



# CAMBRIDGE DREAM

*Success through inspirational learning*





# WHAT IS THE CAMBRIDGE DREAM?

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Many people who study at Cambridge University describe the experience as a dream come true.

For over 800 years Cambridge University has been a world-leading centre of academic excellence, renowned for its ground-breaking scientific research, its rich literary history and its extraordinary architectural beauty. The University has over 100 Nobel Prize winners and innovative thinkers of the twenty-first century.

Cambridge Dream provides a unique summer course at Cambridge University to help young students achieve their dream of being accepted at a top UK or US University. Attendees study, eat and sleep in the same college rooms used by full-time students at Cambridge University and participate in a stimulating programme of academic lectures, interactive workshops and team challenges, taught by University lecturers, professional teachers, expert speakers and Oxbridge students.

They receive guidance about university admissions and practise writing a personal statement and answering tough interview questions to help them prepare for their University applications.

Sharing this amazing experience are British students from schools in the Cambridge area who join us each year for the summer school. The British school students attend all the daytime workshops and lectures, working in mixed teams with our international participants, as well as joining in some evening activities and excursions.

When attendees are not busy studying, they can enjoy an exciting variety of social activities such as punting on the River Cam and cultural visits to Cambridge colleges, museums, art galleries and theatres, as well as excursions to London and Oxford.

*“By attending a Cambridge Dream summer residential course at Cambridge University, students will develop the skills essential for a successful University application and for future academic and career success.”*

*Laura Davies, Managing Director of Cambridge Dream*



## WHY ATTEND A CAMBRIDGE DREAM SUMMER PROGRAMME?

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Global competition for top University places is accelerating. To be successful, in addition to achieving higher grades, young people must perform to the best of their ability in every aspect of the application process, including undertaking research, reading and experiences beyond the academic curriculum.

Applying as an international student is even more challenging than for home students. The success rate for non-UK applicants to Cambridge is 10% on average, and for many countries considerably lower, compared to 19% for UK applicants. Non-UK applicants have fewer opportunities to come to Open Days or familiarise themselves with the process and prepare thoroughly before applying. Furthermore, the teaching methods in some countries may not encourage the kind of academic curiosity and critical thinking expected of top-performing students in the UK.

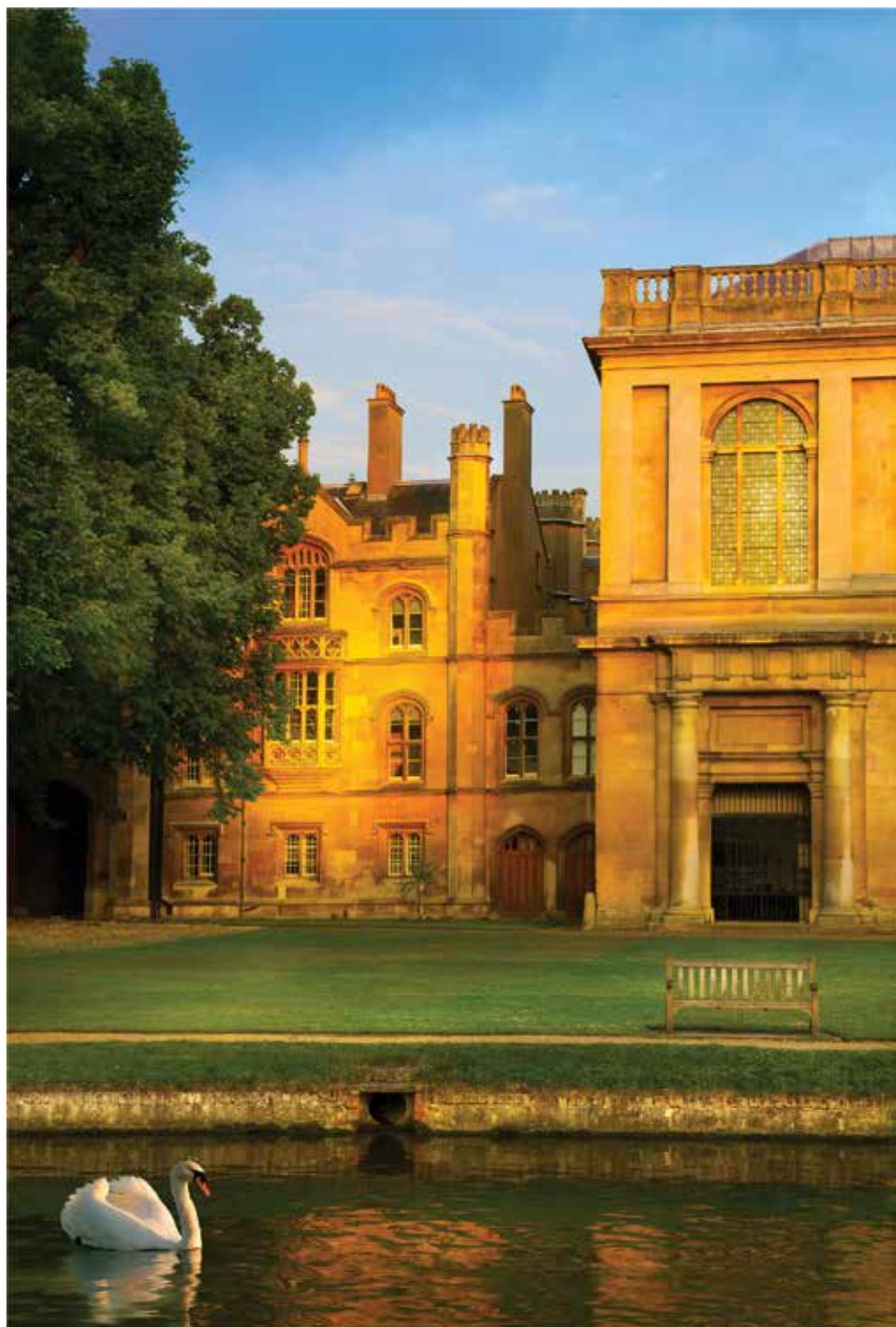
## WHAT ARE ADMISSIONS TUTORS IN WORLD-CLASS UNIVERSITIES LOOKING FOR?

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Admissions tutors are committed to selecting students with the highest academic potential, regardless of their nationality or background, by taking into account their academic results, personal statements, admissions tests required for certain courses, such as the Thinking Skills Assessment (TSA), and interview. They are looking for students' motivation and ability to apply their minds and deal with new concepts, rather than their ability to recall facts.

“We want a sense of your ability to think analytically and critically in an academic setting.”

*Cambridge Admissions Tutor*





## BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAMME

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Cambridge Dream helps students improve their chances of being admitted to any world-class University, by providing insights into the application processes, increasing students' confidence and enhancing their skills in communication, critical thinking, leadership and creativity, which are vital for academic success.

During the course, students will learn how to:

- Reach well-reasoned opinions which they can express confidently;
- Study independently and show they have a passion for learning;
- Apply thinking skills critically and creatively to resolve complex problems;
- Interact and work collaboratively in small teams;
- Become more socially confident individuals with good self-awareness and leadership skills;
- Answer tough interview questions and write a strong personal statement.

## FOLLOW IN FAMOUS FOOTSTEPS

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Follow in the footsteps of Cambridge's famous alumni, like scientists Francis Crick and James Watson who discovered the structure of DNA; Isaac Newton who developed the laws of universal gravitation; Charles Darwin who formulated the theory of evolution by natural selection; mathematician Charles Babbage who invented the first programmable computer; economist John Maynard Keynes; poets William Wordsworth and Lord Byron, and King of England Charles III, to name but a few.



# WHAT MAKES CAMBRIDGE DREAM DIFFERENT?



This is a prestigious course with a limited number of places. It is not a standard English summer camp. We are looking for talented and hard-working students who will be committed to meeting the challenges and getting the most out of the programme. We will only consider applicants, aged 12-18 years old, who are still in school at the time of applying. Applicants must be able to follow lessons in English and actively participate in class discussions, using everyday vocabulary.

A truly distinctive aspect of the Cambridge Dream programme is our integration of international students with British school students in the Cambridge area. Integrated classes and activities are of significant benefit to all the participants, as both the British students and overseas students gain from shared learning and increased cultural understanding. Of course, they also have lots of fun in a variety of settings, from robotics and 3D printing to performing Shakespeare and Scottish dancing.

## OUR BELIEF

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“I believe in the power of aspirational education to change lives.”

Laura Davies, Founder and Managing Director of Cambridge Dream  
BA (Hons), MA (Cantab), PGDipM, Chartered Marketer, FCIM



## PROGRAMME DETAILS

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The programme is held in a Cambridge University college each summer.

The price of the course includes the following:

- An assigned mentor (Cambridge or Oxford student) for each 6 students;
- A free teacher place with each 10 students;
- Coach transfers to and from London Heathrow airport;
- Accommodation in standard single bedrooms in Cambridge University;
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner;
- Weekly change of bed linen and towels;
- A daily timetable of classes and activities;
- Evening social entertainments;
- Residential English staff present at all times;
- Formal Dinner and awards presentation;
- Cambridge attractions, such as chauffeured punting and traditional afternoon tea;
- 1 full-day excursion to London, including entrance tickets;
- 1 full-day excursion to Oxford, including entrance tickets;
- An award in Sports Leadership;
- An end-of-course certificate of attendance;
- A personalised report with targets;
- A personal Development Plan.

Flights, travel insurance, visa application, optional extra excursions, and spending money are not included.

Students from some countries will need to apply for a visa, in accordance with the eligibility rules of the HM Visas and Immigration (formerly the UK Border Agency). Cambridge Dream will sponsor the visa applications.



# TEN REASONS TO CHOOSE CAMBRIDGE DREAM



1. Directed by Cambridge scholars and mentored by Cambridge Undergraduates.
2. Integration with British students from local Cambridge schools.
3. High-calibre academic teaching faculty, comprising mainly Oxbridge lecturers.
4. Advice about what admissions staff look for in successful applicants.
5. Full, diverse programme of inspiring, thought-provoking lectures and confidence-building workshops, from science to Shakespeare.
6. Opportunity to develop 21st century skills and prepare a personal plan for academic and career success.
7. Visits to several Cambridge and Oxford Colleges.
8. Magnificent cultural attractions such as Buckingham Palace, British Museum and Cambridge Shakespeare Festival.
9. Exciting social activities, such as a garden party and croquet on the college lawn, a traditional dancing evening (ceilidh), chauffeured punting and formal dinner in college.
10. A safe and secure introduction to student life in one of the highest-ranking world universities.



## STUDENTS' FEEDBACK

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*"Every day was different and exciting! I learned how to code and how to prepare for an interview and I played Bottom in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Brilliant!"*

*"The practice interviews, business challenge, robotics and MUN debate all built my confidence. Furthermore, the knowledge I gained about Economics and Programming will help my studies."*

*"The student mentors' patience and kindness really impressed me. After this unforgettable course, I feel more confident and I truly believe I can achieve my goals."*

## PARENTS' FEEDBACK

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*"The programme is very interesting and the level of students is much higher than in the usual summer camps (important!)."*

*"We are so surprised and touched by the changes we've seen in our son, thanks to 'The Cambridge Dream"! The course is not long, the impact is so far-reaching!"*

*"Cambridge Dream's Summer School Programme sets itself apart from conventional summer camps in so many different aspects."*

## LEADERS' FEEDBACK

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*"We noticed that you paid great attention to all the details, such as the students' welfare, teaching, food, transport and accommodation, to ensure the highest quality."*

*"Our students developed impressive leadership, critical thinking and creative skills. More than this, they gained self-confidence and a passion for learning."*

*"Your teachers have a unique way of making classes interesting and lively. We have had a great deal of positive feedback from the students and parents. Well done!"*



## OUR CAMBRIDGE FAMILY HISTORY

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**Laura Davies, founder and Managing Director of Cambridge Dream, has Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Cambridge University and more than 25 years experience in international education and business.**

Since 2007, Laura has personally directed international summer residential programmes in prestigious UK boarding schools and Universities for students of many nationalities.

Previously, Laura held senior international positions within ICI, KPMG and Market Insights, where she was commissioned to undertake research and strategy consultancy projects for Universities, the UK Government and other high-profile institutions.

Laura's husband Neil graduated in Natural Sciences from Cambridge University. They met

as students and were married at Cambridge University in 1991. Their son completed a medical undergraduate degree in Physiology, Development and Neuroscience (PDN) at Cambridge University and pursued his postgraduate studies at Cambridge University's School of Clinical Medicine. The teaching and mentoring staff of Cambridge Dream comprise many scholars

from Cambridge and Oxford Universities (together known as Oxbridge).



*Laura and Neil Davies at their son's graduation  
from Cambridge University*



# CAMBRIDGE DREAM

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For applications please go to <https://www.cambridgedream.com/summer-programme/registration/>