



Residential Handbook 2023-2024

Welcome to Riverstone House!



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 2023-24. 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!

Mike Schiesel
Director of Residential Life

Table of Contents

ABOUT RIVERSTONE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Our Mission.....	6
Riverstone’s Guiding Principles and Values.....	6
Our Five Pillars.....	7
Academic Excellence.....	7
Community and Service.....	7
Leadership by Example.....	7
International Understanding.....	7
Outdoor (Experiential) Education.....	8
Riverstone’s Non-Discrimination Statement.....	8
Riverstone’s Diversity Statement.....	8
School Mascot.....	8

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Important Dates to Remember.....	9
School hours and addresses.....	9
Temporary Guardianship.....	10
School Counseling.....	10
Administrative Contacts.....	11



Contacting Faculty (Teachers).....	11
Emergency Contacts.....	12

RIVERSTONE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL PROGRAMS

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Grades 9 and 10 - Middle Years Programme (MYP).....	13
Grades 11 and 12 - Diploma Programme.....	14
First Language Resources.....	14

COLLEGE COUNSELING PROGRAM

College Counseling Philosophy.....	15
Special Considerations for International Applicants.....	15
Registering for the PSAT, SAT and ACT.....	16
Counseling Team and Contact Information.....	16

OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAM

Outdoor Experiences by Grade.....	17
Outdoor Leadership Program.....	17
Equipment Needed for the Outdoor Education Program.....	13

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Riverstone Athletics Program.....	18
Advisory Program.....	18
Clubs & Activities.....	18

PRACTICALITIES

Arrival.....	19
Packing and Preparing.....	19
Rooms and Roommates.....	23
Speaking English.....	23
Quiet Hours.....	24
Bedtime Preparation and Lights Out.....	24
Damage to Building, Equipment or Furniture.....	24
Summer Storage.....	24
COVID-19.....	24



LIFE AT THE DORM

Transportation..... 25

Meals..... 25

Laundry..... 26

Shopping..... 26

Money and Banking..... 27

Medical and Dental Care..... 27

Prescription and Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medicines..... 28

Pre-existing Medical, Dental and Psychiatric Conditions..... 28

Medical Leave..... 28

Requirements for Medical Leave..... 29

FUNDAMENTAL RULES FOR COMMUNAL LIFE AT RIVERSTONE HOUSE

Values and Guiding Principles..... 30

Fire Prevention and Safety.....30

Security Codes..... 31

Cleaning and Cleanliness..... 31

Room Searches..... 32

Internet Usage..... 32

REACH - Boarding Management..... 32

Signing In and Out of Riverstone House..... 32

Signing In and Out of School Campus..... 33

Visitors to Riverstone House.....33

Bicycles.....33

Weapons..... 33

Evening Quiet Hours for Studying (Study Hall)..... 33

Riverstone’s Disciplinary Guidelines.....34

Academic Honesty..... 35

Alcohol, Tobacco, E-cigarettes (vaping), and Illegal Drugs..... 36

Sexual Intimacy.....36

Sexual Violence..... 36

BOARDING STAFF, SCHEDULES AND CLOSURES

Boarding Staff..... 37

Daily Schedule (Monday-Friday)..... 37



Weekend Schedule (Friday night, Saturday, Sunday, Holidays).....	37
Dorm Closures.....	39
After Graduation – Move Out.....	39
Weekend and Holiday Leave Procedures.....	40
Homestays During Holiday Breaks.....	40
HANDBOOK AGREEMENT.....	41

About Riverstone International School

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 stretch, grow and explore as they discover what a purposeful and rewarding life might look like. We ask that 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.

Riverstone’s Guiding Principles and Values. 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—which encapsulate our values—in which students strive to be:

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

Our Five Pillars. At Riverstone, the Five Pillars provide the framework for everything we do.

- Academic Excellence
- Community and Service
- Leadership by Example
- International Understanding
- Outdoor Education

Our school's pillars are pathways and arenas for our students to try new things and to develop a greater understanding of who they are, developing a stronger sense of purpose in their lives.

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.



Community and Service. Riverstone International School is a diverse community of parents, students, 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.

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.

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.

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.



School Mascot. The school’s mascot is Ollie the River Otter. River otters, mink, and beaver live in Idaho’s rivers near the school.

General Administrative Information

Important Dates to Remember for the 2023-24 school year

Saturday, August 12	Riverstone House Opens for the 2023-24 academic year; all new and returning boarding students are expected to move in no later than 2:00 pm.
Wednesday, August 16	First Day of School.
Thursday, December 21	Last day of school for Fall Semester. Students may depart after the academic day is completed.
Saturday, December 23	Winter Break Begins; Riverstone House closes at 12:00PM.
Saturday, January 6	Winter Break Ends; Riverstone House opens at 2:00 PM.
Saturday, March 15	Spring Break Begins; Riverstone House closes at 12:00PM.
Saturday, March 30	Spring Break Ends; Riverstone House opens at 2:00PM.
Thursday, May 23	Commencement (Graduation) - Seniors are finished with school.
Wednesday, May 29	Last Day of School for Grades 9, 10 and 11.
Saturday, June 1	Riverstone House closes at 12:00 PM for Summer Break.



School Hours and Addresses. Riverstone International School’s campus is open from 8:00 AM to 4:00PM every day. On Wednesday school ends early at 2:15PM. School starts at 8:20AM and ends at 3:05PM. There is an on-campus, supervised study area available to students in Grades 6-12 Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, 4:00–6:00 PM

Riverstone International School (Academic Campus) Please send mail to this address:
Riverstone International School - Dorm - Student Name 5521 East Warm Springs Avenue Boise, ID 83716 USA

Riverstone House (Dorm Facility) <i>Do not send mail to this address:</i>
1257 West River Street, Suite 4 Boise, ID 83702 USA

The campus and dormitory (dorm) 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. The school will not provide transportation for zero hour classes.



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

**** Neither residential staff nor Director of Residence Life will sign Informed Consent and Risk Acknowledgement forms for activities such as skiing, kayaking, climbing, outdoor education trips or for other high-risk activities. These forms as well as banking and financial forms will be sent to parents for permission and signatures. ****

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 children. Teachers may refer students, or parents can request that their child see the counselor by Student Life and Support Coordinator or any dorm staff member. Appointments are typically scheduled in advance.

Administrative Contacts

Name	Title	Phone	Email
John Gasparini	Head of School	208-424-5000	jgasparini@riverstoneschool.org
Mike Schiesel	Director of Residence Life	928-848-9314	mschiesel@riverstoneschool.org
Rachel Pusch	Director of Enrollment Management (including visas)	208-424-5000 x2104	rpusch@riverstoneschool.org



Brittany Roper	Diploma Programme Coordinator (Gr. 11-12)	Contact via email	broper@riverstoneschool.org
Stacey Walker	High School Director	208-424-5000	swalker@riverstoneschool.org
Trevor Lindsay and Christian Bondy	Middle Years Programme Coordinators (Gr. 9-10)	Contact via email	tlindsay@riverstoneschool.org cbondy@riverstoneschool.org
Eleri Hofstetter	Student Life & Support Coordinator / School Counselor	Contact via email	ehofstetter@riverstoneschool.org
John Scripps	College Counselor	Contact via email	jscripps@riverstoneschool.org

Residential Staff

Name	Title	Phone	Email
Mike Schiesel	Director of Residence Life	928-848-9314	mscheisel@riverstoneschool.org
Josh Maguire	Lead Dorm Parent	4322147273	jmaguire@riverstoneschool.org
Hunter Filer	Dorm Parent		hfiler@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.

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. Riverstone has been conducting IB examinations for over ten years. Our school has a very strong record of success. Our students pass the exams at a rate of approximately 90%. The worldwide average is around 74%; the US average is lower. 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 Middle Years Programme (MYP) and grades 11 and 12 are 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 Language Resources. Riverstone encourages each student to maintain their first language. During your first week at school, please check in with the Language B teacher, Matthew Deren.

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. These experiences strengthen each student’s sense of belonging and provide a firm base from which each student can explore the nature of purpose and meaning, in and out of school. 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 and better understand why they attend Riverstone. Students develop plans to get the most out of their Riverstone experience and understand measures of success and achievement.
- Strengthened Connections – advisor helps students to develop points of engagement at Riverstone, enhance sense of belonging, and facilitate mentoring across grade levels. Advisor serves as student advocate and sounding board.
- An Expanded Toolbox – students develop resilience, mindfulness, self-awareness, empathy, and better understand mental/physical health.

College Counseling Philosophy & Program. 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 college counseling program begins in Grade 9 and continues through Grade 12.

Highlights of college counseling at Riverstone:

- Exceptional access to our college 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 college 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.

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. Be ready to obtain a translation if needed.
- Be aware that international applicants usually have to provide proof that they can afford college in the United States. You may be asked to submit bank statements and other financial documentation.
- 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 an independent college counseling agent. Proceed with caution: some agents provide support and appropriate advice, while some provide incomplete or inaccurate information. Work with an outside agent at your own discretion.

Registering for the PSAT, SAT, ACT and TOEFL. Riverstone will register and pay for all Grade 10 and Grade 11 students to take the PSAT. Barring unusual circumstances, the PSAT is always given 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.

Counseling Team and Contact Information

Name	Title	Email
John Scripps	Director of College Counseling	jscripps@riverstoneschool.org

Outdoor Education Program. 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. We expect all of our students to participate in the outdoor education program. **A student will not be excused from an outdoor program activity without a direct note from a doctor.** 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 just 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.

Outdoor Education Program Contact Information

Name	Title	Phone	Email
Derek Wright	Outdoor Education Coordinator	208-424-5000	dwright@riverstoneschool.org

Outdoor Experiences by Grade



- **Grade 9:** Backpacking or camping trip during the autumn in the 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 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 mountains of central Idaho and a rock climbing trip in the spring.

Outdoor Leadership Program. For outdoor enthusiasts looking to get a little more out of their time outside, the Outdoor Leadership Program is a great way to expand and refine their skills. Working closely with the Outdoor Education Coordinator, students learn to plan their own backpacking trips as well as develop their rock climbing, backcountry skiing, or kayaking/rafting skills. Students may also earn certification in Wilderness First Aid and learn about decision making and risk analysis.

Equipment Needed for the Outdoor Education 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.

Extracurricular Activities

Riverstone Athletics Program. Riverstone has a variety of competitive sports for both boys and girls. Riverstone is a member of the Idaho High School Sports Association (IHSSA). Athletic facilities include a full-sized gymnasium with six basketball hoops and a climbing wall, a natural grass soccer field, four outside basketball courts, and two hard surface tennis courts.

Sports Offered

- Co-educational Soccer (September-October)
- Girls Volleyball (September-October)
- Girls Basketball (November-February)
- Boys Basketball (December-February)



- Co-educational Ski and Snowboard (November-February)
- Co-educational Ultimate Disc (March-May)
- Co-educational Swimming (September-November)

Athletics Program Contact Information

Name	Title	Phone	Email
Kim Liebich	Athletic Director	Contact via email	kliebich@riverstoneschool.org

Clubs & Activities. Riverstone offers a variety of clubs and activities. These can vary from year-to-year based on student interest. The school regularly offers Music Ensembles and Bands, Science Bowl, Student Council, Model United Nations, Yearbook, Green Team, Outdoor Leadership, and Service-Learning Leadership.

Advisory Program, Clubs & Activities

Name	Title	Phone	Email
Eleri Hofstetter	Student Life & Support Coordinator	Contact via email	ehofstetter@riverstoneschool.org

Packing and Preparing. All rooms are furnished with a twin bed and a desk for each student. If you find that you are missing something after you arrive, there are stores nearby where we can take you to pick up items for your room. Expect to have a roommate; all rooms are designed for two people.

Please remember that you are going to be living with many other people and sharing communal spaces. It will be very important that each person is respectful of each other and each other's personal



possessions. Storage is limited at the end of the year so keep that in mind as you purchase new items for your room.

If you would like to directly mail some of the items on this list from home or from online retailers, please use the following address:

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

Provided by the School:

- Regular Twin (XL twin available per request for those taller students) 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.

What students should bring or have delivered:

Bedding and Accessories

- Sheets for TWIN bed. Regular twin**, not Twin XL size (recommend 2 sets of sheets; consider one set of flannel for colder months)
- Mattress pad and protector
- Comforter (down or synthetic)
- Blanket/Throw
- Pillow



Bath/Personal Care and Grooming

- 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

Laundry & Cleaning

- Laundry basket or mesh bag
- Wastebasket

Room Decor

- Area rug/throw rugs (recommend purchasing here once you have discussed room decor with your roommate)
- Posters, photos, flags; items from home that make you happy.

Storage and Organization

- Hangers (recommend purchasing here once you have arrived)
- 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

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). For example, Wörterbuch = Dictionary.

Electronics and Audio

- PC or Mac with **Microsoft Excel**. Other word processing or presentation software is fine.
- Plug adaptor from your country's plug pattern to US plug pattern



- Earbuds/Headphones
- Phone device/computer charging cables
- UL listed surge protector

DO NOT BRING

Microwaves

Toasters

Refrigerators

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

Clothing. Plan to bring clothing that you can wear to school, during your free time, in the outdoors, and on the playing fields and courts. Boise, Idaho has a relatively mild, four-season climate. However, it can get as hot as 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit) in the summer and as cold as -20 Celsius (-4 fahrenheit) in the winter. Boise is generally very dry, but 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.

School and Casual Clothing

- Underwear
- Socks



- Sandals
- Closed toe shoes appropriate for colder weather
- Jeans, slacks, skirts or shorts that are appropriate for school
- T-shirts, blouses, polo shirts, collared shirts (no inappropriate slogans or messages)
- Pajamas
- Swimsuit

Cold Weather/Outdoor Clothing

- Long pants, synthetic material (no cotton)
- T-shirts, synthetic material (no cotton) (x2)
- Wool stocking cap
- Fleece gloves
- Waterproof ski gloves
- Rain jacket made of breathable material like Gore-Tex, large enough to fit over fleece jacket
- Baseball style cap
- Wool or synthetic/wool blend socks (4 pr)
- Synthetic long underwear bottoms
- Synthetic long underwear top
- Mid-weight fleece jacket/pullover (anorak or zip up styles are fine)
- 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.)
- Headlamp
- Two shatterproof 1 liter water bottles. Brands such as Nalgene and Camelbak are perfect.

Athletic Clothing

- Running shorts
- Running shoes
- Athletic bra
- T-shirt

School Supplies and Resources

- Supply and book lists* are listed on the Resources tab on our website each summer at <http://www.riverstoneschool.org/resources/>



**Please note that book lists for 2022-23 will be published in late July.*

Rooms and Roommates. Riverstone House is designed to house up to 16 students on the 3rd floor and 16 students on the 4th floor. We will strive to match roommates based on their interests, study and sleeping habits, and other preferences. We believe that it is important for students to learn to manage a communal living arrangement. 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.

Speaking English. We respect and support all people's right to speak their first language. However, on the 2nd floor 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 we all share on the boarding and academic campuses. We ask that all students be aware that language can be a bridge and a barrier. We use language as a bridge to common understanding and respect.

Quiet Hours. Quiet hours are between 10:00 PM and 6:30AM, every day.

Bedtime Preparation and Lights Out. It is important that every student quietly prepares 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. You 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 taken 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 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 should 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

Meals.

On weekdays, the morning begins at Riverstone House with a buffet-style continental breakfast consisting of cereal, fruit, yogurt, muffins, cold cuts, cheese, bagels, hard-boiled eggs, tea, and coffee.

Lunch is a catered meal at school. On weekends students may prepare food for themselves or go to nearby restaurants. Riverstone House is very close to downtown restaurants, and students enjoy walking downtown to have lunch with friends.

Dinners consist of catering each evening. The menu may change during the year as we adjust to students' taste and preferences. We strive to provide a variety of choices that will appeal to people from all over the world and from many different culinary traditions.

Every student's birthday is celebrated. We also strive to include holiday specialities from cultures all over the world.

Cooking. Students may prepare snacks when the kitchen is open to them. 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 any ingredients not labeled for another student. There is a dedicated refrigerator for student use in the kitchen. This refrigerator holds any personal ingredients or meals. It will be reviewed by staff once a week for any out of date food. Students also have access to leftovers from dinners if they would like to reheat food.

Students are responsible for all clean-up. Only two students can cook on the stove at a 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 expense. Each student is scheduled for a laundry shift either after school or on the weekends. Under no circumstances should students change these shifts unless communicated with their entire floor and staff. Laundry procedures will be 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. The address is:

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

Money and Banking. All students must have a credit or debit card from a bank with branches in the United States. Riverstone **will not** assume any responsibility for helping students open bank accounts and students under the age of 18 are unable to open bank accounts independently.

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

Medical and 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 we 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.

Health insurance, billed annually during the enrollment process, for boarding students at Riverstone International School includes a medical insurance policy for the duration of the student's enrollment at Riverstone International School. Be aware that, as in the case of most insurance coverage, this policy does not cover 100% of medical costs (for example, insurance exclusions, deductibles, multiple visits, etc., may not be covered by insurance). If this occurs, any additional payment will be the responsibility of the parents or guardians, as applicable.

Pre-existing conditions may not be covered under this medical policy.

Dental insurance is not provided. Parents and students must be prepared to pay the full costs of dental care they may need while in the United States.

Riverstone International School will always seek to ensure that each student receives appropriate medical care, but Riverstone International School is not responsible for the medical coverage provided by the insurance company or its costs or consequences.

Families should expect that there may be additional expenses for the medical care of their child during his/her stay which are not paid for by insurance and should be prepared to work directly with the health care 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.

Prescription and 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. This form can be found in the Parent Portal School Admin and is stored online but should be physically kept by boarding and campus staff. The dorm staff and faculty supervising outdoor trips must be informed of, control and dispense all prescription and non-prescription medications. Students are not allowed to keep medication in their rooms. That means that **all medication and vitamins must be given to staff for safe keeping**. Medications will be distributed by staff members and will be noted in a log which is stored in the locked medical lock box.

The only exception 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 aware, Riverstone can (in many, but not all cases) ensure some level of care.

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.

Medical Leave. There are times when, as a result of medical or emotional challenges, full immersion in the school program is not possible. At such times, Riverstone works with students and families, to the extent possible, to accommodate a medical leave to support a student's physical or emotional well-being. The need for medical leave, which is granted at the discretion of the Director of Residential Life and the High School Director and not for indefinite periods, must be certified in writing by an appropriate practitioner. The school reserves the right, as per the enrollment contract, to insist upon a leave when a student's needs cannot adequately be met by Riverstone International School, when a



student's continued enrollment may compromise the school's ability to serve other students, or when a student poses significant risk to self or others, including but not limited to exhibiting and/or threatening self harming and/or suicidal behaviors behavior.

Serious Injuries or Illness. Injuries and illness of a serious nature which may require surgery or long term convalescence may require that a student return home for treatment. Alternatively, a parent or guardian may be asked to come to Boise to be with their student during surgeries and/or recovery. This is handled on a case by case basis with school administration.

Requirements for Medical Leave

- The student will receive ongoing treatment by a medical professional appropriate to the student's condition.
- The family will engage in ongoing and regular communication and cooperation with the school about the student's treatment and the school's expectations during the medical leave.
- The student and family must be willing to comply with conditions that the school articulates.
- Due to the potential impact on the student as well as on the community, students on medical leave are typically not permitted to return to campus for social or cultural events

Transportation. The school's bus picks up and returns students to the dorm daily. Additionally, the dorm has its own dedicated 12-passenger Mercedes Sprinter van that is used to transport small groups of students to and from appointments, school activities, or school-sponsored sports.

We are unable to provide transportation for non-school activities such as sports at another school, rides to Bogus Basin Mountain Resort, counseling, doctor or dentist appointments. **You may request additional assistance with transportation to these events, but a ride is not guaranteed.**

Boarding students are not permitted under any circumstance to drive while they are enrolled in Riverstone's boarding program. Idaho's laws regarding driver's training, insurance, and vehicle safety are relatively strict.

The sole exception to this rule may be allowed for students who have a valid driver's license, insurance, whose parents live in Idaho, and demonstrate a clear need. An example of a "clear need" would be to



drive themselves home on the weekends or during breaks. Any granted driving privileges will be limited in nature and made in close coordination between the school and a student's parents. Requests for exceptions will be reviewed by the High School Director and Director of Residential Life.

Fundamental Rules for Communal Life at Riverstone House

Values and 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 and 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 and 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, alcohol, drugs, medicine, weapons, inappropriate food, or suspicion of theft.

“Brown Bag” policy. The Dorm Director will use this policy when we suspect that there are illegal substances in the dorm, but we are not sure exactly what room(s) in which these substances may be. We offer a “Brown Bag” as an effort to give students a chance to get rid of any contraband without disciplinary consequences before we hold a room search.

Boarders are encouraged to put any illegal items in a brown bag without disciplinary consequences. If paraphernalia is discovered in the room search afterwards, necessary consequences will go into effect. The process of a “Brown Bag” is as follows: two dorm staff members go door to door with a large garbage bag and collect the brown bags from each dorm.

The Director and Lead Dorm Parent will go through and inventory all collected items and dispose of said items accordingly. The Brown Bag process does not preclude later room searches if there is a situation that merits it. Community safety and well being is always the primary concern in all areas of residential life at Riverstone International School.



Internet Usage and Gaming. Riverstone believes in free and open inquiry. Nonetheless, viewing or downloading pornography, pirated music, software, or video is not 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.

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 and 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.

There will be consequences for students who do not respond to staff on our group chats. It is extremely important that students monitor all messages from staff.



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 1:00 am. Requests must be made by phone call or in person, these requests must include student location and approximate return time. The 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.

Signing In and 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 leaving school during regular school hours must have an excusal in ManageBac or be signed out by a dorm staff member.

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.

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 boarding staff. 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 very bicycle friendly city. The Greenbelt, a greenspace with a paved bicycle path, follows the Boise River and is just a short way from Riverstone House. The Greenbelt goes all the way to Riverstones 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.

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.

Unless there is an approved school event or outing of extraordinary circumstances, study hall is mandatory.

Students may request to fulfill their study hall obligations at another time. 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 a disciplinary matter:

- 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.

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

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

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 behavior continues, a Student Contract is definitely 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 regardless of attendance.

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 Dorm Staff 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:

- Washing and drying the dishes. 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 Honesty. 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. See the school’s policies at the end of this document.

[The following is excerpted from the IBO’s document, Academic Honesty in the Diploma Programme. Retrieved on 28 February 2017 from 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.”*

Alcohol, Tobacco, E-cigarettes (vaping), and 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.

Sexual Violence. Any cases of sexual assault or abuse should be reported to the dorm manager and Residential Director as soon as possible. Sexual assault will not be tolerated in the dorm and expulsion will be explored.



Boarding Staff, Schedules and Closures

Boarding Staff. Riverstone has five full-time boarding staff and a few substitute staff assistants. Their duties are to run the dorm and take care of the students who live there. The Director of Residence Life, the Assistant Director of Residence Life, and two boarding assistants live at the dorm.

Daily Schedule

Weekly Schedule, Monday - Thursday	
Breakfast	6:30am - 7:15am
Student Check-in	7:20am
Bus Arrives	7:20 am departure at 7:30 am
Dorm closed	8am - 4pm
Bus Returns	4:05pm (3:00 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

Fridays	
Breakfast	6:30am - 7:15am



Student Check-in	7:20am
Bus Arrives	7:20am Departs at 7:30am
Bus Returns	4:00pm
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 trip	Around 3:30pm (depending on sports schedule)
Dinner	6:00pm
Dinner Clean up	7:30pm
Kitchen Closes	9:00pm
Curfew	11:00pm
Bed Checks	11:30pm

Sundays*	
*If requested, we can assist with rides to religious services on Sunday or any day. Otherwise we avoid any rides for students on Sundays.	
Brunch	10:00am-12:00noon



Dorm Staff Meeting	2:00pm - 3:00pm (As Scheduled)
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 shortly after graduation.

Dorm Closures during Winter and Spring Breaks. Riverstone House will be closed and inaccessible by residents during the entire calendar 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.

Riverstone International School strongly suggests that boarding students and their parents/guardians each supply school administration with current contact information that will remain valid during all dorm closures. Furthermore, Riverstone International School will be happy to provide interested parents



/ guardians with observations and information about the Boise locale — to be used strictly at the latter’s sole determination and responsibility—upon request.

I-20 forms must be signed by an authorized school official before leaving the United States.

Weekend and 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 through REACH 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.

Students who are under the age of 18 who are leaving the dorm for non-school related travel, including weekend or holiday “sleepovers,” must have permission from their parents approved through REACH by Thursday afternoon. Students over the age of 18 may travel alone to the responsible host family. A responsible host family must include an adult that is at least 21 years old.

Homestays 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 no less than two weeks prior to either Winter or Spring Breaks.

Students are generally expected to travel home or stay with responsible relatives over the Winter and Spring Breaks. Students under age 18 must spend the breaks with a responsible adult who is at least 21 years old. Homestay may be arranged.

Students must complete a travel release form for any hosts over break. These documents must be signed by parents or guardians in addition to the host. Riverstone and its employees are not responsible for students after they have signed out and have left for a trip. Upon their return to the residence, students must sign back in.



In addition to winter and spring break, students may be hosted by host families for Thanksgiving break and mid winter break. Similar to a sleepover, the following should be collected before a student departs:

- The host's contact information
- The location of the event
- Parent approval

Handbook Agreement

No guide can address every circumstance or eventuality. Handbooks like this one are always works in progress. Rather than debate details, 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. We believe 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