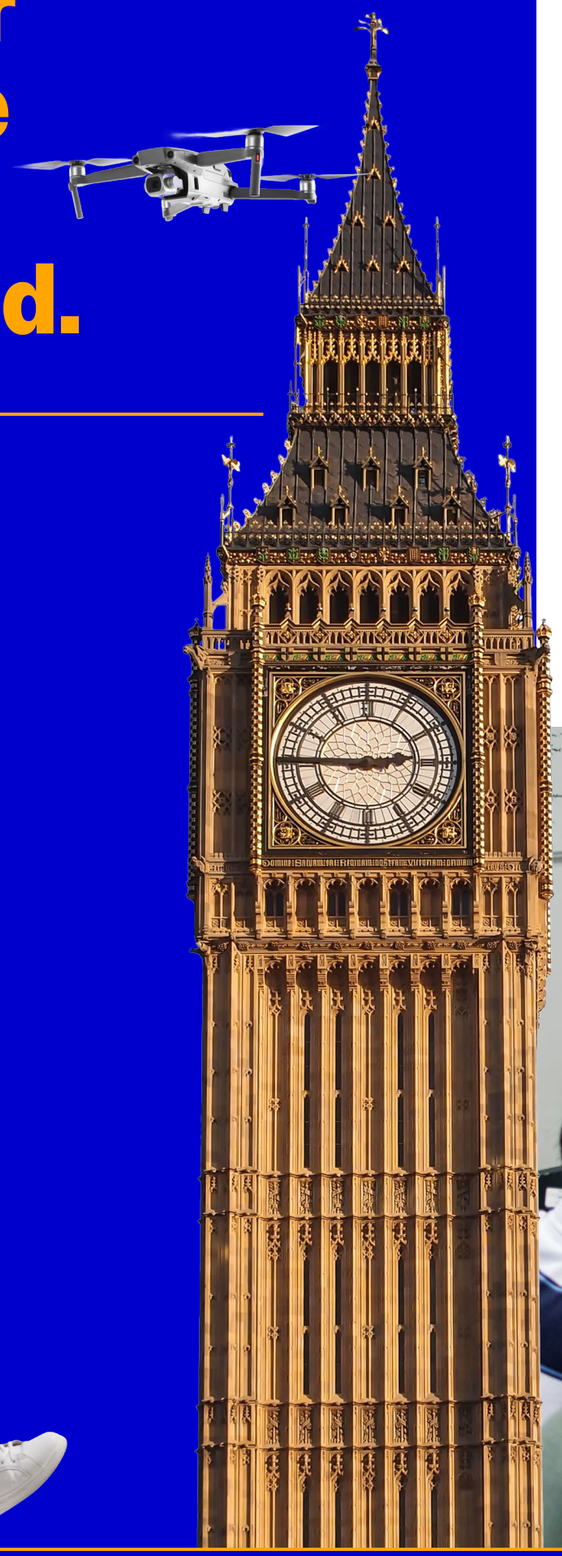
IMPERIAL
GLOBAL SUMMER SCHOOL

A global summer like no other

Imperial College London

imperial.ac.uk/globalsummerschool

Get ready to elevate your passion for STEM and make friends from around the world.



Welcome

Global Summer School is a pre-university programme for 16- and 17-year-old students.

Experience applied learning, real-world challenges and access to the best of Imperial, all from our Central London campus.

At Global Summer School you will:

- learn at a world top two university* – the only one in the UK focussing exclusively on science, engineering, medicine and business;
- take your subject knowledge to the next level through a challenging academic programme that includes classroom-based lectures, laboratory sessions and practical workshops;
- solve a real-world challenge by sharing expertise with students from other academic subjects to design and build a practical solution;
- access professional advice and guidance on applying to study at a university in the UK, especially to Imperial College London;
- stay in Imperial's student accommodation on our South Kensington Campus;
- enjoy evenings and a weekend full of social activities to help you make the most of your time in London.

2026 programme dates

29 June – 10 July or
3 August – 14 August

All-inclusive fee

£7,695

Ranked No.1 in Europe

QS World University Rankings, 2026

2nd best university in the world

QS World University Rankings, 2026

The Programme

Taught by Imperial academics, you'll enjoy around 50 hours of contact time across the two-week programme. Lessons are delivered in a variety of formats including lectures, seminars and practical sessions, enabling you to gain valuable insight into what it might be like to study your subject at degree level.

Week One
Academic subjects

Choose from five academic subjects. You will elevate your specialist subject knowledge, gain valuable skills and work with other outstanding students from around the world.

1. Chemistry
2. Data Science and Artificial Intelligence
3. Engineering
4. Medicine and Life Sciences
5. Physics

Week Two
Innovation challenge

Solve a real-world issue in the Innovation Challenge. In week two, drawing on your entrepreneurial skills, you will work with students from other subject areas to share expertise, collaborate and to evolve an idea to answer the challenge question.

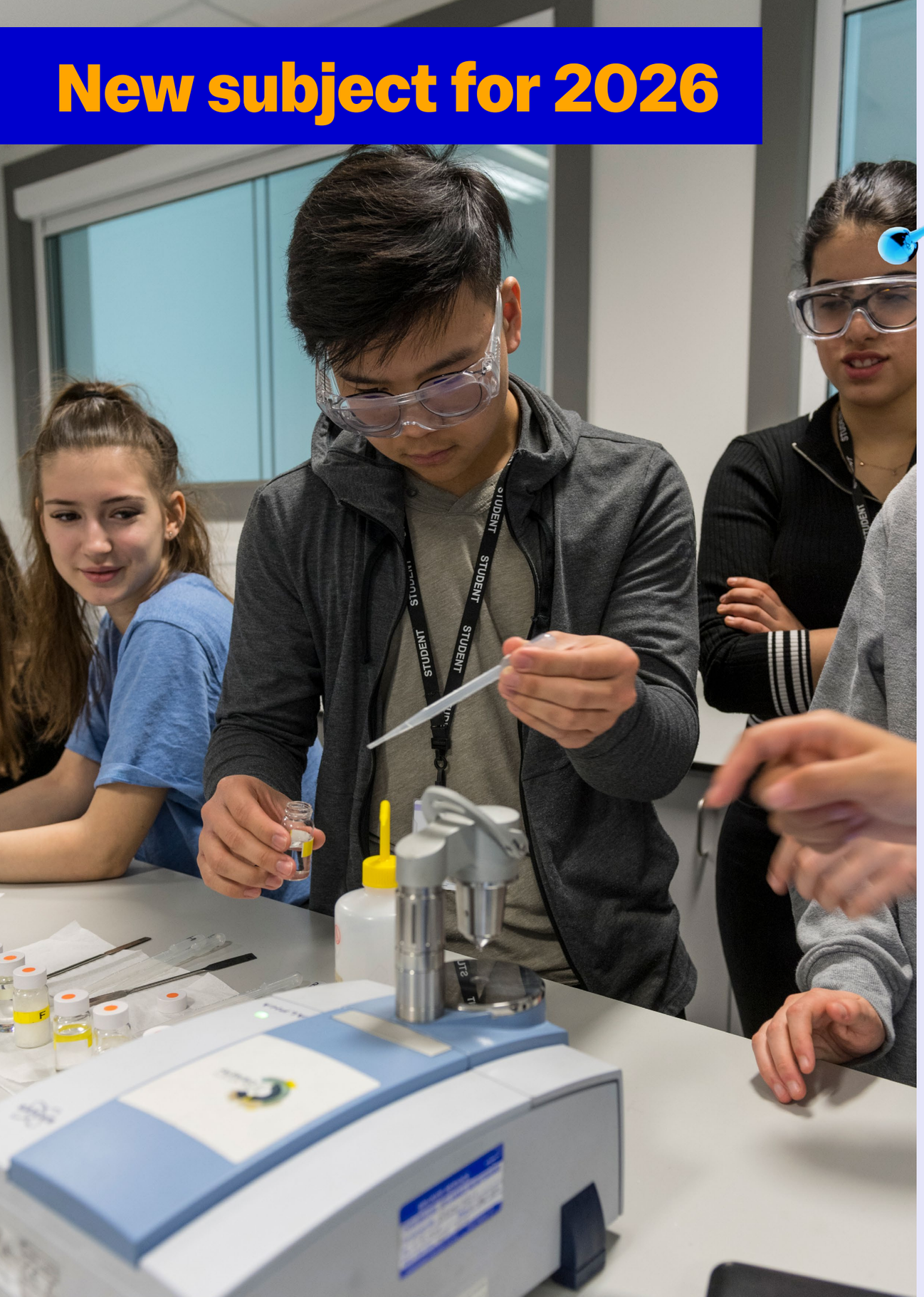
As a team, you will present your solution to a panel of judges and fellow Global Summer School students. This challenge is your opportunity to show originality and to build the skills you will need at university including, teamwork, presentation and communication skills.

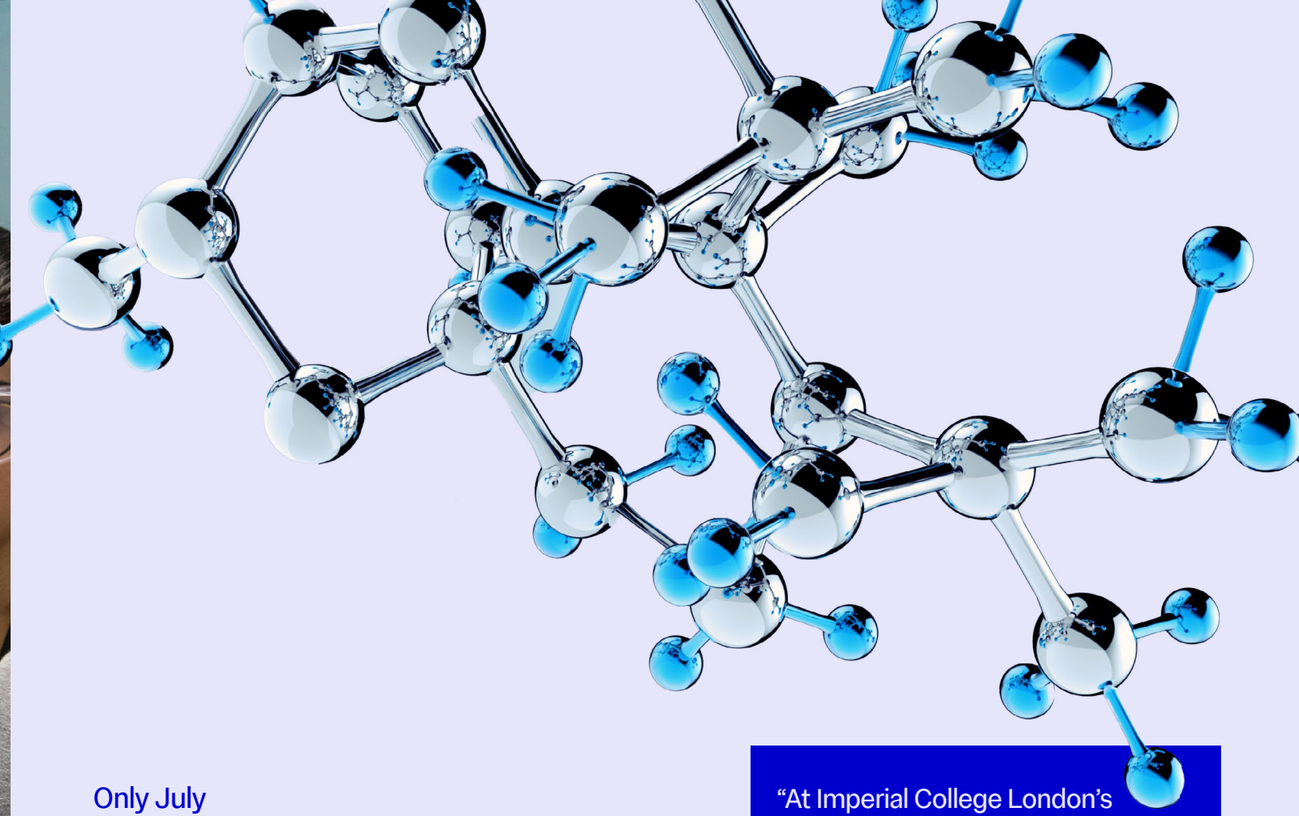
Both weeks
Masterclasses

You'll also receive Masterclasses, which run throughout the programme and are designed to prepare you for the university application process in the UK. Topics will include:

- Applying to the UK and Imperial
- The UCAS personal statement
- Career planning

New subject for 2026





Only July

Chemistry

Build your fundamental understanding of the molecular world, and explore exciting interdisciplinary applications, where Chemistry, the central science, can make a major global impact.

You will expand your understanding of how Chemistry can explain the world and how you can apply it, through interactive teaching sessions and talks.

You will be making, measuring and modelling, enhancing your skills in practical chemistry and use of programming/ simulations. Then you'll communicate your ideas about how chemistry can impact the world around us and make a difference to our global society.

"At Imperial College London's Department of Chemistry, discovery is a way of life. Our summer schools put you at the heart of world-class research working in cutting-edge labs, guided by inspiring mentors and surrounded by a vibrant academic community. Step into one of the world's leading centres for chemical innovation and see what's possible."

Professor Oscar Ces,
Head of Department of Chemistry

Typical programme content

- Build understanding of the fundamentals of molecular structure and analysis.
- Explore research in Chemistry and at the interface with other sciences.
- Synthesise and analyse a molecular target in our synthesis lab.
- Build and control an instrument to measure and collect spectroscopic data.
- Use computational approaches to model chemical systems.
- Apply chemical understanding and practical skills in our innovative Chemical Kitchen.

Engineering

Combining elements of engineering and design, this highly interactive subject will expose you to a variety of engineering disciplines.

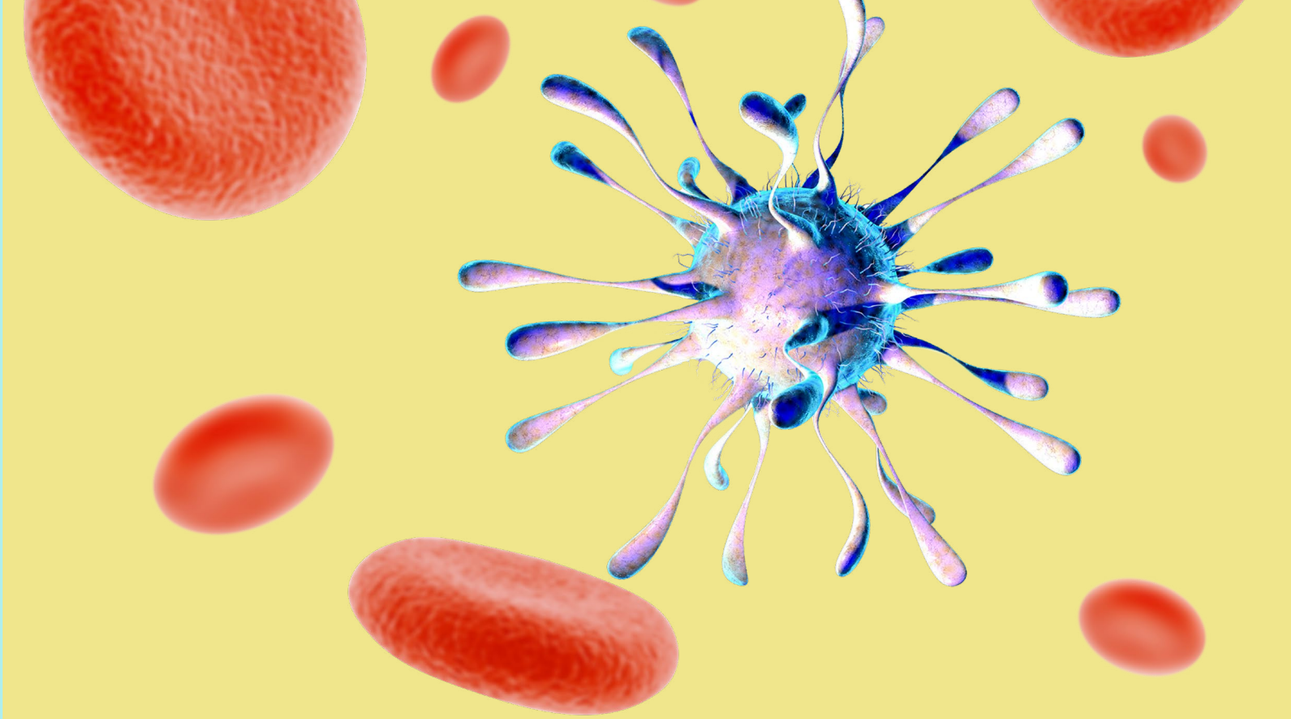
Through specialist workshops, lectures and seminars, you will develop key skills and work in groups to find solutions to current engineering challenges.

"We get to see a vast variety of the different types of Engineering. All the classes are very interactive, always hands on and always building something."

Sarin, Engineering, Thailand

Typical programme content

- Learn about aerodynamics in Aeronautical Engineering.
- Explore the Carbon Capture Pilot Plant in Chemical Engineering.
- Design a railway bridge in Civil Engineering.
- Dive into key principles of creative design, ideation, and rapid prototyping in Design Engineering.
- Find out what it's like to study Earth Science and Engineering at Imperial.
- Take part in a design, make and test challenge in Mechanical Engineering.
- Introduction to Materials Science with live demonstrations.



Medicine and Life Sciences

Combining molecular biology, medical research and clinical skills, Medicine and Life Sciences will introduce you to new research techniques and subject content.

You will collect and analyse data, conduct practical experiments, and develop your understanding through a range of practical activities.

"I wanted to get the taste of uni life and what medicine is actually about and how it's going to feel to be a medical student."

Haya, Medicine and Life Sciences, United Arab Emirates

Typical programme content

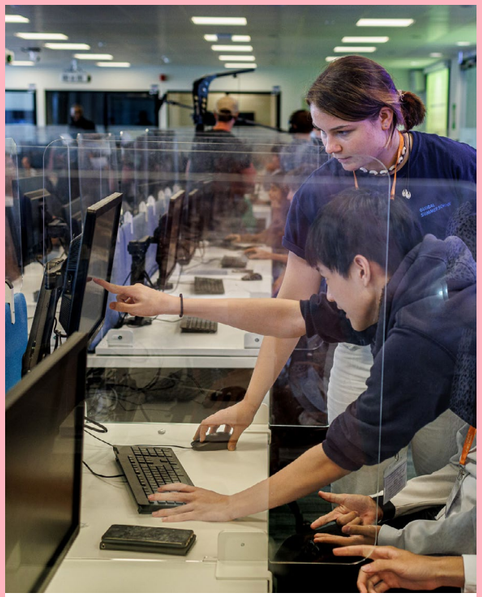
- Cancer and immunotherapy.
- Understanding endocrinology and diabetes.
- The urinary system.
- Exploring the immune response to microbes.
- Developing clinical skills in a real hospital, such as Measuring blood pressure, Venepuncture, Handwashing, Sim Lab, Suturing and Nasogastric Tube
- Analysing genetically modified strains to identify and isolate cloned genes.

Physics

This subject blends science and mathematics to unlock central concepts in the physical world.

You will learn to look at a problem or physical situation using three different tools: the mathematics of calculus; performing experiments; and simulating the situation using a computer.

You will then combine your newly honed programming skills with theoretical knowledge to complete a team-based project and finish the week with a real understanding of oscillations and their importance throughout the natural sciences.



Typical programme content

- Conducting practical experiments, collect and analyse data.
- Studying new mathematical techniques.
- Learn the basics of Python programming and create computer simulations.
- Work in teams to present the results of your experiment.

"I managed to get a spot in Physics... I did learn a lot of calculus and Python programming. You meet a lot of people here who share the same mindset as you."

Owen, Physics, Indonesia

Only August

Data Science and Artificial Intelligence

Led by staff from Imperial's Data Science Institute, this subject focusses on the interdisciplinary field of data science and artificial intelligence.

You will explore the foundations of data science – where data comes from, how we gather and store it, transform it into structures we can learn from, visualise it, secure and protect it, and how we learn from it.

You will also learn about the foundations of AI and how data science is crucial for empowering AI, serving as the interface to AI and machine learning.

"I enjoyed all of the academic sessions and the visit to the Data Observatory. I learned so much and gained a deeper understanding in this subject which I couldn't do without Imperial GSS."

Yiyan, Data Science and AI, China

Typical programme content

- Learn the fundamental concepts of data science and AI, including data pre-processing, exploratory data analysis, modelling and evaluation.
- Explore computer vision, including what it is and its applications in our daily life.
- Introduction to Natural Language Processing, one of the foundational fields in Artificial Intelligence.
- Visit the Data Observatory, the largest open-source data observatory in Europe.

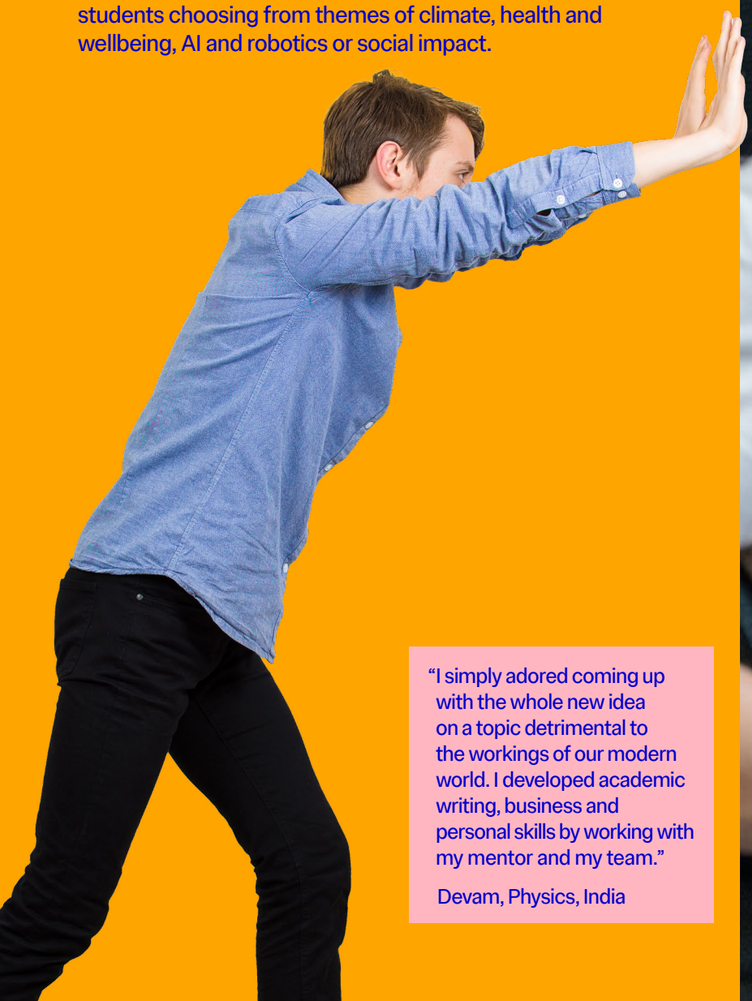
Innovation Challenge

In week two, you will come together with students from other academic subjects to share expertise and to help solve a real-world challenge facing our society, with a focus on entrepreneurship.

The Innovation Challenge is led by the Imperial Enterprise Lab, a group of industry experts, and is a chance for you to develop vital skills you will need at university such as presentation, communication and group work.

You will work with project leaders to evolve an idea to answer the challenge question, considering how it can be developed as a business, product, initiative, or concept. You will then be introduced to pitching before working in teams to develop a pitch for the final showcase event.

In 2026, the question will be related to global impact, with students choosing from themes of climate, health and wellbeing, AI and robotics or social impact.



"I simply adored coming up with the whole new idea on a topic detrimental to the workings of our modern world. I developed academic writing, business and personal skills by working with my mentor and my team."

Devam, Physics, India

On campus

Accommodation

During the programme you will stay in our Prince's Gardens halls of residence in South Kensington.

This will allow you to experience what it is like to live away from home during your first year at university and means that you are only a short walk from classes and a range of other campus facilities.

Accommodation will be offered in mixed-sex clusters, with single sex clusters available if required. Students will stay in a twin room with one other Global Summer School student of the same sex, and are only permitted to access the accommodation cluster they have been allocated.

All rooms include:

- Two single beds
- En suite bathroom with complimentary toiletries
- Linen and towels
- Two desks with lamps
- Wardrobe
- Tea- and coffee- making facilities
- Two fans and laundry baskets
- Rooms refreshed daily, linen and towels replaced every three days

The following facilities are also available:

- Laundry room to wash clothes. Laundry credit can be purchased through a mobile app.
- Hairdryers can be hired for a £10 refundable deposit.
- Drinks and snacks are available from the reception of the accommodation
- There is a convenience store next to Prince's Gardens where you can buy drinks, snacks and basic supplies.

Meals

The programme fee includes three meals per day.

We can cater for a range of dietary requirements with advance notice.

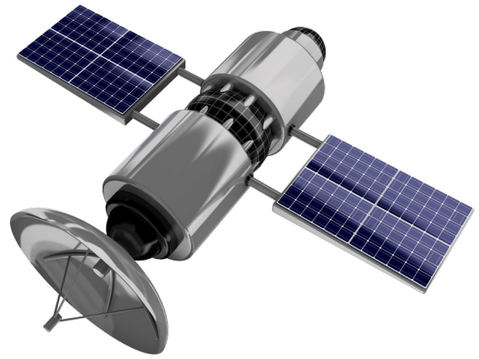
"I really liked the diversity of the program to include all kinds of sessions, sports, trips and activities. As well, the accommodations were great and especially the mentors were amazing!"

Susan, Medicine and Life Sciences, Canada

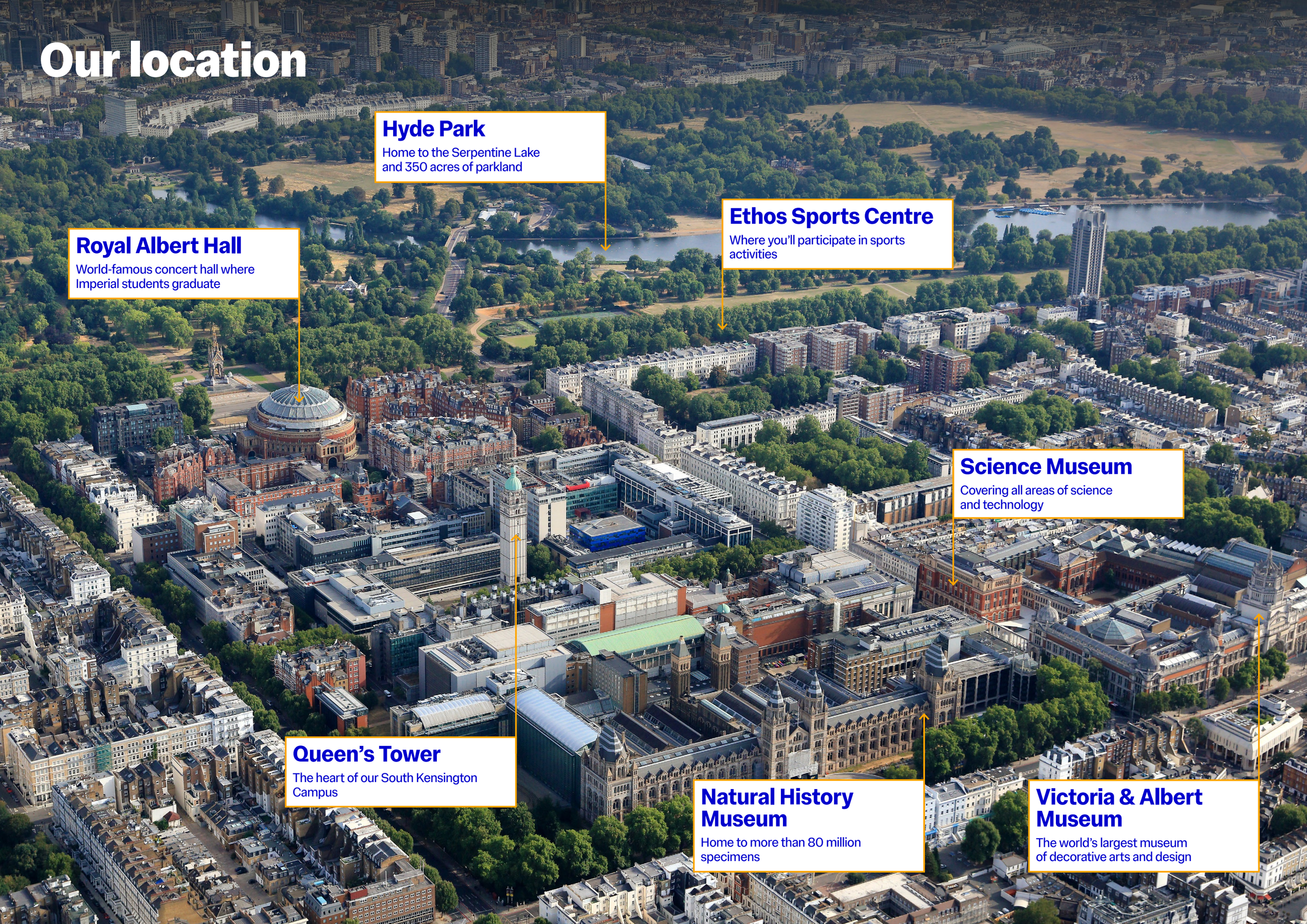
Student safety and support

Your safety is of great importance to us, and we are here to provide support throughout your experience.

- All halls of residence have swipe card entry, CCTV and 24-hour manned security offices across campus.
- A team of Pastoral Managers and pastoral mentors provide round-the-clock support and supervision in each hall of residence.
- Students will be allocated an academic, enterprise and pastoral mentor, who are current Imperial undergraduate students, for the duration of the programme. Mentors provide round-the-clock supervision, other than when students are in their rooms.
- All staff and student mentors have a valid, enhanced DBS check and have been vetted to ensure they are suitable to work with young people.
- Key members of Global Summer School staff have completed relevant safeguarding training.
- Safeguarding is overseen by a Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- All activities are risk assessed and a full health and safety briefing is carried out at the start of the programme.



Our location



Social activities

Alongside the academic programme, there is a schedule full of social activities and events which will show you why London deserves its title as one of the world's best student cities.*

Included in the programme fee, weekend and evening activities are conducted under the supervision of our pastoral mentors.

Activities for 2026 will include:

- orientation activities
- boat party on The River Thames
- a visit to the the theatre to see a show in the West End
- fish and chips in Brighton, a popular UK seaside resort
- sightseeing bus tour of London
- a day to explore South Kensington's museums and galleries
- on-campus activities such as board games or arts and crafts
- sports activities such as, football, dodgeball or badminton at Ethos gym or Hyde Park
- ten pin bowling and dinner at Queens
- talent show
- finale celebration dinner and dancing

"We went to Hyde Park to play some football which was really good. It was the entire class playing football. I had a really good time. We went to the theatre which was really amazing – I think that was my favourite part out of all the social activities."

Bruno, Engineering, Spain

* Ranked 3rd in the world in the QS Best Student Cities 2026

How to apply

Programme dates:
29 June – 10 July or 3 August – 14 August 2026

Entry requirements

We're looking for applicants who have:

- an enthusiasm for science, technology, engineering and mathematics;
- excellent academic ability, demonstrated by a majority of predicted or received 9-7 grades (A*—A) at GCSE level or international equivalent, with a minimum of a grade 7 (A) in maths and science;
- demonstrable strong English language skills;
- a clear motivation for attending the Global Summer School.

Age requirements

To enrol on the Global Summer School you:

- must be 16 or 17 years old at the start of the programme;
- should not reach 18 years old before or during the programme.

How do I apply?

All applications must be made online via the Global Summer School website. You will need to supply:

- details about your academic grades and English language ability;
- a short personal statement;
- parent and teacher reference details.

Please note:

- Places are limited and will fill on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Entry criteria does apply (we cannot consider applicants who do not meet essential requirements).
- Your place will not be confirmed until full payment is received within 14 days (or 7 days if you apply close to the programme start date) of an unconditional offer being made.

Programme fee

The cost of one residential place on the 2026 Global Summer School is £7,695. This all-inclusive fee covers:

- tuition, course materials, masterclasses and a certificate of participation awarded by Imperial;
- full board, on-site accommodation, including three meals per day;
- use of selected campus facilities;
- evening and weekend social activities;
- airport transfers from and to Heathrow on the first and last days of the programme.

Application process

Step one

Complete an online application form and submit information including academic grades and English language ability. We will contact your parent/guardian and teacher to ask them for references.

Step two

Your application will be reviewed by the Global Summer School team within ten working days of receiving both references. If you are successful, you will receive a conditional offer.

Step three

You will upload your supporting documents within five days.

Step four

The Global Summer School team will check your uploaded documents within five working days.

Step five

If you meet all necessary criteria, you will be awarded an unconditional offer. To confirm your place, you will need to make full payment of £7,695 within 14 days. Please note: the payment deadline may reduce to seven days, later in the application process.

For full details of the application process, please visit our website.

IMPERIAL
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Contact us

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This brochure presents information about the 2026 Global Summer School programme which is current at the time of production, November 2025, and is subject to change.

All images were taken during the past programmes.