



RIVERSTONE  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

2024-2025

# RESIDENTIAL

---

# HANDBOOK



RIVERSTONE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



**Mike Schiesel**

*Director of Residential Life*

---

## **Greetings and welcome to Riverstone International School,**

Whether you are just starting your Riverstone experience or are returning for another exciting year, we are very happy to welcome you to Riverstone House 2024-25. We pride ourselves on being a warm and welcoming community. As we grow throughout the upcoming academic year our Residential Team is here for you to help you along the way.

Welcome to Riverstone!

# About Riverstone

---

## Our Mission

---

The mission of Riverstone International School is to inspire courageous journeys of academic and personal exploration that enable our students to lead purposeful lives. We believe our community is stronger and happier when we work together. We know that empathy and kindness matter. We seek to understand each other and our world. We practice inclusive leadership while encouraging each other to pursue purposeful lives. We take action to help our communities and our world.

A student's time at Riverstone will be a period of individual growth. It is our goal that each student graduates prepared for the opportunities ahead of them. Our staff will work to ensure that students have opportunities to grow and explore as they discover what a purposeful and rewarding life might look like. We ask that Riverstone students try their best every day. Students should view teachers as role models and mentors and see them as guides on their journey. We encourage students to take responsibility for their actions, both inside and outside of the classroom, which means that students learn to advocate for themselves and their education; a skill that, more than any other, leads to success in college and life.

---





# Guiding Principles and Values

---

## Guiding Principles

---

At Riverstone International School, students and staff are expected to adhere to our Guiding Principles in their daily actions:

- I will seek understanding
- I will respect myself and others
- I will take action to contribute to my community

Our goal is that students develop into lifelong learners. These three principles help students develop the essential characteristics of the International Baccalaureate Learner Profile

---

## Values

---

The essential characteristics of the International Baccalaureate Learner Profile, which encapsulate our values, help students strive to be:

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open-minded
- Caring
- Risk-takers
- Balanced
- Reflective





# Five Pillars

---

## 01 Academic Excellence

---

At Riverstone, every student arrives with their individual knowledge, strengths, and needs, and will be challenged and supported accordingly. By creating a shared expectation between students and the school to strive for personal growth and academic excellence, we help students become independent thinkers whose curiosity, creativity, and commitment bring lifelong success.

---

## 02 Community and Service

---

Riverstone International School is a diverse community of students, parents and staff who challenge and support one another while learning, sharing, exploring and serving together. Our individual passions, interests, and cultures combine to create a connected community that supports the mission of the school as well as our local and global communities.

---

## 03 Leadership by Example

---

At Riverstone, we value leadership. Students develop into leaders by influencing those around them through the examples they set and how they lead their lives.

---

## 04 International Understanding

---

At Riverstone, students cultivate a diverse world-view and appreciation for the world's peoples and cultures via academic endeavors and personal experiences. Through classrooms, in-home exchange programs, the outdoors, and international travel experiences, students form an international understanding that will give them the ability to engage and contribute to our global society.

---

## 05 Outdoor Education

---

Riverstone's outdoor education program provides our students with learning-based experiences that build self-confidence, teamwork, leadership, and responsibility, while fostering a greater appreciation for nature and the environment. Through activities that extend the classroom curriculum to the outdoors, our students learn to overcome challenges and forge lifelong skills that help them succeed at Riverstone — and prepare them for life beyond our doors.

---

# Riverstone's Non-Discrimination Statement

---

Riverstone International School admits students of all races, color, and national or ethnic origin and makes available to all the rights, privileges and activities generally accorded or made available to every student at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, ideologies, nationality, or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, tuition assistance programs and other school-administered programs.

---

## Riverstone's Diversity Statement

---

Riverstone International School believes diversity fosters a vibrant school environment. We actively seek to include, engage, and empower all members of our school community while respecting race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, physical ability, ideologies, nationality, and socioeconomic status of individuals. Through discourse and exploration of ideas, we celebrate the rich dimensions of diversity within each individual, encourage individual identity development, and strive to become compassionate citizens of the world.

---



# Important Dates

<b>Friday, August 9</b>	Riverstone House Opens for the 2024-25 academic year; all new and returning boarding students are expected to move in no later than 2:00 pm.
<b>Friday, August 9 - Tuesday, August 13</b>	Riverstone House Orientation. Mandatory in its entirety for all residential students.
<b>Wednesday, August 14</b>	First Day Of School/Convocation
<b>Saturday, December 21</b>	Winter Break Begins; Riverstone House closes at 12:00PM.
<b>Saturday, January 4</b>	Winter Break Ends; Riverstone House opens at 12:00 PM.
<b>Saturday, March 15</b>	Spring Break Begins; Riverstone House Closes at 12:00PM.
<b>Saturday, March 30</b>	Spring Break Ends; Riverstone House opens at 2:00PM.
<b>Wednesday, April 23</b>	I.B. Exams begin
<b>Tuesday, May 27</b>	Commencement
<b>Thursday, May 29</b>	Last day of school. Students may depart after the school day.
<b>Saturday, May 31</b>	Riverstone House closes at 12:00 PM for Summer Break.



# Travel

---

## School Hours

---

Riverstone International School's campus is open from 8:00 AM—4:00 PM every day. On Wednesday school ends early at 2:15 PM. School starts at 8:20 AM and ends at 3:05 PM.

---

## School Address

---

**Riverstone International School (Academic Campus)**  
**All Student Mail And Packages should Be Mailed To This**  
**Address**

Riverstone International School - "Student Name"  
5521 East Warm Springs Avenue  
Boise, ID 83716  
USA

The campus and Riverstone House are approximately 7 miles/12 kilometers away from each other. The green belt, a pedestrian and bicycle path, connects the campus and the dormitory. The school provides morning and afternoon transport via bus to and from Riverstone House and Riverstone International School.

---

# Temporary Guardianship

---

The designated guardians for students residing at Riverstone House are Riverstone International School's Residential Team and School Leadership. The residential team will act on behalf of the parents and guardians, as applicable, to supervise academic progress, to enforce rules and consequences related to school and Riverstone House and in the event of circumstances requiring medical treatment.

---

## School Counseling

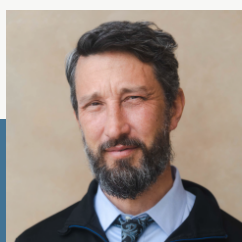
---

Our Student Life and Support Coordinator is the primary school counselor for students living at Riverstone House. The school counselor is available to listen to and counsel students and their parents about social-emotional issues common in developing adolescents. Administration, teachers, dorm staff, or parents may refer students to see the counselor. Dorm staff can contact the Student Life and Support Coordinator for support in the case of a mental health emergency.

---



# Administrative Contacts



**John Gasparini**

*Head of School*

Phone - 208-424-5000

Email - [jgasparini@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:jgasparini@riverstoneschool.org)



**Mike Schiesel**

*Director of Residence Life*

Phone - 928-848-9314

Email - [mschiesel@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:mschiesel@riverstoneschool.org)



**Rachel Pusch**

*Director of Enrollment Management (visas)*

Phone - 208-424-5000 x2104

Email - [rpusch@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:rpusch@riverstoneschool.org)



**Brittany Roper**

*Diploma Programme Coordinator (Gr 11-12)*

Contact Via Email

Email - [broper@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:broper@riverstoneschool.org)





## **Stacey Walker**

*High School Director*

Phone - 208-424-5000

Email - [swalker@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:swalker@riverstoneschool.org)



## **Trevor Lindsay**

*Middle Years Programme Coordinator (Gr 9-10)*

Contact Via Email

Email - [tlindsay@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:tlindsay@riverstoneschool.org)



## **Eleri Hofstetter**

*Student Life & Support Coordinator/Counselor*

Contact Via Email

Email - [ehofstetter@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:ehofstetter@riverstoneschool.org)



## **John Scripps**

*University Counselor*

Contact Via Email

Email - [jscripps@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:jscripps@riverstoneschool.org)



## **Damon Brown**

*Middle School Director*

Contact Via Email

Email - [dbrown@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:dbrown@riverstoneschool.org)

# Residential Staff Contacts



**Mike Schiesel**

*Director of Residence Life*

Phone - 928-848-9314

Email - [mschiesel@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:mschiesel@riverstoneschool.org)



**Meredith Fultz**

*Dorm Parent*

Contact Via Email

Email - [mfultz@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:mfultz@riverstoneschool.org)



**Elizabeth Crawford**

*Assistant Director of Residential Life*

Contact Via Email

Email - [ecrawford@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:ecrawford@riverstoneschool.org)



**Julie Chen**

*Dorm Parent*

Phone - 208-207-3704

Email - [jchen@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:jchen@riverstoneschool.org)

# Contacting Faculty (Teachers)

---

Our faculty are here to help each student achieve as much success as possible. Riverstone encourages each student to take charge of their own learning and to advocate for themselves. Please consult the [faculty directory](#) on our website for individual teacher emails and/or contact them via ManageBac. Teachers are available to meet in person or virtually at lunchtime, after school, and during open periods when not otherwise in a meeting. **There is an on-campus, supervised study area available to students in Grades 6-12 Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, 4:00–6:00 PM**

---

## Emergency Contacts

---

The emergency telephone number in the United States is 911. Police, fire and ambulance services can be reached immediately at this number. Should you have an emergency at home and need to contact Riverstone, please contact the names above. Mike Schiesel, Director of Residential Life, is your first point of contact.

---





# Riverstone International School Programs

---

## Academic Program

---

Riverstone is an IB World School and offers a full continuum of International Baccalaureate programs - including the Primary Years Programme, the Middle Years Programme and the Diploma Programme. All of our students are expected to pursue the International Baccalaureate Diploma in addition to a Riverstone diploma. IB examinations take place during the month of May of a student's Grade 12 (senior) year.

Grades 9 and 10 are a part of the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) and grades 11 and 12 participate in the Diploma Programme (DP). For more information about Riverstone's academic program, please visit the following:

- [Riverstone Graduation Requirements](#)
- [Riverstone Course Catalog](#)
- [Elective Descriptions](#)

---

## First Languages Resources

---

Riverstone encourages each student to maintain their first language. Students whose first language is not English should check in with Riverstone's English B coordinator Mr. Matthew Darren.

---



# Advisory Program

---

Riverstone's Advisory Program and faculty advisors help each student to build positive relationships, increase self-awareness, develop a strong sense of personal responsibility, and foster connections. Each student will be paired with a faculty advisor with whom they will grow throughout their time at Riverstone, enabling the faculty advisor to serve as an advocate, champion, and mentor to each student.

## Benefits include:

- **A Deepened Purpose** – Students work to understand and take ownership for their education. Students develop plans to get the most out of their Riverstone experience and understand measures of success and achievement.
- **Strengthened Connections** – Advisory Teachers helps students to develop points of engagement at Riverstone, enhance sense of belonging, and facilitate mentoring across grade levels. Advisory Teachers serve as student advocates and sounding boards.
- **An Expanded Toolbox** – Students develop resilience, mindfulness, self-awareness, empathy, and a better understanding of mental/physical health.



# College Counseling Program

---



**John Scripps**

*Director of College Counseling*

Contact Via Email

Email - [jscripps@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:jscripps@riverstoneschool.org)

---

## College Counseling Philosophy —

At Riverstone, our goal is to help you and your child make informed decisions about planning and applying for college through a personalized and individual approach. Ultimately, we want to ensure you have all the information you need to choose the best fit for your child. Our university counseling program begins in Grade 9 and continues through Grade 12.

---

## Highlights of University Counseling

- Exceptional access to our university counselor for students and families.
  - Guidance built on extensive experience with a broad spectrum of colleges and universities worldwide.
  - Recommendations so personalized they leave college admissions teams with no doubt about what our students will bring to their college.
  - Personal support, especially during Grade 12, to ensure applications, essays, and interviews represent your student's authentic self.
  - Pacific Northwest college tour and college counseling for Grade 11 students.
  - Attendance at the local college fair for Grades 9 and 10.
  - Connections between current Riverstone students and alumni.
  - Assistance with university tour planning.
  - Relationships with colleges at national and international levels that ensure Riverstone students are recognized for participating in the rigorous International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.
-



# Transcripts

---

Please make sure that Riverstone has complete transcript(s) on file. All transcripts from Grades 9-12 must be submitted to complete college applications.

- Colleges may require that you submit an official translation of your transfer transcript. Families should be prepared to obtain a translation if needed.
- International applicants usually have to provide proof that they can afford college in the United States. Bank statements and other financial documentation may be required as a part of university applications.
- Parents and students should have honest and open conversations about finances before and throughout the application process.
- International students need to take extra care to identify colleges that will provide both financial assistance and are likely to accept international applicants. Both parents and students should be aware that the college application process is often more competitive for international applicants.
- Some international applicants choose to work with independent college counseling agents. While some agents offer valuable support and sound advice, others may provide incomplete or inaccurate information. Parents should exercise caution and use their own judgment when deciding to work with an outside agent.

---

## Registering for the PSAT, SAT, ACT, TOEFL

---

Riverstone will register and pay for all Grade 10 and Grade 11 students to take the annual PSAT in October. Grade 11 and 12 students should register for the TOEFL, ACT and SAT **before** they arrive in August. Families are responsible for all fees associated with these exams.

# Outdoor Education Program

---



**Derek Wright**

*Outdoor Education Coordinator*

Phone - 208-424-5000

Email - [dwright@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:dwright@riverstoneschool.org)

---

## Outdoor Education

---

Outdoor Education is one of our school's Five Pillars and is an integral part of every student's life and education at Riverstone International School. All students are expected to participate in the Outdoor Education Program. We strongly believe that the woods, mountains, rivers, and valleys of our beautiful state and region are places that inspire and challenge our students. Riverstone's outdoor education program is designed to help every student encounter these challenges in a supportive environment and grow. We firmly believe that the outdoors is our *classroom without walls*.

Our students develop confidence and resilience in the outdoors that can enable them to take leadership roles in other aspects of their lives. We ask that students without prior outdoors experience try their best; we know they will have successes and stories of shared adventure to tell. The relationships that our students make with one another and their teachers on these trips often result in more trust, a wider network of friends, and more academic success. Along the water, on the trail, or in camp, students are encouraged to take a break from their digitized lives. We make sure that Riverstone students know the joy of skipping a rock, watching a sunrise, and enjoying time with friends. Students will not be excused from an outdoor program activity without a **direct note from a doctor**.

---

# Outdoor Experiences by Grade —

- **Grade 8:** Fall Salmon River trip, Winter Snowshoe Yurt trip, and Spring Hell's Canyon backpacking trip
  - **Grade 9:** Backpacking or camping trip during the autumn in the Sawtooth Mountains of central Idaho and a spring backpacking trip in Utah's Grand Gulch.
  - **Grade 10:** Backpacking or camping trip during the autumn in the Sawtooth Mountains of central Idaho and a spring backpacking trip along the Rogue River in Oregon.
  - **Grade 11:** A winter backpacking trip in the mountains of central Idaho.
  - **Grade 12:** Backpacking or camping trip during the autumn in the Sawtooth Mountains of central Idaho and a rock climbing trip to the City of Rocks in the Spring.
- 

## Equipment needed for the Outdoor Program —

Check the Resource tab on the school's website for details on packing lists for outdoor trips. A student should plan to purchase or bring a pair of good fitting, sturdy hiking shoes or boots, a rain jacket appropriate for backpacking, a fleece/down jacket, a wool/fleece cap, and warm gloves. Riverstone has a supply of outdoor equipment for use on trips and outdoor experiences. Additionally, shopping trips are available for students wishing to purchase items for their outdoor experiences.

---



# Extracurricular Activities

---



**Kim Liebich**

*Athletic Director*

Contact Via Email

Email - [kliebich@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:kliebich@riverstoneschool.org)

---

## Riverstone Athletics Program

Riverstone is a member of the Western Idaho Conference (WIC) 1A Division and is bound to the rules provided by [Idaho High School Athletics Association](#) for this conference. At this time, Riverstone is able to offer the following athletic opportunities for students:

- High School Girls Volleyball (Gr 9-12)
- Middle and High School Girls Basketball (Gr 9-12)
- Middle and High School Boys Basketball (Gr 9-12)

Riverstone also offers the following athletic opportunities outside of the WIC:

- [Bogus Basin Dotty Clark Ski Competitions](#)
- High School Swimming Girls and Boys (administered through a co-op with Timberline High School) (Gr 9-12) (Students also swim with Boise Swim Club, Streamliners, the West YMCA and the Downtown Y.)
- High School Co-ed Ultimate Frisbee

If students are interested in other activities, they are encouraged to discuss their interests to explore feasible options. The school has good avenues to help students connect with climbing, high school cross country, cycling, fencing, football, golf, kayaking, lacrosse, mountain biking, tennis, high school track, soccer, and more.



# Clubs and Activities

---



**Eleri Hofsetter**

*Student life & Support Coordinator*

Contact Via Email

Email - [ehofstetter@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:ehofstetter@riverstoneschool.org)

---

## Clubs and Activities

Riverstone offers a wide variety of clubs and activities throughout the school year. A Club Fair is hosted on campus early in the fall semester for students to learn about club opportunities and sign up. These can vary from year-to-year based on student interest. The school regularly offers Music Ensembles, Robotics, Ethics Bowl, Student Council Committees, Model United Nations, Yearbook, and Green Team.

---

## Special Events

---

Throughout the year there may be special events that are considered mandatory for all residential students and attendance will be required. Such events will be announced by the residential staff well in advance. Events may include but are not limited to, International Dinner/Pinning Ceremony, Group Activities and Commencement.

---



# Packing and Preparing

---

## Dorm Rooms

---

All rooms are furnished with a twin bed and a desk for each student. Students can be taken to pick up items for their rooms at nearby stores. Each room is designed for two people, so students should expect to have a roommate.

Students will be living with many others and sharing communal spaces, making it essential for everyone to be respectful of each other and each other's personal possessions. Storage is limited at the end of the year, so this should be considered when purchasing new items for their rooms.

---

## Shipping Address

---

**If students would like to directly mail some of the items on this list from home or from online retailers, they should use the following address:**

Riverstone International School  
Attn: (Student Name) - Dorm Student  
5521 East Warm Springs Avenue  
Boise, Idaho  
83716 USA

# Packing and Preparing

---

## Items provided

---

- Regular Twin bed and mattress
- Dresser
- Wardrobe
- Desk (these have 2 power outlets and 2 powered USB ports built in)
- Window coverings
- Laundry facilities
- Internet access
- A limited amount of trash bins, pillows, hangers and linens to choose from.

The list of items on the next page are items students are advised to bring or have the delivered.

## Do NOT Bring

---

- Microwaves
- Toasters
- Candles or incense
- Televisions
- Space heaters
- Tea kettles
- Cooking Appliances Of Any Kind

Not Sure? Contact Mike Schiesel, Director of Residential Life at [mschiesel@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:mschiesel@riverstoneschool.org)



# PACKING CHECKLIST

BEDDING & ACCESSORIES	✓
Sheets for a TWIN bed - a Regular twin	
Mattress pad and protector	
Comforter (down or synthetic)	
Blanket/Throw	
Pillow	
LAUNDRY & CLEANING	✓
Laundry basket or mesh bag	
Wastebasket	
ROOM DECOR	✓
Area rug/throw rugs	
Posters, photos, flags; items from home.	
ELECTRONICS & AUDIO	✓
PC or Mac with Microsoft Excel. Other word processing or presentation software is fine.	
Plug adaptor for a student's home country's plug pattern to US plug pattern	
Earbuds/Headphones	
Phone device/computer charging cables	
UL listed surge protector	
Small dorm style refrigerator	

TOILETRIES	✓
Towels and washcloths (suggest 2-3 sets)	
Bathrobe and shower shoes/flip flops	
Shower caddy (bathrooms are communal)	
Hair dryer	
Flat/Curling iron with auto shut-off feature	
Electric razor or shaving razor with extra blades	
STORAGE & ORGANIZATION	✓
Hangers	
Storage crates / utility bins (able to fit under beds)	
Memo board, small, dry erase	
Wall safe adhesive (ie: 3M Command Strips) for hanging posters and pictures	
Passport	
DESK ACCESSORIES	✓
Desk lamp (No halogen bulbs)	
Desk supplies (pens, pencils, pencil sharpener, sticky notes, highlighters)	
Translating dictionary (not electronic, must be a book that gives the translated word and not a definition of the word)	



# Packing and Preparing

---

## Clothing

---

Students should plan to bring clothing suitable for school, leisure, outdoor activities, and sports. Boise, Idaho, experiences a relatively mild, four-season climate. However, temperatures can reach as high as 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit) in the summer and drop to as low as -20 degrees Celsius (-4 degrees Fahrenheit) in the winter. While Boise is generally very dry, it can and does snow during the winter.

As an International Baccalaureate World School, Riverstone places a high level of importance on international understanding and cultural sensitivity. Students and staff should dress in a respectful manner that would not be considered offensive to other members of the community. Parents will be notified and asked for assistance if their student's clothing is deemed inappropriate for the school environment.

The Riverstone dorm is a large international community and celebrates a global focus throughout the year. Students are encouraged to bring any special clothing, flags, recipes, games, books or music to share with the dorm family.

---



# CLOTHING CHECKLIST

SCHOOL AND CASUAL CLOTHING	✓
Underwear	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socks	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sandals	<input type="checkbox"/>
Closed toe shoes appropriate for colder weather	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jeans, slacks, skirts or shorts that are appropriate for school	<input type="checkbox"/>
T-shirts, blouses, polo shirts, collared shirts (no inappropriate slogans or messages)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pajamas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Swimsuit	<input type="checkbox"/>

ATHLETIC CLOTHING	✓
Running shorts	<input type="checkbox"/>
Running shoes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Athletic bra	<input type="checkbox"/>
T-shirt	<input type="checkbox"/>

SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND RESOURCES	✓
Supply and book lists* are listed on the Resources tab on our website each summer at <a href="http://www.riverstoneschool.org/resources/">http://www.riverstoneschool.org/resources/</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>

COLD WEATHER/OUTDOOR CLOTHING	✓
Long pants, synthetic material (no cotton)	<input type="checkbox"/>
T-shirts, synthetic material (no cotton) (x2)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wool stocking cap	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fleece gloves	<input type="checkbox"/>
Waterproof ski gloves	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rain jacket made of breathable material like Gore-Tex, large enough to fit over fleece jacket	<input type="checkbox"/>
Baseball style cap	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wool or synthetic/wool blend socks (4 pr)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Synthetic long underwear bottoms	<input type="checkbox"/>
Synthetic long underwear top	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mid-weight fleece jacket/pullover (anorak or zip up styles are fine)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Light or midweight hiking shoes or sturdy, well-made trail running shoes. (Excellent brands to consider are Salomon, Inov8, Montrail, Vasque, Merrell, Asolo, La Sportiva and Salewa.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Headlamp	<input type="checkbox"/>
Two shatterproof 1 liter water bottles. Brands such as Nalgene and Camelbak are perfect.	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Rooms and Roommates

---

Riverstone House is designed to house up to 16 students on the 3rd floor and 16 students on the 4th floor. Boarding staff will strive to match roommates based on their interests, study and sleeping habits, and other preferences. In early July, a roommate survey is sent to each incoming student. This aids the residential team in placing roommates. Each student shares a large room with one other student. Each room has windows with views of the city and/or mountains and is also equipped with its own air conditioning and heating unit. Riverstone encourages each student to personalize their space while respecting their roommate. Students must bring or purchase their own bed linens and blankets, hangers, and additional storage containers.

---

## Roommate Changes

---

A great deal of deliberation goes into the placing of roommates. A change of roommates is a serious step and is not taken lightly. Efforts will be made to reach a reconciliation before a move is considered. Efforts will begin with informal attempts at reconciliation with the students in question meeting with the Director of Residential Life and other Residential Team Members. Following this, if necessary, there will be a formal meeting with The Directors of Residential Life, High School and Counseling. If a move is determined to be necessary, other students who may be affected by a move will also meet with the aforementioned directors. Parents of all affected students will be notified of any moves before they go into effect.

---

## Speaking English

---

Riverstone respects and supports all people's right to speak their first language. However, on the 2nd floor of the dormitory building, students are expected to speak the common shared language of English. In a setting with many different languages and cultural practices it is important to share an approach to communal living and common courtesy. To that end, English is the language Riverstone students all share on the boarding and academic campuses. Language can be a bridge and a barrier and at Riverstone, language is used as a bridge to common understanding and respect.

# Quiet Hours

---

Quiet hours are between 10:00 PM and 6:30AM, every day. Courtesy hours are always in effect.

---

# Bedtime Preparation & Lights Out

---

It is important that every student quietly prepares properly for bed. Showering, brushing teeth, and other routines must be finished before lights out at 10:30PM. On rare occasions when students may need to work later than 10:30PM, students should work quietly with only a desk lamp on.

---

# Damage to Building, Equipment or Furniture

---

Students must use wall-safe sticky adhesive to put up photographs, pictures or other decorations. Students may not use nails, tacks, staples, or adhesives like glue or tape to affix items to walls or furniture. Families are responsible to pay for damage caused to the dorm, equipment, or furniture if a student is found to have damaged these items, either willfully or through negligence.

Room checks are conducted at move-in and move-out. Any damages to a student's room will incur costs to his/her/their guardian or parent.

---





# Summer Storage

---

Each summer, students who are returning the following school year will have to clean their rooms and put their clothing, books, supplies, bedding, etc. in storage until the following school year. The school does provide limited storage space but will not store furniture or mattresses. Riverstone will not store any student furniture over the summer.

---

## Covid-19

---

While great advances have been made in mitigating this virus, Riverstone International School and its residential program remain vigilant in safeguarding the health of its community.

If a student tests positive for COVID-19, her/his/their parents will be notified as soon as possible. Daily if not every other day updates will be sent during the student's quarantine.

We truly appreciate your support in our goal to provide the safest possible environment for your student(s) and our community.

---



# Life at Riverstone House

---

## House System

---

Riverstone House is a close knit community of students. Within this community, each student is placed in one of three houses. Each house is headed up by a prefect and a member of the residential team. Each house, as a group, will plan activities and projects both for the house and for the greater Riverstone House community. Additionally, in keeping with the values of Riverstone International School, there will be service components within the House System.

---

## Meals

---

On weekdays, the morning begins at Riverstone House with hot and cold cereal, eggs and various breads available for breakfast along with milk, juice, coffee and tea.

**Lunch:** Hot lunch is provided daily by the school's hot lunch provider, Life's Kitchen <https://www.lifeskitchen.org/>. On weekends, students may prepare food for themselves or go to nearby restaurants. Riverstone House is very close to downtown restaurants, and students often enjoy walking downtown to have lunch with friends.

**Dinners:** Dinners consist of a catered meal each evening from Broadway Catering by Albertsons. The menu may change throughout the year to accommodate students' tastes and preferences. The aim is to provide a variety of choices that will appeal to people from diverse culinary traditions worldwide.

**Birthdays:** Every student's birthday is celebrated. Riverstone House strives to include specialities from cultures all over the world in birthday and holiday celebrations.

---

# Cooking

---

Students may prepare snacks during hours when the dorm kitchen is open. Kitchen hours are posted for the students to follow. Generally, the kitchen closes at 9:00 pm. After being granted permission, students are welcome to cook using ingredients which they have purchased. A dedicated refrigerator for student use is located in the kitchen. This refrigerator holds any personal ingredients, meals or snacks. The refrigerator will be monitored by staff for any out of date food. Students have access to leftovers from dinners if they would like to reheat food.

- Students are responsible for all clean-up.
- Only two students may cook at the stove at any time.
- Kitchen use is a privilege contingent on proper care and courtesy by its users.

---

# Laundry

---

Riverstone House is equipped with washers and dryers on each residential floor. Students may also send laundry out for dry cleaning or use a laundromat at their own expense. Each student is scheduled for a laundry shift either after school or on the weekends. "Trading" laundry shifts must be agreed upon by both parties and a residential team member. Laundry procedures will be presented and discussed at Dorm Orientation in August.

---

# Shopping

---

Students can purchase supplies, toiletry items and food from a number of stores within a short walk of Riverstone House. Boise Towne Square Mall and The Village at Meridian are nearby shopping malls.

Any packages from online shopping must be delivered to the school.

# Money & Banking

---

- All students must have a credit or debit card from a bank with branches in the United States.
- Riverstone will not assist students with the process of opening US or foreign bank accounts.
- Students under the age of 18 are unable to open bank accounts independently in the US.
- Parents/guardians should make all banking arrangements when bringing their student to school at the beginning of the year.
- If parents/guardians do not bring their student to school, banking arrangements must be made in advance or arrival in Boise.

Students should plan to set aside \$60-100 per month for entertainment, personal care, personal food, and sundries and extra school expenses. ATMs are widely available.

If you have questions about banking procedures, please contact Mike Schiesel, Director of Residential Life at [mschiesel@riverstoneschool.org](mailto:mschiesel@riverstoneschool.org)

---

# Medical & Dental Care

---

Boise has excellent medical and dental care available. A full range of routine, urgent, emergency, and long-term medical care facilities are located close to the school and the dorm.

It is very important that each family disclose their child's medical, dental, and mental health history to Riverstone so that the school can ensure the best care possible for them. Examples of things to disclose are allergies, mental illness, pre-existing medical conditions, injuries that are healing, prescription medications that students are taking or will take and ongoing care that is necessary from a medical doctor, dentist, orthodontist, or mental health professional.



# Medical & Dental Care

---

Health insurance for international students at Riverstone International School is billed annually during the enrollment process. This includes a medical insurance policy for the duration of the student's enrollment. It is important to note that, like most insurance coverage, this policy does not cover 100% of medical costs. Insurance exclusions, deductibles, and multiple visits, for example, may not be covered. In such cases, any additional payment will be the responsibility of the parents or guardians. U.S. citizens are expected to have insurance through their family's existing plan.

Pre-existing conditions may not be covered under medical policies.

Dental insurance is not provided. Parents and students should be prepared to pay the full cost of any dental care needed while in the United States. Riverstone International School will always strive to ensure that each student receives appropriate medical care. However, the school is not responsible for the medical coverage provided by the insurance company, nor for any associated costs or consequences.

Families should anticipate that there may be additional medical expenses for their child during their stay that are not covered by insurance. They should be prepared to work directly with healthcare and insurance providers to cover any additional medical bills.

Parents are responsible for all medical, dental, and mental health bills that are not covered by this insurance.

---

# Prescriptions & Over-The-Counter (OTC) Medicines

---

Students must disclose to the school all prescription medicines, vitamins and over-the-counter medicines which they are taking at the time of arrival in Boise. Dorm staff and faculty supervising outdoor trips must be informed of, and are responsible for, controlling and dispensing all prescription and non-prescription medications. Students are not allowed to keep medication in their rooms. All medications and vitamins must be given to staff for safekeeping. Staff members will distribute medications and record each instance in a log, which is stored in a locked medical lockbox.

The only exception to this policy is for birth control pills or devices. Students must bring a valid, written prescription from their doctor. Prescription medicine must be in the original, labeled container.

---

## Pre-existing Medical, Dental, and Psychiatric Conditions

---

Parents and/or students must disclose any pre-existing medical, dental and psychiatric conditions that may impact participation in school, sports or wilderness backpacking and hiking. Examples of these types of conditions could include a recently healed broken bone, depression, personality disorders, heart or circulatory conditions, blood disorders, eating disorders, history of multiple concussions, auto-immune disorders such as lupus, hypothyroidism, diabetes, etc. If informed, Riverstone can often ensure some level of care in many, but not all, cases.

Serious, undisclosed medical or mental health conditions, or medical or mental health conditions for which a student or family refuses to treat, can result in a student being sent home for care at their family's expense.

---

# Transportation

---

Riverstone is unable to provide transportation for non-school activities. Students may request additional assistance with transportation to non-school events, but a ride is not guaranteed.

Residential students are not permitted under any circumstance to drive or own a motor vehicle of any kind while they are enrolled in Riverstone's residential program. This is to ensure student safety and liability. Students found to not be in compliance with this requirement face consequences up to and including suspension from school and/or dismissal from the residential program.

---



# Fundamental Rules for Communal Life

---

## Values & Guiding Principles

---

Riverstone's Guiding Principles, the International Baccalaureate Learner Profile and the school's Five Pillars represent our values. This framework should be exercised on campus, in the dorm, and on any school-sponsored activity:

*I will seek understanding.*

This means, among other interpretations, that each Riverstone student seeks to increase their knowledge and skills as well as seeking to understand each other, other cultures, other religions, and other value systems.

*I will respect myself and others.*

This means, among other interpretations, that each Riverstone student respects the privacy, humanity, opinions, property and abilities of every other student at the school.

*I will take action to help my community.*

This means, among other interpretations, that each Riverstone student will independently take action to help others. Examples could include providing comfort to a homesick student, encouraging another student on the athletic fields and courts, providing help in studying for an exam; unloading the dishwasher without being asked, shutting a door left ajar—anything that makes your community happier, cleaner and safer.

---

# Fire Prevention & Safety

---

Students may not possess or operate any electrical appliance that contains a heating element in their rooms.

- These include (but are not limited to) hot plates, rice cookers, heating coils, popcorn poppers, toasters, toaster ovens, espresso makers, coffee makers, toasters, toaster ovens, electric blankets, space heaters, sun lamps, irons, etc.
- Open flames are strictly prohibited. This includes candles, incense, camping stoves, barbeque grills, lighters, etc.
- Fireworks, explosives, explosive materials, and volatile liquids are strictly prohibited.
- Posters, wall hangings, and fabric may not be hung from the ceiling or across entryways or windows.
- Furniture and possessions must not obstruct, impede access to, or block access to corridors, doors, windows, or exits.
- Extension cords are not allowed. Only UL Listed and UL Recognized surge protector power strips may be used. Surge protector power strips should not be placed under carpeting or mats.
- Tampering with or blocking access to fire safety equipment is strictly prohibited and will result in disciplinary action. This includes discharging, tampering with or deliberately blocking access to fire extinguishers. It also includes tampering with or disabling smoke or carbon monoxide detectors.
- Smoking and e-cigarettes are not allowed in or on any building or area of Riverstone's campus or boarding facility. This includes during any time on a Riverstone sponsored activity, trip or outdoor program excursion. It is illegal for persons younger than 21 to purchase or use tobacco or e-cigarettes.
- Students are not allowed to cook, using the dorm's stove or oven, unless one of the boarding coordinators or assistants is on duty, present and is aware of the activity. Cooking is a privilege, access to the kitchen is at the discretion of Residential Staff.
- Fire doors leading to the stairways must remain closed at all times.



# Security Codes

---

Riverstone House has a state-of-the art security system. Each resident has a personal code to access the facility. **Under no circumstances should a resident give their code to any other person.** The front door should **never** be propped open and left unsupervised.

---

# Cleaning & Cleanliness

---

Communal living requires that each person in the dorm clean up after themselves and respect others' rights to use all of the facilities and equipment.

Riverstone ensures that the communal spaces at Riverstone House are completely cleaned every weekday by professional cleaners. Nonetheless, each student is responsible to ensure they keep their rooms clean and neat. Each student is also responsible to clean up any mess they make in the bathrooms/showers. Vacuums are available on each floor so that students can vacuum their rooms.

Boarding staff can and will regularly check rooms for safety and cleanliness. Students are expected to keep their rooms neat. Beds should be made daily. The main floor area should be clear. Shoes, clothing and personal equipment and gear should be stored. It is important that each person in a room keeps their belongings organized. Trash cans should be emptied as they fill up. **Students may not be granted leave if their room is not cleaned to the basic standard described above.**

---

# Room Searches

---

Our students' safety and health are Riverstone's first priority. The Director of Residential Life with the assistance of Residential Staff will direct and supervise any necessary room search – with or without a student's presence. Room searches will only be conducted if there is a reasonable suspicion of illegal activities, or wrongful behavior that may affect the safety or well-being of our students and staff. Room searches could be initiated for, among other things, suspicion of possession of alcohol, drugs, medicine, weapons, inappropriate food or appliances, or suspicion of theft.

# Internet sage & Gaming

---

Riverstone believes in free and open inquiry. Nonetheless, viewing or downloading pornography, pirated music, software, or video is strictly permitted. Participating in chat rooms, online forums, messaging services, or listservs that cater to religious/political extremism or hate for particular groups, as well as other sites not in line with the school's values or the laws of Idaho or the United States, is not permitted.

---

## Proper Social Media Conduct

---

Students must take care not to post disparaging, hurtful or harassing comments about other people or Riverstone on social media, texts or email. These behaviors are not in line with Riverstone's values and principles and may be construed as a misdemeanor "telephone harassment" charge under Idaho law (Section 18-6710). Posting pictures of other students or school employees without their permission is not permitted. Students may not list people's names on social media, blogs, or videos without permission. Social Media Misconduct may result in disciplinary actions including limiting or removing access to electronic devices, suspension or removal from the residential program and/or suspension or removal from school.

The Director of Residential Life reserves the option of limiting or removing gaming systems and other electronic devices during quiet hours and/or overnight if there is excessive gaming, complaints from roommates, and/or impacting academics or a student is developing an unhealthy sleep schedule.

---

## REACH - Boarding Management

---

Riverstone uses REACH, cloud-based software, to manage many routine boarding functions. Boarding staff and students use REACH to submit and approve leaves (request to leave the dorm), designate hosts for overnight stays, and communicate. When a student requests an overnight leave using REACH, the student's parents and host family will receive an email that asks them to approve the overnight stay.

# Signing In & Out of Riverstone House

---

All boarding students must sign in and out in person when leaving Riverstone House using REACH. They must have a charged telephone and respond if one of the boarding staff contacts them by voice, text, or messaging app. The dorm's messaging app is currently WhatsApp. Students must contact the dorm staff on duty when going somewhere after school and inform them where they are going, with whom, and when they will return to the dorm. On school days, students will check in, in person at or before 7:40. Upon return from school, students will check in, in person before proceeding to their rooms. If a student is not returning directly from school, they should contact the Director of Residential Life and provide details of where they will be and what time that they expect to return to Riverstone House.

---

## Leaving without permission

---

Students are required to check out and check in, in person whenever they come and go from the dorm. Leaving the dorm is permitted up to curfew at which time students are expected to be at and remain in the dorm. Students leaving the dorm after hours place themselves and others in serious jeopardy. As such said student risks suspension and/or dismissal from the residential program

---

## School Attendance

---

Attending classes daily is one of the most important factors of being a successful student in the IB programmes. Students should arrive on time with all the necessary supplies and be prepared to participate in class. Riverstone's rules regarding student attendance for Middle and High School are clearly outlined in the [Riverstone Attendance Policy](#).

- For absences: Students are expected to notify the Director of Residential Life before 7:00AM.
-

# Signing In & Out of School

## Campus

---

At lunch, during the school week students in grades 10, 11, and 12 may leave campus in a car, on foot, or on any other authorized means of transportation as long as they conduct themselves according to school policies, act in a safe manner, and are back on time for class. Students who are repeatedly tardy to class or who break the school's rules or Idaho's laws will have their off-campus lunchtime privileges suspended or revoked. Grade 9 may leave campus by foot, but not in cars, at any time.

Students may not leave school and return to Riverstone House without permission from the Director of Residential Life and the High School Director. Generally, Riverstone House is closed during the academic day to accommodate our cleaning crew and staffing.

---

## Curfew

---

is the assigned time that students must be back in Riverstone House. On Sunday through Thursday that time is 10:00 pm. On Friday and Saturday (and long weekends where applicable) curfew is at 11:00 pm. On Friday and Saturday, seniors may request an extension up to 12:00 am. Requests must be made by phone call or in person, these requests must include student location and approximate return time. Senior Extensions are a privilege afforded to seniors who are in good academic and social standing. The senior extension program begins on the second weekend of September. Extensions will not be granted prior to departures for breaks.

---

## Visitors to Riverstone House

---

Boarding students may have non-boarding guests over during the daytime/evening hours on the weekend or weekdays. All guests must be approved and signed in by Residential staff. Without express permission from the residential team, guests are not allowed on the third or fourth floors.

---

# Overnight Guests

---

On weekends, students may request to have a guest spend the night at Riverstone House. Guests must be current students of Riverstone International School and complete an overnight guest form which will include the guests parent or guardian's signature. Guests are expected to follow all Riverstone House policies, procedures and rules. Overnight guest permission is at the discretion of the Director of Residential Life.

---

## Bicycles

---

Boarding students are encouraged to have a bicycle. Boise is a bicycle friendly city. The Greenbelt, a city-wide greenspace with a system of paved bicycle paths, follows the Boise River and is just a short way from Riverstone House. The Greenbelt extends all the way to Riverstone's campus. Students must wear a helmet designed for bicycle riding and, if operating the bicycle after dark, equip their bike with a headlight and reflectors. Riders are encouraged to wear a high visibility reflective belt or vest if operating their bicycle in low-light situations. Riverstone is not responsible for storing or securing bicycles. There is, however, a bicycle rack at the dormitory. E-bikes are considered a motor vehicle and as such are not permitted.

---

## Pets

---

Students are not allowed to have pets in the residential facility, this includes fish, reptiles, amphibians, etc.

---

## Weapons

---

Knives, firearms and other weapons are strictly forbidden in the dorm, on campus, or on school activities or trips. Equipment for combat sports such as kendo and fencing are permitted. Equipment for shooting sports such as trap and skeet, biathlon, archery, etc. are not permitted as the school does not have any areas suitable for proper security of these potentially deadly weapons.

---



# Evening Quiet Hours for Studying (Study Hall)

---

Academic Excellence is one of Riverstone's Five Pillars. Every evening, Monday through Thursday, there will be at least one hour of study hall for all students from 7:30pm - 8:30pm. Students in Grade 12 may study downstairs or in their rooms as long as their grades are satisfactory. Students in Grades 9-11 will study downstairs in the common area on the second floor. Riverstone House often welcomes teachers to lead study sessions and reinforce lessons taught during regular classes. Unless there is an approved school event or outing or extraordinary circumstances, study hall is mandatory. Students may request to fulfill their study hall obligations at another time during the day. This is at the discretion of the Director of Residential Life.

---

## Riverstone's Disciplinary Guidelines

---

Our disciplinary guideline begins with giving the dorm student an opportunity to correct his/her/their behavior, restore relationships, and rebuild trust. All students involved in discussions of restoration and consequence. The Director of Residential Life and The Director of the High School and Middle School work closely to ensure that students:

- have an opportunity to be heard
- understand the greater impact of their actions
- learn to take responsibility
- repair the harm their actions may have caused
- recognize their role in maintaining a safe school environment
- build upon and expand on personal relationships in the school community
- recognize their role as a positive contributing member of the school community.

# Riverstone's Disciplinary Guidelines Cont.

---

In the case of continued lack of personal responsibility by a student, the following steps may be taken:

**Step 1:** The Residential staff will discuss the behavior with the student and provide clear expectations in order to remedy the situation.

**Consequences may include:**

INCIDENT	FIRST VIOLATION	SECOND + VIOLATION
Exceeding curfew	Written warning	Weekend restriction
Defiance	Written warning	Weekend restriction
Boy/girl room mixing	Written warning/Parent notification/Curfew restriction	Meet with school administration.
Property Damage (willful or negligent)	Written reprimand, pay repair or replacement costs	Depends on situation
Riding bike without helmet	Loss of bike riding privileges	-
Use of matches, candles, incense, or other fire hazards	Written reprimand, room inspection	Depends on the seriousness of the situation and danger to others.
Poor communication/Sign In and Out Procedures	Written reprimand.	Curfew restriction
Miss the Bus in the Morning to School	6 PM curfew for one night	6 PM curfew for three nights
Does not clean up individual kitchen mess	Reminder to clean up	Loss of kitchen privileges
Room is not clean and neat	Reminder to clean up	Curfew restriction

# Riverstone's Disciplinary Guidelines Cont.

---

**Step 2:** If the student's behavior does not improve, the Director of Residential Life will contact the parent via email or phone call. The Director will discuss the issue with the parent and provide clear expectations in order to remedy the situation. A recommendation for success (see below) may be issued or immediate consequence such as garbage duty or leave probation may occur.

**Step 3:** If the student's negative behavior continues, a Student Contract is issued. Additionally, the High School Director, Director of Residential Life, student, and (if possible) parent will conference to review student expectations. An update will be sent to the parent.

**Step 4:** If the student breaks the contract or the behavior doesn't improve, the High School Director will contact the parent, advisor, teacher, boarding staff, Head of School and the student for a conference that may result in further disciplinary action up to and including disenrollment.

---

## Recommendation for Success

---

This is a warning letter addressed to the student after it is clear verbal warnings are not being taken seriously. It is a breakdown of the behaviors the dorm staff expects to improve over the course of a period of time and the consequences if a student does not improve his/her/their performance. For example, a student may be given a week to turn his/her/their cursing habit around. If the student does not improve, consequences will follow.

Residential students are expected to adhere to the code of conduct as outlined in the RIS boarding handbook. Minor misbehavior will be handled by the Residential Team, while more serious infractions may involve the administration, as well as student parents/guardians when appropriate.

# Misbehavior

---

Actions that fall outside of the RIS code of conduct may be deemed as misbehavior, these behaviors include but are not limited to the following.

- Excessive noise/disruptive actions after bed checks
- Missing or disrupting study hall
- Tardiness for school or curfew
- Missing school without using Managebac and/or informing residential team members
- Cooking after hours
- Unexcused absence from all dorm meetings or activities
- Leaving dorm without using REACH and physically checking out
- Failure to check in upon return to the dorm
- Not cleaning up after yourself (common areas, kitchen, laundry area, bathrooms etc.)
- Disrespect towards fellow community members (staff or housemates)

---

## Consequences

---

They are the result of actions outside the bounds of community life. If a student has made repeated infractions, ignored the advice of the The Residential Team or a recommendation of success, or made a serious infraction, Dorm Staff may take action to remedy the misbehavior. Community life is based on the premise that everyone's actions have an impact on the greater community. Consequences are not a punishment, but rather they are actions to restore the balance and harmony of the community. The voice of all involved is valued and consequences will not be issued without the opportunity for all involved to be heard.

**Possible consequences include:**

# Consequences Cont.

---

- Emptying dishwasher, Taking out the garbage.
  - If it is a more serious single offense, they will receive Saturday and Sunday dish and garbage duty which would start at 7am.
- If the student has taken advantage of Dorm provided transport or failed to inform Staff of their whereabouts, they could lose the privilege of Dorm transport
  - Residents would still be picked up from the school and taken to any medical appointments, but they would not be given any rides to social or recreational events that were not school related for a mutually agreed upon period of time.
- Curfew may be temporarily restricted depending on student behavior
- Loss of kitchen use privileges
- If a student's misbehavior is recurring, a student contract may be introduced into the equation.

---

## Student Contracts

---

While a recommendation of success is more informal, a Student Contract is formal and mandatory. The Director of Residential Life, in conjunction with the residential team will work with The High School Director and School Counseling Team will establish the parameters of the students consequences. The contracts will depend on the specific situation and the input of the above parties, but they may restrict the usage of electronics and curfew. The contract will not be lifted until the behavior has been corrected, and those who designed the contract have agreed that the student has met the prerequisite conditions.

If the misbehavior exceeds anything listed here may be grounds for additional, stronger consequences. Likewise, if a residential student misbehaves at school to the point where the administration feels greater consequences must be issued than those outlined above, they will work with the Director of Residential Life to outline the parameters of those consequences at school and at the dorm.



# Academic Integrity

---

Riverstone and the International Baccalaureate encourage and support each student in presenting their own, original work. Neither organization will tolerate deliberate acts of academic misconduct.

*[The following is excerpted from the IBO's document, Academic Integrity in the Diploma Programme. Retrieved on 28 February 2017 from [ibo.org](http://ibo.org)]*

*"Academic misconduct is a behavior that results in, or may result in, the student or any other student gaining an unfair advantage (or a behavior that disadvantages other students).*

*Categories of 'academic misconduct' in the IB:*

- Plagiarism is defined as the representation, intentionally or unwittingly, of the ideas, words or work of another person without proper, clear and explicit acknowledgment. The use of translated materials, unless indicated and acknowledged, is also considered plagiarism.*
- Collusion is defined as supporting academic misconduct by another student, for example allowing one's work to be copied or submitted for assessment by another.*
- Misconduct during an IB examination or in any academic setting includes:*
  - taking unauthorized material into an examination room,*
  - disruptive behavior and communicating with others during the examination.*
  - communication about the content of an examination 24 hours before or after the examination with others outside their school community is also considered a breach to IB regulations.*
  - duplication of work is defined as the presentation of the same work for different classes or assessments."*

Please refer to Riverstone's [Academic Integrity Policy](#) for all practices related to academic misconduct for the Middle and High School.

---



# Alcohol, Tobacco, E-cigarettes (Vaping), & Illegal Drugs

---

Use of alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco products and e-cigarettes by enrolled students are prohibited in Riverstone House, on campus and at any school sponsored event on or off campus. Serious disciplinary action up to and including expulsion may be imposed on students who possess, use or distribute alcohol, unauthorized prescription drugs or illegal drugs. Distribution of drugs and/or alcohol will be reported to the Boise Police Department for investigation.

Tobacco, in all forms, and vaping are prohibited by all students regardless of age at the dorm, on campus or at school sponsored events. Use of tobacco or e-cigarettes by students under 21 is illegal under Idaho and U.S. laws. In 2019 the United States raised the age at which a person can buy tobacco or e-cigarettes from 18 to 21.

It is illegal to purchase or consume alcohol by persons under the age of 21 in Idaho and the United States.

Testing for use of illegal substances may be administered when there is suspicion of use. Testing will be in the presence of two staff members and be done completely in private. Refusal to cooperate in testing constitutes an admission of guilt.

---



# Sexual Intimacy

---

We acknowledge that adolescence is a time when many begin to explore their sexuality. However, sexually intimate behavior is not appropriate or acceptable for students in Riverstone's boarding facility, at school, or on school sponsored activities or trips. Riverstone has the right to take disciplinary action if this policy is violated.

We also ask that our residents are mindful of the discussion of sex and gender as we are an international community comprised of varying ages and social mores.

---

# Sexual Violence

---

Any cases of sexual assault or abuse should be reported to the Director of Residential Life and/or the Assistant Director as soon as possible. Sexual assault will not be tolerated within the Riverstone International School Community. All reports will be investigated thoroughly and discretely.

---



# Boarding Staff, Schedule & Closures

---

## Boarding Staff

---

Riverstone has four full-time boarding staff. Their duties are to see that Riverstone House is running smoothly and take care of the students who live there. The Director of Residence Life, the Assistant Director of Residence Life, and two dorm parents live at Riverstone House and are members of the community.

---

## Daily Schedule

---

Weekly Schedule, Monday - Thursday	
Breakfast (Kitchen is open)	6:30am - 7:30am
Student Check-In. In Person. Appropriate REACH is made	7:35am
Bus Arrives	7:40 am. departure at 7:45 am
Dorm closed	7:45am - 3:45pm
Bus Returns	4:05pm (3:05 pm on Wednesdays)
Kitchen Closed	5:45-6:30
Dinner	6:00pm
Dinner Clean up	7:00pm
Study Hall	7:30pm - 8:30pm
Kitchen closes	9:00pm
Curfew / quiet hours	10:00pm
Bed Checks	10:30pm

# Daily Schedule

---

Fridays	
Breakfast (kitchen is open)	6:30am - 7:30am
Student Check-in	7:35am
Bus Arrives	7:40am Departs at 7:45am
Bus Returns	4:05pm
Kitchen Closed	5:45-6:30
Dinner	6:00pm
Dinner Clean up	7:00pm
Kitchen Closes	9:00pm
Curfew	11:00pm
Bed Checks	11:30pm

Saturdays	
Brunch	10:00am - 12:00pm
Shopping or Activity	Around 3:30pm or as requested
Dinner	6:00pm
Dinner Clean up	7:30pm
Kitchen Closes	9:00pm
Curfew	11:00pm
Bed Checks	11:30pm



# Daily Schedule

---

Sundays	
Brunch	10:00am-12:00noon
Shopping or Activity	3:30 or as requested
Kitchen Closed	5:45 pm-6:30 pm
Dinner	6:00pm
Dinner Clean up	7:00pm
Kitchen Closes	9:00pm
Curfew	10:00pm
Bed Checks	10:30pm

---

## After Graduation - Move Out

---

Senior students are expected to move out of the dorm no later than 2 days after graduation unless permission is granted by the Director of Residential Life and the Head of School.

---

# Dorm Closures During Winter & Spring Break

---

Riverstone House will be closed and inaccessible by residents during the duration of winter and spring breaks. Similarly, Riverstone staff will be unavailable to fulfill any academic, social or custodial duties during these times. (Please reference the school's official publicized calendar for exact dates.)

All boarding students, and their parents/legal guardians, hereby acknowledge their full understanding of these circumstances, and confirm that they will independently supply and/or arrange for any required alternative accommodations/custody/care throughout the entirety of these periods. Boarding students, and their parents/legal guardians, additionally attest their understanding that it shall be their sole responsibility to do so.

I-20 forms must be signed by an authorized school official before leaving the United States. I-20 forms must be presented upon return to the United States. Failure to produce I-20 forms upon arrival will result in denied entry. School officials who are authorized to sign by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security are Rachel Push, Mike Schiesel, John Gasparini and Stacey Walker.

---

## Weekend & Overnight Leave Procedures

---

Students who are leaving the dorm for non-school related travel, including weekend or holiday "sleepovers," must have permission from both their parents and the hosting family approved by Thursday afternoon. The dorm staff must have the complete itinerary for the student's travel, in addition to written permission from parents and hosting families before travel is arranged. Riverstone reserves the right to deny an overnight or weekend leave.

# Home-stays During Holiday Breaks

---

Students are generally expected to travel home or stay with relatives over the Winter and Spring Breaks; however, homestays may be arranged for pre-approved and emergency purposes only. All homestays must be approved by the Director of Residence Life and the Head of School no less than two weeks prior to either Winter or Spring Breaks.

---

## Residential Program

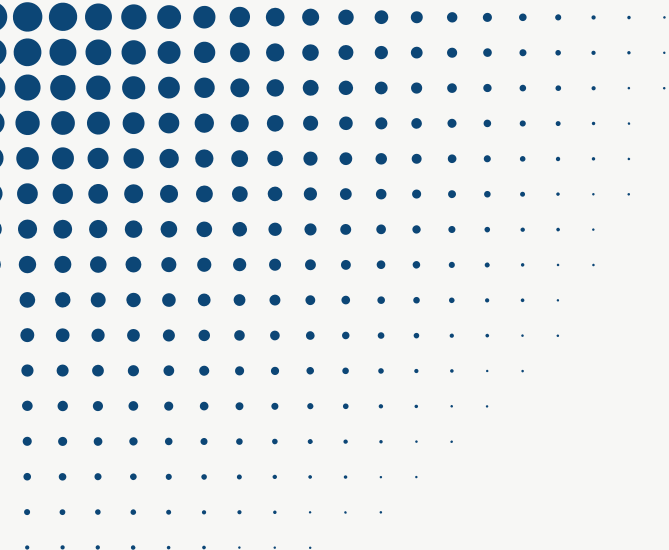
---

Riverstone International School offers a world class residential program for students in grades 8-12. Housed in our residence hall, Riverstone House, the program is home to students from all over the globe as well the United States. Riverstone House is in the heart of Downtown Boise, noted as one of the safest and most vibrant cities in the United State.

International residential students at Riverstone International School reside exclusively in our residence hall. Riverstone International School does not utilize host families and as a general rule cannot sponsor visas for international students unless they are enrolled as a residential student residing in our dormitory. Rare exceptions are granted if a student is residing with an immediate family member (eg. parent, grandparent or biological relative over the age of 25).

---





# Residential Handbook Acknowledgment

No guide can address every circumstance or eventuality. Handbooks like this one are always works in progress. Community members are expected to cooperate in good faith to meet the spirit of these guidelines. Questions regarding this document should be directed to the Director of Residential Life. Riverstone believes that clear expectations and accountability are integral elements to personal responsibility and the well-being of our community. Riverstone International School reserves the right to update or change this Handbook during the school year. Parents and students will be notified of changes.

We ask that all students and their legal guardians/parents sign below to confirm this handbook has been carefully reviewed and understood.

---

Incoming Student Signature

---

Date

---

Incoming Student Print Name

---

Parent/Guardian Signature

---

Date

---

Parent/Guardian Print Name

---

Parent/Guardian Signature

---

Date

---

Parent/Guardian Print Name