



GORDONSTOUN

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL

Information for Staff 2025

1. The dates of the 2025 Courses for students are:

Course No. I: Friday 4th July – Sunday 27th July

Course No. II: Friday 11th July – Sunday 3rd August

2. GISS can only receive applications from people who are eligible to work in the UK.

3. Arrival & Departure Information:

a. **Arrival:** You will be expected to arrive at Gordonstoun in time to familiarise yourself with the campus and settle into your accommodation. Latest times are shown, but lunch will be available and it would be preferable if you can arrive earlier in the day to assist with setting up your department.

i. **Course I: Tuesday 1st July by 5.00pm (most staff including all Academics)**

ii. **Course II: Tuesday 8th July by 5.00pm (C2 House Parents, West Coast sailing Staff and OBT Loch Eil). Sailing and OBT may go direct tbc.**

b. **Departure:** At the end of the course you will be free to depart after your department is packed away, reports completed satisfactorily and student travel duty completed. The departure date is dependent upon which department you are applying for:

▪ Monday 28th July - Art, Technology and Academics.

▪ Monday 4 August - Sport, Operations, Clubs, Music, West Coast Adventure, Media, Performing Arts and Outdoor Learning.

c. Please only apply if you are able to commit to the full course. However, if there is an issue please contact the GISS Office to discuss.

d. You will be responsible for your own travel arrangements. The nearest train station is Elgin and the nearest airports are Inverness and Aberdeen. We will do a limited collection service from the airports depending on the timings.

e. If you arrive by private car it can be kept on School grounds, with restricted use during Summer School.

4. Accommodation & General Administration:

a. All staff will be accommodated in a boarding house or staff accommodation on campus (single rooms but not usually en-suite). West coast adventure staff will live in the adventure centre.

- b. All food will be provided and most accommodation will have washing machines, which are available to be used for your personal laundry. The Healthcare Centre will be available to Staff.
- c. Salary and further terms and conditions, including up to date job description, will be provided.
- d. You should provide your own clothing and equipment appropriate to your department and leisure/recreational activities that you may be assisting with throughout the course. If in doubt please contact us.
- e. Copies of timetables will be available for you at the start of the course.

5. Department Overview:

You will be required to choose a department in which you wish to work, for further information or enquiries on each department please contact the GISS office.

Students are divided into groups of about 20-32 students depending on age younger (8-11), mid (12-13) and senior (14-16). For the two weeks they are on campus the groups rotate through the departments according to their "colour group" timetable. Students aged 12+ spend a week on their adventure phase, which is divided into 3 days of sailing and 3 days in an Outward Bound Centre on the West Coast of Scotland. The younger students will have a similar age-appropriate programme closer to campus. Some students aged 12+ will remain on campus at the end of course 2 to attend a golf programme, rather than going away on their adventure phase.

Art: The aim is for students to develop their artistic skills through a variety of projects, including drawing, lino printing and crafts such as weaving, but will vary from year to year.

Design: In excellent Design and Technology workshops the students will work on a range of different projects in both wood and metal. Supervision is crucial and staff will work closely with all the students as they create their projects.

Music: The aim is develop each student's interest in music, regardless of their current knowledge and skills. Students will engage with different music styles and use a variety of musical instruments as well as singing so everyone gets involved in some way. There will be a music showcase at the end of each course.

Sports: Sports takes groups for individual sports activities, such as football, tennis, basketball and volleyball and much more! They also run Inter-Clan competitions, swimming and athletics competitions, as well as many other sports and activities.

Academic Classes: Students are placed into small classes for their chosen academic subject, which can be English as an Additional Language (EAL), Literature and Creative Writing, Computing, Our Natural World (age 8-11), International Citizenship (age 12-16) and Social Enterprise & Social Entrepreneurship (age 12-16).

Media Department: Responsible for all social media during the course and managing the parent portal content.

Operations Department: This department is responsible for organising and administering many of the significant GISS events, for example student welcome meetings and the final prize giving dinner. The department also organises student trips and activities and assign the staff to assist with the activities. They manage many of the logistics associated with the set up and management of the programme.

West Coast Adventure: The roles are based in the adventure centre on the West Coast of Scotland, near Fort William and not on the Gordonstoun Campus. The roles are pastoral, similar to house staff, however staff are

encouraged to accompany the students in the activities as much as they can. Students aged 12+ spend three days in the adventure centre, which is fully equipped and has small dormitories where the students live and sleep. The days are action packed and they enjoy a range of activities.... abseiling, climbing, coasteering, gorge walking, canoeing, etc.

Performing Arts Department: This department works with each colour group to come up with a concept based on a well-known film etc which includes singing, dancing and acting, which is then performed at a showcase at the end of each course.

Outdoor Learning: This department provides an exciting adventure offering on site including the indoor climbing wall, orienteering, pool kayaking, mountain biking, obstacle course, Tyrolean traverse and other activities based on the staff skillset and qualifications.

Students choose one club and these will also need to be staffed. These vary each year and may change as the timetable is finalised:

Previous years clubs have included:

Outdoor Adventure: Depending on staff qualifications and skills students will choose from mountain biking, climbing & abseiling, canoeing, kayaking, walking, bush craft skills etc

Photography: Learning all aspects of photography and digital management of photographs

Football: Staffed as part of the Sports department

Racquet Sports: Staffed as part of the Sports Department

Art & Design : Staffed as part of the Art Department