



STUDENT HANDBOOK

Midland School provides a unique college preparatory boarding school experience to a diverse student body. Through study and work it teaches the value of a lifetime of learning, self-reliance, simplicity, responsibility to community and the environment, and love for the outdoors.

Mailing Address
P.O. Box 8
Los Olivos, CA 93441

Daytime Telephone
8AM-4pm M-F
805.688.5114

Afterhours Emergency
Faculty-of-the-day
805.500.8279

Street/Shipping Address
5100 Figueroa Mountain Road
Los Olivos, CA 93441

Afterhours Telephone
4pm-8am M-F, all day Sat. & Sun.
805.688.5114 & leave a message

General Email
office@midland-school.org

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About Midland & Student Handbook

Midland is a non-profit educational institution founded in 1932 by Paul Squibb and is accredited and/or a member of the: California Association of Independent Schools (CAIS), National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), and The Association of Boarding Schools (TABS).

Midland School does not discriminate on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation or political affiliation.

There are many systems in place to help our community run smoothly and efficiently. This handbook is a summary of some of these details. Students and parents/guardians are expected to be familiar with the contents of this handbook which contains the policies and procedures in place at the time of printing. The contents and associated programs may be altered and policies may be modified as necessary throughout the year.

Start of School Arrival

Families should arrive on campus no earlier than 1:00pm to meet the student's advisor and complete the registration process in front of Main House. All enrollment forms and paperwork should be completed prior to arrival for registration.

Seniors: Monday, August 26, 2019 1:00pm – 5:00pm. Please check-in before heading to cabins.

New Students: Thursday, August 29, 2019 1:00pm - 3:00pm – Registration. Introductory activities for new students and parents begin shortly after 4:00 pm. Families must finish registration in order to participate in these activities. We ask parents to leave by 7:00pm.

Returning Students: Saturday, August 31, 2019 1:00pm - 3:00pm. Please check-in at the office before heading to cabins.

Travel to and from Midland

Travel Planning & Logistics

Please notify Jill Brady via e-mail, jbrady@midland-school.org, of **ALL** travel plans well in advance.

Parents are responsible for making reservations. Midland **does not** arrange ticket purchases.

Students who miss a flight or other travel connection should call the Faculty-of-the-day phone number to inform the school of their change in arrival time (805-500-8279).

School Breaks Departure and Return Details for 2019-20

OCTOBER

(Friday, Oct. 11th. Parent pick-up from campus at end of 6:00pm Assembly. No early departures.)

Saturday, Oct. 12th. Shuttle rides to Santa Barbara for reservations beginning no earlier than 8:00am from (SB Airport, SB Airbus to LAX, AMTRAK, Greyhound) and parent pick-up by noon.

Sunday, Oct. 20th. Return deadline is the 6:00 pm evening Assembly (arrival in Santa Barbara by 4:30 pm is required to make the shuttle back to campus on time.) Automatic 10 laps for late arrival.

DECEMBER/JANUARY

Friday, Dec. 13th between 8:30am and 7:00pm. Departures from campus or from Santa Barbara reservations.

Sunday, Jan. 5th. Return deadline is the 6:00 pm evening Assembly (arrival in Santa Barbara by 4:30 pm is required to make the shuttle back to campus on time.) Automatic 10 laps for late arrival.

FEBRUARY

(Friday, Feb. 14th. Parent pick-up from campus at end of 6:00pm Assembly. No early departures.)

Saturday, Feb. 15th. Shuttle rides to Santa Barbara for reservations beginning no earlier than 8:00am from (SB Airport, SB Airbus to LAX, AMTRAK, Greyhound) and parent pick-up by noon.

Sunday, Feb. 23rd. Return deadline is the 6:00 pm evening Assembly (arrival in Santa Barbara by 4:30 pm is required to make the shuttle back to campus on time.) Automatic 10 laps for late arrival.

APRIL (Many Seniors will leave campus a week early for internships)

(Friday, April 3rd. Parent pickup from campus at end of 6:00pm Assembly. No early departures.)

Saturday, April 4th. Shuttle rides to Santa Barbara for reservations beginning no earlier than



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8:00am (SB Airport, SB Airbus to LAX, AMTRAK, Greyhound) and parent pickup by noon.

Sunday, April 12th. Return deadline is the 6:00 pm evening Assembly.

Arrival in Santa Barbara by 4:30 pm is required to make the shuttle back to campus on time. Automatic 10 laps for late arrival. Automatic 10 laps for late arrival.

MAY

Saturday, May 30th Graduation. All students are expected to attend Graduation at noon. Departure immediately after the ceremony or by 4:00pm. Shuttle rides to Santa Barbara depart campus at 2:00pm. (SB Airport, SB Airbus to LAX, AMTRAK, Greyhound) All students must leave campus by 4:00pm.

Students picked up directly from campus by parents may depart AFTER the 6:00pm assembly the Friday evening before break. There is a work period every Friday afternoon prior to school breaks. **Students will not be excused from this obligation.**

Under no circumstances are students permitted to leave school with a driver, except a sibling, who is under twenty-five years of age, regardless of parental permission.

Shuttle service to Santa Barbara is only available Saturday morning. Students traveling by air, train or bus may not book tickets until Saturday, the official start of school breaks.

Returning to Midland from Breaks

All students are expected to return to campus in time to attend the 6:00pm Sunday evening assembly. There are no exceptions. Please plan drive times and book return reservations with this deadline in mind. 4:30pm arrival in Santa Barbara is the latest possible arrival time to meet this commitment and 3:30pm is ideal so that students have time to unpack and be prepared for classes Monday morning. Automatic 10 laps for late arrival.

Midland arranges student pick-up/drop-off from designated locations in Santa Barbara only. Midland only provides shuttle services at start-of-school, year-end, and for school breaks, for students arriving at:

- Santa Barbara Airport (www.flysba.com)
- Santa Barbara AMTRAK (www.amtrak.com)
- Santa Barbara Airbus - Goleta Office Only (for LAX Shuttle Service, see www.sbairbus.com)
- Santa Barbara Greyhound Bus (www.greyhound.com)

Students flying into LAX must make connecting reservations on the Santa Barbara Airbus LAX Shuttle (sbairbus.com). These reservations should start/end in the Goleta office. See separate schedule for SB Airbus LAX Shuttle schedule.

Midland picks up returning students between 12:00 noon and 5:00pm. Students arriving on earlier flights/trains etc. should have a book/device for entertainment while waiting for the Midland van to arrive.

Estimated Travel Times

- One-hour travel time from Santa Barbara to Midland
- 2½ hours travel time from Santa Barbara to LAX (without weekend/holiday/rush-hour traffic)
- 2 hours advance check-in at LAX, 3 hours for international flights

Santa Barbara Airport Departures

8:00am is the earliest departure time from Santa Barbara. An 8:00am airline departure from Santa Barbara requires a 6:00am departure from Midland (One hour to Santa Barbara + one-hour airline check-in.) Midland does not provide shuttle service departing from Midland earlier than 6:00am.

Los Angeles Airport (LAX) Departures & Arrivals

11:45am is the earliest domestic flight departure time for LAX reservations (12:45pm for international travel). Two shuttles are required for LAX connections, one from Midland to Santa Barbara (1 hour) and one from Santa Barbara Airbus to LAX (2½ hours) and check-in time (2 hours domestic and 3 hours international).

For return trips, the SB Airbus Shuttle operates at 2 hour intervals. Plan arrivals to allow time for the next available shuttle connection to Santa Barbara + 2½ hour trip to Santa Barbara + an hour for the Midland shuttle from Santa Barbara to arrive on campus no later than 6:00pm. We recommend that families plan arrivals into LAX before 1:30pm. This is ideal timing for catching the two additional shuttles needed to get to campus comfortably by the 6:00pm deadline.



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Santa Barbara Airbus – LAX Shuttle

Please confirm shuttle timing carefully on the website. Do not book Airbus tickets from Santa Barbara departing before 7:00am or arriving later than 5:00pm. Tickets may be purchased online: www.sbairbus.com Schedule as of August 1, 2019

Goleta → LAX		
Trip #	Depart Goleta	Arrive LAX
5	7:00am	9:45am
7	8:30am	11:15am
9	10:00am	12:45pm
11	12:00pm	2:45pm
13	2:30pm	5:45pm
15	6:00pm	8:45pm

LAX → Goleta		
Trip #	Depart LAX	Arrive Goleta
2	8:00am	10:30am
4	10:30am	1:00pm
6	12:30pm	3:00pm
8	2:00pm	4:30pm

Return to Campus from Breaks

Faculty and staff need breaks too, hence early return to campus is not possible. Housing and meals are not available until the Sunday designated for return. Lunch is not served on return dates from school breaks. Arrival between 1:00pm and 4:30pm is ideal. Faculty-of-the-day are in charge of student check-in. Students must arrive in time for the 6:00pm dinner assembly. Late arrival is disruptive to the community and should only happen due to unforeseen circumstances.

Note: late returns after breaks are disruptive to the work program, academic program, and entire community. Regardless of the reason, late students will receive 10 work laps as compensation to the community.

About School Breaks

Because Midland has a week-long break every six or seven weeks, students may not extend their vacations. Students are expected to commit to an intensive six-week term when school is in session. Uninterrupted time at school is essential for the continuity and integrity of the Midland academic program and overall experience. Medical appointments, college visits, and other off-campus obligations should be scheduled over the school breaks.

Communication

Advisors, Faculty, & Staff

Your student's advisor is your first point of contact regarding any questions or concerns. The advisor is closely involved in all aspects of a student's life: academic, athletic, work program, and residential life. Most faculty do not have an office phone line and e-mail is the best method for initial contact.

Name	Title/Role	Extension	E-Mail Address
Adams, Ami	Learning Support	115	aadams@midland-school.org
Adams, Doris	Bookkeeper	117	dadams@midland-school.org
Butala, Gina	Horse Program Director	124	gbutala@midland-school.org
Barnes, Christopher	Head of School	112	cbarnes@midland-school.org
Brady, Jill	Assistant to Head of School	110	jbrady@midland-school.org
Cummings, Lynda	Director of College Placement	121	lcummings@midland-school.org
Derbyshire, Charis	Advancement Director	118	caderbyshire@midland-school.org
Ensign, Cierra	Director of Admissions & Financial Aid	127	censign@midland-school.org
Gelles, Paul	Spanish faculty		pgelles@midland-school.org
Goddard, Lise	Director of Studies & Environmental Studies	122	lgoddard@midland-school.org
Goddard, Jeff	Science faculty		jeffg@ucsb.edu
Greenblatt, Charlotte	Math faculty		cgreenblatt@midland-school.org
Grenier, Amy	Business Manager	119	agrenier@midland-school.org
Hagen, Matt	Math faculty		mhagen@midland-school.org
Harvey, Kimberley	Art faculty		kharvey@midland-school.org



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Harvey, Tristan	Science faculty		tharvey@midland-school.org
Hasseljian, Phil	Math faculty & IT Director		phasseljian@midland-school.org
Ibarra, José Juan	Dean of Students	129	jibarra@midland-school.org
Isaacson, John	English faculty	124	jisaacson@midland-school.org
McCarthy, Shona	Advancement Associate	118	smccarthy@midland-school.org
Moore, Ellie	Humanities Faculty		emoore@midland-school.org
Murillo, Gloria	Kitchen Manager	116	gmurillo@midland-school.org
Nikitopoulos, Alison	English faculty & Choral		anikitopoulos@midland-school.org
Nygren, Faith	Art faculty		fnygren@midland-school.org
Ellie Moore	Humanities Faculty		emoore@midland-school.org
Susman, Dan	Science Faculty		dsusman@midland-school.org
Thompson, Chris	Garden Manager		cthompson@midland-school.org
Tranmer, Nick	Ranch Manager		ntranmer@midland-school.org
Uribe, Yessica	Assistant Cook	116	yuribe@midland-school.org
Willie, Janet	Health Director	136	health@midland-school.org

Student Phones

We recommend parents arrange a regular time each week for students to call home or for parents to call the student.

Upper Yard (boys)

805.345.2154

Middle Yard

805.500.4448 (or)
805.904.1028

Lower Yard (girls)

805.500.8312

Students may *not* make or receive calls during academic hours, including Status of the Library in the evening (study hall times). If you have trouble reaching a student by phone, e-mail Jill Brady in the office and she will post a message for the student to call home.

Cell Phones

Cell phone use is not permitted on campus. Cell phones are collected from students when they arrive on campus and returned to them for travel home for breaks. Students may have music on a separate music player.

Email

Email is an effective means of contacting faculty, staff and students at Midland. Students and staff have a private email address which follows this protocol (with a few exceptions): First initial of the first name + whole lastname@midland-school.org. For example, Jill Brady = jbrady@midland-school.org. Email is particularly good for routine contact with your child's advisor and questions you may have of Health, Business, and Academic Offices.

Visiting

Half Holidays

Half holidays are an important element of our school life and philosophy. We punctuate an intensive weekly schedule with these intentional breaks to allow time for mindful reflection, active relaxation, and engagement with our natural surroundings. Frequently students are out on our 2,860-acre ranch: hiking, running, biking, and horseback riding. Half Holidays play an important role in connecting with the community. They create opportunities for students to develop healthy friendships and bond with classmates. Frequent departures from campus interfere with this development.



Visits

Midland has scheduled activities and events seven days a week. Regular student participation and full engagement with our entire program is a requirement and prerequisite for student success. We welcome family visits during half holiday times. We request that campus visits by family at other times be approved by the Dean of Students.

Any and all other student visitors (friends, extended family) must be approved in advance. In our experience, students hosting visitors or leaving campus less than once a week is ideal. The designated Tuesday and Sunday Half Holidays are popular days for family visits.

Students are permitted to leave campus with parents or other adult relatives/friends on these days (with permission). All visitors, including parents, are expected to check in with the Office or Faculty-of-the-day every time they visit. Student cabin areas (Upper and Lower Yards) are not open to visitors. Students must meet visitors at the office, dining hall, library or other designated area in Middle Yard.

All students **MUST** sign-out with the Faculty-of-the-day and on the sign-out sheet prior to departing (or with Main House staff if the Faculty-of-the-day is unavailable teaching a class) **AND** sign-in upon returning.

In order to leave campus, the students:

- Must not have laps for a designated lap period
- Must have their job covered
- Must check out with the Faculty-of-the-day & sign out
- Receive advisor permission if on Coventry status

Students may leave campus with parents:

- Tuesday from 3:20pm to 9:45pm
- Thursday from 3:20pm to 5:45pm
- Saturday from 6:15pm to 9:45pm
- Sunday from 12:15pm to 5:45pm

Special Requests for Overnight Absence

Midland works best when everyone commits to the uninterrupted, intensive six-week period that precedes scheduled breaks. Students are not allowed to leave campus overnight. Weddings, funerals, and graduations of immediate family members may be the exceptions. A special request for permission to be off campus overnight must be granted by the Dean of Students in advance. Students must not miss Sunday morning work periods or Chapels, which are important events in the life of the school. Students may leave campus with other adults if their own parent's send permission by phone or email to the Office in advance. However, under no circumstances will students be permitted to leave school with a driver, except a brother or sister, who is under twenty-five years of age, regardless of parental permission.

Thanksgiving at Midland

New families are reminded that there is no school vacation at Thanksgiving. Instead, families are invited and encouraged to attend the Midland Thanksgiving celebration which also provides a chance for parents to meet teachers and advisors the following day. Students' extended families are welcome to attend. During Thanksgiving, students may leave campus with family on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, but must return by 9:45pm. Students may not stay off campus overnight during the Thanksgiving holiday.

Cars & Vehicles

Campus Speed Limit is 5 mph. For risk management and dust control reasons we insist that the extended Midland community patrol and enforce this standard.

Guests, including parents, should park their cars in designated areas at the entrance to school and walk to classrooms, playing fields, etc. This is important for environmental and risk management concerns.

The only exception to this is loading and unloading at the beginning and end of the school year (after checking-in please). Parents requesting to drive beyond the entrance at any other time, please check with the office.

Students may not operate cars (drive) on campus at any time, including on arrival and departure days. Students may not store cars at school, in the local community, or with families of local students.

Drivers' Education is not offered at Midland, and students should look for opportunities to take this course in the summer or over breaks.



Expectations & Rules

Student Expectations, Contract, and Rules

Collectively the Enrollment Agreement, Student Contract, and Student Handbook represent the formal side of a student and families' relationship to Midland School. Before arrival, students and their parents/guardians should review these documents, in particular the code of conduct, behavioral expectations, and the technology acceptable use policy.

Midland is a small intentional community dependent on all individuals assuming responsibility for themselves and their role in the community. We are authentic in our practices of giving students substantive responsibilities, and dependent on a high level of trust and mutual respect. Basic community expectations such as positive participation ("showing up" in Midland parlance), treating others with respect, following the rules, and clear communication are requirements for our individual and collective success. Any student with any doubts regarding their ability to uphold any of these expectations should contact the Dean of Students or Head of School immediately.

The school's policies regarding major discipline are described in the Student Contract. This document includes policies on tobacco, alcohol, and drug use, academic dishonesty, and other rules and expectations. Students and parents are **strongly encouraged to review it carefully together**. The Student Contract must be signed by both parent/guardian(s) and the student, and then returned to Midland prior to the start of school each year.

Student Behavior and the Law

There are three areas of student misconduct in our society that have attracted the specific concern of legislators and policy makers. In these areas, at least a portion of the school's policy is dictated by law. They involve sexual harassment, sexual or physical abuse, and misuse or abuse of certain controlled substances and/or medications. In the latter two cases, direct involvement of law enforcement agencies is expected or required.

Sexual Harassment

California law requires that we develop and communicate to you Midland's policy on sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of a person's school-related advancement.
- submission or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for school-related decisions affecting the person.
- such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a person's school performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive school environment for the person.

Students who feel that they have been subjected to sexual harassment by any member of the Midland community should report the matter to the Health Director, their advisor, any member of the faculty with whom they feel comfortable, the Dean of Students or to the Head of School.

Sexual and Physical Abuse

High school students everywhere should be aware that schools are required to report to law enforcement agencies or Child Protection Services any known or suspected case of child, physical or sexual abuse. Students must understand that this law applies even if the perpetrator of the abuse is a minor and that, for minors, even consensual activity can be construed by the law as reportable. Prosecution in these instances depends on the severity of the behavior and the age or power difference between victim and abuser. For many good ethical and educational reasons, Midland is vigilant regarding the healthy nature of students' physical relationships. The potential legal ramifications provide additional impetus for students and parents to give full support in this effort.

Substance Abuse

While schools have been permitted leeway in their response to most forms of alcohol and drug abuse, there has been increasing concern about abuse and illegal use of prescription medications (Ritalin, Dexedrine, and similar substances). Unfortunately, the increased clinical use of these substances has also led to an increase in the abuse of them in schools. These substances are controlled under federal drug codes, and schools are expected to report code violations to local law enforcement agencies.

These substances, where their use is indicated, must be held by the school and dispensed under the supervision of a licensed physician. Students must **never** retain possession of these substances or other prescription drugs while at school or in their rooms.



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Any student found to be in possession of these substances or other illegal drugs and providing them to other students will be subject to immediate dismissal.

Use or possession of: alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes, marijuana, hallucinogenic, any illegal substance, and substances intended to recreationally alter mental states are prohibited and constitutes a major school rule violation that may result in dismissal.

Discipline

Routine discipline is dealt with through the lap system. Most infractions are a combination of run and work laps. For example, a student who is late to class may be given 5 laps. This means that, on the next available half holiday, they must complete 75 minutes of work for the community. (1 lap = 15 minutes of work)

Some infractions consist of run laps only which can be completed over the course of several half holidays. (1 run lap = 1 mile)

Please read the Student Contract to learn about Midland's disciplinary policies and procedures. If students accumulate too many laps (30 in one week), it is assumed that they are unable to uphold community expectations. The student may then be subject to dismissal.

Senior prefects, with support from the Dean of Students, handle much of the routine discipline of the school, particularly in the living areas.

Computers, Electronic Games, Cellular Devices

Students may have personal computers in their rooms but do not have Internet access in their cabins. The following items or uses are not permitted at any time. Any student who arrives on campus with these items must turn them in to their advisor immediately:

- Cell phones or devices that can be used to connect to cellular networks, walkie-talkies or other active or passive communication devices
- Computer networks (including ad-hoc networks that connect various devices)
- Network equipment (such as routers and switches)
- Unsupervised movies or television programs (in any format or on any device)
- Game consoles (examples: Xbox 360, PS3, etc.)
- Computer games (including those played on iPods, iPads and any other portable electronic device)
- Inappropriate, offensive or illegal material

If a student is unsure whether a device or its use violates the rules, they are expected to take the initiative and ask an appropriate adult for guidance. (For additional information, refer to the *Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy*)

Headphones

Headphones (including ear buds) are not allowed in Middle Yard unless it is "Status of the Library", the student is actually studying quietly, the volume is low, and the music selection is supportive of academic study.

No headphones are allowed during study laps. Headphones are not allowed during class time, while walking in the yards, when operating any power tools, or when near others operating hand or power tools (wood chopping).

Student Life

Job System

Midland has no year-round paid maintenance or custodial staff. Everyone in the school, including students, has a job to perform on a daily basis. Examples of jobs include waiting on tables, dishwashing, classroom cleaning, emptying trash and recycling, taking care of horses, bringing produce from the garden to the kitchen, and assisting with routine maintenance.

Students who are absent from school are responsible for seeing that their jobs are covered.

Senior Job Heads supervise students in carrying out their jobs.

Students who are medically unable to perform certain jobs should consult with Phil Hasseljian and the Health Director to ensure a suitable job assignment.



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Personal Pets & Horses

A student is allowed to bring a pet to Midland School on the basis of **prior approval** and meeting the general and case-by-case conditions set out by the school. Bringing a pet to Midland entails significant additional responsibilities and is a privilege reserved for strong community members and great pets. Students interested in bringing a pet should contact Faith Nygren at fnygren@midland-school.org. Students wishing to bring a horse to Midland School must contact Gina Butala at gbutala@midland-school.org (Horse Program Director) for **prior approval** and agreement to additional fees and costs.

Dress Standards: Middle Yard and Public Spaces

During a typical academic day, in Middle Yard, and in other public spaces, students and faculty should wear clothing that demonstrates respect for the learning environment and each other.

All Midland students will wear clothes that:

- fully cover underwear, buttocks, breasts and pectorals, bellies when arms are down, and at least half of the back. Sheer clothing may not expose these areas.
- may include dresses and skirts that are longer than approximately mid-thigh.
- are clean, neat, and in good repair, without rips, even if purchased as such.
- are appropriate for weather including rain (jacket and boots) and cold (as low as 20°F).
- may contain images or text that follow other Midland school rules (ie: no obscenity, harassing or offensive language; no promotion of drugs, tobacco, or alcohol; no nude images).

Work Periods: Work Period dress includes close-toed shoes; shirts, pants or shorts that are activity appropriate; and weather-appropriate clothing.

Sports: Dress will be appropriate for the activity and approved by the coach. Shirt removal decisions must be gender equal, and Middle Yard dress standards do not necessarily apply.

Off Campus: The default dress is Middle Yard standards, and may be determined by the faculty leader.

Sleepwear: To encourage hygiene and respect, sleepwear is not allowed in Middle Yard from breakfast until after dinner, but may be allowed other times as long as it conforms to Middle Yard dress standards.

Approved by Student Council, Spring 2018

Dress Standard: Special Event and Formal Night Dress

Some occasions, like formal dinners, Chapel, and Graduation require dress that demonstrates an increased respect for the event, speakers, and guests. At these times, students and faculty are encouraged to express themselves while dressing for a professional and/or multi-generational event.

All standards for everyday dress apply.

Students may choose one of the following options:

- suit or sports jacket (unless otherwise announced) coordinated with a collared, tucked-in button-down dress shirt, tie, dress slacks, belt, dress socks, and dress shoes.
- dress (length about mid-thigh) and dress shoes. Dressy sweaters, jackets, and stockings or tights are suggested for cold weather.
- dress slacks or skirt, a dressy blouse or sweater, and dress shoes.
- formal attire from another culture - in which the student has a substantive connection - is welcome with the approval of the student's advisor.

Inappropriate formal attire includes:

- jeans or denim
- leggings
- sneakers or tennis shoes
- patched, or torn items, even if they were purchased as such

Approved by Student Council, Spring 2018



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Clothing and Personal Items

We ask parents to be aware of what students are bringing to school in the Fall. Our mantra, “needs, not wants,” is an effective guide, as are the following policies:

Students should only bring enough clothing to last for two weeks, including a semi-formal outfit (jacket, dress shirt, tie, slacks, belt, dress shoes for boys; dress, blouse + skirt or pants, dress shoes for girls) for our Sunday dinners and special events.

**Refer to the Dress Code updated in 2018,*

To guide your packing, please refer to the school packing list. Please adhere to these restrictions. Our rooms are small, our clothing needs are simple, and excess clothing and other “stuff” clutters the rooms and creates an unclean living environment.

Please do not allow your child to habitually purchase clothing on-line and have it shipped to Midland.

All possessions, including clothing, should be **clearly labeled** so that they can be easily returned when misplaced.

During the school day, we require students to wear clothing that is appropriate, neat, clean, and in good repair. Ripped clothing must be patched. Underwear is not outerwear at Midland.

For trips, off-campus and for school dinners, we require collared shirts, pants, slacks or skirts, and dress shoes.

Weekly and on special occasions (Chapel, concerts, lectures, graduation, etc.) dress is dress blazers, ties, dress shirts and shoes for boys and dresses, skirts, or dress pants for girls.

All students should have clothing that is appropriate for maintenance and ranch work.

Clothing which displays vulgar, obscene, or abusive language; drugs or drug paraphernalia; or the names and/or logos of alcohol or tobacco products are not permitted. Similarly, any clothing that is considered inappropriate (excessively revealing, distracting to others, offensive to faculty or peers) or unclean is not permitted. Students will be asked to change if the clothing reveals breasts, bare bellies, or buttocks.

Newcomers should remember that mornings are chilly and classrooms are unheated. Plan to wear layers of clothing (sweater, down vest or coat) that can be removed as the day warms up.

Bedding should include at least two or three warm blankets and two changes of sheets. Students who sleep in sleeping bags are expected to bring two washable sleeping bag liners.

Approach coming to Midland as if students are backpacking - after they are finished packing, take a look and leave half of it at home. Students who bring lots of extra clothing and other personal items invariably turn out to be the ones who lose things and have difficulty maintaining a clean living space.

Lost or Stolen Items

Midland is not responsible for lost or stolen items on-campus, in vehicles, or during off-campus trips. Midland does not ensure student belongings nor reimburse students for lost items. Expensive electronics and other valuable items are best left at home.

Rooms, Appliances, & Electronics

In decorating rooms, students must adhere to standards that ensure fire safety, health, comfort and roommate consideration. Extra furniture is not allowed. Faculty-of-the-day and Prefects inspect cabins daily. Excess items are shipped home at the family's expense.

Cabin furniture: bed, chair, bureau, lamp & curtains are provided. Sofas and extra furniture are NOT allowed.

Adequate clearance is needed from all electrical switches, outlets, lights, appliances, sprinklers, and fireplaces.

Decorations of questionable taste that might be offensive to others, including diverse cultures, are not permitted. Students may not decorate with signs promoting or advertising the use of alcohol, other drugs, or drug paraphernalia.

Tapestries and other decorations must be displayed as wall covers and not as room dividers.

Students may bring a small throw rug, but may not put it under any furniture, as this impedes room cleaning.

Students may only use the standard twin beds provided. Bed frames are to remain on the floor. They are not to be stacked. Mattresses are to remain on the frames and not on the floor. Do not push beds together

The condition of each room will be inventoried at the beginning of the year and when any room change occurs. Families will be billed on an actual-cost basis for deliberate or negligent damage. A \$100 cleaning fee will be assessed for rooms not cleaned and inspected prior to the student's departure.



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Music playing devices and computers for academic purposes are permitted in rooms as long as they are used according to Midland policies and they do not negatively impact other members of the community. Consideration for roommates and shared-wall mates when playing music is essential.

Only Seniors may have hotpots in their rooms. Electric heaters of any kind are not allowed in student cabins.

Irons will be provided, on request, for use in the laundry rooms.

Except for fires in a stove during stove season, open flames of any kind, including, but not limited to, matches, lighters, candles, and incense are not permitted.

The fire department has prohibited the use of extension cords in student rooms. Students should plan on bringing one or two power strips in lieu of extension cords.

Camping Equipment

Camping trips are a regular part of a Midland student’s life. While we do have a limited supply of gear for short term loan to students, it is important that every student have the appropriate gear for being outdoors in a wide variety of weather conditions.

Due to the rustic nature of life at Midland, students will use virtually all of the gear listed below in their everyday life at Midland. Though some of the items may seem like specialty items, they will help keep your child comfortable and healthy throughout the year. You can find these items at your local outdoor retailer or through online retailers (REI, Campmor, Sierra Trading Post, Amazon). For additional questions about camping supplies for the Midland School Outdoor Program, please e-mail, Dan Susman at dsusman@midland-school.org

Comfortable lightweight hiking shoes

Two 1 qt. water bottles (bladder/reservoir okay)

Lightweight & Durable cup, bowl, plate, spoon, fork

Pocket knife (blade must be less than 4")

Lightweight insulated jacket (down or synthetic fill)

Shade hat (baseball cap or wide brim)

Sun glasses, sunscreen (>SPF 15 w/ UVA/UVB protection)

Wool or synthetic hat

Fleece or wool gloves

Fleece jacket or wool sweater

Lightweight, low cut wool or synthetic socks

Nylon or fleece long pants (no cotton sweats or jeans)

Rain jacket & rain pants (treated nylon preferred)

Optional Items:

Backpack (4,000 in³ or 65-liter volume)

Sleeping bag & stuff sack (10-20° F rating) Down sleeping bag preferable to synthetic

Full length Sleeping Pad (foam or air)

Knives

Students are permitted to possess a pocketknife or a sheath knife with a blade of 3 inches or less. All other varieties of knives and bladed implements are prohibited. This includes butterfly knives and switchblades. Knives are for utility in the yards and on camping trips.

School Supplies

Midland supplies and charges the student account for class specific specialty school supplies. Please bring basic school supplies as follows:

- Binder paper and dividers
- Pens, pencils, eraser and pencil pouch
- Ruler and compass
- USB Flash Drive
- Chromebook

Any model will work. We recommend one that has at least 4 GB of RAM. After that, battery life, screen size, ruggedness, touch screen, it really comes down to preference and cost.

For more information about chromebook options: <https://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2413071,00.asp>

To read reviews on specific models: https://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss_2?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=Chromebook



Snack Food

Midland encourages healthy eating habits and actively discourages consumption of junk food by providing continuous access to healthy snacks. A fresh fruit bowl and homemade, unsweetened peanut butter and jam and honey are always available in the dining hall.

Sweetened drinks (soda, etc.) are not allowed in Middle Yard and are generally not encouraged. Faculty members will limit the number of soft drinks students purchase in town. We appreciate parental support by not supplying students with frequent packages of unhealthy food. Of course, occasional "care packages" are welcome.

Academics

Academic Reporting Periods

Official academic reports are available online to parents through their MyMidlandSchool.org account at several times during the year tied to the ends and mid-points of academic terms. Major reports include:

Semester 1:

October: Report with grades and comments

December: Report with grades

January: End-of-semester official transcript grades with comments

Semester 2:

March: Report with grades and comments

May: End-of-semester official transcript grades with advisor letters

The timing of formal grade reports aligns with the end the first two terms, the midpoint of the year, near the end of the fourth six-week term, and the end of the year. Additionally, parents will be able to view interim grades at midpoints of the six-week terms.

Advisors stay in close touch with students' academic status at all times and parents should feel free to contact advisors if they feel the need to be updated between formal reports.

Grades

All courses are graded using the following system:

A - Superior Performance

B - Satisfactory Performance

C - Average

D - Unsatisfactory Performance

F - No Credit.

Coventry Status

Revised and implemented as of 2017-18

The following academic profiles will land a student in Coventry Status (academic probation):

- A cumulative term grade below a C- in any class at any 3-week grade period
 - Coventry status is re-assessed every three weeks.
- A GPA below 2.0 or precarious academic status across the board, deemed as such by an academic team including the advisor, student's teachers, dean of studies, and learning strategist.

A student in Coventry will face the following outcomes:

1. The student will meet with his/her advisor, dean of studies, and the learning strategist to discuss his/her academic status, restrictions, and support. Together, this team will devise a studying/learning plan that includes, at a minimum:
 - One hour (4 study laps) every Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday lap period - at an assigned location - to be completed BEFORE work laps, seeing an off-campus visitor, or going on an off-campus outing.
 - Evaluation of the need for - and implementation of - academic support structures.
2. The advisor will have the latitude to impose restrictions that will facilitate academic improvement, particularly the management of the student's free time.



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Midland's policies regarding low or failing grades are designed to support future eligibility for University of California and Cal State entrance requirements. Admission requirements have tightened in response to increased applications in recent years.

Any student on Coventry status for the full Fall or Spring semester *may be required* to withdraw from the school (a student may be required to withdraw after semester examinations in December).

Any student who earns lower than a C- in any course during the first or second semester, who is permitted to remain enrolled, may be required to retake the course over the summer, earning a C or better. This requirement enables students to remain eligible at the University of California and California State Universities.

The summer course must be accredited and approved in advance by Midland. Before returning in the Fall, the school must receive an official transcript from the accredited and Midland-approved summer program.

Junior Review

All students contribute to Midland through the jobs that they perform, and for seniors, these jobs involve leadership and supervisory roles in the school.

Seniors play a role in the operation of the school that is both vital to the school and unique to secondary schools in general. For this reason, members of the junior class who are able and willing to perform leadership functions in the school will be assigned prefectships and leadership positions.

Juniors begin a leadership training program in the second semester of the junior year.

College

Parents of rising seniors have received information about college in letters from College Placement Director. These families will receive more information during the summer. Seniors should do active research into college choices well before the year begins.

- The first applications are due by the end of November, and that deadline comes quickly. Furthermore, college application and test registration fees mount quickly during the school year.
- Students should plan on \$50.00 per college and \$80.00 per test in standardized testing. These fees may be charged to the family's credit card on file with the Business Office for student billing.
- College visits should be made over the summer and during school breaks.
- Lynda Cummings can be reached by at 805-688-5114 ext.121 and by e-mail lcummings@midland-school.org



Athletics

Sports Seasons

There are three sport seasons: Fall, Winter and Spring. Students are required to participate in a sport or an offered/organized extracurricular activity each season. Several choices are available. Participation in at least one competitive interscholastic sport each school year is mandatory.

Sports period is required and missing sports carries the same infraction as missing an academic class. Interscholastic sports include girls' volleyball and co-ed cross country in the Fall; boys' and girls' soccer and basketball in the Winter; and boys' volleyball in the Spring.

Students may participate in the maintenance, organic gardening, yoga, kitchen, or strength and conditioning during one sport season only.

Any student who is physically limited or unable to participate in the prescribed athletic program should bring a doctor's explanation of what activities are, or are not, permitted. Students unable to participate in the regular program will be scheduled an alternative. Questions regarding the athletic program should be directed to Tom Rogowski, Athletic Director, trogowski@midland-school.org

Athletic Equipment

Midland provides uniforms and equipment with the following exceptions:

- One pair of running shoes, properly-fitted and suitable for long-distance running
- One pair of cleats for students planning to participate in soccer (Shin guards for soccer may be purchased through the school)
- One pair of black shorts and one pair of socks (to be used for all sports)

Health

Medical Care

Midland's Health Director, Janet Willie, is in charge of managing student health and scheduling medical appointments. Families are responsible for providing their own comprehensive health insurance. Proof of current health insurance coverage is mandatory and must be provided prior to a student's arrival on campus. Midland international tuition fee covers health insurance for International students only.

- All medications (prescription, over-the-counter, and herbal remedies) must be given to Health Staff at drop-off or return to school. No medications may be kept by a student (barring explicit permission from the Health Director for certain medications).
- Please **keep a supply of medications at home**. Medications are **not** sent home during breaks.
- Students not well enough to attend class must be excused by Health Staff.
- If medical treatment is indicated, parents will be contacted regarding the diagnosis and proposed course of treatment.
- Parents who have further questions about their child's treatment will need to contact the Health staff directly.
- Charges for which parents are responsible **include, but are not limited to:** lab tests, x-rays, medicines, prescriptions, all hospital charges, and services performed by other health care providers.
- The cost for prescription medications will be charged to the credit card number on file with the School. Families who have a prescription drug insurance plan must mail a copy of their plan identification card to the Health Office for presentation to the local pharmacist.

Absence from Class

After an evaluation by the Health Director, a student may be excused from class or sports period due to a health condition. Students excused from classes may not participate in sports, or half holiday activities, evening clubs, library status, or tea time. An excused student may return to class or the daily routine when cleared by the Health Director. After missing a class, the student is responsible to see each teacher and set deadlines for completing missing work and assignments. Study laps are assigned as "recovery laps" in order to make-up academic work.



Health Related Procedures

Students report to Stillman Dining Room for check-in between 7:15AM and 7:45AM. If students are ill, they must report to the Health Director immediately in order to be evaluated or excused from class and daily activities. Every attempt will be made to treat students and have them attend class, required activities, jobs and sports.

A health excuse will be issued for the student if a health condition is determined to be present. Students will be isolated from the student body for acute illness that may include the following symptoms: fever, rash, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea.

Students excused from class will remain in their rooms and their names will be posted on the Infirmary sheet on Stillman porch. When the health condition improves and the symptoms subside, the student must be cleared to return to normal activities by the Health Director. At that time, the student will be able to return to normal activities. If there is no one in the Health Office when the student returns for clearance, the student should report to Main House and a lap master will be contacted.

If a student asks a teacher to be excused from class for a health reason, the student is to report directly to the Health Office. If the Health Director is not present, the student must report to Main House until a lap master can be notified.

Unless students are confined to their room, they should participate in afternoon sports or activities. The level of activity is determined by the Health Director and school physician, and a note will be provided to coaches or a faculty supervisor that communicates the level of activity to be allowed. Usual excuses from sports are health conditions due to contusions, sprains, strains, pulled muscles, or fractures. Students must report to the Health Director by lunch to be excused from afternoon sports.

Accident Insurance

All students are enrolled in a mandatory accident insurance program. The one-time premium will be included on the first month's advances bill and is usually around \$80. This provides secondary coverage with the family's own policy as the primary coverage. All medical treatment is billed directly to the family and it is the family's responsibility to see that an insurance claim with the family's own carrier, as well as the student accident insurance carrier, is filed within 20 days of the occurrence of any injury. Health Office staff will provide assistance with this process.

Additional Medical Appointments

The Health Office coordinates transportation for appointments with outside health care providers that might be necessary while school is in session **in the Santa Ynez Valley only**. A transportation fee is billed to families for these appointments.

We expect that all elective, non-urgent medical treatment will be scheduled for students while they are home on frequent school breaks. Appointments, whenever necessary, should be made on Tuesday and Thursday (half-holiday) afternoons in order to limit absences from school as well as to minimize transportation costs.

Medical Forms

The Health Office needs medical forms prior to the start of school in order to review them.

In accordance with **state law**, each student **must have a current physical examination** prior to coming to school. Additionally, Midland's sports league requires this annual physical exam for all participants in Condor League games.

Students may not register in September unless all required medical forms have been returned including a current physical.

Please note that it is the parent's responsibility to inform the school of any changes in a child's medical status or health insurance during the school year. Please forward any new information to the Health Office.

Counseling and Confidentiality

For help with routine problems, students should turn to prefects, the advisor, or any faculty member. Most problems associated with adjustment to academic or social life at Midland can be dealt with in this way. One advantage of a close community is that there are plenty of people to turn to for help.

When a student turns to another student or faculty member for help, he or she has a right to expect that privacy will be protected. However, students should understand that confidentiality may be limited by legal or ethical considerations. For example, a student should expect the involvement of a qualified health-care professional when an individual's health or well-being is at risk.

Likewise, a responsible helper may feel action is needed when an individual's behavior threatens the well-being of others.

Finally, teachers and health care professionals are required by law to report to the appropriate legal authorities all suspected instances of physical or sexual abuse of anyone under eighteen years of age.



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For personal problems of a more serious nature, the Health Director will work with the family to arrange a referral to a counselor in the area.

Parents and students should be sure to let the Health Director know about any matters that might lead to serious unhappiness.

In order to coordinate students' medical care, the school physician should be made aware of any treatment of students by mental health practitioners.

Financial

Credit Cards for Business Office Billing

Parents must provide the School with an active credit card account number prior to the opening of school in September. The School will charge this credit card account the cost of: textbooks, test fees, special classroom supplies, off-campus transportation, non-required trips, elective extracurricular activities such as dances and concerts, prescription medicines, athletic and sports equipment and other similar expenses.

If the credit card becomes inactive, purchasing privileges for extracurricular events will be frozen until an active credit card number is provided to the School.

Incidental expenses will be charged to this card. Students with past due tuition or inactive credit card numbers may not be permitted to take the December or year-end examinations. We assume that students get parental preapproval prior to requesting advances for optional extracurricular expenses. Parents should discuss their own expectations concerning charges directly with their children. We expect students to follow their parents' expectations without the need for intrusion on our part.

Spending Money

For an occasional trip to town, pizza parlor, or movie, a student may want to spend thirty to fifty dollars per six-week period. Having too much money leads to more problems than not having enough. A roll of quarters for laundry machines is useful. Students travelling on commercial carriers over school breaks will need travel cash. Please plan accordingly.

ATM, Debit Card and Personal Credit Card

Students should have an ATM or Debit card for personal spending in town. This reduces the need for cash in student cabins and the possibility of theft. It provides an easy way for parents to monitor and control spending. Students should never have more than \$25 in their cabins. All cash and other valuables, such as a camera, should be in a lockbox small enough to store under the bed. International students and students with long travels to and from school will need a personal credit card.

Online shopping

It is not acceptable for students to make online purchases several times a week. Rooms become cluttered and more importantly, compulsive buying is not in line with living a *simple life* as directed by the Midland philosophy of considering "needs not wants" in all aspects of the community's life.

Cabin Security

Students can avoid losses by keeping track of their own belongings, leaving small, expensive, unnecessary items at home, and avoiding an excess of personal possessions. **Mark all personal belongings to avoid loss.** Midland cannot and will not assume financial responsibility for the loss or damage of students' personal property. Families may wish to confirm that expensive items, such as music player and computers are covered by their personal homeowners' insurance.



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School Budget

Every Spring, after the school has made a financial agreement with each family, the school sets a budget for the year to come. Using this budget, Midland makes the full year's commitment to faculty for salaries, to contractors for major services, supplies, and equipment, and to the 50% of Midland's families who receive financial aid. Midland counts on the commitments that are made in student contracts to honor the commitments that Midland School makes to others. Midland enrollment is a year-long financial commitment.

As the enrollment contract financial agreement states, Midland School considers an enrolled student's commitment binding for the year, even if the student withdraws or is dismissed from school before the end of the year.

Annual Fund

The Annual Fund is the development backbone of Midland School. It gives every person with a past, present and future connection to Midland an opportunity to invest in the life of a young person and in the strength of the school. We ask for financial support from families through their participation in this fund. Family support ensures Midland will continue to be accessible to students who would otherwise not receive a Midland education.