

IPSC 2026 Oracy Leader Job Description

Category	Details
Job Title	Oracy Leader
Reporting to	ESU Education Team
Direct Reports	N/A
Hours of Work	Shift work for the duration of the event, running Monday 13 - Saturday 18 July 2026
Salary	£600 per week
Location	Central London

About the ESU

The English-Speaking Union delivers education programmes and projects across England and Wales that enable young people to ‘discover their voice’. Central to our mission is a commitment to working with schools and communities to reduce gaps in opportunity and attainment through high-quality oracy education.

We also run international programmes and competitions that foster global connections and cultural exchange. Many of these are delivered by our team of Oracy Leaders, who bring our mission to life through direct work with young people and international guests.

Our International Public Speaking Competition (IPSC)

The International Public Speaking Competition is at the heart of the ESU’s mission, combining oracy teaching, cultural exchange and a celebration of global perspectives. Established in 1980, IPSC now reaches over 100,000 young people in more than 50 countries each year.

Every summer, the ESU hosts the Grand Final week in London, bringing together national champions from around the world for workshops, cultural visits, networking and the culminating Grand Final. Our team of Oracy Leaders helps ensure that each participant experiences an unforgettable, inspiring week.

New for 2026: International Council Meeting

Alongside IPSC 2026, the ESU will also host an International Council Meeting (ICM), welcoming representatives, delegates and guests from many of our global ESU branches. This week will include formal meetings alongside a varied itinerary of cultural activities, visits and events.

To support this expanded programme, we are recruiting a larger team of Oracy Leaders, some of whom will also help accompany and guide international guests throughout the week.

About the Role: Oracy Leader

We are looking for motivated, enthusiastic and positive individuals to join us for a dynamic week supporting both IPSC 2026 and the ICM.

As an Oracy Leader, you will be the first port of call for our young participants, helping to guide them through workshops, cultural excursions and competition events. Some Oracy Leaders may also support our international delegates and their guests by accompanying them to scheduled activities and ensuring they receive a warm and welcoming ESU experience.

This is a fantastic opportunity to empower young people and engage with international guests, all while contributing to a unique, life-changing programme.

Core Responsibilities

With IPSC Participants

- Chaperone young people around London for activities, visits and sightseeing
- Deliver engaging workshops in public speaking and oracy skills
- Safeguard and support participants at all times
- Create and maintain a fun, trusting and inclusive environment
- Be proactive and alert, ensuring all young people are accounted for and cared for
- Act as an ambassador for the ESU's mission and values

With International Council Meeting Delegates (for selected leaders)

- Accompany international guests and representatives to scheduled events and cultural activities
- Provide a warm, informed and welcoming presence throughout the week
- Assist with logistics such as meeting points, travel between venues and event coordination
- Support ESU staff in ensuring delegates have a smooth and enjoyable experience

Person Specification

We are looking for people with:

- Experience in debating, public speaking or oracy education
- Experience working with young people
- Experience delivering training, workshops or teaching
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to build rapport with both young participants and adult guests
- A positive, flexible and team-oriented attitude

Safeguarding

The ESU is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. All appointments are subject to satisfactory pre-employment checks, including an Enhanced DBS check with Barred List information if required.

Diversity and Inclusion

We encourage applications from candidates of all backgrounds, regardless of race, gender, age, disability, economic background or any other factor. Please contact us if you would like to discuss reasonable adjustments for the role.

