Summer Language Programs

THE BEMENT SCHOOL
What distinguishes a Bement summer?

Two separate programs for international students teach intensive English language study, cultural immersion, and boarding readiness. On our campus in Historic Deerfield, students from all over the world participate in our English Language and Culture (ELAC) program. For residents of China, Bement in Shanghai is a day program that offers students the chance to work with distinguished educators.
The Bement School’s ELAC program in Deerfield provides students with a familial boarding experience and an immersive study of the English language. Students receive a whole new kind of education that connects them with the history of colonial New England, experiential outdoor learning with native English speakers in our day camp, and a transformational boarding experience.

Daily workshops with a local historical society give ELAC students a window into the past of early America.

English Language and Culture

Three small classes give students in-depth instruction in reading, writing, and public speaking.
OUR CURRICULUM IS DIVERSE AND CAPTIVATING

Along with language and historical studies, ELAC program participants explore our beautiful twelve-acre outdoor education center at Pine Hill. Whether it is writing poetry, studying local plant and animal life, or hiking on our trails, students gain a whole new appreciation of the outdoors.
STATE OF THE ART DORMITORIES
ELAC students live in exceptional dormitories that are truly a home away from home. Our dorm parents provide unparalleled care of students as they all live and learn as a family. Wonderful home-cooked meals by our dining services provide locally sourced products from across the Pioneer Valley.

Read frequently asked questions about the ELAC program at bement.org/elac
Bement in Shanghai

Bement takes its classroom into the heart of Shanghai, China, as students are instructed by Bement faculty members. This day camp experience involves rigorous writing and editing, reading of American texts, and practice of public speaking each day. The curriculum focuses on problem-solving, resilience, and academic rigor, providing a rich experience that introduces American culture and the junior boarding school experience. Students form a learning community in which they practice academic discourse and engage in inquiry-based learning. Two levels of English instruction include Intermediate-Advanced and Advanced, providing fluency in speaking, reading, and writing.
OUR HISTORY
Grace “Menty” Allan Power Bement, a tutor and drama coach deeply interested in education and women’s suffrage, founded The Bement School in 1925. The school grew quickly as word spread about Mrs. Bement’s education philosophy: education should be tailored to the needs of the individual child while emphasizing responsibility for the rights of others. This early foundation persists today, as Bement is dedicated to the development of each student while cultivating a strong community.

OUR MOTTO
Alis Propriis Vola  Fly on Your Own Wings

OUR LOCATION
Located in the historic town of Deerfield, Bement is surrounded by natural beauty and situated within an intellectual and cultural haven that includes the esteemed Five Colleges, world-renowned museums, and charming New England towns. Our campus, where Deerfield Academy is our neighbor, is just minutes off I-91, which connects Hartford to Vermont and is easily accessible to nearby cities.

Admission Information

ELAC AND BEMENT IN SHANGHAI
The application process for both the ELAC program and Bement in Shanghai is the same. Candidates must be between 8 and 12 years of age to apply. Application information and any required materials can be found on our website at www.bement.org/community/summer-programs, along with a three- to five-minute introductory video accessible through YouTube, QuickTime, or Vimeo. To apply, you will need to submit the following:

- Application
- Parent forms
- Application fee of $60
- Handwritten writing sample
- Copy of your current year transcript
- Current year English teacher recommendation

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