

Daily Programme The Young Political Leader

DAY 1 – ENTER THE SUMMER EXPERIENCE

2:00pm **Start**

Over the course of the next five days, you will be exploring international and domestic politics, acquiring skills that will put you on the pathway to working in political systems both in the UK and globally. You will engage with simulations that are tailored towards roles in the civil service, the UN, and within the Westminster parliament, as well as delving into roles in the development sector.

Afternoon **The Summer Experience Begins**

- Your journey starts here: step into the shoes of a top politician
- Keynote speech by the programme director: discover what the Summer Experience has in store and how to make the most of this unique experience
- Immersive group activities: develop crucial political skills for the Summer Experience ahead, including teamwork, problem-solving, public speaking and working under pressure
- Interactive networking session: meet your fellow students – talented and ambitious students from around the world who can act as prove powerful contacts for your future career

6:00pm **Close**

DAY 2 – INTERNATIONAL POLITICS (PART 1)

10:00am **Start**

Morning **International Crisis: A Guide to Foreign Policy and Diplomacy**

Jump into the world of international politics and tackle an international crisis as a representative of a national government.

- Breaking news! An international conflict has broken out. As a team, represent your country to ensure international stability, economic cooperation, trade supply lines and long standing alliances
- Discover diplomacy: understand the role of negotiation on the international stage
- Develop a plan to protect national interests as you endeavour to balance domestic and international priorities
- UN General Assembly: work as an advisor to your Foreign Affairs Minister, and present your country's planned course of action before putting your persuasion skills to the test in a model UNGA

Afternoon **International Development and Bilateral Aid**

- The conflict persists! Take the perspective of an international development organisation and consider the role of bilateral aid, NGOs, and charities in responding to conflicts

- Explore what determines a successful development intervention
- Work in teams to urgently deal with an evolving situation and race against the clock to build an effective international development strategy
- A bilateral aid quandary: explore ethical questions, balance priorities, and present your national aid budget to have the greatest impact on the affected community

5:00pm **Close**

DAY 3 – INTERNATIONAL POLITICS (PART 2)

Morning **A Visit to a Leading Policy Department**

Continue your journey into international politics: tour a world-renowned institution and learn skills that will contribute toward your success in conflict resolution.

- Visit a key governmental department in the heart of Whitehall and explore the inner workings of policy, and marvel at the multi-faceted wheel of negotiation
- Engage with industry professionals as you hone your political nous
- Unearth the factors that drive decisions, and see first-hand the day-to-day role of diplomacy on the international stage

Afternoon **Conflict Resolution**

- Breaking point! Represent the UN Security Council as you work to create solutions to form a collective resolution
- Peace is the aim: explore tactics used to defuse tensions, build constructive relationships, and end international suffering
- The immovable negotiator: vigorously pursue a compromise in the face of inflexible factions as you aim to balance the opposing national and international priorities
- Did you manage to resolve the conflict? Vote on your negotiated resolution

5:00pm **Close**

DAY 4 – DOMESTIC POLITICS: THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN (PART 1)

10:00am **Start**

Morning **The Politician's Surgery: Design Your Manifesto**

Turn your attention to the sphere of domestic politics as you uncover the skills and traits needed to work in the British political system.

- Visit an MP's local office and take part in a constituency surgery where MPs engage with and tackle important local issues
- A live election: work in teams as you designate one candidate to run for a local constituency
- A fighting chance! Design an electoral manifesto which will be your policy platform for the whole election cycle
- Evaluate local constituency issues against the wider population to ensure you develop a manifesto that is relevant to your constituency
- Tackle the core issues: economy, health care, crime, foreign policy, and the environment

Afternoon **Political Strategy and Speech**

- Examine the many forms of political strategy and evaluate the best ways to gain an advantage
- Manage your campaign and hone your approach to achieve electoral success
- Discover the inside tips and tricks for navigating political speeches
- Cultivate your power of persuasion and improve the clarity of your message as you perfect your pitch and delivery

5:00pm **Close (Public Ballot Opens)**

DAY 5 – DOMESTIC POLITICS: THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN (PART 2)

10:00am **Start**

Morning **The Final Countdown: The Election Reaches its Conclusion**

Delve deeper into British politics as your election campaign reaches its finale.

- The ballots have been opened and the election is reaching a fever pitch, deliver speeches to your peers as you make your final push
- Work in your teams to canvass for deciding votes
- The public ballot is CLOSED and the results are in! Which candidate will become the constituency representative? Will all your hard work pay off?
- Address the crowd: deliver your statement of victory or defeat and receive live feedback on your campaign from industry experts

Afternoon **Career Coaching: How to Build a Successful Career in Politics**

- Your path to success: understanding the key decisions ahead and how to maximise your chances of success
- Subject choices at A-level/IB/university and more
- Securing work experience, designing impactful CVs/resumes and powerful interview techniques
- Coaching from experienced politicians on what you can do now to stand out in the future

5:00pm **Close**

DAY 6 – CYBER SECURITY IN INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC POLITICS

10:00am **Start**

Over the course of the next five days, you will investigate the wider world of politics. Discover how politics interacts with cyber security, law and legislation, the media, lobbyists, and consultants. Broaden your horizons as you discover lesser known, but equally exciting, career paths which are available within the political spectrum. In the final day you will turn your attention to the future of politics and the key political issues that future generations must face.

Morning **Visit a World-Renowned Cyber Security Agency**

Explore the role that cyber security departments and organisations play in protecting crucial national information and how they are changing the face of international politics.

- Take a tour around a leading cyber security organisation: engage with leading industry professionals and discover the core concepts at the intersection between politics and cyber security
- Debate key ethical issues surrounding governmental surveillance and an individual's right to privacy
- The 21st century battleground: cyberwarfare and cyberterrorism. What role should governments play in ensuring cybersecurity for its citizens?

Afternoon **A Nation State Cyber Attack**

- Breaking news! The government has detected an imminent cyber-attack
- Assume the role of national intelligence and security officers and formulate a preventative plan to protect governmental assets
- Compete to devise the most effective and cost-efficient solutions as you react to the changing situation
- Present your plan to leading industry experts and receive live feedback

DAY 7 – LAW AND POLITICS: THE UK LEGISLATION PROCESS

10:00am **Start**

Morning **Become the Policymaker: Creating Law in the UK**

Examine the UK legislation process and understand the legal steps involved in creating and passing bills in the Westminster parliament.

- Post-election policy! A new government has just been elected and wants to make its mark
- Work in teams to create a ground-breaking piece of legislation that will send shockwaves through the country
- Undertake the role of a civil servant and help to tie together the details to ensure the flagship policy is a success
- Present the bill to your cabinet and whip votes to gain support for its implementation

Afternoon **The Essence of Statute Law: Passing Law in the UK**

- Debate the bill in parliament during a live simulation with industry experts
- Tackle challenging questions and guide the passage of the bill through the tricky parliamentary process
- Stand your ground! Use your skills of persuasion and ensure the bill becomes a piece of statute law
- Receive live feedback on your ability to create a piece of legislation

5:00pm **Close**

DAY 8 –POLITICS AND THE MEDIA

10:00am **Start**

Morning **Visit a State-of-The-Art Newsroom**

Explore the relationship between the media and politics and acquire the skillset needed to negotiate tough questions from political correspondents.

- Tour a world class newsroom and meet the professionals who shape your daily political opinion, and learn how they've fostered relationships within Westminster
- Behind the scenes access! Witness a news story transition from concept to delivery
- Handling the pressure: examine how political correspondents scrutinise politicians and their media team
- Fine tune your political machine: garner the skillset required for ethical and effective press conference

Afternoon **The Spin-Doctor: Facing Tough Questioning as a Politician**

- Shape the story and select the facts: the art of the political spin-doctor
- Learn how successful media advisers have built some of the most successful governments
- Withstand media scrutiny as you maintain control of the narrative in a live broadcasting simulation
- Receive live feedback from media experts as they give their interpretation on how they would have handled the challenge

5:00pm **Close**

DAY 9 –POLITICAL ORGANISATIONS

10:00am **Start**

Morning **Visit a Political Consultancy Firm**

Become a political consultant as you visit a leading London political consultancy firm and discover the attributes needed to work within the industry.

- Visit a pioneering political consultancy firm and understand how political consultants provide expert insight to clients looking to engage with decision makers in the country
- The policy influencer: work in teams to advise your client, discussing the latest political thinking in government and identifying the best route of action for your client as they seek to influence government and policy
- Receive live feedback from industry professionals on the simulation, and garner a more comprehensive idea of the skillset required to meet you clients' strategic objectives

Afternoon **A Career in Political Lobbying**

In the afternoon we will turn our attention toward lobbyist firms and the impact they have within the political process both in the UK and abroad.

- Explore the fundamental toolkit required to work in political lobbying
- Evaluate whether lobbying firms are a positive or negative addition to the decision-making process
- Explore the recent scandals that have engulfed lobbying firms in the UK
- Crime time! Lobby politicians in a live simulation that tackles crime. Can you convince them to take your groups position?

5:00pm **Close**

DAY 10 –THE FUTURE OF POLITICS AND PRIVATE NETWORKING

10:00am **Start**

Morning **Glancing into the Political Crystal Ball**

Consider the future of the political landscape and explore the key issues in political diplomacy which will arise in the next decade.

- Understand the increasing importance of data and technology in decision making and negotiation
- Explore the future political issues facing society, and forecast which issues will most significantly impact politics and international relations
- Discuss the steps society must take to ensure equality and diversity and increase the global standard of living

Afternoon **Private Networking Event**

- Take part in a private networking session in the heart of Westminster with top representatives from the UN, the House of Commons, the Foreign Office and high-profile NGOs
- Put your newfound knowledge to the test
- Have your burning questions answered by those in the know
- Receive valuable advice from experts in the field

5:00pm **Close**

DAY 11 – CAREERMAX

10:30am **Start**

Over the next five days, you will receive personalised coaching on how to succeed in each of the major milestones on the road to landing your dream job: i) securing a place at a top-tier university ii) excelling in your studies iii) mastering every aspect of the recruitment process and procuring a top job in politics post-university. In addition, you will receive inspirational coaching on key employability skills from high-profile figures including politicians and Olympic athletes.

Morning **Enter CareerMax**

Your future starts now: discover the essential skills needed to thrive in politics such as working under pressure, problem-solving and communication skills.

- Personal development plan: work with a careers expert in small focus groups to plan the next steps in your journey
- ‘Big results require big ambitions’: hear from a world-class Olympic athlete on the importance of being a self-starting, ambitious individual in today’s increasingly competitive climate
- ‘The art of communication is the language of leadership’: hear from a high-ranking politician on how best to improve your communication skills and captivate a large audience

Afternoon **University Applications**

You’re in your final year of school and it is time to start thinking about what comes next.

- Inside UCAS: an interactive session with a university admissions expert, with guidance on how to ace your applications and bag your first-choice university
- University and degree choices: making the right decisions to maximise your career potential
- Eye-catching extracurriculars: using extracurricular activities to boost your application
- Personal statement workshop: expert coaching on the art of personal statement writing
- Interview training: a masterclass with senior admissions tutors from top UK universities

- You become the admissions officer: step into the shoes of a university admissions tutor; review a collection of personal statements and interview prospective students for a place at a world-renowned university

5:00pm **Close**

DAY 12 – ENTER OXFORD UNIVERSITY

10:30am **Start**

Morning **Welcome to University!**

Congratulations! You have been accepted into your first-choice university – it's time to start preparing.

- University tour: private tour of the Oxford University campus led by students, who will guide you through the abundant opportunities available to you there
- Academic lecture: meet academics from the Department of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics, hear about the research they are undertaking in their specialist fields and experience a university-style lecture
- Meet the university team: attend an exclusive networking lunch with students and academics

Afternoon **Step into the Shoes of a Student**

- The academic seminar: discuss the contents of the morning lecture in a seminar group led by an academic, reflect on the topics raised with likeminded individuals and begin to generate your initial hypotheses
- The research project: work effectively as part of a team to research and plan for a knock-out group presentation
- The group presentation: present your team's findings to your peers and academics
- The feedback: receive feedback on your presentation and reflect on your team's performance

5:00pm **Close**

DAY 13 – GRADUATE RECRUITMENT: APPLICATIONS & INTERVIEWS

10:30am **Start**

Morning **Graduate Applications**

You're in your final year of study and it is time to start thinking about life after university.

- Standout work experience: learn the importance of securing relevant work experience and the impetus it can add to your graduate job applications
- Killer CVs: crack the code to the perfect CV with industry recruitment experts and hear from hiring managers from the political industry on what they are looking for in candidate resumes

- You become the hiring manager: step into the shoes of a senior hiring manager working at the civil service as you screen a set of graduate CVs and select which candidates you would like to interview

Afternoon **Graduate Interviews**

The graduate recruiter was impressed by your knockout CV and you have now been invited to interview for the role.

- Interview workshop: receive bespoke public speaking training on how best to articulate yourself during high-pressure, professional situations such as interviews and presentations
- You become the graduate interviewer: interview candidates for a graduate role alongside senior recruitment managers and put them through their paces with a series of challenging scenario-based questions
- Reflection: return to your focus groups and review the goals you set for InvestIN's CareerMax week. What have you achieved so far? What would you like to work on over the final two days? What questions do you need answering?

5:00pm **Close**

DAY 14 – GRADUATE RECRUITMENT: ASSESSMENT CENTRES

10:30am **Start**

Morning **Enter the Assessment Centre**

Congratulations! You have nailed the initial interview for a graduate role in the civil service and are among the top-ranked candidates invited to the final stage assessment centre.

- Graduate assessments: discover the different types of activities you will be faced with during an assessment centre and the core competencies that recruiters are looking for
- Psychometric tests: experience a series of psychometric tests that will gauge your suitability for your dream role and receive feedback on your performance
- In tray exercise: tackle a series of challenging in tray exercises and impress your prospective employer with your calm and organised approach to work

Afternoon **The Group Exercise**

- The task: receive an exciting group exercise brief, meet your team and establish members' individual strengths and areas of expertise
- Group discussion: master the art of managing discussions during group assessment centre activities as you collaborate with your team and evaluate one another's contributions
- Key skills: manage your time effectively and wow the assessors with your outstanding approach to teamwork and

leadership

The assessment interview: keep a cool head as you tackle a series of challenging group interview questions and impress your prospective employer with your responses

5:00pm **Close**

DAY 15 – PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN: YOUR NEXT STEPS

10:30am **Start**

Morning **Personal Development Plan**

- Personalised feedback: receive a bespoke summary of your performance during the day 14 assessment centre, including your strengths and areas for development
- Group reflection: return to your focus groups and reflect on what you have achieved throughout InvestIN's CareerMax week
- Personal development plan: work with a recruitment expert to establish your next steps and create your very own personal development plan
- Farewell speech: a review of what you have gained from the Summer Experience, with closing remarks from the programme director

1:00pm **Close**

*Exact programme subject to change