



**THE VILLAGE SCHOOL**  
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL



# **BOARDING WELCOME PACKET**

**2025-26**

# WELCOME FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Residential Life Family,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to our exceptional community of learners. Our determination to encourage our students to be ambitious is the pledge of The Village School. Our coursework provides real-world and thought-provoking opportunities for raising student achievement. We foster our students' desire to achieve their highest goals and to empower them with the intellectual resources to achieve them. We want students to take a question that's really compelling in the world or in their lives and have many tools with which to help them answer it.

The essence of Village is found in the character of our community and the interactions between teachers and students. We guide our students to be ambitious, to think critically, and to collaborate genuinely. We lead them to distinguish right from wrong and to choose to do what is right even when no one is watching, so they can develop into responsible and courageous citizens. The Village School is committed to developing in our students good moral values that promote their academic ability, scholarship, strong work ethic, character, and service to others.

Students need to find success to build the confidence and skills to take risks and meet increasingly difficult challenges. However, it is also important for students to learn from their failures, to persevere when things are hard, and to learn to turn challenges into opportunities. The challenges students encounter at The Village School and the support and feedback they receive inspire their development as scholars and as leaders of their local and global communities. We must ask our students what they believe in so they can know themselves in the world. We must develop in our students an entrepreneurial spirit, so they are passionate and enterprising in developing their intellectual abilities as they become increasingly more responsible for directing their learning and growth.

Our boarding program provides a unique experience for students. With multiple nationalities represented in our community, both boarding and day, our students have the opportunity to learn from other cultures. In our commitment to diversity, we demonstrate to our students how to be colleagues and friends, so they act with respect and inclusiveness. The Village School believes we should engage the larger communities of the city, nation, and world of which we are a member. Diversity and inclusion increase the richness of ideas, creative power, problem-solving ability, and understanding of others. At The Village School, students investigate their different histories and talents as well as those of other communities and cultures. Our students and faculty value the differences they bring to the community we share.

The Village School is an energetic place and I am excited for you to experience it firsthand. I look forward to seeing you on campus soon and I welcome you to the Viking Nation!

Educationally Yours,



**BILL DELBRUGGE**  
Head of School  
The Village School



# 2025-26 Important Dates for Residential Life Students

Date	Activity	Time
<b>2025</b>		
Saturday 2 August	New student/Student Leader/athlete arrival	All day
Sunday 3 August	New student/Student Leader/athlete arrival	All day
Monday 4 August	Residential Life Student Leadership retreat	TBA
Monday 4 August	New student/athletes arrival	All day
Tuesday 5 August	New student orientation/activities	All day
Tuesday 5 August	New family orientation	9:00 a.m.
Wednesday 6 August	New student orientation/activities	All day
Thursday 7 August	New student orientation/activities	All day
Friday 8 August	New student orientation/activities	All day
Friday 8 August	Returning student arrivals	All day
Saturday 9 August	Returning student arrivals	All day
Sunday 10 August	Returning student arrivals	All day
Monday 11 August	First official day of classes	8:00 a.m.
15 October - 17 October	Intersession Break	
Saturday 22 November	First day of Thanksgiving break	
Sunday 30 November	Last day of Thanksgiving break	
Friday 19 December	Last day of Fall semester	School closes at 12:00 p.m.
Saturday 20 December	Dorm closes for Winter break	Dorm closes at 5:00 p.m.
<b>2026</b>		
Saturday 3 January	Dorm re-opens	Dorm opens at 8:00 a.m.
Saturday 3 January	Returning student arrivals	All day
Sunday 4 January	Returning student arrivals	All day
Monday 5 January	Returning student arrivals	All day
Monday 5 January	New Student/Family Orientation	AllDay
Tuesday 6 January	First day of Spring Semester classes	8:00 a.m.
Saturday 14 March	First day of Spring break	
Sunday 22 March	Last day of Spring break	
3 April-6 April	Wellness Day Holiday	
Thursday 21 May	Graduation	TBA
Friday 22 May	Last day of school	School closes at 12:00 p.m.
Saturday 23 May	Dorm closes for Summer break	Dorm closes at 7:00 p.m.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



## General

### Where will I be living?

The dorm building is on campus. The address is:  
13051 Whittington Drive, Building F, Houston, TX 77077

### Where will I eat my meals?

- During the school week, all meals are served in the cafeteria on campus at the assigned meal times.
- On the weekend, meals on campus are optional.
- Students may choose to purchase additional food and beverage items for sale at the cafeteria or campus store and charge the cost to their student accounts. The account balance will be billed to the family on a monthly basis.

### How will I clean my clothing?

Washing machines and dryers are available in the dorms for occasional use. However, a laundry service is available to students, five days a week for clothing and once every two weeks for bed linens.

### How will I stay healthy?

Our menu is created by a team of dedicated chefs who can meet any special dietary needs due to allergies or religious beliefs upon request. We allow students to purchase food from outside vendors, but this is limited to weekends and only one day during the week.

- Students can stay fit by joining a school athletic team, participating in after-school sporting activities, open gym time on campus, or signing up for a local gym at their own expense.
- There are three qualified full-time nurses on staff. They ensure that students receive a physical evaluation once a year, arrange doctor visits if needed, and help students who have daily medication needs or are not feeling well.

### Will I have roommates?

All students have roommates. There are two students in each bedroom. Each suite includes four bedrooms, two bathrooms, and a study space.

### How are roommates assigned?

Roommates are assigned based on gender, nationality, age, language ability, and seniority. Our goal is to provide as much of a culturally diverse living environment as possible. If you have special rooming requests, please email [YGL@thevillageschool.com](mailto:YGL@thevillageschool.com).

### May I leave campus on the weekend?

Students may leave campus under the direct supervision of family members or friends with the permission of their parents and/or agent. Special documentation and completed weekend leave forms may be required prior to departure. Students may be allowed to use ride-sharing services if permission is granted by their parents and if they are over the age of 18. More information about student check-out policies will be provided during orientation.

### What do we do during school holidays?

The Village School offers chaperoned trips for boarding students during Thanksgiving and Spring Break. Additional information regarding the trips will be sent to families at a later date. During winter break, students must vacate the dorms to go home or visit an approved friend or family member.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



## Is there anyone I can talk to if I am having personal problems?

Students can speak to their assigned Year Group Leader or any of the Residential Life or school staff members who are always willing to take time to help our students. For more serious issues, students may visit the school's guidance counselors.

## ACADEMICS

### When will I choose my classes?

It is important that all new students attend orientation to take the scheduled academic placement exams in Math and English if English is not their first language. If English is at a native level, students should take a placement test in Spanish or French. Based on the results, students will be placed in classes that are suitable for the student's ability. College counselors help students make a plan of courses for their time remaining at Village and help build their schedule of classes.

### When will I get my textbooks?

Textbooks will be provided to students as soon as possible from the start of the school year. However, in some non-core classes, the student will not receive their textbook until after the add-drop period has ended, since every year many students make changes to their schedule.

### Who will help me with college/university questions?

We have a highly experienced team of college counselors who help guide students in their pathway to college. Students may request meetings with their assigned counselor during the school day. The college counseling team also hosts advisory sessions with groups of students at various points during the school year, suggests college fairs for students to visit and hosts many college representatives on campus.

## What support exists if I am struggling in class?

The Village School offers support for learners with English as an acquired language (EAL). Extra help is available with teachers before and after school during open tutorial times. Our Residential Academic Advisor works closely with the Year Group Leaders to track student progress and assigns study tiers based on weekly grades. The study tiers determine how much supervision a student receives during study time in the evenings, and also determine if a student is required to go to additional support sessions after school. Optional SAT/ACT prep classes and private tutoring are offered for an additional fee. Extra ELL classes may be mandatory if the student is not making sufficient progress. The cost of these classes will be charged to the family.

## HEALTH

### How will I know if I have all the necessary immunizations to attend school?

The school medical staff will review all submitted immunization records before the student's arrival, and students will receive a physical/medical exam during orientation. Families will be informed by email if students need any additional immunizations required by the State of Texas in order to attend school. Upon receiving parent consent, the school will take students to a local physician to get any required vaccines, and the cost of these services is the sole responsibility of the family. We highly recommend that all immunizations be administered in the student's home country prior to arrival. Please refer to the packet of pre-arrival forms for the complete list.

### Is the health insurance policy, included in the tuition, a full coverage policy?

The travel health insurance plan included in the tuition is NOT a full coverage policy. Please refer to the "Student Health Insurance" page (page 7) of this packet for a more detailed explanation of the policy. However, the insurance does cover most physical illnesses unless they are pre-existing.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## WHAT TO BRING

### What should I bring with me?

- Appropriate clothing for after-school and weekend activities. Clothing should be in good condition with no profanity, political slogans, drug or alcohol references, or inappropriate images.
- Formal closed-toed dress shoes in black or brown for school formal dress days (for example oxfords, loafers, ballet flats).
- Closed-toe shoes (no heel) or tennis shoes (any color) for normal school uniform days
- Jacket for fall and winter seasons
- Students should bring their own laptop computer and cell phone (compatible with US SIM card)
- Umbrella (can purchase here)
- Personal hygiene items (soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc.)
- Storage in each room is limited, so please pack accordingly. We recommend students bring no more than 1 large and 1 small suitcase.
- A working US Credit Card: Student must bring a Credit or Debit Card for ancillary Medical and Emergency Expenses (\*If student expenses are paid by school credit card, the expense will be charged to the student's school account, with a 15% processing charge added.)

### What should I not bring?

Do not bring items that are offensive, prohibited, or illegal including cigarettes, lighters, drugs or drug paraphernalia, weapons, knives, or alcohol. Students who bring items deemed to be illegal or dangerous into the dorms or onto the school campus will face disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

Do not bring any medicine unless it is prescription medication accompanied by the Authorization for Administration of Prescription Medication Form completed in English by a physician. Any prescription medication must be declared to the residential staff upon check-in. The school nurse will determine if the medication is approved for use in the US or may require a doctor's visit for confirmation. If approved, all medicine must be administered by the school nurse or residential staff members. Students are not permitted to keep any type of medication in their rooms or on their person. Dietary supplements may be allowed, but parents must have completed the dietary supplement waiver form.

### What should I buy once on campus?

Once students arrive on campus, there will be trips to local stores to buy essentials such as toiletries, clothes hamper, hangers, etc. Residential staff members can help recommend the items students might need. Weekly trips are offered to the stores throughout the school year to purchase additional supplies.

### What will be provided for me?

The following items will be provided for you upon your arrival:

- School uniform: includes 4 polo shirts, 4 bottoms, and a choice between a fleece and a 1/4 sweatshirt.
- Bed linens: fitted sheet, top sheet, blanket, pillow, and pillowcase provided.
- Wash cloth and bath towel provided.
- Bedroom furniture: bed, clothing storage, hotel-style safe, desk and chair provided.
- SIM card with a US phone number to use in their existing phone provided.
- Laundry bag provided.
- Food storage containers provided.

### Can I bring my own mobile phone and computer?

Students will be provided a school-issued SIM card. However, students should purchase their own personal phone and data plan. Personal phone plans are not paid by The Village School and remain the financial responsibility of the student and their family.

All mobile phones must have a US phone number so that residential staff members can easily reach students. If students choose to use a personal phone with an international phone number, they must also carry their phone with the Village School SIM card at all times.

Students should also purchase (or bring) their laptop computer to school.

Desktop computers are not permitted in the residence. Students may bring their own laptop computer; however, The Village School is not responsible for any loss, damage, technical issues, viruses, or any other issues related to personal electronic items. Large gaming consoles are **NOT PERMITTED**. If brought, students may be required to keep them in a separate room, only accessible at specified times.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Should I bring money?

Spending money is recommended, but only in small amounts. For safety and security, students should not keep large amounts of cash on hand. A limit of \$200 cash is recommended to prevent the temptation of theft. A small hotel-style safe is provided in each student's wardrobe to store valuable items. The Village School will not be responsible for money missing from student rooms. During orientation, new students will open a US bank account to safely store their money. Students should keep cash on their person, in their bank, or in their room safe (for large amounts). International Students below the age of 16, have a more difficult time opening a bank account. Our Residential life team will assist families with this process as much as possible.

## Are there any additional fees?

There will be additional fees for various events and activities during the school year. Any activities that are organized outside of Residential Life carry additional costs. They include but are not limited to:

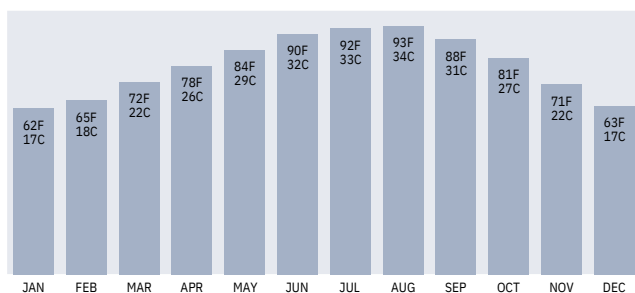
- Tutoring services
- Private music (instrument) lessons
- Sports/team fees
- Prescription drug charges (these are sometimes not covered by health insurance)
- Doctor/dentist visits (typically these are paid up-front, then an insurance claim is made after the visit)...Student must bring a Credit or Debit Card for ancillary Medical and Emergency Expenses (\*If student expenses are paid by school credit card, the expense will be charged to the student's school account, with a 15% processing charge added.)
- Specialty Program fees (Including IB, entrepreneurship, and Pre-Medical Science.
- Calculator (TI84) (school-recommended version)
- Additional school day trips/club trips/enrichment activities
- MUN trips/overseas language enrichment trips/academic competition trips
- CT/SAT prep classes
- Airport transfers (outside of specified times)
- Graduation fees

## LIVING IN HOUSTON

### What is the weather like?

The weather in eastern Texas is pleasant and sunny the majority of the year. While the weather is generally warm, there are several weeks of cooler weather and students should bring a jacket and warmer clothes for those cooler days.

Average High Temperatures by Month



## What are some local attractions?

- Downtown Aquarium
- Houston Zoo
- NASA Space center
- Galleria
- World class shopping
- Beaches and state parks
- Professional sporting events

## Where should my parents stay when they come to visit me?

The Houston area has many wonderful hotels. We recommend the following hotels close to our school:

- Omni Houston Hotel Westside: 13210 Katy Fwy, Houston, TX, 77079 - Phone: +1 281 558 8338
- Holiday Inn Houston West Energy Corridor: 1112 Eldridge Pkwy, Houston, TX 77077 - Phone: +1 281 679 6900
- Staybridge Suites Houston West: 1225 Eldridge Enclave Parkway, Houston, TX 77077 - Phone: +1 281 759 7829

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact the Residential Life Administration Team at [YGL@thevillageschool.com](mailto:YGL@thevillageschool.com).

# STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE

Each non-US citizen student receives health insurance as part of the mandatory fees to help cover the costs of many types of illnesses and injuries that may happen during the academic year. US citizens are not eligible for coverage and will need to provide proof of health insurance. Please see below for coverage details and eligibility.

## Coverage:

Student health insurance is provided by GeoBlue Worldwide Health Insurance as a student travel policy. This is not a full coverage policy. The provided health insurance plan covers the usual, reasonable, and customary (URC) charges for eligible expenses in the area where you receive treatment. Students will be charged a deductible per illness or injury, and this fee must be paid by the student at the time of service. Additional charges beyond the URC charges will also be the student's responsibility. This may include the cost of medications.

## Eligibility

- Non-US Citizens: The student health insurance fee covers non-US citizens on a student health insurance travel policy.
- Dual Citizens: If a student has dual US citizenship and their primary residence is outside of the USA, the student is eligible for coverage under this health insurance policy.
- US Citizens: If the student is solely a US citizen, they are not eligible for coverage under this health insurance policy, even if their permanent residence is outside the USA. Students with US citizenship will need to provide proof of health insurance coverage in compliance with the Affordable Care Act and will be refunded the Nord Anglia Education student health insurance fee.

All applicable health insurance information will be distributed to families at the beginning of the school year. Please contact [YGL@thevillageschool.com](mailto:YGL@thevillageschool.com) for information regarding fees.





# CONTACT INFORMATION



We look forward to your child joining The Village School Residential Life program for the 2025-2026 academic year. If you have any questions before your arrival, please contact:

**C.Randy Noll**

Director of Residential Life

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**Residential Life Team**

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Yahaira Vargas

**RL Co-ordinator/Travel Co-ordinator**

Email:

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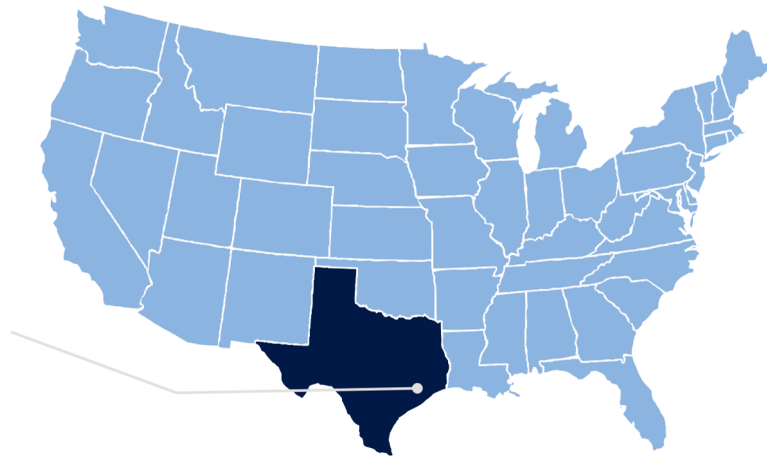
Phone:

+1 281 496 7900 ext. 3421

# MAP

## THE VILLAGE SCHOOL

13051 Whittington Drive  
Houston, Texas  
77077  
USA



Distance from George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH): 56km (approximately 50 minute drive)



Take a virtual tour at <https://www.nordangliaeducation.com/village-houston/campus>.