

# OVERSEAS STUDENT INFORMATION

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## INTRODUCTION

This guide for overseas students should be read in conjunction with the main school prospectus.

Each year Bloxham School welcomes a small number of overseas students who join the community and play a full part in its life. They come to acquire a high standard of English, to benefit from the very high academic standards that British independent schools provide, and to enjoy the opportunities provided by a boarding school. Bloxham School is particularly well-suited to overseas students. Bloxham's relatively small size enables them to receive close personal attention, and it has had a long experience of and considerable success with such students. Currently 10% of pupils are from overseas and recently we have had boys and girls from:

Bahamas	Germany	Hong Kong
Hungary	Indonesia	Japan
Korea	Malaysia	Nigeria
Portugal	Sierra Leone	Taiwan
Thailand	Dominica	Singapore
Russia	Albania	Brunei
China	Spain	Bulgaria

Overseas students have in nearly all cases gone on from Bloxham to study at university, either in Britain, the United States or at home.

## LOCATION

Bloxham lies in the heart of England, twenty miles north of the university city of Oxford. It is within easy reach of London and Birmingham by train or coach. The M40 Motorway from London-Birmingham passes within three miles of the School, which means that we are convenient for those travelling by car. From Heathrow, Gatwick and Birmingham International Airports there are Flights Coaches which travel direct from the airport terminals to our local town, Banbury. The time from Heathrow to Banbury is about 1½ hours.

## FEES AND OTHER COSTS

Current boarding fees are £15935 a year (Sept 2000). This covers all tuition and living costs. In addition there is typically a charge of about £150 a year for voluntary extras - individual music lessons, theatre trips, stationery, etc. There is a charge for extra EFL lessons where these are needed.

## GUARDIANSHIP

Overseas students must have a guardian in Britain. Organising this is the responsibility of the parents. {Recent British legislation - *The Children Act* - makes it difficult for schools to be responsible for organising guardians, but we can give advice.} Guardians are asked to take responsibility for the pupil during mid-term breaks; they may wish to accompany the pupil at the start and end of each term, especially with younger pupils, and they act for the parents in the event of an emergency.

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### THE BRITISH EDUCATION SYSTEM

Age at start of year (approx.)	British School Year	USA Grade	Independent School	State School	Exam
5	1		Prep-preparatory	Infant	
6	2	1			
7	3	2	Preparatory	Primary	
8	4	3			
9	5	4			
10	6	5			
11	7	6			
12	8	7		Secondary	
13	9	8	Senior		
14	10	9			
15	11	10			
16	12	11	Sixth Form	Sixth Form	
17	13	12			'A' Level
18+			Further Education		

 Bloxham

### AGE WHEN TO START AT BLOXHAM

Pupils can join Bloxham at the start of

Year 9	at the age of 13 or 14	for the pre-GCSE year
Year 10	at the age of 14 or 15	for the two year GCSE course
Year 12	at the age of 16 or 17	for the two year 'A' level course

Pupils below the age of 13 can join one of the excellent Preparatory Schools nearby before coming to Bloxham. We can give advice on choosing a suitable school.

### THE BLOXHAM SCHOOL YEAR

There are three terms:	Michaelmas (or Winter) Term	September-December
	Lent (or Spring) Term	January-March
	Summer Term	April-June

There are approximately: 4 weeks of holiday at Christmas  
4 weeks of holiday at Easter  
8 weeks of holiday in the summer

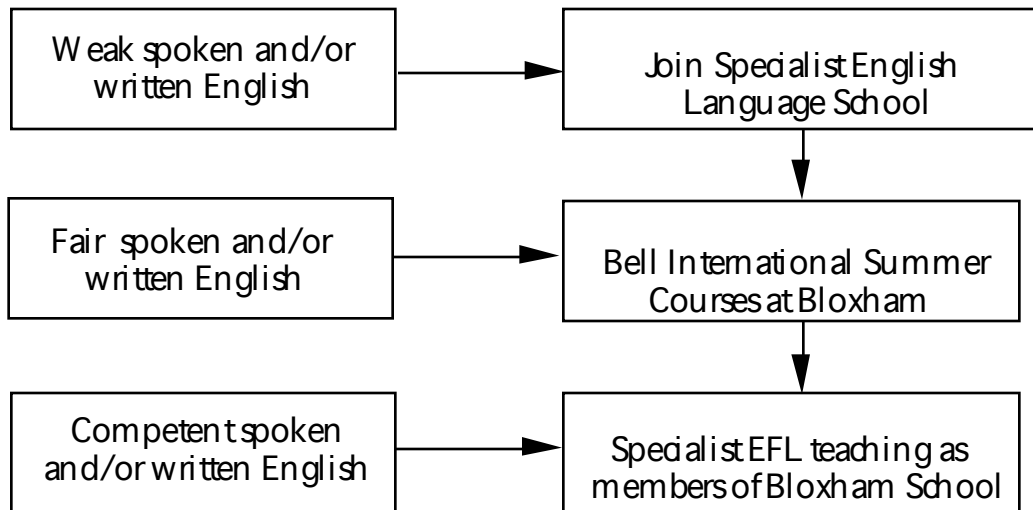
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### TEACHING OF ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

In order to cope with the life and curriculum at Bloxham, it is obviously important that potential students should have reached a reasonable standard of both spoken and written English. For those who have not yet achieved this standard the following possibilities are recommended:

- either spend the April-June term at a specialist language school in U.K.  
{details of suitable schools can be obtained from Bloxham School}
- and/or join the summer holiday language courses run by Bell International at Bloxham School (and other leading independent schools)



If after this five month period of intensive teaching, the pupil's English is still not sufficiently good to cope at Bloxham, we will consider postponing entry until January while the pupil continues to improve his or her English at the language school.

Once the pupil has arrived at Bloxham, specialist English as a Foreign Language teaching is available within the school. Up to GCSE, this will normally take place when other pupils are learning French. For Sixth Form pupils it is organised so as not to interfere with 'A' level teaching or other activities.

In the 5<sup>th</sup> Form IGCSE (International GCSE in English Language) is offered to the pupils. They can also take a GCSE in their own language if it is available. (Organised by Modern Languages department) In the 6<sup>th</sup> Form new entrants are prepared for IGCSE and London Tests of English to provide them with a qualification required for entry to UK universities.