

GUIDE FOR NEW FAMILIES 2026-27



HOTCHKISS

Welcome to Hotchkiss!



We are excited to welcome all new students and their families to campus this fall. The purpose of this guide is to provide useful information in preparation for the months leading up to the academic year and to answer questions you may have, especially if you are new to the boarding school world.

Learning and living at Hotchkiss can be a transformative experience for our students. As a community, we aim to help all students develop the intellectual and personal skills needed to promote their independence and to prepare them for life beyond Hotchkiss. Mostly, we strive for students to become part of a vibrant and inclusive community — one in which all students can thrive comfortably and find new friends. Every day is an opportunity to try something new, meet someone from a new place, and have conversations that might change the way they see the world.

In this guide, you'll find a description of the steps you will need to complete during the registration process and what to expect this summer.

We look forward to seeing you later this year!

The Hotchkiss School
11 Interlaken Road
Lakeville, CT 06039
(860) 435-2591
www.hotchkiss.org

GUIDE FOR NEW FAMILIES

2026-27

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MONITI MELIORA SEQUAMUR

Guided by each other, let us seek better paths.

The Hotchkiss School Mission

The Hotchkiss School seeks to inspire a diverse range of students who are committed to the betterment of self and society, and to cultivate in them at the highest standards of excellence

imagination and intellect,

openness and personal integrity,

empathy and responsible citizenship

that they may discover and fulfill their potential as individuals fully engaged in our world.

Values of Our Learning Community

The aim of The Hotchkiss School, since its foundation, has been to provide a dynamic environment for teaching and learning, as well as exceptional preparation for future study and fulfilling adult lives. Our residential community—the network of relationships created by the School's people, place, and opportunities—is our most effective means of providing a transformative educational experience, where students may grow and gain greater understanding of themselves and their responsibilities to others. We believe that a healthy and inclusive learning community nourishes students physically, emotionally, and intellectually; fosters joy in learning and living with others; and ensures that all feel safe, seen, and supported.

All members of the Hotchkiss community have a role in sustaining this environment. Therefore, we expect all to

- commit to high standards of scholarship and personal conduct;
- open their minds and hearts to the views and experiences of others, creating space for all to belong and to thrive;
- practice the values that nurture healthy relationships: respect, honesty, and compassion in particular;
- risk and reflect in the pursuit of continual growth; and
- exercise responsible citizenship through local and global engagement, service, and environmental stewardship.

CONTACTS AND OFFICE NUMBERS

General Questions - Deans' Office (860) 435-3189
(860) 435-3739

Carissa Clapper cclapper@hotchkiss.org
Liga Torre ltorre@hotchkiss.org

Also: attendance, residential life, student well-being,
and questions for class deans

Academic Life and Registrar (860) 435-3186
Heather Mechare hmechare@hotchkiss.org

Course selection and enrollment, student schedules,
grades, transcripts, contact information updates, and
Veracross login credentials for parents (only)

Admission (860) 435-3102
admission@hotchkiss.org

Student visas, I-20 forms, and final transcripts

Financial Aid (860) 435-3110
Cynthia F. Curtiss ccurtiss@hotchkiss.org

Questions about financial aid awards

Athletics (860) 435-3287
Dempsey Quinn dquinn@hotchkiss.org
Joe Busacca jbusacca@hotchkiss.org
Amber Jordan ajordan@hotchkiss.org

Business Office (860) 435-3165
Laura Chapell studentaccounts@hotchkiss.org
Enrollment, student billing, payment plans, tuition
payments

Campus Store (860) 435-3670
Info@hotchkisschoolstore.com

24 hours a day, seven days a week

Main School Number: (860) 435-2591
From a campus phone: Dial 0

Call to reach the dean on duty or Campus Safety
and Security, which is located on the ground floor
of Coy dormitory. Security manages the main phone
switchboard.

College Advising (860) 435-3180
Diana Jones djones@hotchkiss.org

Communications Office (860) 435-3201
Danielle Sinclair dsinclair@hotchkiss.org
Student ID card photos, Family Directory, and website
help

Counseling (860) 435-3659
Jodi Von Jess jvonjess@hotchkiss.org

Pluralism & Community
Ashley Aluko aaluko@hotchkiss.org
Pierre Yoo P'21, '23 pyoo@hotchkiss.org

Health Center (860) 435-3234
Caroline Swartz cswartz@hotchkiss.org
Student care, immunizations, required forms, and
medical needs

International Programs (860) 435-3179
David Thompson dthompso@hotchkiss.org
For international students and information about
international programs

Information Technology Services (860) 435-4487
Tom Seleman tseleman@hotchkiss.org
Student usernames and passwords, student email,
information technology and security, network
and laptop support

Laundry Services (860) 435-3275

Post Office (860) 435-3299

Spiritual Life (860) 435-3669
Jason Larson jl Larson@hotchkiss.org
Religious services and support

Study Skills (860) 435-3206
Jane Herold P'17, '20, '24 jherold@hotchkiss.org
Academic support, resources, and accommodations

REGISTRATION & ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

In the months leading up to the start of the school year, there are a number of things you will need to do to register and prepare. See the list below. Go to www.hotchkiss.org/newstudents to access all required links and further information, including contact details.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT ...	
DUE MAY 13 ACADEMIC ADVISOR AND ROOMING PREFERENCES FORM Let us know about your preferences and interests to help us match you appropriately with an advisor and roommate.	Dean of Residential Life, <i>Maggie Crain</i>
DUE JUNE 1 COURSE SELECTION FOR THE 2026-27 ACADEMIC YEAR <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review the course catalog• Click on the grade-appropriate course registration link	Registrar, <i>Heather Mechare</i>
LANGUAGE PLACEMENT EXAM For students continuing a language (not needed for students new to a language).	See hotchkiss.org/newstudents
MATH PLACEMENT EXAM & FORMS For all new students	See hotchkiss.org/newstudents
SCIENCE PLACEMENT EXAM For all new 9th grade students	See hotchkiss.org/newstudents
PHOTO FOR NAMES & FACES STUDENT DIRECTORY AND STUDENT ID Visit www.hotchkiss.org/newstudents for instructions.	Communications Office, <i>Danielle Sinclair</i>
FAMILY DIRECTORY CONSENT FORM Provide consent to be listed in our directory.	Communications Office, <i>Danielle Sinclair</i>
DUE JULY 1 MANDATORY MEDICAL FORMS Download health/medical forms and submit them and your student's medical history online. See Student Health Information for information about insurance, immunizations, and medication.	Wieler Health Center, <i>Caroline Swartz</i>

REGISTRATION & ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS (CONT.)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT...

COMING IN JULY

HOTCHKISS EMAIL AND NETWORK ACCOUNT

Information Technology Services (ITS) will send your student a username, password, and instructions on how to access their Hotchkiss email account. Students must use the temporary password to reset their passwords and should log in right away in order to use Hotchkiss email over the summer. Students are required to know their usernames and passwords when they arrive on campus and receive their laptop.

ITS Help Desk,
Tom Seleman

ACTIVATE YOUR PARENT/GUARDIAN VERACROSS AND ORAH CREDENTIALS

Login instructions will be emailed directly to current parents/guardians.

Registrar,
Heather Mechare

DUE JULY 15

FINAL TRANSCRIPT

Your student's final official transcript must be sent to Hotchkiss by July 15 in order to be registered for courses in 2026-27.

Admission Office,
admission@hotchkiss.org

PROXY FORM

Families must provide the name and contact information for a designated adult who is available to come to campus within 24 hours and assume care of and responsibility for the student, if needed.

Deans' Office,
Carissa Clapper

FACULTY ADVISOR

Every student is assigned a faculty advisor, who is responsible for attending to the student's academic and personal development. The advisor is the primary contact for parents/guardians and serves as the point person for communication. Families with concerns and questions about their student should contact the faculty advisor first.

WHEN DO WE LEARN THE NAME OF OUR STUDENT'S FACULTY ADVISOR?

Students will be notified of their advisor's name in August. For a full directory of Hotchkiss faculty and staff members:
www.hotchkiss.org/directory

REGISTRATION & ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS (CONT.)

BEGINNING AUGUST 1 AND ONGOING

TEXTBOOK ORDERING

New and used textbooks are available through our bookseller, Higher Learning Supply Company (HLSC). Information on placing textbook orders emailed to families in the August *Family Update*.

REQUIRED SUMMER READING

All students will have an All-School Read as well as text assignments based on class year (the list of assignments will be emailed to incoming students and families in late June). Students are expected to complete these assignments by the time they arrive on campus in the fall.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES & SERVICES

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS AND STUDY SKILLS SUPPORT

(Optional) The Class of 1964 Teaching and Learning Center houses the study skills program, which offers assistance with organization, time management, and content-specific support in math, science, reading, and writing. If your student would benefit from additional study skills support, please be in touch. If your student requires accommodations due to a disability, please forward documentation and contact Jane Herold P'17,'20,'24.

Study Skills Coordinator,
Jane Herold P'17,'20,'24

SPIRITUAL LIFE FORM

(Optional) We respect religious practices and requests. The director of religious and spiritual life offers support and guidance to students seeking to practice their faith and manages the multi-faith room.

Director of Religious &
Spiritual Life,
Jason Larson

STUDENT HEALTH INFORMATION

Read the *Almanac* to learn about student health policies and procedures at Hotchkiss.

THE WIELER HEALTH CENTER

Health services and counseling offices are located on the ground floor of Wieler dormitory. The Health Center is open and available to students at all times when school is in session. Our professional team provides medical and counseling services and coordinates the care of students with athletic trainers.

We are equipped to care for the majority of common illnesses, injuries, and most ambulatory healthcare services. We have a number of licensed beds for day and overnight care of students when School is in session. Walk-in services are provided 24 hours a day by our nursing team. Physician and nurse practitioner appointments can be scheduled during regular hours Monday through Friday. Our medical director or a nurse practitioner is on call for emergencies 24 hours a day when School is in session.

HOW TO CONTACT US:

DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR

Telephone: (860) 435–3226 (24/7 when School is in session)

Fax: (860) 435–2422

General questions and communications can be sent to: healthcenter@hotchkiss.org

For emergency medical care, students will most often be transported to our closest hospital, Sharon Hospital, located five miles away in the town of Sharon, CT (www.nuvancehealth.org/locations/sharon-hospital). For emergency psychiatric care, we utilize regional adolescent psychiatric services.

HEALTH INSURANCE

All students must have health insurance that provides comprehensive local coverage while attending Hotchkiss. A copy of the current medical insurance card and of a prescription card must be kept on file in the Health Center. International students, students who do not have a U.S.-based health insurance plan, and students with state Medicaid coverage must arrange for and purchase the student health insurance policy offered by the School. The insurance information is available from the Business Office and is posted in the Parent Portal.

IMMUNIZATIONS/HEALTH RECORDS

Student health forms are available on the Hotchkiss website, and are due by July 1. It is a requirement of the State of Connecticut that all students have their updated health forms and immunization records returned to the School before arriving on campus for the start of each academic year. All students must meet the State of Connecticut minimum vaccination requirements unless an approved exemption is on file. Students without proper medical forms on file with the Health Center upon arrival may not be permitted to remain at Hotchkiss.

PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS

School policy mandates that the Health Center be notified of all prescription medications that students plan to bring to School. Medications are not to be kept in student rooms without approval of the medical director or the director of health services.

COMMUNICATION RESOURCES

WHAT IS THE ALMANAC?

The most important publication to read before coming to campus is the *Almanac*, which outlines Hotchkiss's community regulations, important School rules, and policies. This publication is updated and released at the start of each academic year and is periodically updated throughout the year. The *Almanac* includes updated policies and details about attendance, and the procedures students and families should follow.

**We will release the 2026-27 *Almanac* before the school year begins in August.
Check the *Family Update* email or the Parent Portal for more information!**

www.hotchkiss.org/almanac

HELPFUL BOOKMARKS

PARENT PORTAL: www.hotchkiss.org/parents

Be sure to check the Parent Portal regularly for news, updates, and announcements, as well as links to photos, forms, and calendars. Please note: this is a different webpage than the enrollment portal that was used during the admission process.

STUDENT PORTAL: www.hotchkiss.org/students
Athletic practice and game schedules, as well as dining hall menus, are updated daily on this page.

ATHLETICS: www.hotchkiss.org/athletics
Team information and scores can be found on the athletics portion of the website.

CAMPUS SAFETY AND SECURITY:

www.hotchkiss.org/students/security

The office helps to keep our campus safe and connected, and manages our switchboard and electronic door access.

COLLEGE OFFICE:

www.hotchkiss.org/academics/college-advising

Whether or not you are actively engaged in the college process, the office offers helpful content for your consideration.

COURSE CATALOG: <https://www.hotchkiss.org/academics/26-27-course-catalog>

VISIT: www.hotchkiss.org/visit

On this page, we provide directions to campus and a list of local lodging options.

DINING SERVICES: www.hotchkiss.org/students/dining-services

WIELER HEALTH CENTER:

www.hotchkiss.org/students/health-services

NEW FAMILY WEBINARS

A number of webinars will be offered to help new families get oriented between now and the start of school. They will be recorded and posted as well. Please check www.hotchkiss.org/newstudents for updates!

COMMUNICATION RESOURCES (CONT.)

FAMILY UPDATE

Families will begin receiving *Family Update* emails throughout the summer. These will contain additional information regarding new student registration. Be sure to read these emails!

FAMILY DIRECTORY

This directory is helpful for parents/guardians who want to get to know or contact other parents.

HOTCHKISS HAPPENINGS

This email provides a glance at the news and recent events of the School.

HOTCHKISS MAGAZINE

Printed three times a year, the magazine is mailed to all and alumni.

TRAVEL CALENDAR

The [Travel Calendar](http://www.hotchkiss.org/calendar) (www.hotchkiss.org/calendar) outlines important student travel dates and vacations in the academic year. It is periodically updated throughout the year.

THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER

YOU WILL RECEIVE EMAILS ABOUT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN THE COMING MONTHS; NOTE SOME MAY INVOLVE IMPORTANT ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY YOU OR YOUR STUDENT.

LATE JUNE

- Required summer reading information

JULY

- Course selection and enrollment information
- Student's Hotchkiss email and network account credentials
- Parent/guardian Veracross and Orah login credentials
- August drop-off timeslot registration

AUGUST

- Faculty advisor name and contact information
- Roommate name and contact information
- Link for textbook ordering (via *Family Update*)
- Link for the 2026-27 *Almanac*

WHAT TO BRING

CLOTHING

The weather in the northwest corner of Connecticut varies from an average high of 78°F with sunshine in August to an average low of 14°F and significant snowfall in January, so a wide range of clothing is essential. The full description of the dress code is outlined in the *Almanac*.

There are two tiers of the dress code, depending on the formality of the occasion. Here is a list of sample items to consider:

- **Class Day Dress:** clothing in good condition such as shirts, blouses, pants, shorts, skirts, dresses, and comfortable shoes for walking.
- **Special Event Dress:** coat and tie, dress slacks, button-down shirts, blazers, jackets, dresses, dress shoes

All garments should be in good repair and not excessively worn or revealing. The length of clothing should be appropriate for the classroom and allow a student to sit comfortably.

More items to consider packing:

- Active wear: socks, sneakers, sweats, t-shirts, athletic shorts (specific athletic wear and gear may be sport-dependent)
- Weather-appropriate casual wear: shorts, sandals, jeans, sweaters
- Outdoor wear: work or hiking boots/shoes, windbreaker, water-resistant jacket, umbrella
- Winter wear: sweaters, turtlenecks, boots, winter coat, scarf, hat, gloves
- General: underwear, socks, sleepwear
- Optional comforts: bathrobe and shower sandals

For certain Hotchkiss traditions, such as the ones below, students may get creative with their dress:

- **Contra Dance:** This is a “square dance” style event during Opening Days. Students may dress up in western wear (i.e. denim, overalls, flannel/plaid, boots, bandanas, hats).
- **Spirit Week:** Each day during the week leading up to Taft Day in November has a theme determined by students (i.e. clash day, preppy day, nerd day).
- **Tropical Tuesdays:** Students wear shirts with tropical prints to classes.
- **Cultural Dress Day:** Students dress up in traditional clothes representing their culture.
- **Blue and White Dance:** Students dress in semi-formal wear.

Students are responsible for laundering their clothes. There are free laundry facilities in most dorms, as well as a laundry service available for a fee. Visit “More Campus Services”.

We strongly advise that you clearly mark all clothing, linens, and other belongings with your student’s name.

WHAT TO BRING

FOR CLASS AND YOUR DORM ROOM

All rooms are supplied with a bed, desk, desk chair, dresser, overhead light, trash and recycle can. These items may not be removed from the room, so please do not bring too many pieces of extra furniture. Microwaves are provided in the common room of each dorm.

Each room is equipped with a landline for local calls. Students should use their personal phones for calls beyond the local area. Wifi calling may be possible on most mobile devices in School buildings and dorms.

All students are assigned a laptop computer. Should a student wish to have a monitor, it must be no larger than 27 inches.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

All items below, with the exception of backpacks, are available at the Campus Store on the lower level of the Main Building. Supplies will vary by class, but it is a good idea to bring the following:

- binders (2)
- graphing calculator: Texas Instruments TI-36X Pro scientific calculator
- highlighters
- notebook(s)
- pencils and pens (10-plus)
- ruler

BEDDING

- bedspread or quilt (size: twin extra long)
- blankets
- pillow
- pillow cases (at least two sets)
- sheets (at least two sets; size: twin extra long)

PERSONAL ITEMS AND TOILETRIES

- alarm clock
- desk lamp (not halogen, not multi-head)
- first aid items such as Band-Aids
- bath towels, washcloths (2-4)
- shower caddy (required) for shampoo, soap, toothpaste, and other toiletries
- over-the-counter medications (prescription medications and psychotropic drugs must be stored at the Health Center)

- surge-protected power strips
- tissues
- water bottle
- cup/mug, eating utensils, plate and bowl for dormitory feeds (Hotchkiss dishware is not permitted outside the Dining Hall)
- laundry detergent
- other personal care items such as hairbrush or comb, nail clippers, moisturizer, feminine hygiene products, deodorant, razors, hair necessities
- sunscreen and bug spray

OTHER USEFUL ITEMS

- bike, lock, and helmet
- hangers
- headphones
- reading lamp for bed
- room decorations: small rug, posters, dry-erase board, bulletin board
- Command Strips (required for attaching items to walls)
- small duffel bag
- storage bins (to fit under bed; students can bring one set of bed risers to aid in under-bed storage)
- snacks (must be stored in enclosed bins)

Please do not expect overflow storage; none of our dorms have the capacity. Summer storage is offered through the UPS Store for a fee.

WHAT TO BRING (CONT.)

FOR CLASS AND YOUR DORM ROOM

ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT

Most athletic sports require equipment. The athletic director and team coaches can answer questions about what equipment to bring. The Athletic Department issues helmets for football, ice hockey, and lacrosse. We also issue all the pads required for football. Below is a list of equipment by sports season students will be expected to provide:

FALL

- Cross country: running shoes in good repair
- Field hockey: sticks, shin guards, cleats
- Football: gloves, cleats
- Mountain biking: bike, helmet
- Soccer: shin guards, cleats

WINTER

- Basketball: basketball shoes
- Ice hockey: pads, skates, sticks
- Squash: goggles, racquet, non-marking squash shoes
- Swimming: goggles

SPRING

- Baseball: gloves, cleats
- Golf: set of clubs
- Lacrosse: stick, goggles
- Sailing: dry suit
- Tennis: racquet
- Track: cleats/running shoes in good repair
- Ultimate frisbee: cleats/running shoes in good repair

AND WHAT NOT TO BRING

- additional furniture
- iron, ironing board, steamers
- extension cords
- electric heater or multi-use fan with heating element
- halogen lamps or lamps with more than three heads
- light bulbs
- cooking appliances including air fryer, electric grill, microwave, hot pot, electric kettle, coffee maker, stove, toaster, toaster oven, etc.
- refrigerator
- X-box or other gaming equipment
- Streaming devices such as AppleTV, ChromeCast, and Roku
- wireless printers
- live animals/pets
- candles, incense, lighters, matches

MORE CAMPUS SERVICES

An outline of Campus Services is available here:
www.hotchkiss.org/community-life/campus-services

HOW TO SHIP THINGS HERE

If you are shipping items or supplies to campus, please be sure that packages arrive on or after August 22, 2026.

Any shipped parcel or package will be available for student pick-up at the Hotchkiss Post Office. We accept packages sent via all common carriers (e.g, U.S. mail, UPS, FedEx, DHL). Please send mail and packages to students (using their legal name if possible) at this address:

Student's Name (first and last)
The Hotchkiss School
11 Interlaken Road
Lakeville, CT 06039

Pay all shipping charges in advance, as Hotchkiss will not accept any cash on delivery (C.O.D.) packages.

CAMPUS STORE

The Campus Store offers both necessities for the dormitory and classroom, as well as Hotchkiss gear and personal supplies. The store is located on the lower level of Main Building. Contact us at (860) 435-3670 or via

email: [**Info@hotchkisschoolstore.com**](mailto:Info@hotchkisschoolstore.com)

Visit www.hotchkisschoolstore.com

LAUNDRY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

There are laundry machines in the basements of Buehler, Dana, Edelman, Flinn, Garland, Hurst, Redlich, Tinker, Watson, and Wieler dorms. These are free of charge to use, but students must supply their own laundry detergent/dryer sheets.

An optional laundry and dry cleaning service, E&R (the Campus Laundry), is located in the basement of Tinker Hall. Sign-up information will be posted in the *Family Update* newsletters throughout the summer.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHEN WILL I FIND OUT ABOUT MY ROOMMATE AND ROOM ASSIGNMENT?

Students will learn their roommate's name via email in August, along with contact information should students like to correspond in advance. All students learn their dorm and room assignments when they arrive on campus in August.

WHEN DO STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT PLACEMENTS IN MATH, LANGUAGE AND SCIENCE?

Course selections and enrollment will be communicated in July.

WHAT SHOULD WE KNOW ABOUT THE AUGUST DROP-OFF?

Students will receive an email in July about signing up for a specific drop-off timeslot. Complete details about moving in and on-campus registration will be available in early August in the *Family Update*.

WHEN WILL I FIND OUT MORE DETAILS ABOUT OPENING DAYS AND FAMILY WEEKEND?

Be sure to open the *Family Update* emails over the summer, which will include links to detailed schedules and information. Information will also be posted on the Parent Portal.

WHEN DO ATHLETIC TRYOUTS TAKE PLACE FOR FALL SPORTS?

During Opening Days, by invite only.

MY CHILD IS A VEGETARIAN OR HAS A FOOD ALLERGY. WHAT ARE THE DINING OPTIONS?

The Dining Hall offers a full range of meal options, including gluten-free and vegetarian options.

MAY PARENTS COME ON WEEKENDS TO VISIT?

Yes! Parents are welcome to visit, so long as the visit does not interfere with a student's School's commitments. The policies and procedures that students must follow in order to leave campus with their families will be updated and outlined in the 2026-27 *Almanac*.

Parents are strongly encouraged to attend Family Weekend, which will take place on October 16-17, 2026. Further information including schedule details will be posted to the Family Weekend webpage in the Parent Portal later this summer.

DO MOST STUDENTS LEAVE SCHOOL ON THE WEEKENDS?

No! We plan a variety of fun activities each weekend for the enjoyment of students during their downtime. Activities include student performances, dances, movies, and shuttles to local stores.

WHEN CAN STUDENTS LEAVE CAMPUS?

Students must meet all School commitments before leaving campus. The policies and procedures that students must follow will be updated and outlined in the 2026-27 *Almanac*. Rules may vary based on a student's class year, whether the student is going on a School-sanctioned or faculty-led activity, and whether or not they are staying on campus or going "out of bounds." Please pay attention to the various rules (i.e. daytime, evening, weekend, and closed weekend), to when parental permission is required using Orah, the School's absence request system, and to the specific check-out procedures and protocols students must observe.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (CONT.)

HOW DO I KNOW WHEN MY STUDENT CAN LEAVE CAMPUS FOR VACATIONS?

Please pay careful attention to our [Travel Calendar \(www.hotchkiss.org/calendar\)](http://www.hotchkiss.org/calendar) when scheduling your student's departures and returns to campus. Students are expected to attend all classes and commitments until the moment break begins. Understanding that there can be travel restrictions, we allow our students to spend an extra night in the dorm or return a day early to accommodate limited flight options or travel challenges. The dorms are not open over Thanksgiving, Winter, and Spring breaks.

WHEN ARE STUDENTS REQUIRED TO LEAVE CAMPUS?

Students may not be on campus during Thanksgiving, Winter, and Spring breaks. Please check the [Travel Calendar \(www.hotchkiss.org/calendar\)](http://www.hotchkiss.org/calendar) for dates. During shorter breaks (i.e., Long Winter Weekend), it may not make sense for a student to return home, especially if going home requires extensive travel plans. The Deans' Office will communicate directly via email in advance of those times.

HOW IS STUDY HALL SUPERVISED?

Study hall in the dormitories is monitored by dorm faculty and student proctors. Supervised study hall is conducted in the Class of 1964 Teaching and Learning Center by a faculty monitor.

HOW DO STUDENTS LEARN TO MANAGE THEIR TIME? HOW WILL YOU KNOW IF MY STUDENT IS STRUGGLING IN SCHOOL?

One of the biggest lessons new students at Hotchkiss learn is how to manage their time effectively. Juggling how to complete coursework regularly and study for assessments while also making new friends and participating in new activities may be a new skill for some. Most new students take advantage of study hall hours to complete their work routinely.

When a student is struggling, there are a few ways we monitor their progress. Often, teachers work in collaboration with faculty advisors to monitor a student's progress closely. Additionally, they might call upon the study skills staff to help consult with the student or offer alternative study options. Many times, simple techniques (i.e., using an academic planner and checking in with teachers regularly) and a more focused routine, such as checking classroom assignments daily, will make a big difference. The Teaching and Learning Center offers additional academic support that can help a student learn to become a better self-advocate and seek help from teachers more proactively.

HOW WILL I KNOW IF SOMETHING IS WRONG, ESPECIALLY IF MY STUDENT MIGHT FEEL HOMESICK?

Faculty members and parents are expected to work together to ensure that students do well. In a residential school community, faculty members are trained to look for signs if a student is not feeling well or seems distressed. As teachers, dorm supervisors, coaches, and advisors, they work with each other to observe students in various School settings. An advisor is typically the first person to bring up concerns with parents. Conversely, parents should feel comfortable contacting an advisor or class dean if they have concerns or sense something is not quite right with a student. We encourage parents to communicate with their students whenever they can and to work as partners with our faculty members.

HOTCHKISS TERMINOLOGY

You can learn about residential life at Hotchkiss by visiting our website, specifically the Community Life section where we feature aspects of living in community at Hotchkiss: www.hotchkiss.org/community-life

HOTCHKISS TERMS TO KNOW

There are a number of names and phrases that may be commonly used on campus.

Among the many, here are a few:

- **Maria Bissell Hotchkiss**, a lifelong resident of Salisbury, Connecticut, and the woman who founded our school in 1891.
- **Blue and White:** Hotchkiss's school colors are blue and white (hence the name of the School's spirit club, Blue and White).
- Our mascot is **Bucky the Bearcat**.
- What We Call Our Class Years
The terminology for the four classes — **prep** (9th grade), **lower mid** (10th), **upper mid** (11th), and **senior** (12th) — came to Hotchkiss with the School's first headmaster, Edward G. Coy. Coy had been head of the Greek department at Phillips Academy Andover, the only other school that uses this nomenclature.
- Our School song is "**Fair Hotchkiss**," which is sung at matriculation, convocation, graduation, and upon the announcement of a head of school's holiday, among other occasions.

To read more about campus traditions, visit the "Hotchkiss Glossary"

www.hotchkiss.org/community-life/blue-white

Mission and Values

www.hotchkiss.org/our-school/mission-statement

WHAT IS THE HOTCHKISS MOTTO?



MONITI MELIORA SEQUAMUR

"Guided by each other, let us seek better paths."

At the center of Hotchkiss's seal is Athena, the patron goddess of wisdom and ancient Athens, shown in profile with her helmet. Encircling her image are the words of the Hotchkiss motto: *Moniti Meliora Sequamur*.

The Latin phrase comes from Virgil's "Aeneid," which we have loosely interpreted as, "**Guided by each other, let us seek better paths.**"

Because of our commitment to our Latin motto, we refer to the goddess as Minerva, Athena's Roman counterpart.

CAMPUS MAP



- | | | | |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1-9 The Hotchkiss Golf Course | 21 Additional Outdoor Tennis Courts | 27 Baker: Spole Field | 39 Bissell Common |
| 10 Fred Frank '50 House | 22 Forrest E. Mars Jr. Athletic Center (Andrew K. and Martin Dwyer III Rink, Hixon Pool, Joseph F. Cullman Squash Center, Thomas Schmidt Hockey Rink, William C. Fowle Gymnasium) | 28 William Shirley Fulton Field House | 40 Biomass Central Heating Facility |
| 11 Harris House (Admission, Human Resources) | 23 Monahan (Alumni/Development Office, Center for Global Understanding and Independent Thinking, Communications Office, Summer Portals) | 29 Golf House | 41 The Hotchkiss Observatory |
| 12 Walker Auditorium | 24 Class of 1949 Fields | 30 Centennial Field | 42 Tremaine Art Gallery |
| 13 Chapel | 25 Downing Field | 31 Taylor Field | 43 Courage Garden |
| 14 Main Building | 26 Baker: Hemingway Track | 32 Hoyt Field | 44 Burr Garden, Campus Playscape |
| 15 Edsel Ford Memorial Library | | 33 Town Hill Cemetery | 45 Roraback Garden |
| 16 Dining Hall | | 34 Boat House | 46 Hoglund Garden |
| 17 A. Whitney Griswold Science Building | | 35 Malkin Climbing Walls | 47 Solar Array |
| 18 Wieler Health Center | | 36 Beach Volleyball Courts | 48 Paddle Tennis Courts |
| 19 Tennis Courts | | 37 The Esther Eastman Music Center (Katherine M. Elfers Hall) | |
| 20 William and Martha Ford Indoor Tennis Courts | | 38 Fairfield Farm | |