



**WYCHWOOD**

SCHOOL • OXFORD

# Introduction to Practical Science



# Introduction to Practical Science

**Dates:** 7<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> July 2024

**Age:** 11-14 years

**Programme size:** 12 students

**English Level:** B2+

**Package fee:** £1495

**Package includes:**

- all meals
- accommodation
- supervision
- course programme
- trips
- excursions
- activities

**Accommodation:** Boarding school accommodation

**What you can expect:**

- **Gain hands on practical experience in the lab** with interactive lessons with Oxford University qualified tutor.
- **Small class sizes** for individual attention.
- **Make lasting friendships** with students from all over the world, creating memories that will last a lifetime.
- **Immerse yourself in British Culture** with exciting excursions to famous British landmarks.
- **Experience the warmth and hospitality** of our welcoming team, ensuring you feel right at home.





## Programme Overview:

Experiment like an **Oxford Scientist!**

This programme will introduce you to **practical science** enabling you to become a confident, competent experimentalist and to develop **investigative science skills**. This programme is designed for students who have no or little experience of conducting experiments in a laboratory. Each day during the week is broadly split into three sections where a different aspect of science is encountered - one dealing with topics from **physics**, one from **biology** and one from **chemistry**.

During the **laboratory sessions** you will become familiar with basic laboratory equipment and how to use it safely and correctly. You will also work to develop the four main skill areas of investigative science: **planning experiments, obtaining data, analysing** and **concluding** and **evaluating**.

By the final day you should be able to conduct an entire investigation from start to finish including:

- planning a safe and fair procedure
- selecting appropriate equipment
- gathering sufficient, reliable, accurate and fair data
- analysing data and drawing a valid conclusion
- deciding on improvements and extensions to further your work.

### Programme Tutor: Abigail Stacey

Abigail is the Academic Deputy Head at Wychwood School, Oxford and has worked for many years teaching science both in the UK and overseas in Norway and the US. She has an honours degree in Chemistry from the University of Oxford and a Master's Degree in Education from Oxford Brookes University where her thesis explored academic buoyancy and students' ability to persist with their learning when things get difficult.



## Accommodation

This programme offers you the opportunity to spend time as a boarder in a traditional British boarding school in the heart of Oxford. Staying at Wychwood School is a wonderful experience.

We provide a secure, safe and happy community where students can learn effectively and enjoy relaxed social times with their friends. Our wonderful location enables our students to make the most of Oxford in the form of evening excursions.

Our characterful, cosy, and traditional dormitory rooms are configured in 1- 4 beds. Single rooms will be allocated to older students.

Our caring and supportive house parents make sure that students have a safe and enjoyable stay. Our house parents and staff will be on hand to attend to medical needs when required.

## Airport Transfers

We can arrange individual and group transfers. Please enquire upon booking.

Alternatively, we are well connected by public transport to the major London airports.

Please take a look at the most recent [timetables and routes](#).



## Excursions

- **London:** walking tour of the capital city, to see famous landmarks such as Buckingham Palace, The Houses of Parliament, Big Ben, The London Eye and The Globe Theatre.
- **Walking Tour of Oxford:** explore the spires of Oxford, including the iconic Radcliffe Camera, the Sheldonian Theatre, The University Church of St. Mary's, the Bridge of Sighs and Bodleian library.
- **Wembley Stadium Tour:** Walk in the footsteps of legends and experience the magic of Wembley Stadium with this behind-the-scenes tour! **This trip is on a Sunday for students staying for two weeks or more.**

## Activities

In the afternoons and evenings, you will have the chance to socialise with other students and take part in fun activities. Evening activities will be organised depending on student interest and may include the following:

- Rounders tournament
- Capture the Flag
- 5 a side football
- Basketball
- Just Dance
- Talent Show
- Arts and Crafts
- Karaoke
- Summer Barbeque
- Welcome/Farewell Party





## Sample Timetable

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>Breakfast</b>	Arrival Day	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Full Day Excursion to London	Departure Day  Or  Excursion to Wembley Stadium if combining courses and staying for another week.
<b>Morning 1</b>		Introduction and Safety  Physics - experiments	Physics - experiments with circuits measuring current and voltage.	Biology - chemical tests on food for protein, fats, reducing sugars and starch.	Physics - create a compressed air rocket.	Planning and pre-test		
<b>Break</b>		Breaktime	Break time	Break time	Break time	Break time		
<b>Morning 2</b>		Biology - microscopy - making and observing slides	Biology - photosynthesis experiment	Physics - calculating the density of regular and irregular objects.	Biology - investigation into the preferred conditions for small animals using choice chambers	Obtaining data		
<b>Lunch</b>		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		
<b>Afternoon</b>		Chemistry - experimental investigation into the nature of acids, alkalis and indicators	Chemistry - measuring temperature changes in a range of exothermic and endothermic reactions	Chemistry - measuring rates of reactions.	Chemistry - making a range of slimes.	Analysing, Concluding and Evaluating		
<b>Dinner</b>		Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Diner		
<b>Evening</b>		Welcome Party	Games evening: Football, Basketball, Table Tennis, Board Games etc.	Arts and Crafts	Oxford Treasure Hunt and River Walk	Summer Barbeque and Farewell Party		

## Staying for longer?

Like all our programmes, our Practical Science programme can be combined with other programmes to make a 2, 3 or 4 week stay.

If you are interested in further developing your skills in science, we would recommend combining with the **STEAM: 'Cracking the code'** or **STEAM: 'Symmetry'** programme.

If you are looking to improve your English and experience British culture, we would recommend combining with the **British Culture and Language Programme**.

It is also possible to combine with our **Rowing, Rugby or World of Football** programme if something more sporting takes your fancy.

Please see our Programmes page for more information.





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