



Cultural Stay Programme

Learn English in the heart of Ireland

www.shannonacademy.com



Shannon
Academy
of English

Welcome

Located in Athlone in Co. Westmeath in the heart of Ireland, the Shannon Academy of English offers a range of year-round, multicultural, English language courses and programmes to students from a number of countries.

Our location in a vibrant Irish town, along with our programme of structured classes and the exposure to Irish life and culture that we share with our students, makes Shannon Academy one of the most invigorating language schools in Ireland.

As well as learning and improving language skills, we aim to give our students a real feel for 'Irishness' and Irish culture while studying here.

In addition, we strive to ensure that every student we teach is made to feel part of our community during their stay in Athlone.



Cultural Stay Programme

The Cultural Stay Programme at Shannon Academy is a new and exciting way for students to learn English in a fun and engaging manner through interaction with native Irish teenagers. The programme, which can be either of one or two weeks' duration, involves a class of visiting students integrating with Irish Transition Year (4th Year) students.



Programme Highlights

- Students are given a student handbook on arrival to Athlone. This handbook outlines their syllabus, gives information about the school, emergency telephone numbers and their activity programme for the course. It also provides information about Athlone and its facilities, and contains a town map.
- Students spend their mornings at language classes discussing a variety of topics and themes with their Irish student friends, all the time using the English language to communicate.
- Topics include traditions, sports, food, music, technology, education, history, science and hobbies.
- During these classes, students work in groups with Irish students of similar age sharing their cultures and interests with each other.
- Throughout their stay, students work on projects to display what they have learned and are provided with a diary and learning log, as well as all of the Irish cultural material that they require to complete their projects.
- At the end of their stay, students prepare a presentation describing what they have learned about Irish culture.
- Students must bring with them a selection of pictures and interesting facts about their own culture to share with the Irish students.
- There are weekly prizes for “Best in Class” for the student who works the hardest.
- During their stay, students stay with carefully selected Irish host families and take part in family life.
- Host-family accommodation is full board (breakfast, packed lunch and dinner).
- A varied and fun programme of afternoon activities is organised for each day.
- All programmes are tailor-made for this stay, and companies can select their own activities from a menu of options provided by Shannon Academy.
- Students are given simple learning tasks to complete with their host families in the evening. These assignments encourage family interaction and integration.
- On completion of the course, students are presented with a certificate.
- Students also complete a survey on day two and at the end of their stay.



Cultural Stay Programme

Sample Timetable

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Arrival Meet with host families in Athlone	Morning 10.00-13.15 Irish cultural project class: Share information on culture and everyday life.	Morning 10.00-13.15 Irish music project class with Irish students: Focus on Irish instruments and the culture of music in Ireland. Discuss the differences between Irish and student country modern and traditional music.	Morning 10.00-13.15 Irish food project class: Learn some Irish recipes and information about typical meals and meal times. Share your own local recipes and famous dishes. Teachers can decide to bring some food from students' country for Irish students to try. Irish students will have food for the visiting students to taste.	Morning 10.00-13.15 Irish education project class: Focus on Irish schools and class timetables and compare with students' home country subjects and daily school life. Share information and photos of your own school.	Morning 10.00-13.15 Irish sport project class: Learn about Irish sports and their rules. Talk about some famous sports and sport players from students' home country. Share information on sports you play and why you like them.	Depart from Dublin Airport
	Language Focus: Introductions, vocabulary, pair work, debating, pronunciation.	Language Focus: Listening skills, vocabulary, speaking, writing.	Language Focus: Listening skills, vocabulary, describing items.	Language Focus: Comparing and contrasting, vocabulary, describing items.	Language Focus: Listening skills, vocabulary, speaking, sharing information.	
	Afternoon 14.15-16.15 Get to know Athlone: Treasure hunt around Athlone town. Be the first team back and win a prize	Afternoon 13.15-16.30 Fun Irish Sports Afternoon	Afternoon 14.15-16.15 Trip to Clonmacnoise heritage site	Afternoon 14.15-15.15 Game of bowling at Athlone Leisure Centre	Afternoon 14.15-16.15 Trip to Athlone Castle for a guided tour. Some free time in the town for last minute shopping!	



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Activities and Fun

Shannon Academy is about much more than just learning English. Fun activities and cultural experiences enrich a student's stay in Ireland and help them learn English in a fun and natural way.

- ✦ A varied programme of afternoon activities and local visits is organised from Monday to Friday.
- ✦ Excursions can include boat trips on the river Shannon and Lough Ree, a trip to Clonmacnoise ancient monastic site, a day out in Galway city and /or Dublin city.
- ✦ Activities can include gaelic football, hurling, archery, arts and crafts, swimming and dance.

Accommodation

Students stay with carefully selected Irish families and take part in Irish family life for the duration of their stay. Host-family accommodation is on a full-board basis – breakfast, packed lunch and dinner.



Programme Fees

Programme fees include:

- ✦ Registration fee
- ✦ Materials
- ✦ Tuition
- ✦ Activities
- ✦ Accommodation and meals



Why Choose Us?

- All programmes at Shannon Academy are tailor-made to fit a client's needs.
- Our students, organisations, teachers and service providers are all made to feel members of the "Shannon Academy Community".
- We aim to deliver our courses in a fun and enthusiastic manner and provide a positive, friendly and safe environment in which to learn English.
- Our proximity to Ireland's national attractions allows us to provide excellent activity-based social excursion programmes.
- High-quality, host-family accommodation gives peace of mind to our students and their families.

✦ *"Having worked alongside the Shannon Academy for years, I am happy to say that this organisation has my complete trust. The educational programmes they offer are of a high-quality standard in terms of the academic side, accommodation and welfare support for the student."*

*Amparo Galbis Dpto. Marketing
Valencia, Spain*

✦ *"As a Spanish group leader, I've been to Athlone with Shannon Academy about 3 or 4 times, with different groups of different ages, all along the year. I have very nice memories of those stays, it was always a pleasure going back to Athlone. Shannon Academy staff are committed to what they do, both teachers and free time supervisors, they're nice with students and they do their best for their English learning and their personal experience.
...So I totally recommend Shannon Academy if you want you our your children to have a nice stay in Ireland, improve your English and know more about Irish culture and people. Personally, I always had great time in Athlone and it was a pleasure to work with them."*

*Pepa Estebean Zuriaga
Spanish Group Leader*

**To make a Cultural Stay Programme booking
at Shannon Academy of English**

Email: info@shannonacademy.com

Call 00 353 87 2958341

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