



Junior School *Applying for a Visa*

British and Irish Students

Students with British or Irish nationality do not need a Visa to study at Gordonstoun.

EU, EEA or Swiss Students

Students joining Gordonstoun from EU or EEA countries, including Switzerland, for longer than 6 months require a visa. Where students are under 18, a Child Student Visa will be required. Should any student be aged over 18, a Student Visa will be required.

The few students join from EU or EEA countries, including Switzerland, for less than 6 months (the Autumn Term or the Spring and Summer Terms) do not require a Visa to study in the UK. The school will provide a letter confirming students acceptance for study with us, which also details the required fees have been paid.

Students from out-with the EU, EEA, Switzerland

Students joining Gordonstoun from out-with the EU will require a Child Student or Student Visa.

Some international students, do not need a Visa to study in the UK if their intended course of study is less than 6 months. However, some nationals require a visa even if their period of stay is less than 6 months, these include China and Nigeria. Admissions will be happy to advise when a visa is required.

Alternative Right to Study in the UK

Some students have immigration permission that is not dependent on sponsorship by Gordonstoun. In these cases, the school will require a copy of the visa prior to enrolment so we can confirm the students right to study in the UK. If the student's right to study is linked to a parent's immigration status, we require a copy of the parent's visa too.

Timing of Child Visa applications

An application for a visa can be made from 6 months prior to commencement of study. We expedite our applications as early as possible so that there is sufficient time for the visa to be granted. Parents are advised not to book travel to Gordonstoun until the visa has been granted.

Application process

Gordonstoun sponsors visas through our immigration advisors Holmes and Partners and together we assist all families to provide the required information for a successful application. When the school contract is signed and the deposit paid then once we are within 6 months before entry the Gordonstoun visa team will make an introduction to Holmes and Partners. Holmes and Partners will guide each family through the application process and check that all the documentation is in place at each stage.

Gordonstoun's visa and admissions teams are always there if families have any questions along the way.



Visa renewals

Students currently at Gordonstoun, whose BRP (biometric card) is due to expire, but intend to continue their studies at Gordonstoun, can choose to renew the visa whilst in the UK. An application for a renewal visa can be made 3 months before the course starts. It is important to note that a student is not permitted to leave the UK until a decision has been made on the application.

Accessing Health-Care

Anyone who is applying for a Child Student or Student Visa will be required to pay the Immigration Health Surcharge, which allows access to the National Health Service.

Students who are in the United Kingdom for less than 6 months or on a Visitor Visa are not required to pay the Immigration Health Surcharge. For emergency treatment valid EHIC cards for European Students will be accepted. International students should apply for GHIC cards (these will gradually replace EHIC cards for new EU students). Those who do not hold a valid EHIC or GHIC must have private medical insurance and some families prefer to take this out in addition to an EHIC/GHIC.

Please ask the admissions team if you have any questions admissions@gordonstoun.org.uk

