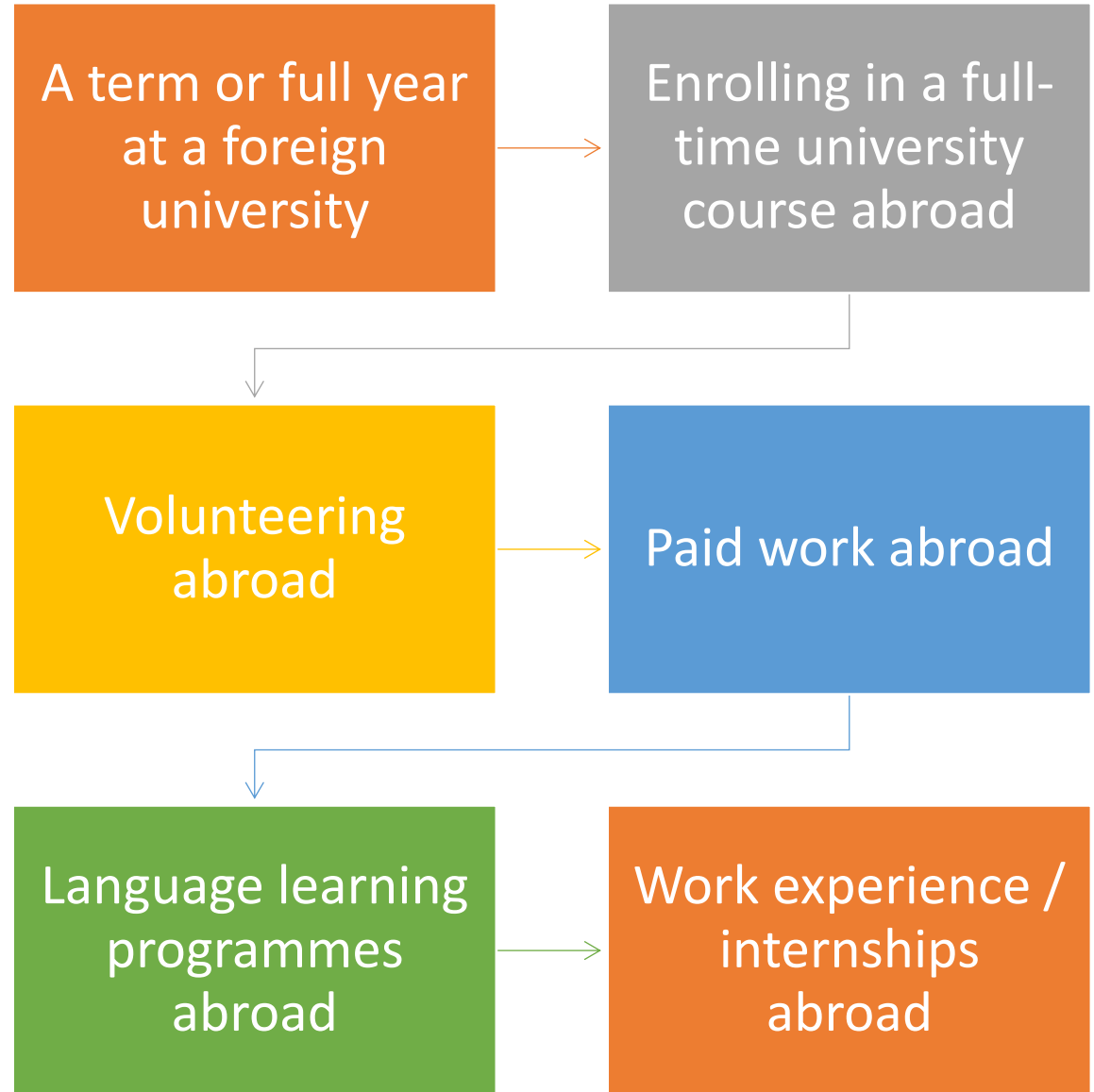




Working and Studying Abroad

Post-18 opportunities

Has your child considered any of the following?



1

Expand your
worldview



2



Enhance
your career
opportunities

3



Learn another
language

4

Experience
another culture
first-hand



5

Make new friends
from around
the world



6



Strengthen
communication
team-building &
adaptability skills

7



Gain invaluable
experience

8

Discover new
things about
your own
culture



9

Boost your
confidence &
independence



10



Travel

The background is a vibrant, stylized globe showing continents in green and brown and oceans in blue. Various world landmarks are scattered across the globe, including the Statue of Liberty, the Eiffel Tower, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Great Pyramids, the Taj Mahal, and the Great Wall of China. In the upper left, a white commercial airplane is flying against a bright blue sky with fluffy white clouds. A faint rainbow is visible in the sky on the left side. A white rectangular box with a thin black border is centered over the globe, containing the text "Studying abroad".

Studying abroad

Erasmus+ Scheme (previously the Turing Scheme, previously Erasmus...)

Press release

UK and EU finalise agreement to bring UK into Erasmus+ in 2027

Thousands across the UK set to benefit from re-opening of
the historic Erasmus+ programme

From: [Department for Education](#), [Cabinet Office](#), [British Council](#), [The Rt Hon Nick Thomas-Symonds MP](#) and [The Rt Hon Baroness Smith of Malvern](#)

Published 15 April 2026

































The screenshot shows the top of the British Council website. At the top left is the British Council logo, consisting of four white dots in a 2x2 grid followed by the text 'BRITISH COUNCIL'. Below the logo is a dark purple navigation bar with four white buttons: a home icon, 'Learn English', 'Exams', and 'Study and work'. Below the navigation bar is a large image of a classroom decorated with colorful streamers and a pink pom-pom. Overlaid on the bottom right of the image is a white box with the text 'Discover life-changing opportunities with Erasmus+' in bold dark blue font, followed by a horizontal line and the text 'Apply for funding to study, train and gain international experience across Europe' in a smaller, regular dark blue font.

Study abroad guide : 'One Stop Shop'

- Melissa Thompson – ex-Year 13 Student
- Applied through Sutton Trust Programme



	Name ▾		Modified ▾				A
	America		April 22		1) Process Breakdown.docx		A
	Asia		April 22		2) Exams Breakdown.docx		A
	Australia		April 22		3) The Common App and Essays.docx		A
	Canada		April 22		4) Extracurricular and Honours list breakd...		A
	Europe		April 22		5) Financial Aid.docx		A
	South America		April 22		Sutton Trust US Programme Information....		A
	A letter to start.docx		5 days ago				

InvestIN – Webinar on studying in the US

[Applying to study in the US on Vimeo](#)



INVESTIN
THE ULTIMATE WORK EXPERIENCE

**Applying to study in
the United States**

How it works and how to stand out
in your application

Caitlin, InvestIN Educ...

The image is a dark blue graphic with white text and icons. At the top center, it says 'INVESTIN THE ULTIMATE WORK EXPERIENCE'. Below that, the main title 'Applying to study in the United States' is written in a large, bold font, followed by the subtitle 'How it works and how to stand out in your application'. In the top right corner, there is a small video call window showing a woman with the name 'Caitlin, InvestIN Educ...'. The background is decorated with various white line-art icons related to technology, education, and work, such as a laptop, a person with gears, a graduation cap, and a play button.

Important considerations of studying abroad



- **Hidden costs** of working/studying abroad - travel, accommodation, currency, Visas
- International courses and scholarships are very **competitive**
- **Visa restrictions** may prevent part-time work whilst studying
- Foreign university courses may seem cheaper but are **not covered by UK Student Loans**
- **Many UK university courses** (not only Modern Languages) offer a '**Year Abroad**' in the 2nd/3rd year - Business, Law, Engineering, English, Politics, Economics, Drama...
- Many university courses in non-English speaking countries may require a **Language qualification** (e.g. B2/C1 European Framework)



Working abroad / Gap Year

What are the pros and cons?

Pros

An opportunity to have a break from studying and return refreshed. You can volunteer, get valuable work experience, and travel the world.

A productive gap year can be valuable on your CV.

You could relate the experience and activities to the subject area you plan to study.

You can earn and save money towards your higher education costs or future plans.

You will develop maturity if you don't yet feel ready for higher education or work life. For some careers, it can be an advantage to be slightly older and have some life experience.

Cons

Some people find a year out becomes a distraction from their longer term plans.

An unstructured year out may not add much value to your future – careful thought and planning is essential.

It can be harder to return to study or work after a year-long break.

It can be expensive and you could find yourself in a worse financial position at the end.

If you don't get organised, you may end up spending your gap year just 'thinking about it'.

Gap Year Applications



SWCHS will still provide a reference



Students should apply as a 'private' candidate



Please contact school in advance and give reasonable working notice (usually 2 weeks before a significant deadline). Please note that without at least 2 weeks notice, we cannot guarantee a reference



Please use the UCAS website for further guidance

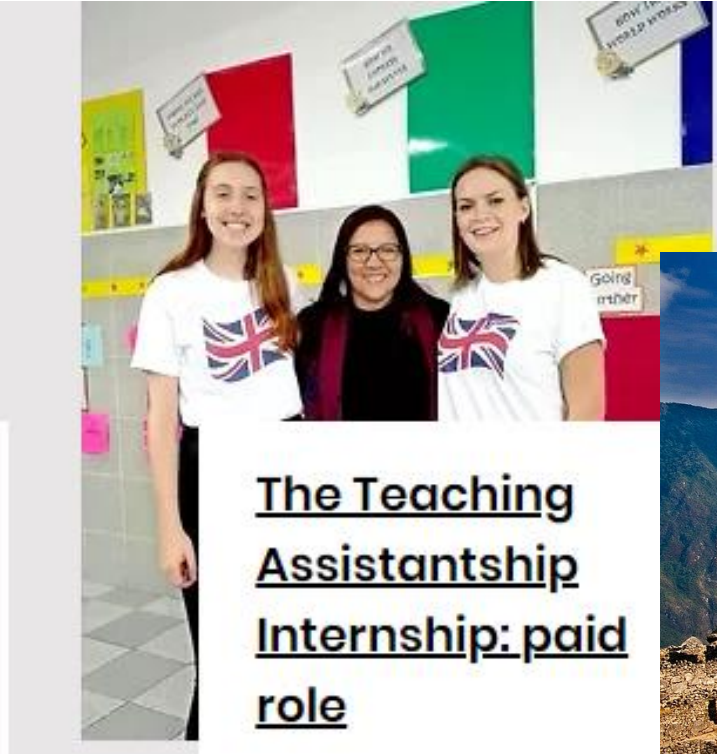


Students should use the historic grades tool to check they haven't ruled themselves out of courses they might be eligible for or contact the admissions team at their preferred university

Example programme - Volunteach Peru



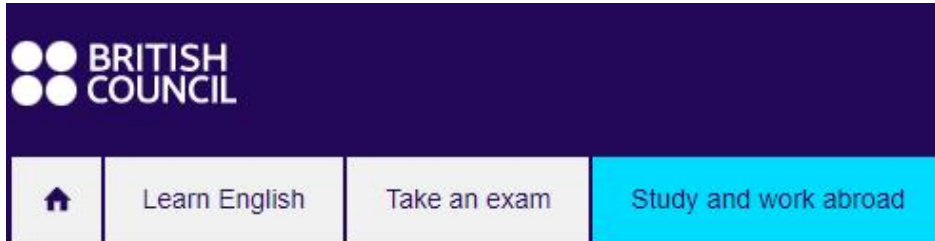
The Teaching Assistant Experience: volunteering



The Teaching Assistantship Internship: paid role



Example programme - British Council



Erasmus+ funding for UK students, trainees, academic staff and youth projects

UK students and staff currently participating in the Erasmus+ 2014-2020 programme can participate fully and for the full duration of their placement.

Study and work abroad

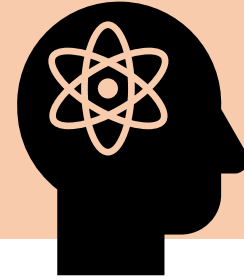


Teach abroad as an English Language Assistant

Teach English in one of 14 destinations. Applications for 2022-23 are now closed.

This year the application submission deadline to work as an English Language Assistant was **11th February 2026.**

Important considerations of working/volunteering abroad



- **Hidden costs** - travel, accommodation, currency, Visas
- Does the programme have a good **reputation**? Does it sound too good to be true?
- Many volunteer programmes incur **participation costs**
- **Visa restrictions** may limit the type and length of work
- **Ethical considerations** over volunteer programmes
- If considering a 'gap year' to work before university study, we **strongly recommend** making a UCAS application in Year 13 and then ask to defer a place



[Blue Stamp Travel: Work Experience Abroad & Language Courses](#)

Next steps : How we can help



If your child is interested in working or studying abroad, they should signal this to their new **Year 13 form tutor**

Your child's Tutor / Sixth Form collegiate can provide **references** for work or study courses and read applications **whilst your child is still a student at SWCHS.**

Whilst your child is still a student at SWCHS, there is central guidance for applying to popular foreign universities. Speak to **Mr Brown** for more information.

We can put your child in touch with SWCHS **alumni** who have been successful

If applying for foreign universities it is **strongly recommended to apply to UK universities** as well via **UCAS** as insurance

SWCHS run a **TEFL course** (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) in July for Year 12 and 13 students. This is available to sign up for now on Wisepay.