which covers your Pre-Sessional and your degree programme, you will get this number from your university. If you are applying for a visa which covers the LSI / IH Pre-Sessional only, you will receive your CAS number from LSI / IH Portsmouth. In order to get a CAS number, you will need to send the following:

- A copy of your passport
- A copy of your current Secure English Language Test (SELT) certificate
- A copy of your university offer letter
- Proof of payment of the tuition fees for your course
- The completed Immigration Questionnaire from the LSI / IH Portsmouth Admissions team

If you have any questions regarding visas, please contact us at [info@lsi-portsmouth.co.uk](mailto:info@lsi-portsmouth.co.uk).







# Portsmouth – the UK’s Only Island City!

We love our city and we know you will too. Here are some of our staff and students’ favourite things about living here...

### Key Facts

-  Estimated population 200,000
-  4 miles of seafront with promenade, pier and cafés
-  Just 1.5 hours from London and its airports
-  Called ‘Pompey’ by locals!
-  Nearest airport Southampton 30 minutes’ drive
-  Nearest station Portsmouth and Southsea 7 minutes’ walk
-  Portsmouth International Port 6 minutes’ drive

-  Easy to get around
  -  Great nightlife
  -  Coffee culture
  -  Amazing festivals and live music
  -  Lively university city
  -  Beautiful parks and gardens
  -  Maritime history – landmarks and museums
  -  Spinnaker Tower
  -  Miles of waterfront
  -  Typical English seaside attractions
  -  Traditional and safe
  -  Gyms and sports facilities
-  Well connected to other important cities – a great base to explore the UK
  -  Gunwharf Quays – discount designer shopping, cinema and restaurants
  -  Celebrated Football team
  -  Mild seaside climate



LSI / IH is a family and I can say Portsmouth is my second home. If you really want to learn English and enjoy the English life, this is the perfect place.

*Elisa, Italy*





# Accommodation

We understand how important it is for you to be happy where you are living whilst you are studying with us. We will do everything we can to give you the best option to suit your needs and to help and support you with your living arrangements.

## HOMESTAY:

Staying with a homestay family is the ideal way to improve your English and learn more about British life and culture. All our homestay accommodation is organised by the school and many of our families have been hosting our students for years.

There are very few language schools in a city of 200,000 people, so we have the choice of some of the very best families.

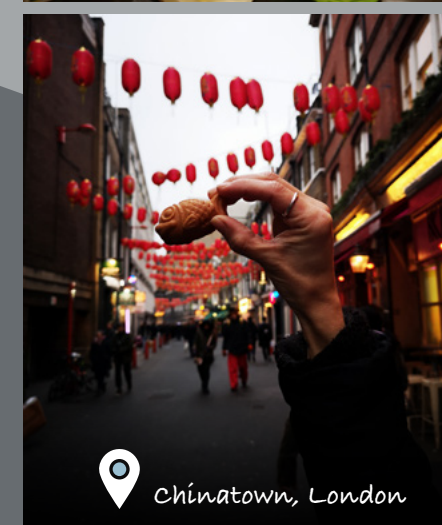
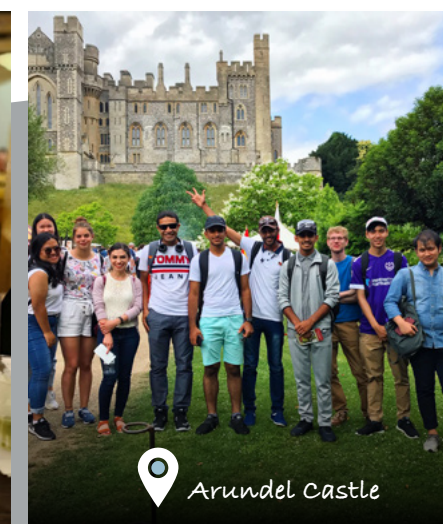
## INDEPENDENT ACCOMMODATION:

There are a selection of self-catering options within walking distance of the school. These are privately run and must be booked and paid for directly with the residence. Alternatively you could stay in independent accommodation which you find for yourself.

Please contact LSI / IH Portsmouth for further information.

# Our Social Programme

We know that learning a language doesn't just take place in the classroom; social activities give you the perfect opportunity to practise your English while having fun and making friends. We have a dedicated Student Services Team that runs our Social Programme to help you meet new people and get to know Portsmouth and the UK. We have fun and varied activities every week, including sporting events, nights out, and cultural and educational activities. Come and join in the fun!



It was great learning English while having fun and meeting people from all over the world. I met really special people and the time I spent with them in beautiful Portsmouth will be unforgettable  
*Oscar, Spain.*





London

Heathrow ✈️

Gatwick ✈️

Southampton ✈️

Portsmouth

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Accredited by the  
**BRITISH COUNCIL**  
for the teaching  
of English in the UK

