Education First Academy

INTERNATIONAL
BOARDING SCHOOLS

EF ACADEMY TORBAY





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AN INTRODUCTION TO EDUCATION FIRST (EF)

We are pleased to introduce you to some of our impressive graduates, all of whom were guided to a universities that provide them with an environment in which they can explore their individual interests and truly shine.

SPECIALIZED STUDY PROGRAMS

EF is truly global and operates 500 schools and offices in over 52 countries. EF's global network includes 16,000 full-time office staff, 5,000 full-time faculty and 16,000 part-time teachers, leaders and tour directors. To date, EF has helped over 15 million people to learn a new language, discover the world or earn an academic degree.

ABOUT EF ACADEMY

EF Academy is the newest brand within the EF business. Established in 2005, EF Academy now has three campus locations: Torbay, Oxford and New York. Providing a first-class high school education, EF Academy helps students enter the best universities at home or abroad.
EF Academy's placements and results are testament to the quality of the educational provision. All EF Academy students who successfully complete university preparation programmes are guaranteed acceptance to a university degree programme, and EF students regularly secure places at some of the world's most prestigious institutions. The Academy is non-selective and has a wide academic ability range.

CURRICULUM

EF Academy offers A-Level, IGCSE, International Baccalaureate Diploma Programmes and North American high school grades 9-12 for international students.

In addition, EF Academies run an exclusive global curriculum. This provides all EF Academy students, regardless of the programme they follow, with a concrete set of global competencies to prepare them for a successful international future. These are developed through language courses, visits to other countries, educational travel and meaningful cultural exchanges.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Over 90 per cent of the EF Academy combined faculties hold a Masters degree or PhD and over 45 languages are spoken. Teaching is highly interactive and participatory, and the average student to teacher ratio is 15:1. Students are actively encouraged to be inquisitive and curious, to ask questions and to challenge the status quo. There is a firm belief that this strengthens their confidence. Similarly, all students are encouraged to embrace the diversity of nationalities and cultures represented in the classroom in order to broaden their learning capabilities.





OTHER CAMPUS LOCATIONS

EF ACADEMY OXFORD

EF Academy Oxford is situated in the university city of Oxford, just a 20 minute walk from the city centre. Located in a restored mansion known as Cotuit Hall, the Campus combines centuries-old heritage and modern facilities. The Academy also shares some educational and leisure facilities with the adjacent EF International Language Centres Campus.

The Academy opened in 2008 and has grown considerably since its creation. There are now 200 students on roll from over 60 different countries. International Baccalaureate Diploma Programmes and A Level programmes are offered to students aged 16 to 19.

Students have a choice between living in residence or with a nearby host family. 60 per cent of the current student population live on campus under the care of dedicated boarding staff. Recent leavers have gone on to such universities as Imperial College London, the University of Chicago, the University of York, the University of Exeter, King's College London, the University of Pennsylvania and Murdoch University.

Dr Paul Ellis joined EF Academy Oxford as Head of School in September 2015. Educated at University College London, he was previously Deputy Head at Stonyhurst College, Lancashire.

EF ACADEMY NEW YORK

EF Academy New York is located in Thornwood in central Westchester County on the banks of the Hudson River. It is just 40 minutes by train to downtown New York. The Campus offers 100 acres of landscaped grounds, running trails and playing fields as well as unparalleled educational facilities.

The Academy opened in 2005 and moved to the Thornwood Campus in 2014. There are now over 730 students on roll from 75 different countries. IGCSE, International Baccalaureate Diploma and U.S. High School Diploma courses are offered to students aged 14 to 18.

Students live in residence, and facilities include a landscaped courtyard and digital library. Recent leavers have gone on to such universities as The London School of Economics and Political Science, Harvard University, Columbia University, the University of Chicago, the University of Wisconsin, Dartmouth College and Washington University (St. Louis).

Dr Brian Mahoney has been Head of EF Academy New York since 2011. Educated at Siena College and Fordham University, he was previously Head of Rockland Country Day School, New York.







AN INTRODUCTION TO EF ACADEMY TORBAY

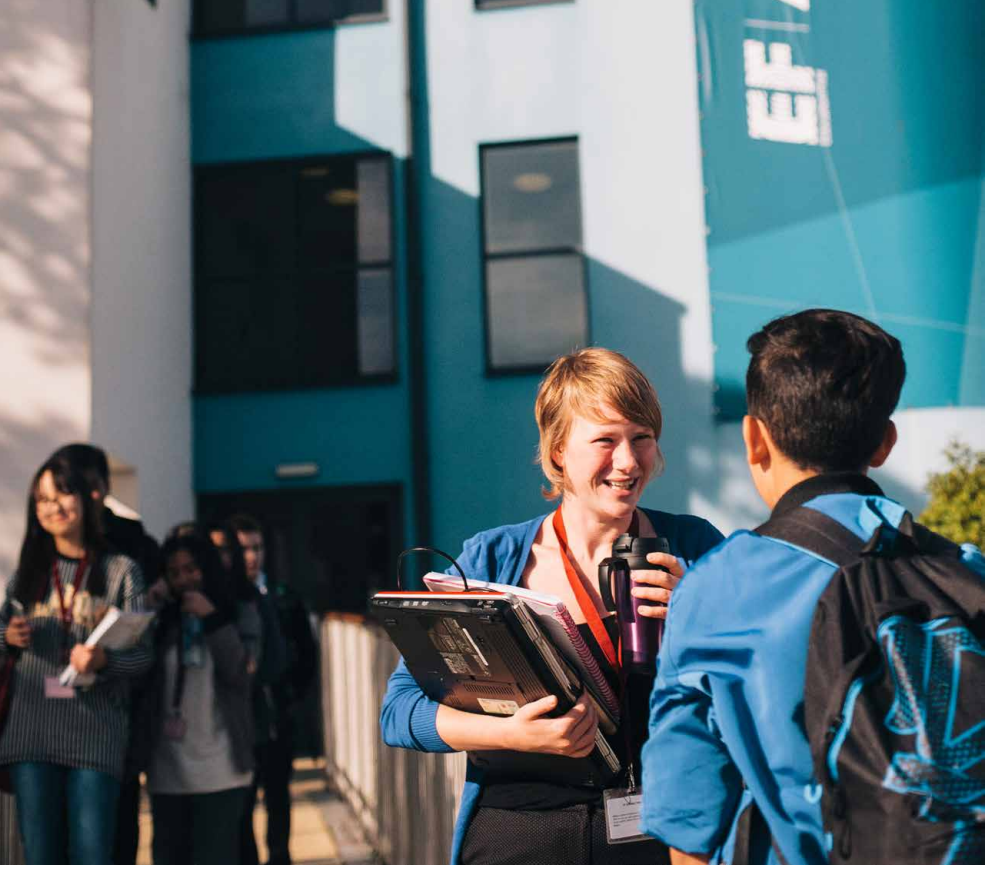
The EF Academy Torbay Campus is situated in a modern-day castle on a hill overlooking the popular seaside resort of Torquay on the English Riviera. The Academy opened in 2005 and the Campus opened new state-of-the-art facilities in 2012, with multimedia classrooms, a technology centre, interactive science labs, art studios, a student lounge and study areas. There is also a large cafeteria in the style of an American diner and a library. There are currently 260 students on roll, aged 14 to 19 from 75 different countries. The Academy plans to expand to its full capacity of 600.

Students have a choice between living in Academy residences or with a nearby host family. The majority choose to live with host families in Torbay, residing within a 15 minute walk from the Campus. Following significant investment in our residences this summer, over 90 students are now placed in our 2 single-sex residence buildings, adjacent to each other and around a 10 minute walk from school. The Academy is intending to further expand its own boarding facilities to create a campus following the style of the traditional British boarding school.

The Academy offers IGCSE, International Baccalaureate Diploma Programmes (IB) and A Level programmes. The IB in particular has been successful with considerable expertise among the staff, and the Academy is keen to grow the IGCSE and A Level programmes. Recent leavers have gone on to achieve success at such universities as Oxford, Cambridge, Durham, The London School of Economics and Political Science, the University of St. Andrews and Imperial College London. There are dedicated university counsellors on the teaching staff who help to prepare students for university life and ensure that their options are as broad as possible.

A strong emphasis is placed on enrichment and co-curricular activities for students, and there is a range of sporting activities on offer, many of which capitalise on the Academy's seaside location, such as surfing, swimming and sailing. Creative clubs include Visual Arts, Film Club, Drama Club, Photography and Choir, while the academic clubs include Debating, Model United Nations, Spanish and Greek. Students also have the chance to participate in a range of trips, including hiking and camping trips and weekend trips to London, Stonehenge and Bath. The Academy is keen to further develop the enrichment and co-curricular programme.







The EF Academy Torbay Campus is situated in a central location, within a short walk to the main shopping areas. The staff cohort is diverse, with a blend of experienced, long-serving staff and new, younger teachers. There are potential opportunities in the future for teacher training partnerships with University of Exeter and Plymouth University. Several teachers are from overseas or have worked abroad, and there is an insistent belief in – and enthusiasm for – exploring foreign cultures. Several members of staff have Master's degrees or PhDs. Levels of discretionary effort and enthusiasm to develop the Academy further are very high, and the Academy is keen to capitalise on this major strength.

EF has clear ambitions to build on the existing platform of success and expand the Academy in terms of student numbers and in terms of the academic, cultural and co-curricular opportunities on offer to students.







LOCAL AREA

Torbay spans the 19th century holiday towns of Torquay, Paignton and Brixham, located around an east-facing natural harbour (Tor Bay) on the English Channel. Its sandy beaches, mild climate and leisure attractions have given rise to the nickname of the English Riviera.

The borough of Torbay is bordered by the South Hams to the south and west, and by Teignbridge to the north. Nearby towns include Totnes and Dartmouth in South Hams, and Newton Abbot and Teignmouth in Teignbridge. The university cities of Exeter and Plymouth are also within easy reach.

Torquay is well-known for its nine sandy beaches, seven green hills, palm lined promenade and grand Victorian villas. It has grown into a lively and cosmopolitan town with a bustling harbour side and marina containing an array of cafes, restaurants, bars and boutiques.

Paignton is a popular family friendly resort located midway between Torquay and Brixham. It is well known for its beautiful, safe and sandy beaches, and its magnificent pier dates back to 1878. The pier offers visitors a range of attractions on both its open deck and inside, as well as magnificent views of Torbay. There is also an 18th century harbour and Paignton Zoo is one of the most popular attractions on the English Riviera. Nearby Goodrington offers many family attractions including fabulous waterslides at Quaywest, a boating lake and beaches.

Brixham is Britain's busiest fishing port and is home to the famous replica of Sir Francis Drake's ship, the Golden Hind. It has a 500 berth yacht marina sheltered by the cliffs of Berry Head, a National Nature Reserve with one of the largest guillemot colonies on England's south coast.

Also of particular note are the nearby beaches at Oddicombe, Babbacombe and Maidencombe, all of which have interesting Breccia cliffs and contributed to the area being declared a Geopark in 2007 because of its varied geology. Britain's largest Model Village is to be found at Babbacombe, while just a mile from Torquay's seafront is the beautiful thatched village of Cockington, with its 11th century church and 460 acres of beautiful country park.

Good local state schools within five miles of EF Academy Torbay include Torquay Girls' Grammar School, Torquay Boys' Grammar School, Westlands School and Newton Abbot College. Good local independent schools within the same radius include Stover and Tower House School.

Property prices in the area are reasonable in the rental and sales markets. As an indication, the average rent in Torquay is currently £605 per calendar month. Semi-detached properties are selling for £192,569 on average in the Torbay area and flats are selling for £150,492 on average.





SPORTS & ACTIVITIES

1 AMF Bowling & Laser Tag
2 Castle Gym
3 Castle School of Dancing
4 Fightworx Mixed Martial Arts Academy
5 International Sailing School
6 Plainmoore Swimming Pool
7 Riviera International Centre
8 Scadson Woods Bike Park
9 Tennis and Basketball Facilities
10 The Boulder Bunker
11 Torre Valley North Playing Fields
12 Velopark

SHOPS & RESTAURANTS

13 Abbey Crescent
14 Amici
15 Harbour Fish Cafe
16 Harvester Beacon Quay
17 Meat 59

COMMUNITY SERVICE

18 Anode
19 Community Development Trust