



DEN International Summer School 2026

📍 London | 4–10 May 2026

🌐 *Democratic Engagement in an International Context*

Programme Booklet



Programme Overview



The DEN International Summer School brings together students from diverse academic and cultural backgrounds to engage in collaborative, student-led learning. Through a combination of workshops, field visits, and participation in the International Student Conference, students explore key global challenges while developing critical thinking, leadership, and research skills.

The programme is grounded in the principles of democratic education, student voice, and knowledge co-production, enabling participants to move from lived experience to critical reflection and public engagement.



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Sunday, 3 May 2026 — International Students' Arrival Day

- Welcome to London
- Check-in at the International Students' House, London
- Rest and settling in
- Informal introductions and free time



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Monday, 4 May 2026 — Day 1

Public Holiday (UK)

- Rest and informal exploration
- Optional student meet-up and peer networking



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DEN
The Democratic
Education Network



Bringing together student voices,
inclusive education, and
global engagement.

UNIVERSITY OF
WESTMINSTER



10:00–11:00

Welcome Session & Group Formation

Chairs: Salman and Eddie

Facilitators: Afra, Grace and Azaria

This session establishes an inclusive and collaborative learning environment, introducing students to the principles of democratic engagement and student-led learning.



Activity: Getting to Know You

- Name
- Programme of study
- Academic interests



Objectives

- Build a welcoming and inclusive environment
- Foster interaction between Westminster and international students
- Introduce collaborative and student-led learning practices



11:00–11:30

University Tour

Facilitators: Charlene, Aniya, Michelle

An introduction to the University of Westminster's campus, facilities, and learning environment.



11:30–12:30

DEN Student Presentation

"Westminster in Context: University, City, and Students"

Chairs: Rita and Bahar

Presenters: Negen, Konrad and Senya

Theme: *From Civic Education to Student Leadership*

This session explores the University of Westminster's civic mission and highlights how student engagement shapes both academic and societal impact through DEN.



Key Themes

- The university as a civic institution
- Student voice and democratic participation
- DEN's role in research, collaboration, and global engagement



12:30–13:30

Group Lunch

Hosted by Equality, Diversity and Inclusion,
University of Westminster



Tuesday, 5 May 2026 — Day 2

Afternoon Sessions

 **London** | **4–10 May 2026**

 *Democratic Engagement in an International Context*



13:30–
14:30



DEN Student Presentation

The Democratic Education Network in Practice

 **Chairs:** David and Lucia

 **Presenters:** Anjali, Ramzi, Aiden

Students reflect on their experiences of leadership, research, and international collaboration, demonstrating how student-led initiatives translate into real-world impact.

14:30–
15:30



Student Workshop

Student Voice in Action: From Experience to Publication

 **Chairs:** Michelle and Renata

 **Presenters:** Arika, Ariadna, Mawera

This interactive workshop supports students in transforming their learning experiences into public-facing outputs, including blogs and reflective writing for the DEN online magazine.

Focus

-  Student voice and critical reflection
-  Knowledge co-production
-  From experience to publication

15:30–
17:00



Collaborative Learning Lab

Facilitators: Salman, Afra, Charlene

-  Team-based learning activities
-  Intercultural engagement and networking
-  Informal knowledge exchange





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Wednesday, 6 May 2026 — Day 3

Field Trip: The City of London and East End



Led by: Eddie, Azra, Konrad, Aiden, Suheyla

This guided field visit provides an experiential understanding of London as a global financial and cultural centre.



Sites include:

- The Monument
- Bank of England
- London Stock Exchange
- Guildhall
- St Paul's Cathedral
- Millennium Bridge
- Tower Bridge
- Spitalfields
- Brick Lane



Learning focus:

- Global finance and power structures
- Urban development and inequality
- Migration, diversity, and multiculturalism

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Thursday, 7 May 2026 — Day 4

Cultural Immersion (Student-Led)

A flexible, student-led day dedicated to exploring London's cultural, historical, and social landscape.



Optional activities:

- British Museum
- South Bank
- Covent Garden
- Soho



Closing note:

This approach encourages autonomy, exploration, and peer learning.

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Friday, 8 May 2026 — Day 5

DEN International Student Conference



09:00 — Meet at Regent Street Campus

Students will participate in a full day of academic exchange, presenting research and engaging in collaborative dialogue.



Activities

- Academic presentations
- Thematic panel discussions
- Networking with students, academics, and international partners



Learning Focus

- Student-led research and knowledge production
- Global engagement and intercultural dialogue
- Critical thinking and democratic participation



**Conference
Day**