



London International Youth Science Forum

LIYSF PARENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

Since 1959, London's Most Prestigious STEM Summer School

Introduction

LIYSF is an impartial, accredited not-for-profit social enterprise founded in 1959, and has transformed the lives of over 25,000 students worldwide. It has a long history of empowering young scientists by creating opportunities, networks and role models that help them thrive.

As the longest-running STEM event of its kind, LIYSF remains modern and forward-looking, embracing new technologies and launching a hybrid digital option to make the experience accessible to more students internationally.

LIYSF is committed to widening participation, supporting students from disadvantaged backgrounds, championing female scientists and ensuring broad cultural and ethnic representation. Its growing scholarship scheme is a key part of this mission.

We are proud to have the trust of leading scientific organisations and inspiring researchers, as well as the enthusiasm of our students, who motivate us to continually grow. We welcome ideas from our global community as we work to increase our impact.

LIYSF has already set a strong precedent, and its influence can be seen across generations of students. This is an exciting time to be ambitious, inclusive and future-focused as we continue shaping scientific education together.

Richard Myhill
Chief Executive



London International Youth Science Forum (LIYSF) 2026



Inspiring the next generation of scientific leaders since 1959

Founded in **1959**, the London International Youth Science Forum (LIYSF) is a **two-week residential STEM enrichment programme** hosted at **Imperial College London** and **The Royal Geographical Society** (with IBG).

Students engage in:

- Lectures by **Nobel Laureates**
- **Masterclasses** from global research leaders
- Visits to **world-class universities, laboratories, and industry sites**

With students from over **90 countries**, LIYSF creates a truly global learning environment.

LIYSF operates **under the Royal Patronage of HRH The Princess Royal** and is **supported by UNESCO**, reflecting its academic and cultural significance.

Key Information and Dates

Programme Dates

19 July – 1 August 2026

Application Deadline

31 May 2026

Location

Imperial College London & The Royal
Geographical Society (with IBG)

Participants

500 students from 90+ countries

Eligible Ages

16-21

Website

www.liysf.org.uk

Social Media

@liysf

Why LIYSF is a Unique Opportunity

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| 1. Career & Academic Benefits | LIYSF aligns with A level, IB, and national STEM curricula, enriching students' critical thinking, communication, and scientific inquiry skills . These experiences are highly valued by universities, and participation in LIYSF helps students distinguish themselves in competitive university applications . |
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| 2. World-Class Learning | Students attend lectures, demonstrations, and masterclasses led by Nobel Laureates, professors, and industry experts in disciplines from medicine and physics to climate science and AI . |
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| 3. Exclusive Research Visits | Participants explore cutting-edge facilities at UK universities, laboratories, and innovation centres including institutions like Oxford, Cambridge, and the UK Space Agency . |
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| 4. Cultural & Global Connections | Students join peers from 90+ nations , building friendships and cross-cultural understanding while living in central London student accommodation. |
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| 5. Safe, Supported, Inclusive | Comprehensive safeguarding measures, 24-hour supervised accommodation , DBS-checked staff, full safeguarding measures , and diverse representation ensure student safety and peace of mind for schools and parents. |
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LIYSF Career & Academic Impact

PhD Attainment

47%

nearly half of our alumni go on to obtain a PhD



STEM Awareness

96%

said LIYSF expanded their understanding of global scientific opportunities



Cultural Collaboration

90%

reported improved ability to collaborate across cultures.



STEM Confidence & Growth

93%

said LIYSF boosted their confidence and potential in STEM careers.



Why Choose LIYSF



1. Academic & Career Advantages



Participation demonstrates motivation, curiosity, ambition, and global awareness.

- Supports A-level, IB, and international STEM subjects
- Recognised by **UNESCO**
- Strong evidence of scientific engagement for **university applications**
- 47% of LIYSF alumni progress to a **PhD**
- Alumni frequently enter **top global universities**
- Students meet **real scientists and industry experts**
- Exposure to research helps **clarify study interests**
- **Visits to top laboratories** where students can see science in action
- **50 scientific visit options** tailored to **students' interests and fields**
- **32+ specialist lectures** to tailor their programme to STEM interests
- Builds **networks with peers from 90+ countries**
- Develops independence, teamwork, and communication.
- Inspires **long-term ambition and confidence**

2. Accommodation, Safety & Supervision

Accommodation

- Students stay in secure student halls located in South Kensington.
- Meals are included throughout the programme.
- Standard rooms are typically twins, but they can accommodate up to four students
- We offer the option to all female residence and upgrade to single occupancy room.

Safety & Supervision

- All staff are DBS-checked
- 24-hour supervision during the entire programme
- A dedicated team of welfare and safeguarding officers
- Dietary, cultural, and religious requirements are supported



Your child's wellbeing is always the top priority.

3. Fees, Scholarships & Financial Information

Programme Fee Covers:

- All lectures, academic sessions, and materials
- Scientific visits and excursions
- Accommodation and meals
- Evening events, cultural programme, and social activities
- Full pastoral support and supervision

Not included:

- Travel to/from London
- Optional visits
- Visa fees (if applicable)
- Personal spending money



4. Travel, Visas & Practical Advice

International Students

- Receive an official invitation letter to support visa applications
- Pre-departure guidance is provided

Arriving in the UK

- Optional airport pickup services
- Students travel independently, but supervision begins on arrival
- Clear instructions are provided for check-in and departure

What Parents Should Prepare

- Travel arrangements
- Passport and visa (if required)
- Medical information and any medication needs
- Pre-departure checklist provided by LIYSF



5. Inclusivity & Accessibility

Inclusive Accommodation

- Female-only accommodation available
 - Separate buildings for students aged 18+
 - Inclusive policies for all gender identities
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Dietary & Cultural Provision

- Halal food available at every meal
 - Vegan, vegetarian, gluten-free & allergy-aware options
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Neurodiversity Support

- Predictable routines, quiet spaces, and trained welfare staff
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Safeguarding & Student Welfare

- DBS-checked staff
- 24/7 supervision
- Dedicated Student Welfare Officer
- Extensive experience welcoming international students

“A safe, inspiring experience where your child grows in confidence, discovers their direction, and connects with the world.”



– Parent, UK

“My daughter returned from LIYSF full of confidence and motivation, it was the most transformative experience of her academic life.”

– Parent, Australia

“The level of organisation and care made us feel completely reassured. The diversity and professionalism were outstanding.”

LIYSF PROGRAMME OVERVIEW



Main Lecture Hall, Ondaatje Theatre



Flag Ceremony



66th Keynote Prof. David MacMillan, Nobel Laureate



LIYSF Chief Executive, Richard Myhill



HRH The Princess Royal



Opening Ceremony Performance



Principle Lecturer Prof. Michele Dougherty, the Sixteenth Astronomer Royal



64th Keynote Prof. Ben Feringa, Nobel Laureate



Science Bazaar



LIYSF Olympics



66th LIYSF Team (partial)



Science Bazaar



Scientific Visits



Student Debate



Tressure Hunt



Alumni Specialist Lectures



Specialist Study Day



Student Science Communication



International Cabaret



Class of 66th LIYSF 2025



Traditions of Home



Visits to Oxford & Cambridge Research & Scientific Establishments



Visits to Oxford & Cambridge Research & Scientific Establishments



Visits to Oxford & Cambridge Research & Scientific Establishments



Optional Guided Coach Tour

LIYSF Alumni, Changemakers



**Professor
Clare Elwell**

Vice Dean
University College London



**Mark
Shuttleworth**

CEO
Cannonical Ltd.
First African Civilian Astronaut



Dr Michael Amoo

Specialist Registrar
In Neurosurgery
Royal College
of Surgeons



**Professor Richard
O'Kennedy**

Vice President
of Research, Qatar
Foundation



Dr Rubika Balendra

Clinical Neurology
King's College London



Dr Michael Moloney

CEO
American Institute
of Physics



**Professor
Christopher Kennard**

Clinical Neurology
Professor
Oxford University



Aranza | Mexico

LIYSF helped me realise what
I wanted to do with my life
and it would be an honour for me to
help other people do the same



Rivenaka | Sri Lanka

LIYSF showed and found me the
path I was searching for, it showed
me what I could become

87%

Consider that LIYSF contributed to
their networking skills

liysf.org.uk

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