

GHS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Parents and students have many questions about living at GHS in a boarding setting. Additional queries can be discussed at the interview stage.

On arrival in Israel, will new international students be met at the airport by a GHS representative?

All international (DP1) students will be asked to arrive in Israel on a specific date, and within a set time range. GHS representatives will meet them in the airport and chaperone them to campus. DP2 students travel to campus at their own expense. Students are responsible for organizing their own transportation to and from the airport during breaks, and at the end of the school year.

What is the visa process for GHS international students?

The GHS admissions team sends you all visa forms and required documents, and will apply for your student visa in Israel. All international students and parents will be required to visit the closest Israeli Embassy or consulate to secure the A2 Student Visa. Currently (due to Covid-19 restrictions) students entering Israel will also be required to obtain a special flight permit.

Is there security on campus?

The safety of all students is our highest priority. The Givat Haviva campus has 24/7 security guard services.

What does a weekday schedule look like?

Classes are held from 8am to 4pm. There may be free periods when you can study in our Learning Center. Afternoon activities begin at 4pm and there are also evening programs.

When are school breaks?

There is a two week vacation for winter break and one week for spring break. During winter break the campus is closed and students may either fly home or be hosted by local students or host families, as arranged by our boarding team. Key Israeli holidays are observed. An annual calendar with further details is sent to all students before the beginning of the year.

How many students are in each dorm room?

Dorm rooms accommodate three students each and include a private bathroom. Rooms are equipped with everything needed for personal relaxation, individual study and independent growth. There is a common area in each dormitory with a refrigerator and coffee/tea facilities.

Does the school have a code of conduct?

GHIS has a code of conduct which all students and families receive, and must be signed prior to the student arriving on campus.

Are families allowed to visit students during the school year?

Parents are allowed to visit their child on campus only after receiving approval from boarding staff. Covid restrictions currently forbid international parents from entering Israel. Students will not be allowed to miss school days and activities during their parents' visit. Please consult with the boarding team before you arrange your visit to Israel. Email Hadas Talmon: hadas.ghis@gmail.com

Does GHIS have a dress code?

Our dress code requires students to dress appropriately at all times. Clothes with offensive or sexually inappropriate subtitles/images are not permitted. GHIS fully respects all types of religious clothing such as the Muslim hijab or the Jewish kippah. Tank tops should not be worn during academic activities such as classes, laboratories, and ceremonies. Students are asked not to wear clothes that expose their midriff or cleavage.

What weekend activities are available for students during the school year?

Students receive an annual calendar which lists off-campus weekends, optional weekends and on-campus weekends. Local students can leave campus and go home during off-campus and optional weekends. International students can join their local friends at their homes or visit host families arranged by our boarding staff. On-campus weekends combine community activities with time to relax and study.

What is the host family program?

International students are assigned a host family by the school, providing them with important home-away-from-home experience while in Israel. International students are invited to stay with their host family twice a month during off-campus weekends. Students are permitted to visit only those families/friends designated by their parents/legal guardian and/or chosen by the school.

Can students leave campus on school days?

After receiving approval from their parents/guardian and the boarding team, students are allowed to leave campus during their free time. They may use public transport to visit local towns. There is a small shop within walking distance of the campus, where provisions can be purchased.

How often do students go home?

Weekends are either:

1. On-campus. Once a month the entire community stays on campus for community-wide programs.
2. Off-campus. Once a month all students leave campus. GHIS arranges host family visits for international students, as required.
3. During the other two weekends, students may opt to stay on campus, go to their family home in Israel, or be hosted by a local student (with permission from their parents/guardian and the boarding team).

I have food allergies. What types of meals does the school provide?

Based on a Mediterranean diet, students enjoy three meals per day and snacks are available at all hours. Givat Haviva maintains a kosher dining hall. We provide vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options at every meal, as well as special accommodations for those with food allergies.

What are the Covid-19 regulations at GHIS?

GHIS has remained open throughout the pandemic, with blended learning to accommodate quarantine situations. All students have been offered vaccinations and the school adheres fully to the latest recommendations of the Ministries of Education and Health.

If you have additional questions not answered in this FAQ, please email admissions@gh-is.org