

Living & working in London





A bustling and vibrant capital city full of history, food, arts, culture and community. Be at the beating heart of England and experience a diverse, exciting city with stories around every corner.

Live in the centre of the city, in lush green outskirts or by the docks.



Explore famous sightseeing spots, churches, art galleries, food markets and more across over 1,572 KM².



Fun Fact!

The start and end of the City of London are marked with cast iron dragons in the street.





Over 4,000 nurseries with an average monthly cost of £1,815.85.



Average 1 bed apartment cost: £1591.27

Utilities: £252.85

Weekly grocery shop: £35



“London is the central hub of the UK. Being here has allowed me to easily travel around the country and to Europe, I have also met many people from all over the world. TeacherActive helped me move with ease from South Africa with their relocation package and support. They work with many schools which gave me plenty of options but ultimately matched my needs and placed me perfectly for a long-term role.”

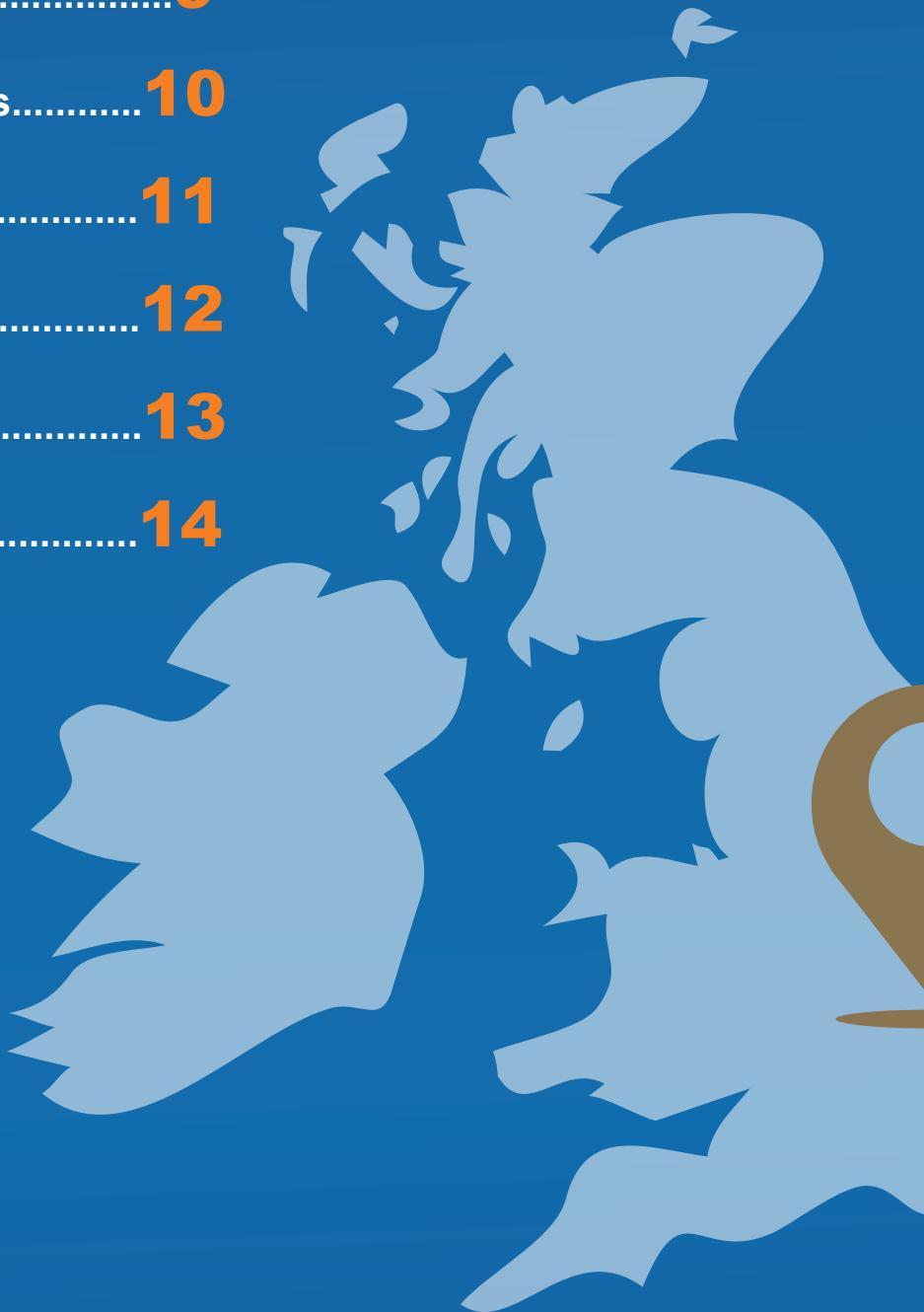
-Kayla, Teaching Assistant

Main modes of public transport



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Why TeacherActive?



**Free flights to
the UK***



**Guaranteed
pay schemes**



**Relocation
support**



**Termly social
events**



**Network of over
3,600 schools**



**Free CPD
resources**

TeacherActive has been supporting educators just like you since 2004. Our International team was created in 2018 and has since helped hundreds of international educators progress their careers in the UK. Our consultants take the time to learn your unique skills, qualities and preferences and match you to a setting that works for you. Gain experience in a variety of settings while working on supply, or secure that dream permanent job in London, while enjoying termly social events and support from our consultants every step of the way.

*T&Cs apply.



An introduction to London

Not many places in the UK (or even the world) have had such a cultural and historical impact as London. From the regal monarchy spanning over 1200 years, the buildings and streets filled with stories from times gone by, to the celebrities, fashion designers and pop culture icons that have transformed music, style and movies.

It's a city that has it all – bustling shopping areas, exciting nightlife, peaceful green spaces and restful spots by the water. Stretching 1,572 KM² and home to over 8 million people, you will never be without something to do, see or experience in the UK's capital.

Some London boroughs you may have heard of include Westminster, Hackney, Camden or Islington, but with 32 boroughs and the city of London itself to choose from, there are many places for you to lay your hat.

This guide will give you a great introduction to living in London, from things to see and do to the average cost of living. We'll also explain the UK education system and how we, as your agency, can support you every step of the way on your journey. As one of the biggest education recruitment agencies in the UK, we have an extensive network of settings you can work in to gain experience, all led by a dedicated consultant whose main goal is to find you the perfect place for your skills to shine.



Living in London

When living in such a vibrant and exciting city, there will never be a dull day. On your door step you will find the charm of local community events, independent shops and restaurants and charming parks, all with excellent transport across the capital thanks to the London over and underground (the tube).

Different boroughs are known for different communities, with working families enjoying areas like Bromley and Wembley while working professionals enjoy Shoreditch, Clapham and Brixton. Each area has its own charm that needs to be seen to be believed, but some areas you might recognise include...

- **Camden** – the home of punk fashion and music
- **Kensington** – where the Natural History and Science Museums are
- **Southwark** – close to the docks
- **Stratford** – for the Olympic park
- **Wembley** – home to the arena and stadium



Cost of living

The cost of renting or owning a place will vary depending on location, as with any major city living in the outskirts will see cheaper house prices than closer to the city centre. The following costs are averages across London.

Single tube fare (pay as you go)
£8.50 - £15.60

Adult travelcard for tube fare (one month)
£164 - £299.60

Monthly rent of one bedroom city centre apartment
£2,156.92

Monthly rent of one bedroom apartment outside of city centre
£1,591.27

Monthly rent of a room in a shared house across London
£983

One month of basic utilities (electricity, water, heating)
£252.85

One month childcare at nursery or pre-school
£1,781.35

Three course meal for two at a mid-range restaurant
£80

One month gym membership
£47.44

Weekly grocery shop
£35

Prices are correct at time of publishing (October 2024)



Public transport in London

**By bus, bike, train, taxi
tram, tube, boat & plane**



London is a well-connected city, where you can travel by bus, bike, tram, tube or even by boat! The big red buses will take you across the city by road, while the tube will have you whizzing through the underground.

You can tap contactless payments throughout tube and bus stops with a daily cap cost of £15.60 across zones 1 to 6, but for frequent public transport users we recommend getting an Oyster card which you can top up, or purchase a weekly/monthly bus and tram pass.

To zip through the city, common taxi companies like Bolt and Uber are available across London, Uber even have a service that will take you across the River Thames!

A popular choice for Londoners is to rent a Lime bike, which you can rent via an app, cycle across the city and then drop off in dozens of locations across London.

For more information on fares and journey planning, check out the [Transport for London \(TfL\) website](#).

National Rail, air and coaches

Fancy venturing outside of the big smoke? The UK is well-connected, and you can travel to many cities and countries by train, coach or plane.

London to Brighton beach
in 1 hour 20 minutes



London to Manchester
in 2 hours 30 minutes



London to Liverpool
in 3 hours 10 minutes



London to Dublin 
in 1 hour 30 minutes



Did you know?

The city of London has employed a cat at Number 10 Downing Street, where the Prime Minister works, since the 16th Century. They are known as the 'Chief Mouser of the Cabinet Office'.

Things to do in the area



You will never be short of things to do in London. Even after settling in you can be a tourist in your own city! Here's a list of some must-sees and hidden gems to help you immerse yourself in London life.

To sightsee

- London Eye
- Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament
- Baker St – the home of Sherlock Holmes
- Tower Bridge and the Tower of London
- Natural History Museum and Science Museum
- Victoria and Albert Museum, Tate Modern and the National Gallery
- Hyde Park and St James Park
- Sky Garden

For shopping, food and drinks

- Borough Market
- Covent Garden
- Seven Dials
- Portobello Road Market
- Camden Markets
- Carnaby Street
- Greenwich Market
- Old Spitalfields Market

Music, sport and culture

- The O2 Arena
- Wembley Arena
- Royal Opera House
- ArcelorMittal Orbit – the Olympic Park slide
- Southbank

Hidden gems

- Primrose Hill
- Kyoto Garden
- Little Venice
- Waterloo Vaults
- Columbia Road Flower Market
- Temple of Mithraeum
- Hampstead Heath

What should I do and when?



Preparation is key to getting the most out of your time in the UK. Once you know your arrival date, it's time to get planning! Below is our recommended roadmap to success, which you should start around 12 months before your arrival.

Roadmap



12 months before

- Reach out to your TeacherActive specialist
- Discover what opportunities are available to work in schools
- Read this guide!

6 months before

- Apply for police checks
- Research and apply for your visa
- Ensure that you have sent all required documents
- Apply for your QTS if you're a qualified teacher

3 months before

- Follow our Facebook and Instagram
- Research and find accommodation in your area
- Book your flights*
- Book your in-person registration meeting
- Learn more about UK education through My-Progression and achieve your International CPD certificate

On arrival

- Collect a UK SIM for your phone
- Visit us in office and register
- Open a UK bank account

TeacherActive offers reimbursement on standard flights up to a specified limit once you have worked 20 days or more with us. T&Cs apply.



The UK Education System

The school years:

Age	Year	Stage	School
3-4	Pre-school	Foundation	Pre-school
4-5	reception		Primary school
5-6	1		
6-7	2		
7-8	3		
8-9	4		
9-10	5		
10-11	6		
11-12	7		
12-13	8	Key stage 3	Secondary school
13-14	9		
14-15	10		
15-16	11		
16-17	12	Key stage 4	Sixth form
17-18	13		

Each term in an education setting is usually 13 weeks long, with a week off halfway through, called half term.

You can expect around two weeks off at the end of term one and term two, for Christmas and Easter respectively. When the school year ends, you can expect six weeks off for the summer holidays.

Each region of the UK varies with its exact term dates, so please see this as a rough guide. You'll often find Year 11s and Year 13s may finish earlier, depending on where their last exams fall. For more detailed curriculum information, head to [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) or check your local council's website for specific term dates.

The UK curriculum will, of course, be different from what you are used to. But you'll be surprised at how many similarities there are with your home country's curriculum. Here's a handy guide for you to reference, for more information visit the [UK Government's website](https://www.gov.uk).

For more information on the UK education system, register with us to receive your free living and working in the UK brochure.

Keep your career in motion

We have created a free CPD (Continuing Professional Development) platform designed to accelerate your career in education called My-Progression.

You can find new videos every week on My-Progression's YouTube channel, offering training and advice on education and residential care.

From breaking down the UK education system to managing challenging behaviour in the classroom, planning your lessons or marking your papers, My-Progression is designed to give you knowledge, advice and support in bite-sized videos, all for free!

Once you're done, you can head to www.my-progression.com to collect your CPD certificates, including our specific international certificate, which can be used to evidence your learning and boost your CV.

Click the images below to get started, and don't forget to subscribe on YouTube.



KEY STAGES IN ENGLISH EDUCATION SYSTEM #1

ALL ABOUT EMERGENCY BOOKINGS

TYPES OF ENGLISH EDUCATION SYSTEM #2

Start your new adventure in education

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