



Academy

International Boarding Schools



Oxford

Campus

*“Every day here begins just as it ends: **with inspiration.**”*

EF Academy Oxford is located just 10 minutes from the academic heart of Great Britain. Yet for me, the most inspiring thing about the EF campus has nothing to do with books or research. It has to do with our amazing students.

Having taught in international schools for more than 13 years, I can safely say that the students at EF Oxford are some of the most motivated and enthusiastic in the world. They are active contributors to our campus community, making the most of every classroom discussion, lecture, and excursion. They perform plays, launch clubs, and volunteer in the local community. They bring our campus to life.

I have long believed that if students are happy and healthy, they can succeed in their academic endeavors. That's why, aside from our outstanding academic curriculum, pastoral care is at the heart of our educational philosophy. Students meet with their tutors once per day and are surrounded by a team of teachers, house parents, host families, programme coordinators, and faculty members who genuinely want them to succeed.

The warmth of our Oxford campus also contributes to student well-being, offering a nurturing learning environment with world-class facilities, including a state-of-the-art science laboratory, computer labs, and spacious lounges. It's a place where students can safely and comfortably explore their passions, and provides a quiet respite from their day's adventures, be it a physics experiment in the classroom, a lecture in Oxford city centre, or a day-trip to London, which is just one hour by bus.

At EF Academy, we do more than prepare our students for university. We prepare them to make a meaningful contribution to our world. I look forward to helping you discover what your contribution might be.

Ted McGrath
Head Teacher
EF Academy
Oxford



“IB gave me a panoramic view of life.”



Activities

- The Badger
- Newspaper
- Photography Club
- Persian Calligraphy

Sports

- Tennis
- Football
- Basketball
- Volleyball

Plans for the future

Chemical Engineering

YUSEF, IRAN

IB Diploma

A creative soul with a passion for engineering, Yousef turned to the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma at EF Academy Oxford to find the scientific challenges he needed — and the creative fulfillment he so desired.



At home in Iran, Yousef attended one of the top high schools in the country. But classes were lecture-based, offering little opportunity for hands-on laboratory research. At EF Academy, he says, classes are based on practice and lab-based learning. With a world-class science laboratory, experiments are a regular part of the classroom curriculum, making every day relevant and exciting.

a huge aspect of creativity and critical thinking skills that the IB Diploma provides.”

For instance, as part of his IB Diploma studies, Yousef must complete a 4,000-word research project called the Extended Essay. Yousef chose to focus on the pollution of water in his home country of Iran. Chemistry teacher Tim Lewis even arranged for Yousef to use the science laboratories at Oxford University to bring his research to life.

Yousef also enjoys the opportunities for real-world learning through the IB Diploma’s Creativity, Action, and Service component, and the chance to improve his critical thinking skills through core IB courses such as Theory of Knowledge.

In his downtime, Yousef makes the most of Oxford, attending lectures on things such as green transport and super-conductivity, and learning about the cultures of his classmates, which hail from more than 40 countries.

“Engineering is the art of blending science and design,” Yousef says. “An engineer’s purpose is to solve problems, and create answers that don’t exist yet. That in itself requires

“I learn something new and exciting every single day,” Yousef says. “Those are the things that inspire me to keep working toward my dream.”



“I learn something new and exciting every single day.”



SEVERIN, GERMANY

IB Diploma

Though Yousef and his roommate, Severin, come from two entirely different cultures, it didn’t stop them from becoming fast friends. They can often be found in the student lounge enjoying a quick game of pool or simply catching up for a chat between classes. His relationship with Yousef and other international friends has been life-changing for Severin, who had little access to international perspectives at his home school in Germany. Just by

living on campus, he says, he’s making connections and gaining perspectives on new and different cultures he had only read about back home. That cultural understanding will give him an edge in the future, no matter which career path he ultimately decides to pursue.

“Oxford is an inspiring city,” Severin says. “But the inspiration on this campus is what truly changed my life.”

- Sports**
- Football
- Rugby
- Activities**
- Model UN
- The Badger
- Student Newspaper
- Children in Need



ALINA, RUSSIA
IB Diploma

A driven student with a keen interest in international issues, Alina had lived all around the world — from China to the Philippines to the United States. Yet she never felt at home until she arrived at EF Academy Oxford.

“I’ve become more aware of the world.”



Activities
Badminton
Swimming
Running club
(including charity runs)
Volunteers at Oxford museums
Debate Club
Model UN
Photography Club
On volunteering in the Philippines
“I saw poverty up close. It made the issue real for me. It made me want to act.”
Future plans
Civil Service



Drawn to Oxford’s rich academic history and international atmosphere, Alina enrolled in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma at EF’s Oxford campus. She was immediately impressed, she says, with the diversity of both the campus and the IB curriculum.

“At EF, I don’t just read the news to find out what’s happening in the world,” she says. “I talk about the Middle East peace process with my Iranian and Libyan friends. I learn about global business from my friends in China. I get the information first-hand — as it should be.”

Alina has found EF’s Debate Club and Model UN to be especially helpful in shaping her outlook and preparing

for a career in diplomacy. In Model UN, for instance, she has the chance to draft policy statements and resolutions, and try to find links between economic and political issues affecting the world. Even better, her classmates have been a major resource in her learning.

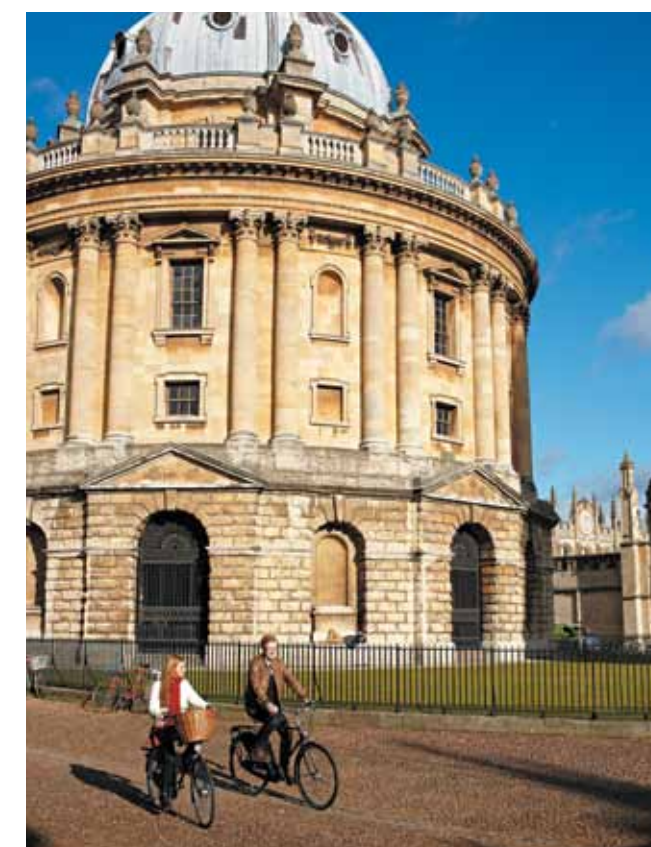
“Before I came here, the world was a blank map. Now it’s filling up — not just with knowledge, but with faces — and friends.”

“Before I came here, the world was a blank map. Now it’s filling up — not just with knowledge, but with faces — and friends.”

A HOME AWAY FROM ... CAMPUS

Alina is one of many students at EF Academy Oxford who chooses to live with a host family within the local community, rather than living in the on-campus residence. According to Alina, living with a host family provides an opportunity to gain even greater insights on British language, culture and customs, and to enjoy a family-like atmosphere similar to what she would experience back in Russia.

“There are so many amazing things about this school, and this city,” Alina says. “My host family tops the list.”



University Guidance — all the way

Many students at EF Academy Oxford begin their studies with plans of attending a top university in the United Kingdom. University placement coordinator, Cy Webber, works one-on-one with each EF student to ensure the best placement.

Because the British university system only allows students to apply to five universities, the process is an important step to ensure a successful offer. Over

the course of two years, counselors assist with applications, personal statements, and more.

For those students hoping to pursue a career in medicine, EF also provides coaching and preparation for external exams and mock interviews, as well as work experience placement. Students are also able to take special pre-med courses at Imperial College.

A dedicated adviser is also available for those students seeking entry to top universities in the United States, Europe, or Asia.

Students at EF Academy Oxford have received offers from the following outstanding universities:

University of Oxford
Imperial College London
London School of Economics
University of Durham
University College London
University of Warwick
King's College London, Dentistry
University of Leicester, Medicine



“Always challenge yourself to greatness.”



MARCUS, NORWAY

A-levels

A gifted physicist, Marcus was searching for a school where he could challenge himself in the maths and sciences in preparation for a future at a top university. He found that — and more — at EF Academy Oxford.

EF Oxford's A-level programme offered Marcus the chance to focus solely on the subjects he's most passionate about: Further Maths, Physics, and Chemistry. He's even able to take additional math modules in his spare time, and says he's learning a lot of new math techniques from fellow classmates from Asia, where math is a central component of the educational curriculum.

Marcus struck an immediate connection with physics teacher Toby Blundell, who studied biochemistry at Oxford University's Trinity College. According to Marcus, Toby

has been an incredible mentor, helping him navigate everything from A-level test preparation to his university applications, mock interviews, and personal statement.

“The amazing thing about Toby is that he is always willing to help — even if it isn't related to physics,” Marcus says. “He's not just a teacher. He's a wonderful mentor and friend.”

In his spare time, Marcus — an avid musician — plays drums in EF Academy's student music group, The Sergeant Peppers Band. Toby is also the faculty adviser — and member — of the band.

A-level courses

Higher Maths
Physics
Chemistry

Biggest achievement

A* in math

Activities

Sergeant Peppers Band
Debate Club

Best thing about Oxford

Being surrounded by academically minded people



**ASSAD, THAILAND
ALEX, INDONESIA**

A-levels

Alex and Assad came to EF Academy Oxford with a mission: to prepare themselves for a career in international business. Little did they know, they'd find a once-in-a-lifetime friendship, as well.

“EF is preparing us for life.”



- A-level subjects**
- Business
- Economics
- Maths
- Sports**
- Football
- Basketball
- Rugby
- Billiards
- Activities**
- Investor Club
- Chess Club
- Current Affairs Club

Assad was the very first person Alex met when he arrived on the EF Oxford campus, and despite the fact that they came from two different countries, he was shocked at how much the two had in common — from their families' shared history in business to a passion for football and rugby. As it turned out, Alex and Assad were in all of the same A-level courses — creating an instant connection the two never saw coming.

Both Alex and Assad say they have been impressed with their EF Academy courses and agree that their teachers work overtime to make classes as relevant as possible to the real world. In their business and economics classes, for instance, they undertook a major research project focused on the UK transportation system and how it contributes to economic growth in

different regions of the country. They've also had the chance to research real-world issues like the currency crisis in Iran and Greece, and the global economic downturn — something many students don't have the chance to undertake until college or graduate school.

“Where else in the world can you go to class with students from Russia, Iran, China, and get their input on these issues in real time?” Alex says. “Or meet a fellow student from a completely different country and find an instant best friend?”



“Where else in the world can you gain knowledge and perspective — in every classroom exchange?”



GETTING AHEAD AT HULT INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SCHOOL

With a joint passion for business, Alex and Assad both plan to attend university at HULT International Business School. Based in Central London, the U.S. accredited Bachelor's degree programme is affiliated with the top ranked Hult MBA programme which allows students to rotate through HULT campuses in San Francisco, Boston, Shanghai, and Dubai, all while earning a renowned degree centered wholly on international business issues. Even better: students at EF Academy are guaranteed preferred admission to the HULT programme, ensuring a promising future in the global business world. “HULT offers the chance to prepare myself for the future, while seeing parts of the world I've never experienced,” Assad says. “I can't think of a better opportunity.”

CESAR, MEXICO

IB Diploma

Cesar's family left Mexico for the South Coast of England his very first year of high school. Cesar chose to forego the coast for EF Academy Oxford — a place where being from another country is normal, and speaking another language is just a part of everyday life.

“This school gave me confidence to be me.”



“EF is a place where it's cool to be smart — and even cooler to try new things.”

Cesar enrolled in EF's International Baccalaureate Diploma, a rounded course of study that allows Cesar to explore the topics he's most passionate about — Mexican politics and economics — while exploring activities like Drama Club, which he'd never even considered back home.

“Being here has offered me a real sense of belonging and confidence,” Cesar says. “It's an environment where I feel safe trying new things — and I never run out of opportunities to do so.”

With encouragement from his drama teacher, Debbie McNally, Cesar took on a starring role in the class production of Little Red Riding Hood and gained respect from his classmates for his acting, as well as his set design and direction skills. He even traveled to Warwick in Central England to participate in a competitive production of The Mobile Phone Show, hoping to win a spot to perform at the National Theatre in London.

Indeed, though EF Academy is widely known for its tremendous science and math programmes, many don't realize that the school also has a strong creative element, with Drama Club, Glee Club, a student band, photography circle, and more. And Debbie, who has taught for nearly 20 years in both the U.S. and England, says she isn't surprised by Cesar's success on the stage.

“EF is a place where it's cool to be smart — and even cooler to try new things,” Debbie says. “Students like Cesar soar in this environment.”

Activities

- Beach
- Football
- Fitness Club
- Music Club
- Zumba
- Social Club
- Sailing



**LAURA AND MURIEL,
NETHERLANDS**

A-levels

One has a love of law. The other has a passion for medicine. Yet these decidedly different twin sisters both found the perfect home — and a great sense of fulfillment — at EF Academy Oxford.



Laura's A-level Courses

Economics
Sociology
Philosophy

Muriel's A-level Courses

Biology
Chemistry
Physics

Though Laura and Muriel have different career plans, both say it was EF Academy's strong A-level programme that initially drew them to the Oxford campus. Not only does the programme itself allow them to focus on the subjects most important to them, they've also found much inspiration from their teachers, who encourage them to dig deeper into their chosen field.



"What's truly different here is the interaction between the students and teachers," Laura says. "We are invited to ask questions, but we're also challenged to find our own answers to the tougher issues."

"Just as importantly, we're taught that you can't always find answers in a book," Muriel continues. "You need to get out into the world to find them for yourself."

Since arriving at EF Oxford, both sisters have done just that. Laura regularly attends court proceedings in the Oxford community to gain further insights into the UK legal system, and over the summer, she even took the initiative to attend trials at The Hague to gain an in-depth look at human rights issues currently impacting the world. Likewise, Muriel is a practicing member of St. John

Ambulance medical group, and volunteers in a local elderly care home to gain real-life medical experience that will provide invaluable later in life.

"Experience is everything when preparing to become a doctor — or a lawyer," Muriel says.

"EF is a school that thrives on experience. It pushes you to new heights every day."



"I love to talk — and I have the strongest convictions of anyone I know," Laura says. "What better way to use those gifts than join the legal field?"

"It was time to forge our own amazing paths."



**MEDICAL — AND MUSICAL —
BREAKTHROUGHS**

Muriel launched the Medical Society at EF Academy Oxford with fellow friend Elodie (see page 16) to prepare for mock university interviews and exams in advance of medical school. The group meets weekly to watch videos, read articles, and learn about different diseases and ways to diagnose them. Still, it's not the first club that Muriel has started on campus. She and her sister worked with fellow student Marcus (see page 9) to launch the school's Sergeant Pepper's Band. Not only did other fellow students — and teachers — join in, but the school even rents out space for the promising musicians to practice each week.

"Encouragement is a huge part of every day here," Muriel says. "If you want something, the motto is: Do it. Make it happen."



A-level subjects
Biology
Chemistry
Physics
Maths
Activities
Glee Club
Medical Society
Future plans
Bring high quality medical care to Nigeria

"I found acceptance and inspiration here."

ABBA, NIGERIA
A-levels

Diagnosed with polio at the age of 4, Abba made it his life's mission to pursue a career in medicine and bring top-notch medical care back to the children in his home country of Nigeria.

In hopes of attending a top UK medical school, Abba chose to study world-class science courses offered as part of the A-level programme at EF Academy Oxford. Still, it's not just the quality of the classes that have given Abba the confidence to continue his path to medicine. It's the teachers who constantly encourage him to push his boundaries and be the very best student, doctor, and person he can be.

Abba knows from experience how important strong communication skills are in

making patients feel comfortable. To help, he says, his teachers have encouraged him to lead classroom discussions and presentations, instilling a confidence he never would have found in a traditional Nigerian classroom.

"The first time I presented in class was literally one of the best days of my life," Abba says. "It was so new for me. It changed me forever."

A gifted singer, Abba has also joined the school's Glee Club, pushing himself even further into the spotlight — and the world.

"Coming to EF was one of the best decisions of my life," he says. "It pulled me out of my shell — and I'm never going back."



Students enjoy a wide range of organized activities back on campus:

- Badminton
- Running Club
- Global Issues Group
- Debate Club
- Sergeant Pepper's Band
- Football
- Orienteering
- Photography
- Society Events Committee
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Guitar
- Volleyball
- Crafts
- Environmental Club
- Music Society
- Cooking Club
- Yearbook
- The Badger Student Newspaper
- Medical Society
- History Club
- Model UN

ELODIE, CANADA

IB Diploma

Elodie was on the championship provincial ski team in Canada, attending a high school that tailored her education to fit her training schedule. With hopes of becoming a neurosurgeon, she decided to flip her priorities and looked to EF Academy Oxford to bring education back to the forefront of her life.

“I am tailoring my education to fit my future.”

Activities

Debate club
Model UN
St. Johns Ambulance
Running Club
Cycling Club

Future Plans

Boston Marathon
Medicine at Oxford
University



Determined to take full responsibility for her future, Elodie worked overtime at a local coffee shop and raised money from local businesses to fund her EF education. She soon enrolled in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma with a mission: immersing herself in science, medicine, and service.

Working with EF Oxford's top science faculty, Elodie has excelled in the classroom and beyond. With an interest in Alzheimer's research, she's focused her Extended Essay, a major research project that is part of the IB curriculum, on the potential for wine to fight Alzheimer's — a disease close to her heart. Her grandfather is an Alzheimer's survivor.

To help with medical school entrance, Elodie and her classmate Muriel started the Medical Society to help prepare themselves for mock interviews. In her spare time, she also volunteers with St. John Ambulance and works at a local hospice, to earn classroom credit through the IB's Creativity, Action, Service component.

“This school is all about opportunity,” Elodie says. “I am tailoring my education to fit my future.”

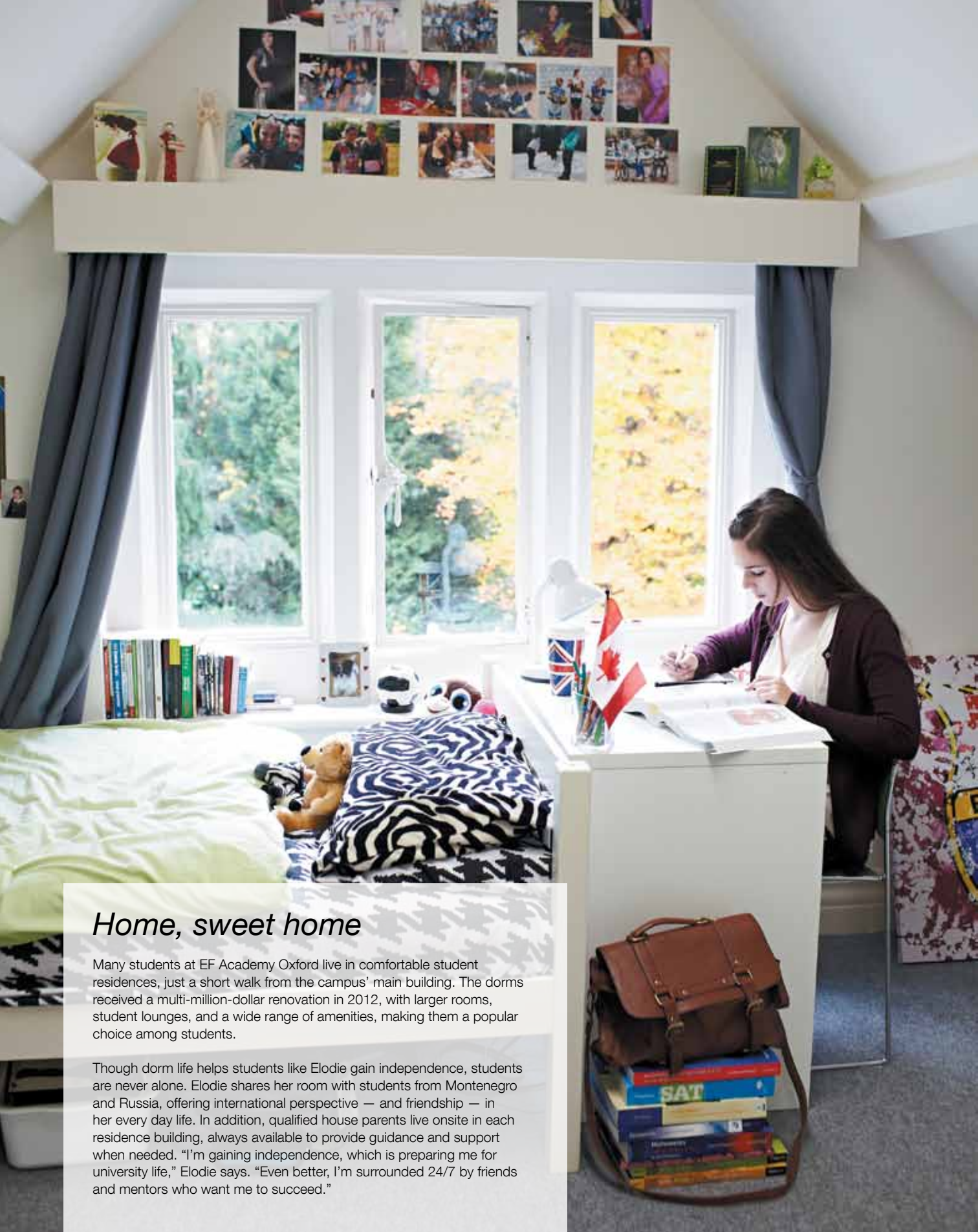


“I'm addicted to this school.”



MAKING THE MOST OF EVERY MINUTE

When she's not studying and preparing for exams, Elodie says she's constantly searching Oxford Hub (<http://oxfordhub.org>) and the Oxford University website to learn more about off-campus opportunities available to EF Academy students. From volunteering in local museums and medical centers, to organizing a group bike ride through the city or attending a lecture on global warming, Elodie never runs out of things to do, see — or learn — in Oxford, UK.



Home, sweet home

Many students at EF Academy Oxford live in comfortable student residences, just a short walk from the campus' main building. The dorms received a multi-million-dollar renovation in 2012, with larger rooms, student lounges, and a wide range of amenities, making them a popular choice among students.

Though dorm life helps students like Elodie gain independence, students are never alone. Elodie shares her room with students from Montenegro and Russia, offering international perspective — and friendship — in her every day life. In addition, qualified house parents live onsite in each residence building, always available to provide guidance and support when needed. "I'm gaining independence, which is preparing me for university life," Elodie says. "Even better, I'm surrounded 24/7 by friends and mentors who want me to succeed."



A world of learning

On a warm wooded campus just 10 minutes from the heart of Oxford's city centre, EF students enjoy a safe and relaxed learning environment with access to the most inspiring libraries, museums, and colleges in the world.

A student's city

Thousands of students from around the world call Oxford home. On any given day, you'll find them riding bikes through Oxford's cobblestone streets, debating the latest global issue in the local coffee shop, or walking to one of many graduation ceremonies in their traditional academic robes.

Lectures and museums

Students at EF enjoy access to the city's wide range of lectures and museums. In many cases, EF faculty members may organise excursions to these events as part of their classroom activities.

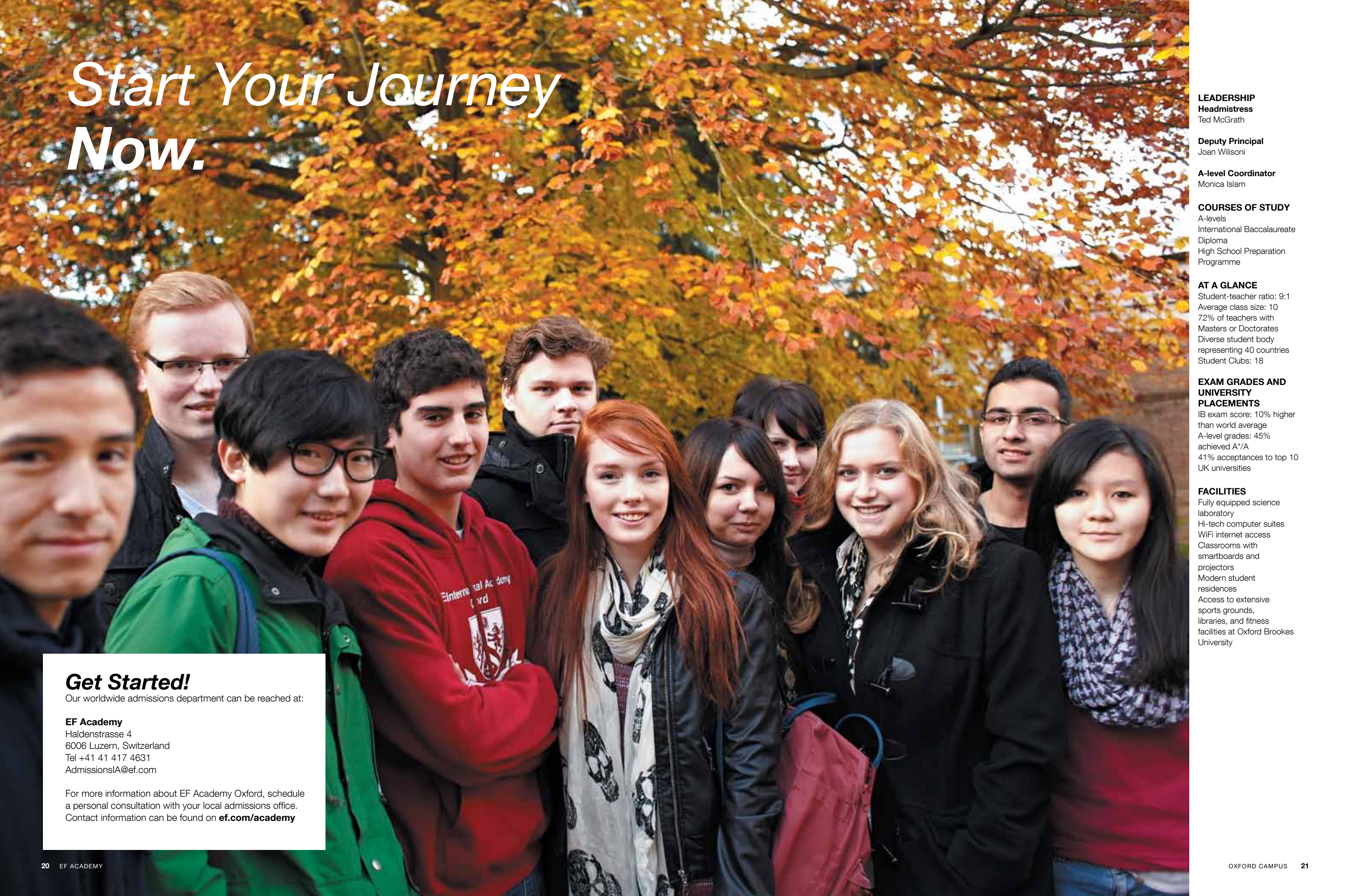
Libraries and book stores

Don't miss the chance to visit the world-famous Bodleian Library or Blackwell's Bookstore, which has been serving Oxford book lovers since 1879.

Location, Location, Location

Oxford is just a one-hour bus ride from London, where students can further explore the United Kingdom's esteemed history, culture, and government systems.

Start Your Journey Now.



Get Started!

Our worldwide admissions department can be reached at:

EF Academy

Haldenstrasse 4
6006 Luzern, Switzerland
Tel +41 41 417 4631
AdmissionsIA@ef.com

For more information about EF Academy Oxford, schedule a personal consultation with your local admissions office. Contact information can be found on ef.com/academy

LEADERSHIP

Headmistress
Ted McGrath

Deputy Principal
Joan Willison

A-level Coordinator
Monica Islam

COURSES OF STUDY

A-levels
International Baccalaureate
Diploma
High School Preparation
Programme

AT A GLANCE

Student-teacher ratio: 9:1
Average class size: 10
72% of teachers with
Masters or Doctorates
Diverse student body
representing 40 countries
Student Clubs: 18

EXAM GRADES AND UNIVERSITY PLACEMENTS

IB exam score: 10% higher
than world average
A-level grades: 45%
achieved A*/A
41% acceptances to top 10
UK universities

FACILITIES

Fully equipped science
laboratory
Hi-tech computer suites
WiFi internet access
Classrooms with
smartboards and
projectors
Modern student
residences
Access to extensive
sports grounds,
libraries, and fitness
facilities at Oxford Brookes
University



Academy

International Boarding Schools

EF Academy local admissions offices around the world

Seoul, South Korea
Taipei, Taiwan
Jakarta, Indonesia
Bangkok, Thailand
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Hanoi, Vietnam
Hong Kong
Shanghai, China
Beijing, China
Bangalore, India

Almaty, Kazakhstan
Dubai, UAE
Moscow, Russia
St. Petersburg, Russia
Oslo, Norway

Dusseldorf, Germany
Munich, Germany
Madrid, Spain
Barcelona, Spain
Luzern, Switzerland

New York, US
Mexico City, Mexico
Sao Paulo, Brazil



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