



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

ACE & ACE High Days Frequently Asked Questions

What are ACE and ACE High Days?

ACE stands for *Aiming for a College Education* and has been run by universities around the UK since the early 1990s. ACE days aim to encourage Year 7, 8 and 9 students to start thinking about the possibility of going into higher education. At LSE we hope to give pupils an insight into university life and the opportunities available to them in higher education and teach them something about how it all works. ACE High Days are for pupils who have already had a general introduction to university, and are ready for a more focussed look at what being a student will mean to them. Pupils will participate in a range of activities designed to get them thinking about progression routes in to higher education, financial responsibility, research skills and the balance between work and social life. ACE High sessions are available to Year 10 and 11 pupils.

Who should attend ACE and ACE High?

ACE Days are open to non-selective London state schools. Priority bookings will be given to schools achieving below the national average at GCSE (56.6% 5 A*-C grades) or in which over 35.1% of pupils are eligible for Free School Meals. ACE are open for Year 7/8/9 and ACE High are open Year 10 / 11 pupils who have the potential to go to a Russell Group institution. Schools will need to select pupils who meet a number of different indicators, for example pupils that qualify for free school meals. A full list of eligibility will be made available upon application to attend.

What happens on the day?

Pupils spend half a day at LSE working through a series of activities designed to introduce them to, or focus their attention on, different aspects of, the world of higher education (depending on whether the session is ACE or ACE High). Upon arrival, pupils are divided into small groups of between 4 and 6 pupils. Each group is led by a current LSE student whose job it is to talk pupils through the activities and to help pupils get the most out of the day. The day itself is led by a member of LSE WP staff. Pupils talk about their initial perceptions of universities and then go on to discover more about academic life and social life at university. ACE Days also include a tour of the LSE Campus.

How much does it cost to send pupils on an ACE or an ACE High?

ACE and ACE High Days are open to eligible schools free of charge. Although schools must arrange and pay for transport themselves, LSE does not charge for the ACE Day itself.

What are the times of the sessions?

Schools can book either a morning session or an afternoon session. Sessions run for two hours with extra time at both the start and the session for setting up and winding down:

- Morning 10:00 to 12:30
- Afternoon 14:00 to 16:30

Where possible, timings can be altered if inconvenient to the school, but we ask that you agree this beforehand with us.

Does LSE provide lunch?

LSE is not able to provide lunch for pupils taking part in ACE.

How many school staff should accompany the pupils?

LSE asks that for a group of 30 pupils, there must be a minimum of two members of staff accompanying them.

What training do LSE staff receive?

All staff and students involved in the sessions receive training before the event on activities, working with children, and LSE's Child Protection Policy. All LSE staff and students who participate receive appropriate clearance from the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Where can I find out more information?

If you have any further questions about ACE, we will be happy to answer them for you. Please contact Lowri Roberts, Widening Participation Coordinator, on 020 7849 4906 or at L.H.Roberts@lse.ac.uk.