

# **UCC Boarding Handbook** 2025–26





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# WELCOME TO BOARDING

**UPPER CANADA COLLEGE** 



# WELCOME TO BOARDING AT UCC

Dear UCC Boarding Families,

UCC believes that membership in the boarding program contributes to developing open-minded, caring, principled and balanced learners who will be prepared to make substantial contributions at university and in their chosen career paths. We look forward to building on the special partnership that students, staff, and parents shared during the 2025–26 school year.

Congratulations to the new boarders. Living in a community of gifted international and domestic students of a similar age is a step toward developing essential life skills. A special thank you to the parents of boarders for allowing us to participate in your child's academic and character development. Our dedicated boarding staff team is preparing to help your child navigate academic, co-curricular and social-emotional challenges.

Bringing together just 88 student learners from more than 25 countries is what makes the UCC boarding experience special. Staff and students learn to appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. Boarding faculty and staff look forward to assisting your child's growth as they push the boundaries of their potential inside and outside the classroom. UCC is committed to a safe, healthy, meaningful, engaging and supportive learning environment to cultivate individual growth and wellbeing. A supportive environment requires open dialogue between students, house advisers, and parents. Learning to live with a roommate, overcoming academic challenges, and creating co-curricular balance is not always easily managed by a teenager.

The UCC Boarding Handbook 2025–26 is designed to provide a strong foundation of information to help students succeed. This handbook will also help families become familiar with the supports designed to assist students. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's senior house adviser or me should you have any questions about the material in this handbook.

Emma Kanga Director of Boarding Upper Canada College

# UCC BOARDING OVERVIEW



# **BOARDING OVERVIEW**

#### **ABOUT UPPER CANADA COLLEGE**

Founded in 1829, Upper Canada College (UCC) has been educating the next generation of leaders and innovators for nearly 200 years, inspiring them to impact their world positively. An International Baccalaureate (IB) school located in central Toronto on 35 acres of green space, UCC enrolls approximately 1,260 Senior Kindergarten through Year 12 students, including boarding students worldwide. Upon graduation, students are eligible for the dual IB Diploma and the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD qualifications).

Grounded in its mission to deliver transformational learning experiences, the school fosters the development of head, heart, and humanity inspires each boy to be his best self. UCC features modern learning spaces, state-of-the-art facilities, and countless athletic and co-curricular activities. UCC is committed to ensuring that 20 percent of students receive financial assistance, with \$6 million available annually to Canadian students.

#### UCC LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This land we gather on at Upper Canada College is in the traditional territory of Indigenous Peoples, including the Anishinaabe, Wendat and Haudenosaunee. We are grateful for Indigenous stewardship of these lands since time immemorial.

We acknowledge that the Deer Park campus is in Treaty 13 territory, and the Norval campus is in Treaty 19 territory, signed by the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the British Crown in 1805 and 1818.

Today, this region is home to many First Nations, Inuit and Métis people from across Turtle Island, and we are grateful for the opportunity to gather and learn on this land. In partnership with Indigenous Peoples, we will continue to act on our <u>WE CALL</u> commitments to advance Truth and Reconciliation. More information on UCC's commitment to Truth and Reconciliation is available here.

#### ABOUT UCC'S BOARDING PROGRAM

• Upper Canada College has welcomed boarding students since its founding in 1829. The boarding program has served Canadian and international families who seek a rigorous liberal education for their sons. Today's boarding community provides unparalleled opportunities for personal growth and the unique advantage of experiencing College life to the fullest. Boarding students at UCC enjoy the benefits of a close-knit boarding community and the advantages of the wider school's rich academic and co-curricular programs. Boarding students consider themselves to be the heart of the College. This handbook outlines the boarding program and support services and provides an overview of the expectations, regulations, and rules that govern boarding life.

# **BOARDING PERSONNEL**

The members of our boarding staff team supervise and counsel students. They strive to create a family atmosphere based on mutual respect, support and caring.

#### **DIRECTOR OF BOARDING**

#### Ms. Emma Kanga

The director leads the strategic planning and annual goals for boarding life, including social, educational, spiritual and community development initiatives. The director oversees the excellent care of students through coordination and works with the assistant heads, year-level coordinators, and teams from the Health Centre, the University Counselling Office and the Wernham West Centre for Learning. The director works closely with the senior house advisers to ensure that all aspects of the Boarding Life program are aligned with UCC's mission, core values and strategic priorities. The director meets regularly with the senior house advisers to ensure all students receive the support they need to flourish and that the supports are communicated to boarding families.

#### **SENIOR HOUSE ADVISERS (SHAs)**

#### Ms. Anna Blagona (Wedd's) and Mr. Andrew McCubbin (Seaton's)

Two senior house advisers (SHAs), one living in Seaton's House and one residing in Wedd's House, oversee the well-being of each boarding student and supervise the smooth and orderly operation of the residence and its services. The SHAs encourage students to broaden and deepen their talents and interests and to participate fully in the College community's life. They communicate with parents on socio-emotional issues that may require collaboration with the Health Centre and the Wernham West Centre for Learning.

#### **ASSISTANT SENIOR HOUSE ADVISERS (ASHAs)**

#### Mr. Christian Heffernan (Wedd's) and Mr. Alvin Jugoon (Seaton's)

The assistant senior house advisers (ASHAs) contribute to the vision and help provide leadership to the pastoral care of boarding students in their assigned houses. The ASHAs will liaise with year-level coordinators and fellow boarding staff team members to set and communicate advising curriculum agendas; the ASHAs will then oversee the delivery of the advising curriculum. They collaborate closely with the senior house adviser in their boarding house to support students' social-emotional development.

#### **BOARDING NURSE**

#### Ms. Leah Orvis

The boarding nurse provides complete boarding oversight and health management (physical, mental, emotional and social) for boarding students. The boarding nurse works closely with the UCC Health Centre, the director of boarding, and the SHA team to determine best practices for each student regarding their health. When applicable, the boarding nurse will communicate directly with parents and guardians about their son's health. The boarding nurse manages office hour shifts in both the day and evenings, engaging with students in the boarding house

one-to-one in a private, confidential space, and/evening group sessions are managed in communal settings, as applicable.

#### **BOARDING PROGRAMS COORDINATOR**

#### Ms. Farrah Jinha

The boarding programs coordinator manages the development and oversight of the Boarding Programming Model, which includes weekend programming, overseeing the development of family and cultural events, leading, planning and working with campus stakeholders to execute authentic experiences for boarders that align with College values. The boarding programs coordinator manages the weekly Student Leadership Forum, which includes Prefects, Year Representatives and Athletics Commissioners, to increase student leadership opportunities.

#### **BOARDING LEARNING STRATEGIST**

#### Ms. Liz Kennedy

The boarding learning strategist will contact boarding students to connect about day-to-day academic matters and collaborate with the senior house advisers (SHAs), the Wernham West Centre for Learning (WWCfL), Health Centre, Sports Injury Clinic, and the University Counselling Office (UCO) to oversee student academic development. The boarding learning strategist monitors and supports the educational progress of boarding students, developing a rich evening study support program for all students in the boarding community and offering students small-group and individual support as needed. The boarding learning strategist communicates closely with all boarding team members about individual student needs and learning goals, and regularly with parents to ensure transparency, collaboration and clarity.

#### RESIDENTIAL ADVISERS (RAs)

Ms. Sarah Selvaratnam and Mr. Scott Del Zotto (Wedd's)

Ms. Kyra Borsoi and Mr. Dylan Parry-Lai (Seaton's)

Residential advisers (RAs) work closely with the senior house advisers to provide a strong advising team. They also play an important supervisory role during the school day, weekday evenings and weekends. Residential advisers also assist with developing and supervising weekend programs and other enrichment activities for boarding students. Along with SHAs and ASHAs, the RAs deliver the boarding curriculum.

Our boarding staff team all reside on the College grounds and provide holistic guidance, support and encouragement to all students in their assigned residences. They provide an essential supervisory role on weekdays and weekends. Select members of the boarding staff team are assigned to a smaller "family" group of 15 students; they join as a group for family-style dinners and weekend programs, and these team members assist with the delivery of the boarding curriculum.

# **BOARDING CONTACTS**

Department	Contact	Phone Number
UCC Main Phone Number		416-488-1125
Attendance Upper School	Maggie Xu	416-488-1125, ext. 2219 <u>usattendance@ucc.on.ca</u>
Security Director	<u>Dorothy Cheevers</u>	416-488-1125, ext. 2224 (school hours) Cell: 647-229-6282 Security: 416-786-3531
Director of Boarding	Emma Kanga	416-488-1125, ext. 2253
Seaton's House Leadership	Andrew McCubbin SHA Cell: 437 237 6445	416-488-1125, ext. 3102
	Alvin Jugoon ASHA Cell: 437 655 7468	ext. 2025
	Seaton's Duty Cell Phone	416-666-8921
Wedd's House Leadership	Anna Blagona SHA Cell: 437 224 9660	416-488-1125, ext. 3007
	Christian Heffernan ASHA Cell: 647 205 1831	ext. 3373
	Wedd's Duty Cell Phone	416-710-6241
Boarding Nurse	Leah Orvis "Nurse Leah" lorvis@ucc.on.ca	Cell Phone Number: 647-721-6843

# STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

All UCC boarding students are expected to respect and adhere to the following:

#### THE FIVE ESSENTIAL AGREEMENTS

#### 1. Respect

For yourself, each other and our living space

2. Engagement

Academic, co-curricular and house

3. Attendance

At all daily meetings

4. Curfew

Including tech hand-in

5. Communication

In-person, by phone, email and REACH (UCC's electronic leave management system)

I) UCC Boarding Weekends 2025–26 Unplug, Connect, Contribute

#### **UCC Boarding Weekend Dates:**

September 13-14 2025 January 31-February 1 2026 April 11-12 2026

The UCC Boarding Weekend is an essential experience designed to build a close-knit community among boarding students. Scheduled three times a year, these immersive weekends run from Saturday to Sunday and are a mandatory part of the student experience. UCC Boarding Weekends focus on bringing the boarding community together while unplugging from technology, connecting with peers, and contributing to the broader UCC and Toronto community. Supervised by our boarding staff team, boarding students will engage in activities that provide opportunities to explore outside their comfort zone, meet new people, learn a new skill, and provide service and stewardship to the local community.

Designed to encourage meaningful connections, the UCC Boarding Weekends invite students

to disconnect from digital devices and fully engage with their peers. The weekend features a variety of activities, including large-group challenges, communal meals and impactful volunteer projects. These experiences are crafted to build strong connections, enhance teamwork, and give back to the community, ensuring a weekend of growth, unity and contribution.

For these specific UCC Boarding Weekends — **the exact dates listed above** — we kindly ask that your son plan to remain on campus for the entirety of the weekend. It is imperative for your son to engage in these community events to support team building, friendships, and camaraderie within the boarding houses.

#### **EXPECTATIONS**

Boarders are expected to uphold the principles of Our Shared Ideals as College community members. Further, as members of a community that prizes, above all, personal responsibility, respect for others and citizenship, boarding students are expected to:

- Be respectful and thoughtful of each other.
- Encourage, support and celebrate the achievements of others.
- Demonstrate personal responsibility.
- Meet all standards and rules, and be good citizens.
- Be respectful of the boarding staff and faculty.
- Be conscious of one-on-one interactions or meetings with UCC staff and understand that, for safety reasons, doors will often be left open when it is just a student and a staff member meeting.
- Please review and familiarize yourself with the <u>UCC Family Handbook</u>, which contains additional details about student safety and employee responsibilities. Y

#### DISCRIMINATION

Section 1 of the *Ontario Human Rights Code* states that every person has a right to equal treatment without discrimination because of race, ethnic origin, citizenship, etc. Seaton's and Wedd's Houses are the school-year residences for students from many countries and several Canadian provinces. The UCC boarding community prides itself on its ability to create a community of learners from all corners of the globe. We aim to ensure that every person connected to the boarding is treated with the utmost respect.

#### HARASSMENT AND BULLYING

The UCC boarding program prides itself on developing a residential environment where boarders can demonstrate they are open-minded and caring individuals. To that end, the UCC boarding program will not tolerate harassment in the boarding community. Harassment may be physical (pushing or other unwelcome contact, sexual or otherwise), verbal (threats or insults), written or visual (graffiti), and includes the use of the internet, including social media, for the same. Harassment does not need to target a specific student. For further information and potential consequences, refer to the <u>UCC Family Handbook</u>.

# COMMUNICATION

#### With the Student's House Adviser

Parents are encouraged to contact the senior house adviser (SHA) to discuss any matter related to their son's well-being and progress.

#### With the College

The school will communicate regularly with parents through a weekly newsletter called *Heads* Up. Stay tuned to Heads Up's "Boarding Life" section for boarding-specific updates. Bluenet's Resources for <u>parents</u> and <u>students</u> — including a "New to Blue - Boarding" resource area designed for new families — are also available through your account login.

#### With Students

Family communication is essential to boarding students. Parents are encouraged to keep in touch with their students, and the SHA can expedite contact in cases of emergency. Kk I'm

#### **Personal Cell Phones**

Boarders are required to have cell phones to field incoming calls and texts, as well as to have the ability to communicate with UCC staff members whenever there is a need. Although the College requires parents to provide their son with a cell phone for regular communication, the use of cell phones is considered a privilege. It is subject to the basic rules of courtesy and respect for others in shared living. Cell phones should be used responsibly and always in a manner that does not disturb the rights and comfort of other students.

It is customary for all but Year 12 students to have their cell phones, computers and tablets collected at evening curfew. Year 9 to 11 students will place their cell phones, computers and tablets in the Duty Office before evening curfew. It's essential to get a good night's sleep without distractions.

#### Video Chat

Google Meet, Skype, FaceTime, and WhatsApp are a few chat platforms that students use to communicate. Families at home are encouraged to download video chat technology to communicate visually and verbally with their sons. The senior house advisers are comfortable using video chat technology to communicate with parents.

#### Mail

Mail delivery service will occur for students living in residence.

#### **Email**

At the beginning of the fall term, students are given a computer network account with email

access activated. They are expected to check their UCC email accounts daily.

#### **Social Media**

Network services for borders include the responsible use of social media technology. Education regarding the use of social media is ongoing; community time has been devoted to ensuring all students understand the potential dangers of posting photographs and messages. No student should create, disseminate or store images that contain nudity or sexual content. Such content may be illegal.

# SUPPORT SERVICES



# SUPPORT SERVICES

#### ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Senior house advisers, assistant house advisers and residential advisers represent most academic disciplines and are available for remedial help and guidance when on duty. Boarding students are also encouraged to seek extra help from their teachers. If needed, the senior house adviser will work collaboratively with the Wernham West Centre for Learning to arrange tutoring or assistance from the Wernham West Centre for Learning and/or external services. Additionally, the Centre for Learning support, from English Language Learner (ELL) support to test preparation, will be available during evening study.

#### WERNHAM WEST CENTRE FOR LEARNING

The Wernham West Centre for Learning (WWCfL) has unique programming for all boarding students. The WWCfL supports all students academically through their subject-specific learning, academic language learning, approaches to learning skills, and executive functioning skills (organization, time management, task initiation and more). The WWCfL invites all students to visit any time to develop healthy study habits, complete missed or accommodated assessments, and discuss with the WWCfL coordinator for boarding/the boarding learning strategist.

The boarding learning strategist is available during the school day in the WWCfL and some evenings in the boarding house. Evening sessions will be communicated to students in advance, and sessions will occur in the WWCfL within the Upper School building for all boarding students.

For students who are new to our boarding community, here are some tips to help you prepare over the summer for your transition to Upper Canada College:

- Reflect on your areas of strength and challenge academically, and think about ways to develop and/or enhance your skills (e.g. do some daily math practice).
- Enrich your reading routines consistently read novels, current events, non-fiction, etc.
- Challenge your vocabulary track new academic language or words you don't use enough!
- Write for 15 minutes daily keep a journal to reflect on your writing development.

Ms. Liz Kennedy is the WWCfL coordinator for boarding and a boarding learning strategist. Please contact her with any questions or concerns, or to introduce yourself. Her email is lkennedy@ucc.on.ca.

The Upper School Macintosh Library and the Atkins Family Design Lab are marvellous spaces for strengthening personal and co-operative learning during the daytime and evenings. These facilities are often used during the boarders' supervised evening study.

#### COMPUTER SERVICES

Students will be equipped with school-issued laptops in the classroom and the boarding houses. The MacBook Air computer is suitable for classroom needs in every subject area. Each boarding house is equipped with a print station. Students will be allowed to bring a tablet or mobile device to boarding this year. Some teachers use tablets to draw, take notes and mark documents. It is not an expectation that students will bring a tablet to school. The MacBook Air is the only device most students will use in the classroom, but students can get a tablet if they wish. A complete wireless network will be available to all students living in Seaton's and Wedd's. Boarding students are reminded that access to the network is a privilege and is subject to the <u>Upper School Acceptable Use Policy for Technology</u>. For further information, refer to the UCC Family Handbook.

Students should never allow their computers to become "game centres" that disturb others through excessive noise. Students should also be aware that federal and provincial laws apply to activities on the network.

Students in Years 9 to 11 will hand over their laptop computers (cell phones and tablets) in the duty office during weekdays and the weekend curfew. Year 12 students are not required to hand off their laptops at curfew. The senior house adviser reserves the right to restrict or withdraw network access and to apply appropriate disciplinary action for students struggling with technology use expectations.

#### **FOOD SERVICES**

Aramark Campus Services provides food service at UCC. Senior house advisers and senior student representatives meet with the director of food services to review menu planning, organize special dinners and events, and address boarding students' needs and requests. Special dietary requirements should be discussed with the senior house adviser and the director of food services.

The College Food Committee, including representatives from the boarding community, meets with the director of food services. Food services staff are to be treated with respect and co-operation by all College community members. Following meals, students must take cutlery, dishes and trays to the appropriately marked areas provided and leave their tables neat and tidy.

#### **Breakfast**

Breakfast is served in the Upper Dining Hall (UDH) from 7:30 to 8:25 a.m. each day. The supervising residential adviser on duty takes attendance. Students are required to wear appropriate dress in the dining hall.

#### Lunch

This year, lunch in the Upper Dining Hall (UDH) will be served between 11:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. There will be two lunch sittings during the 2025–26 school year. Their timetable determines each student's lunch timing. During weekday lunch, all students must be in the designated school uniform.

On Saturdays and Sundays, brunch is served from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Casual dress may be worn.

#### Dinner

The dinner period in the Upper Dining Hall (UDH) begins at 5:30 p.m. and ends at 6:30 p.m. Students must present their Student IDs to enter the UDH, and dress is casual.

On Saturdays and Sundays, dinner is served from 5 to 6 p.m. Dress is casual.

#### After Regular Meal Hours

Boarding students returning from games, after-school activities or practices after meal service can request money to purchase a meal missed for school-related activities.

#### Food Deliveries

Students who wish to order food for delivery in the evening should do so only after evening study, and it must arrive no later than 10 p.m. This handbook describes Restrictions on the possession of food storage and cooking appliances.

#### STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

For general medical enquiries, please email <a href="mailto:health.centre@ucc.on.ca">health.centre@ucc.on.ca</a>.

Registered Nurse	Anna Gryszkiewicz	ext. 4911
Boarding Nurse	<u>Leah Orvis</u> "Nurse Leah"	Cell phone number: 647-721-6843
Psychologist	Geoff Sorge	ext. 2273
Counsellor	Caitlin Dobie	ext. 2272
Head Athletic Therapist	Sonya Pridmore	ext. 2278
Doctor	Dr. Jason Baker	Contact Upper Health Centre: ext. 4911

Founded in 1952, our Upper School Health Centre has evolved into a multi-faceted Student Health Services team addressing all our students' needs. Taking a holistic approach to the students' cognitive, physical, social and emotional well-being, the team works collaboratively to provide differentiated and identity-affirming support for students. A registered nurse, counsellor, psychologist, athletic therapist and doctor are available to support students through the Upper School. When hospital visits are required, the boarding nurse and residential advisers can accompany the student to and from the hospital.

#### **Student Health Services Goals**

- To provide services that address our students' physical, emotional and mental health and safety.
- To provide our boarding community with professional health care services.
- To create an atmosphere of acceptance and harm reduction, our doors are open to any student with any problem, and all services are confidential.
- To work collaboratively as a team of health professionals and, as appropriate, with teachers, parents/guardians, students and administration to serve our students.

#### The Rights of Our Students:

- The right to confidentiality.
- The right to make their own decisions.
- The right to accurate medical information.

Student Health Services will do its best to ensure that every student who enters our doors receives the care they need.

The Student Health Services team work out of the Upper School Health Centre, which is on the first floor of the Upper School's Memorial Wing.

#### CONFIDENTIALITY

We want to ensure we uphold the standards and guidelines of our profession in respecting the confidentiality of our students. Beyond situations where we suspect harm to self or others, abuse (sexual or otherwise) or abuse of professional boundaries by other faculty or staff members towards a student, all visits to the Health Centre are held in the strictest confidence. This is communicated clearly to all students visiting the Health Centre.

#### **SPORTS INJURY CLINIC**

The College's Sports Injury Clinic is in the lower level of the Upper School. It has full athletic rehabilitation facilities for the school's athletes. The clinic is staffed by the head athletic therapist, Sonya Pridmore, CAT(c), with assistance from two yearly athletic therapy co-op student therapists. The clinic can be reached at 416-488-1125 ext. 2278 or spridmore@ucc.on.ca.

#### PERSONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES

Parents must arrange student banking through an ATM and/or one of the Canadian bank branches in nearby Forest Hill Village or the intersection of Yonge Street and St. Clair Avenue. Discretionary personal expenses are considered a matter between parents and students, monitored by easily accessible banking statements. Senior house advisers will assist with guidance about expenditures as requested. We recommend using credit/debit cards rather than cash; students are advised not to keep more than \$20 in cash in their rooms.

#### **BOARDING STUDENTS' TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS**

The need for communication-related travel plans for students surrounding significant holidays is a high priority. The boarding houses are not open during the winter break or March Break. However, they are open on all long weekends in October, November, February, April and May (found on the Major Dates calendar). UCC boarding staff are prepared to assist with organizing student transportation from the boarding houses to and from Toronto Pearson International Airport or Billy Bishop Airport during significant holidays and at the beginning of the school year.

Parents are advised to make travel bookings and plan well to avoid conflict with class time and examination schedules. The schedule of significant dates and events **MUST** be consulted. UCC cannot accommodate exceptional circumstances that cause conflict with the published exam schedule. Passports and other important documents can be left in the senior house adviser's (SHA) care for safekeeping. Concerns and questions about travel arrangements should be discussed with the SHA, who will involve other offices as required. Upon request, SHAs will arrange for taxi transportation to the airport.

#### STUDENT EDUCATIONAL VISAS

Families are reminded that student visas may need to be renewed for each academic year and passports kept up to date. Students or families with questions about the process should consult the Office of Admission (admission@ucc.on.ca). Please note that a multi-entry visa may be necessary for school, academic or co-curricular programming outside Canada.

#### **HEALTH INSURANCE**

Health insurance is required for all boarding students; your child's senior house adviser must have a record of health insurance details on the day of the student's arrival. Most domestic students will have health insurance through their provincial health provider. Many international students will arrange student health insurance in their home country. Students arriving without proper health insurance will be added to a plan endorsed by Upper Canada College. For further information regarding student health insurance, please email Ms. Colleen Papulkas at <a href="mailto:cpapulkas@ucc.on.ca">cpapulkas@ucc.on.ca</a>.

#### LAUNDRY SERVICE

Year 8, 9 and 10 students are provided with a laundry service, whereby their clothing and bedding are cleaned regularly by a staff member who operates washing machines and dryers in Seaton's House and Wedd's House. Many boys prefer to bring their linen, pillows and duvets from home. The houses also have washers and dryers for senior-level students to use in the evenings and on weekends. These machines are available for Year 11 and 12 students to use and are free of charge. An iron and an ironing board are available in each house.

We strongly encourage students to have their names identifiable on their clothing. The College does not assume responsibility for articles lost or damaged in the laundry. Heavy sweaters, wool pants, jackets, blazers and some sports apparel should be dry-cleaned. Boarding students may use dry-cleaning services nearby in Forest Hill Village or the Yonge and St. Clair area.

#### **BLUES SHOP**

The Blues Shop offers students a wide selection of merchandise, such as backpacks, gym bags, UCC gifts and memorabilia, music and curriculum items, and various school supplies.

The Blues Shop also carries a range of UCC-branded spirit wear and house and team clothing. Such as T-shirts, hoodies, sweatpants, shorts, and hats. Purchases are made on student accounts, and the Finance Office issues itemized statements for payment monthly.

The Blues Shop will be open for in-person back-to-school shopping from August 30 onward, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (closed 1–2 p.m.). There is also a Blues Shop Catalogue where you can view merchandise. You may pre-order merchandise by contacting Store Manager Patti Cawker-Chiang at <u>bluesshop@ucc.on.ca</u>. The shop will be open exclusively for boarders on Sunday, August 31, 2025, and the uniform vendor DGN-kilters will be on site for uniform fittings and purchases.

#### SCHOOL FACILITIES

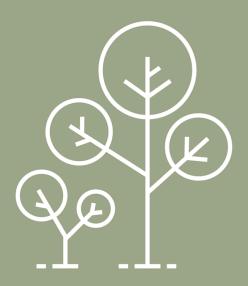
All students are encouraged to make full use of available school facilities outside of class time. UCC boarders are fortunate to be surrounded by playing fields, tennis courts, and outdoor basketball courts. They also have access to the William P. Wilder '40 Arena & Sports Complex (with its two ice rinks), the SAS Fitness Centre, music practice rooms, film studios, and a design lab.

#### **Standard Facilities in the Boarding Houses**

Within each residence are the following common spaces:

- Storage and trunk rooms (for boxes, suitcases, skis, bicycles, etc.). Students are encouraged to bring a bicycle to campus. There are six boarding bikes to accommodate the Boarding Bike Club, but several students bring their own, and there are many bike paths near campus
- General meeting and TV room
- Standard room (table tennis, games, books)

# BOARDING LIFE



# **BOARDING LIFE**

#### DRESS FOR SCHOOL AND BOARDING

Click the link below to access school dress requirements. Although the First Dress will not be required at the beginning of the school year, students are expected to have it available. Purchases can be made online through <u>DGN</u>.

Please click <u>here</u> for details regarding the Upper School uniform for this year.

#### **CASUAL AND LEISURE DRESS**

Boarding students may wear casual attire outside of school hours and on weekends. Students should bring a full range of comfortable, casual clothing sufficient for about eight days (to allow time for laundering).

#### Casual Wear/Miscellaneous Items:

- Pajamas
- Sandals
- Bathrobe
- Bath towels
- Rainwear

- Toiletries (shampoo, soap, shaving equipment)
- After-school and weekend casual wear (at the discretion of the individual)
- Warm winter clothing (winter coat, hat, gloves)
- Laundry bag
- Comforter

#### PERSONAL APPEARANCE AND HYGIENE

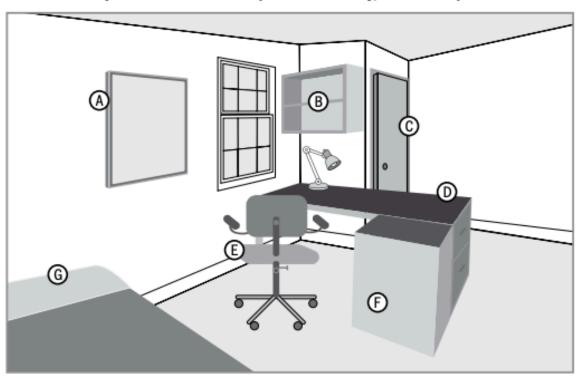
Personal hygiene is a top priority for all members of the boarding community. Shower and general ablution signage remind students about the importance of personal cleanliness. Students must be conscious of dressing appropriately when moving to and from bathrooms and showers, and respect everyone else's privacy. Students should remember that cultural differences may impact how someone conducts themselves in a home-like environment. This may also affect the privacy needs of a roommate when changing clothes.

#### ROOM DECORATION, FURNISHINGS AND APPLIANCES

The College provides a bed, desk, desk chair, study lamp, shelves and a whiteboard for individual use. Each student is also assigned a separate closet and a chest of drawers for personal storage.

Additional furniture is unnecessary; however, some students bring their desk chairs. For other special requests, you must first seek permission from the senior house adviser. Furniture should not be moved to another room without the senior house adviser's permission.

#### What UCC provides in the room (illustration only, not actual):



- A. WHITEBOARD
- B. SHELVING UNIT
- C. CLOSET
- D. DESK WITH TWO LARGE CLOTHING DRAWERS, DESK LAMP
- E. DESK CHAIR
- F. SMALL THREE-DRAWER CABINET
- G. SINGLE BED AND BEDDING (TWIN SHEETS, BLANKETS, PILLOWS AND PILLOW CASES)

Students often bring or buy items at their own expense for convenience or to personalize their rooms, such as mirrors, a small fridge, posters/artwork/photos and their own bedding.

#### **POSTERS AND DECORATIONS**

Students are allowed to decorate their personal space, but the following basic rules apply:

#### **Respect for Others**

Posters and other decorations must respect the fundamental standards and values that the College and the boarding community uphold. While we encourage personal expression, the rights and values of others who live in and serve the boarding community, which includes other boarding students, house advisers, staff, parents or other visitors, must be respected at all times. Because all boarding students live in and are responsible to a community, they must restrain what they, and in some instances, their parents, may consider a personal "right" out of respect for the dignity of others. In particular, posters that portray gender and race in a manner that offends the standards of the community are unacceptable. While every effort is taken to educate boarding students, the senior house adviser and their associates are final arbiters, and boarding students and parents are expected to respect their judgment.

Only semi-transparent tape or non-staining adhesives should be used to affix posters to prevent wall damage.

Because of fire hazards and maintenance problems, articles may not be hung from the ceiling.

#### RADIOS, TELEVISIONS AND COMPUTERS

Radios and computers used for music or movie watching should be equipped with headphones so as to not disturb others. Television sets or external monitors in student rooms are not allowed without discussion with the student's senior house adviser. Gaming systems are not permitted in student rooms for Year 8 through 11 students. Year 12 students may have a gaming console in their room, which must remain for the academic year (it can not be shared with younger boarding students).

#### **COOKING APPLIANCES**

Because of the apparent risks, cooking is prohibited in student rooms, corridors or other public areas. Students should, therefore, not bring cooking appliances such as hot plates, microwaves or kettles. Students may acquire small refrigerators, which should always be used with health and safety standards in mind. The shared kitchens on the first floor of each boarding house include a shared microwave, toaster and kettle. There is also a large shared fridge in the first-floor standard room where students can store labelled food and drinks.

#### SECURITY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

Every effort is made to ensure the security of personal property. The residences have exterior door locks, card swipe access, and security cameras on every door. For safety reasons, we do not provide keys that allow students to lock bedrooms or common areas within the residences.

#### **VALUABLES**

Students are strongly recommended not to bring large amounts of cash or valuable jewelry into

the residence at any time. Students are responsible for the safety of their possessions. The College's insurance policy does not cover loss or damage to personal property. Valuables, money and passports should be given to the senior house adviser for safekeeping. Every article must be clearly labelled.

#### **STORAGE**

Suitcases, trunks, skis and bikes should be clearly labelled and stored in the basement storage rooms provided.

#### **FIRE SAFETY**

Boarding students are required to respect fire safety standards and regulations at all times. Tampering with fire safety detectors and equipment is strictly prohibited. Serious offences could result in possible expulsion. Fire safety will be reviewed and practised when all students are present at the start of the school year.

#### COOKING

Activities such as using hotplates or any other cooking device are prohibited except in specific areas (Milk and Toast Rooms). Discipline for using these sorts of items in the boarding house will escalate, and it could lead to suspension.

#### **OPEN FLAME**

The use of open flames in the boarding community is strictly prohibited. The health and safety of all persons in the boarding community are at risk when students choose to use lighters, light candles, use incense burners, or smoke in the boarding houses. Students caught engaging in these activities will likely be expelled from the College.

#### FIRE ALARM AFTER SCHOOL HOURS IN THE BOARDING HOUSES

When the alarm sounds, the following routine is to be followed:

- 1. Students and visitors must walk (not run) and assemble quickly at the primary school entrance under the Rogers Tower for an attendance check.
- 2. Students will not return to the residence until the fire warden gives permission.

#### **ROOM INSPECTION**

The College is responsible for ensuring that health, safety and fire code standards are maintained in the boarding houses, as in all areas of the school, and that school regulations and rules are met. Boarding staff reserve the right to regularly inspect the boarding houses, including public areas, rooms and sports lockers, to ensure that health and safety standards are met. The boarding houses are also routinely inspected by housekeeping staff to ensure that standards of cleanliness and order are maintained.

#### **VISITOR PERMISSION POLICY**

Boarders can invite UCC day students into Seaton's and Wedd's on evenings and week oil ends,

if approved by the senior house adviser or the assistant senior house adviser before the visit. Parents, guardians, family and friends may also enter the boarding houses. A boarding student must always accompany guests in Seaton's and Wedd's. A boarder must meet a guest at the (blue) entry door to the residence and see the person out at the blue door at the end of a visit.

All boarders must follow the following rules related to visitors:

- UCC boarders cannot invite girls or women into the boarding houses at any time. Family members are an exception to this rule, but SHAs must know it before entry.
- All visitors must exit the boarding facilities by 9 p.m. on weekdays and 10 p.m. on weekends.
- During weekdays, day students are not allowed into the boarding houses during the school day.

## CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF ROOMS, COMMON AREAS AND PERSONAL SPACE

To provide a comfortable and orderly place in which to live and study and to enable the cleaning and maintenance of the facilities in the residence, students are reminded of the following rules and expectations:

- Beds are to be made before classes daily, with the exception of the day on which linen is changed.
- Soiled laundry should be kept in laundry bags.
- Desks, personal areas and cupboards should be kept tidy to promote individual responsibility and good study habits, respect roommates, and allow housekeeping staff to clean.
- Room configuration should be maintained so that cleaning staff can readily dust, sweep and polish.
- Wires and extension cords relating to technology should not inhibit cleaning and should be taped above the baseboard.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Students are expected to demonstrate environmental responsibility by using natural resources such as water and energy wisely and efficiently. In student rooms where motion sensors are not in place, students must habitually turn off lights, computers and other technology.

#### RECYCLING

All students are expected to separate waste into glass, cans, plastic, paper and cardboard, and use the marked receptacles. Students are also expected to participate in removing rubbish and recyclable material.

#### DAMAGE

Students are reminded that the boarding facilities must be treated with the respect expected

at their family home. Damage must be reported immediately to the senior house adviser or residential adviser. Any damage to personal or standard rooms will be repaired, and the cost will be charged to the student's account.

#### REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

Maintenance and housekeeping staff routinely inspect common areas and washrooms. Students should report items for repair or replacement and maintenance concerns to the senior house adviser. Staff may provide replacement light bulbs.

#### ACCESS TO THE MAIN BUILDING AFTER REGULAR SCHOOL HOURS

Boarding students are allowed access to the main school buildings after regular hours. However, staff supervision is required to access facilities such as the SAS Fitness Centre, the gym in the Hewitt Athletic Centre, music practice rooms, the MacIntosh Library or the Wilder Arena.

# DAILY SCHEDULE AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

In addition to meeting the standards and rules expected of all students at UCC, boarding students are held responsible for the following daily schedule:

#### **REGULAR SCHOOL DAYS**

#### **Breakfast**

On school days, all boarding students are expected to attend breakfast in the Upper Dining Hall, where attendance will be taken.

#### **Attendance at Class**

Students are expected to prioritize class attendance. When extenuating circumstances occur, students must make every effort to communicate directly with their senior house adviser before missing a class.

#### Return to the Boarding Houses during the School Day

Boarding students may return to the boarding houses at recess and during lunch. During spare periods, Year 10, 11, and 12 students may return to their rooms but are expected to engage in quiet study or relaxation.

#### Lunch

All students will have lunch in the Upper Dining Hall.

#### **House Meetings**

House meetings occur after dinner, Monday to Thursday, and later in the evening on Sunday. Attendance is compulsory, and an attendance check is conducted. Absence from a house meeting is only permitted with the prior permission of the adviser on duty or the senior house adviser. Standard protocol for receiving authorization would be a face-to-face meeting or a call to the adviser on duty's cell phone.

#### **Dinner**

All students will have dinner in the Upper Dining Hall. Students should be in neat, casual dress.

#### **Evening Study**

There will be a 90-minute study period during evening study, Monday through Thursday, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Students must work consistently and quietly in individual research in their rooms or designated study areas. Absence from evening study is usually allowed only if a conversation between a student and their senior house adviser has occurred before the absence.

#### **Evening Free Time**

After evening study, students may continue their work and seek extra help. They are encouraged to use the school's athletic, cultural and recreational facilities according to availability and conditions. All students leaving the grounds must follow proper sign-out procedures as posted and must always be available to be in contact by cell phone, email or text message.

#### **Lights Out**

Students must be in their rooms and in bed by 10:30 p.m. Year 10 to 12 students are allowed to work later in the evening. The residential adviser monitors the late-night study.

#### Friday and Weekend Leave

All students will apply for and meet the terms of leave arrangements on Fridays and weekends. The Leave Policy is described below.

#### **WEEKEND ACTIVITIES**

While classes are not held on Saturdays, many community activities occur on weekends, and boarding students are expected to be involved. There are planned weekend events and activities for boarding students (supervised by boarding staff) and many opportunities for entertainment and enrichment.

#### WEEKDAY AND WEEKEND SCHEDULES

MONDAY to FRIDAY	
7:30-8:25 a.m.	Breakfast
Ranging between 11:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.	Lunch as per your child's day schedule
5:30-6:30 p.m.	Dinner
7–10:15 p.m.	Monday to Thursday supervised study, followed by free time
10:30-10:45 p.m.	Monday to Thursday, attendance checks will be taken by the adviser on duty (lights out for Year 9 and Year 10)
6 p.m.–midnight, Friday	School activities, house events or free time (governed by grade-level curfew) On Friday, bed and lights out for students in

	Year 9 is 12 a.m. (midnight)
12 a.m. (midnight)	On Friday night, the entire house is accounted for by the adviser on duty and the duty senior
12:30–1 a.m.	The Friday house adviser is on duty, and the duty senior will settle the entire house.

SATURDAY	
11 a.m12:30 p.m.	Brunch
1–5 p.m.	School activities, organized weekend programs or free time
5–6 p.m.	Dinner; attendance check
6 p.m.–12 a.m. (midnight)	School activities, house events or free time (governed by grade-level curfew)
12 (midnight)–1 a.m.	Curfew

SUNDAY	
11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	Brunch
1–5 p.m.	School activities, organized weekend programs or free time
5–6 p.m.	Dinner; attendance check.
6–9 p.m.	School activities, house events or free time
9 p.m.	All weekend leave ends; attendance check and house meeting

10:30 p.m.	Year 9 students are to be ready for bed and lights out; Year 10 to 12 students are to be in their rooms for an attendance check.

#### **LEAVE POLICY**

Boarding students are expected to be complete and active participants in all aspects of school life. At the same time, it is realized that the College is situated in the centre of a vibrant city, and students are allowed access to the critical opportunities available there.

The Leave Policy is flexible and designed to promote responsible leisure time use. The guidelines for granting leave are based on the assumed maturity of different age groups. However, leave is always granted individually and at the discretion of the senior house adviser. The senior house adviser may base their decision on the following criteria: academic progress, citizenship within the house, a student's responsibility for school activities, and the suitability of the proposed leave. Poor citizenship or disciplinary action may result in a restriction on leave.

#### Leave

This is defined as leaving College grounds for personal reasons. Boarding students are always accountable to the Boarding Staff Team member on duty for their whereabouts. They must sign out and back in on **REACH** (our electronic leave management system) every time they leave campus. Additionally, students must have cell phones capable of texting and calling to keep this with them and save the teacher-on-duty phone numbers in their contacts for easy access.

#### **Leave Involving Missing an Attendance Check**

Boarding students must be present for all attendance checks at the specified times. If a student requires leave and will miss an attendance check, they must first receive permission from the adviser on duty. If the adviser on duty is unavailable, the student must consult their senior house adviser.

#### **Monday to Thursday Evening Leave**

The time specifically set aside for study on these evenings is significant. For this reason, leave at these times is granted only under very special circumstances and with the prior permission of the senior house adviser.

#### **Weekend Leave**

This year, students may request permission for weekend leave following the REACH protocol. Weekend curfew for Year 9 requires a return to residence by 11 p.m., Year 10 students by 11:30 p.m., and Year 11 and 12 students by midnight. All students must check in face-to-face with the adviser on duty upon their return.

 Leave for the entire weekend or overnight is granted only at the discretion of a senior house adviser.

- Weekend leave officially ends at 9 p.m. on Sunday. All students must be in the house by 9 p.m. for an attendance check. Variations to this schedule can only be made through discussion with a senior house adviser.
- Following the June exams, students are expected to depart the boarding community within 24 hours of their last exam.

# **DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

Boarding students are expected to meet the same standards and rules as the entire school community, and disciplinary responses apply to promote responsible behaviour and to protect the interests of others. These are described in the <u>UCC Family Handbook</u> and should be reviewed carefully. In particular, theft, violence, bullying and harassment have no place in the boarding community and are considered grave disciplinary matters. A bond of trust must be formed in the boarding community; if the trust is broken in one of the ways above, a student can expect disciplinary consequences consistent with the severity of the offence. These offences could lead to consequences ranging from detention to school suspension or expulsion.

#### **ALCOHOL AND DRUGS**

Boarding students are especially reminded that the *Alcohol and Drug Policy* applies to the boarding community at all times. Possessing or using alcohol, banned drugs (including marijuana and tobacco), prescription drugs not prescribed to that student, or drug paraphernalia (including vaporizers) will result in disciplinary consequences. The consequences could include suspension from boarding, a school suspension or expulsion. Drug/alcohol testing will be used at the discretion of the boarding team. If a student has violated the *Alcohol and Drug Policy*, they will be required to adhere to a support plan that the UCC Health Centre will administer. A student found to be making controlled or banned substances (alcohol or banned or prescription drugs) available to others will be expelled from the boarding community, and immediate expulsion from school will be seriously considered.

Students who demonstrate the inability to comply with the *Alcohol and Drug Policy* are liable for expulsion. Please refer to the "Student Expectations" section for the full drug and alcohol policy and information on prescription medication in the <u>UCC Family Handbook</u>.

#### Loss of Leave

A gating system will be employed for repeated or more serious breaches of standards and rules. The gating system will be communicated to students at the beginning of the 2025–26 school year. This will include a student being denied weekend leave and required to check in or report to a Boarding Staff member on duty. Additional requirements may be specified as a component of Loss of Leave. During Loss of Leave, the student is expected to meet all standards and rules for the boarding community. Loss of Leave will be removed at the discretion of the senior house adviser.

#### **College Suspension**

For repeated or serious breaches of standards and rules, a student may be suspended from the boarding house and required to return home. The senior house adviser will confer with school administration colleagues before a school suspension is applied. The student will also be placed on a level of school conduct. The level of school conduct will range from conduct advisory to conduct risk (see "Student Expectations" section in the <u>UCC Family Handbook</u>). This could include, but is not limited to, a pattern of missing school assemblies or advising sessions,

choosing not to attend academic support sessions in the Wernham West Centre for Learning, misusing/abusing technology, and/or not obeying weekday or weekend curfew.

#### Required to Withdraw or Denial of Return

A serious breach of the boarding community's standards and rules or failure to meet the terms of their Conduct Status may result in a student being required to leave the College or being denied registration for the next year level.

#### **Year 12 Technology Guidelines**

Year 12 boarders are allowed to bring gaming devices into Boarding under the following conditions:

- 1. The gaming device(s) is not shared with younger boarders in Years 8-11. For example, the Year 12 student does not let the younger boarders take the device to their room. It must be kept in the Year 12's room, and the Year 12 must be the primary person using the device.
- 2. The noise level must remain respectful, especially after curfew and lights out.
- 3. Year 12s must abide by the Essential Agreements of UCC Boarding regarding respect, engagement, attendance, curfew and communication.

Suppose any of your devices negatively impacts the community, the student's academics, or social or emotional well-being. In that case, we will discuss removing the technology or having the student hand it in to the Duty Staff member every night.

All Year 12 students must agree to these terms, and they are welcome to have gaming technology in their boarding room if they do so.

### The Gating Policy

#### **Green Gatings**

A Green Gating is a sanction issued for minor code of conduct breaches:

Students issued a Green Gating are not allowed off campus from Monday to Wednesday of the week following the issue. Athletic and co-curricular involvements are exempt. Students cannot order Uber Eats (or any other food delivery) for the gating duration, which ends Thursday at 9 a.m.

Three green gates in one term = one red gate.

1 Green Gating Two missed weekend meal check-ins Two late for curfew - not in own room but in the house Two late for class without an approved note/communication Failure to respond to texts/calls during the day

2 Green Gatings (Two consecutive weeks of green gating)

Late for curfew - not in house and without clear communication (within 30 minutes after curfew)

Leaving campus without signing out

Missed class without an approved note/communication

#### **Red Gatings**

A Red Gating is issued for serious breaches of conduct that remain too minor for a referral to the Upper School disciplinary process (Assistant Heads).

Leaving the boarding house past curfew without approval from a staff member (sneaking out) Being ≥30 minutes late to curfew.

Rudeness to faculty/staff

Consuming alcohol whilst under the care of UCC, either on campus or off.

Deceit of various kinds (e.g. burner phone, undeclared device, sneaking out)

Please note that, in some instances, the above incidents may result in referral to the Upper School disciplinary process (Assistant Heads).

Red Gatings are also issued due to three Green Gatings in any one term.

Students issued a Red Gating are not allowed off campus for the gating duration, from Monday to Sunday. No food delivery is permitted.

Students must report to the Duty Staff every hour. The Red Gates are to perform any required chores in the house. Students are not permitted to attend off-campus sports or other commitments.

#### **Breaking Gating**

Breaking a Green Gating (leaving campus) results in an immediate Red.

Green and Red Gates can be issued due to other behaviour if approved by the (A)SHA team on a case-by-case basis.

#### **Upper School Disciplinary Process**

The following will typically be referred to the Upper School disciplinary process (Assistant Heads):

Physical confrontation or fighting

Aggressive behaviour that involves bullying, racial slurs, religious intolerance, etc.

Use and/or possession of substances on campus

Open flame in the boarding house

Repeated alcohol use or possession

#### Other boarding student expectations

Attendance at breakfast, Monday-Friday, is compulsory unless students have a valid reason given in advance to their SHA. Attendance at Friday dinner and Saturday and Sunday brunches and dinners is compulsory for sign-in when students are on campus.

Rooms are expected to be kept TIDY, and room checks occur weekly. TIDY = no dirty dishes, visible dirty clothes or garbage; bed made. Snacks must be kept in drawers/fridges to avoid infestation.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### IB EXAMINATIONS AND THE BOARDING HOUSE STUDY ENVIRONMENT

It is imperative that the exam schedule be reviewed before booking flights or making other travel arrangements. The College will not reschedule exams due to travel planning conflicts.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma examination period in April–May represents the final academic challenge for graduating students at Upper Canada College, and it is the responsibility of the College to ensure the best possible study environment for all students in the boarding community. Due to the three-week IB examination period, there are often significant time gaps between examinations. Due to the schedule, some students could complete their exams up to 10 days before the Leaving Class Ceremonies (Graduation) occur. In our effort to ensure a positive study environment for our boarding community, please be aware that the school reserves the right to direct Year 12 students who have been on Conduct Status at any time during their graduating year or who are not adhering to the citizenship expectations of the boarding community to return to their family home or the home of a guardian when they have extended breaks or early completion of their final examinations.

All graduating boarding students are expected to make travel arrangements and depart from the boarding house within 24 hours of the Leaving Class Ceremony. Students still actively involved in the whole school co-curricular program will negotiate their departure date with their senior house adviser. The reason for immediate departure is to facilitate exam preparation for all remaining students properly.

#### **ROOM SEARCHES**

The school and Boarding Staff Team reserve the right to conduct regular checks of rooms and closets to ensure that alcohol, drugs, or drug paraphernalia are not present and that there are no fire or safety regulations violations. While respecting the privacy of boarding students, the College also reserves the right to gain access to and inspect personal areas (including backpacks, cell phones, etc.) in student rooms when there are reasonable grounds to believe that a serious disciplinary infraction has occurred.

#### **FIRE**

Fire protocol is addressed in the "Emergency Measures" section of the <u>UCC Family Handbook</u>. The boarding community will practise the fire procedure twice each school year:

- Boarders must leave the boarding houses upon hearing the fire alarm.
- During an after-hours drill, boarders will gather indoors for an attendance check in the

Bernick Foyer.

• More details will be communicated in the house meetings.

#### **TEXTBOOK PURCHASING**

Please note that the Canadian School Book Exchange is no longer in service. Textbooks can now be purchased at the University of Toronto (U of T) Bookstore.

New and used textbooks can now be purchased <u>online</u>, or you can shop in person at the bookstore's downtown location at 214 College St., Toronto. Families can also request an order be delivered to other University of Toronto campuses for pickup; this includes U of T Mississauga (UTM) or U of T Scarborough (UTSC). <u>Click here</u> to check the hours and locations.

Boarding students may request that their orders be shipped directly to the College for distribution upon arrival in September. If you place an <u>online order</u>, add the school as the shipping address when completing your order: Upper Canada College, 200 Lonsdale Road, Toronto, ON M4V 1W6.

#### **HOUSE FUND**

To initiate a house fund, \$75 is charged to every student's account. This fund is used at the discretion of the Head of House and House Prefects. The senior house adviser oversees the responsible decision-making undertaken by the student leaders.

#### **VEHICLES**

Because the school cannot assume related liabilities, boarding students may not have cars or any other motorized vehicles, nor may they regularly use a vehicle parked off the school grounds.

A student wishing to bring a family vehicle for a specific event or purpose (such as taking home possessions at the end of term) must:

- 1. Obtain permission from the senior house adviser.
- 2. Report the vehicle's presence and licence number to the senior house adviser.
- 3. Provide all keys to the vehicle to the senior house adviser.
- 4. Park only in a designated UCC parking lot.

The senior house adviser will notify Security that the boarding student's car is parked on campus.

#### E-Bikes and E-Scooters

Electric, motor-assisted, or power-assisted bicycles ("e-bikes") and electric scooters ("e-scooters") pose significant safety risks to young people. Their use has been linked to a significant number of injuries, and they also pose a fire hazard due to the lithium-ion batteries used to power them.

Under the Highway Traffic Act and its regulations, children under the age of 16 are not permitted to ride, drive, or operate an e-bike or e-scooter. Even for riders aged 16 or older, the City of Toronto and many surrounding municipalities have restrictions or prohibitions in place for these devices.

#### **UCC Boarding Policy**

E-bikes and e-scooters are not permitted on UCC property or at any UCC Boarding or school-related event. Students are not permitted to use, store, or charge these devices in Boarding Houses, classrooms, common areas, or any other campus facility. Boarding staff and the College are not responsible for the storage, security, or charging of these devices. This restriction reflects both legal requirements and best practices recommended by CIS, and underscores UCC's commitment to student safety, wellbeing, and community standards.

#### STUDENT LEADERSHIP

All boarding students are to uphold high standards of responsibility and leadership and to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects respect for others, different religious and cultural backgrounds, and each other's property. Senior students are assigned the following leadership responsibilities:

- Head of House
- Membership on the Boarding Leadership Committee
- · Membership on the Nutrition Committee
- Prefect (4 per house, work with the Head of House)
- Rao Cup Commissioner (organizing inter-house competitions)
- SAS Certified Coach (supervising evening facilities time)
- Year Representative (one Year Rep per grade level)

#### **ROOM ASSIGNMENTS**

After each academic year, returning students are asked to submit their choices for roommates and rooms to the senior house adviser for consideration. Room assignments are posted upon arrival in September. First, the members of the Leaving Class are assigned their rooms. Then, the senior house adviser assigns the remaining returning students' requests. A student's ability to live up to the *Five Essential Agreements* will be a factor in helping to determine final room

assignments. New students are assigned rooms based on grades, interests, personal information, and advice provided by the Office of Admission.

# MAJOR DATES CALENDAR | 2025-26

Please note that the Major Dates Calendar is subject to change. Families will be notified by email and via *Heads Up* of any changes. The most up-to-date Major Dates Calendar is **always** available on **Bluenet** > **Calendar**.

#### Please note for 2025–26: The Boarding Houses will be open for all long weekends.

Student Orientation	Sunday, August 31, 2025, to Tuesday, September 2, 2025 (New 2 Blue Orientation) Wednesday, September 3, 2025 (Classes begin)
Thanksgiving Weekend	Classes end: Friday, October 10, 2025 Classes resume: Tuesday, October 14, 2025
Fall Midterm Break	Classes end: Thursday, November 6, 2025 Classes resume: Tuesday, November 11, 2025
December Break	Classes end: Thursday, December 18, 2025 Classes resume: Tuesday, January 6, 2026
Winter Midterm Break	Classes end: Thursday, February 12, 2026 Classes resume: Tuesday, February 17, 2026
March Break	Classes end: Friday, March 6, 2026 Classes resume: Monday, March 23, 2026
April Break	Classes end: Thursday, April 2, 2026 Classes resume: Tuesday, April 7, 2026
Victoria Day	Classes end: Friday, May 15, 2026 Classes resume: Tuesday, May 19, 2026
Prep School Last Student Day	Wednesday, June 10, 2026
Upper School Last Student Day	Friday, June 12, 2026

# Student Boarding/Day Transfer Policy and Procedure

# **Purpose**

Upon enrolment, UCC students and their families commit to enrolling as day or boarding students for the duration of their time at UCC.

The College recognizes that occasionally, family circumstances may prompt an enrolled student and their family to request a transfer from day enrolment to boarding enrolment or vice versa.

The College commits to annual enrolment targets to meet its financial obligations and ensure the stability and strength of its community, including the boarding program and class sizes.

This policy and procedure articulate when and how Upper Canada College (the College or UCC) student requests to transfer between day and boarding enrolment may be considered.

# **Applicability**

This policy applies to all students enrolled at UCC.

# Policy and Procedure Regarding Day-to-Boarding Transfer Requests

Requests to transfer from day enrolment to boarding enrolment may be considered at the sole discretion of the College.

For such a request to be approved, the following conditions must be met:

- The student and their family must submit a letter requesting transfer from day to boarding
  enrolment, including the reasons, to the Vice-Principal, Enrolment Management, no later
  than February 1 of the academic year preceding the desired transfer. Requests submitted
  later than February 1 may or may not be considered at the College's sole discretion, based
  on factors such as space availability.
- The student must shadow the boarding program for the student to consider the program's suitability for them and for the boarding staff to assess the student's suitability for the program. This may include conversations and interviews with the Director of Boarding and other boarding staff.
- The Vice-Principal, Enrolment Management, in consultation with Heads of School and Director of Boarding and others as needed, must determine:
  - The reason for the transfer request is valid and not foreseeable at the time of enrolment (e.g., a valid reason could be unique family circumstances such as relocation outside of the Greater Toronto Area).

- The requesting student's year level, past behaviour, and academic standing must be conducive to a transfer.
- The student is suitable for the boarding program, which is ideal for the student.
- The family's financial account(s) with the College must be fully settled, with all changes paid.

If the request to transfer from day to boarding enrolment is approved in principle, per the conditions above, the student will be placed on a waitlist for a boarding space and considered if space becomes available. While special consideration may be given, a place is not guaranteed.

Suppose the family receives financial assistance, or may need financial assistance because boarding tuition is higher than day tuition. In that case, they must apply for boarding financial assistance by the enrolled family's deadline (usually early November). The College cannot guarantee that financial aid will be able to meet the family's needs under these circumstances. A decision regarding a boarding space and the financial assistance award is communicated simultaneously so that a family can make an informed decision.

If a space is offered, the student and their family must understand and agree to the commitments and expectations of our 7-day/week boarding program.

# Policy and Procedure Regarding Boarding to Day Transfer Request

Reguests to transfer from boarding enrolment to day enrolment cannot be considered, unless under extenuating circumstances or by prior agreement and at the sole discretion of the College.

For boarding students to enroll as day students, they must indicate withdrawal from the college by November 15 and reapply to the college by December 1 of the year before the academic year they wish to be a student.

The student must follow the whole day student admission process for the year level they are applying to, including, but not limited to, interviews, activities, assessments, report card reviews, and reference checks by the deadlines indicated in the admission process.

The student will be considered alongside all other day applicants for that year level. While special consideration may be made, an offer is not guaranteed.

If a boarding student withdraws and reapplies as a day student but is not offered admission, they cannot automatically return to their status as a boarding student. They would need to reapply as a new boarding student.

If the student is offered admission as a day student, the student and their family must complete the online enrolment process by the registration deadline to guarantee their place as a student.

The College does not guarantee financial assistance to applicants if they are receiving it as boarding students. All families are responsible for completing the financial assistance application for day students by the posted deadlines, and the Financial Assistance Committee approves all financial assistance applications based on the need demonstrated by the family.

# **Boarding Custodianship/Guardianship Policy**

Category	Enrolment - Boarding
Responsible portfolio	Enrolment Management; Upper School Boarding
Approved by	SLT
Effective date	July 2025
Last review date	July 2025
Contact for questions	Director of Admission, Upper School and Boarding; Director of Boarding

## **Purpose**

Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) requires all applicants under 18 applying for an initial Canadian Study Permit or renewal of a study permit to provide a notarized Custodianship Declaration as part of their study permit application. The parents/legal guardians must give this original documentation and submit it with the study permit application.

Since the study permit requirement applies only to international students, to ensure the safety of our boarding students, Upper Canada College requires that <u>all</u> boarding students have a designated guardian/custodian who meets the specific requirements as stipulated by the College, regardless of their citizenship, immigration status, or age.

### **Definitions**

Custodian: According to Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), a custodian is a responsible adult who is a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident who will take care of and support the minor child. The parents or legal guardians must prove that the minor child will have the care and support they need during their stay in Canada.

Legal guardian: Guardianship is a legal relationship in which a guardian assumes responsibility for someone, such as a child or a disabled person. The person the guardian takes responsibility for is referred to as a ward.

## **Policy**

Custodians are legally required to care for the child as a guardian would. This may include:

- Ensuring financial and social support for the student while they are under their care
- Being easily reachable should an emergency arise in which their presence is required

- Being available and supporting in medical, legal, and immigration emergencies and urgent situations
- Assisting with the student's arrival
- Attending registration(s) and/or admissions intake meeting(s) with the student's academic institution
- Meeting with the student's senior house adviser or university counsellor during the orientation period and throughout the year
- During the school year:
  - Serving as an official contact for the school regarding the student's educational progress and behaviour
  - Providing consent (as required) for academic programs and activities (e.g. field trips)
  - Sending progress reports and report cards to the student's parents
  - Communicating with the student's parents about the status of their academic progress
  - Advising the student's parents of any issues about the student's social, emotional, physical, or academic well-being

#### Eligibility

According to Upper Canada College, the guardian/custodian must be over 25 years old, fluent in English, a Canadian Citizen or Permanent Resident, residing in Canada and able to arrive at the College within 24 hours.

Boarding students' parents/legal guardians must select one of the following options for securing a custodian.

### • Option 1: Parent/legal guardian serves as the Custodian

For parents/guardians who meet the above eligibility criteria, parents can select this option to serve as the custodian for their child.

### Option 2: Secure your own Custodian

Parents/guardians who do not meet the above eligibility criteria may select to identify their own custodian for their student. The custodian must agree to the custodian policy and meet the eligibility criteria listed above and those identified by IRCC.

### Option 3: ISGC Guardianship

Upper Canada College recommends the services of International Student Guardianship Canada (ISGC), which assists international students and their families in various capacities.

#### **Procedures**

New and enrolled students must complete an annual update to their Guardianship/Custody status. Parents/legal guardians must return the Custodian/Guardianship form by August 20 each year to inform the college of their guardianship/custody status. The enrolled family is responsible for notifying the college of changes in their student's guardianship/custody status.

#### **Related Documents**

- INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GUARDIANSHIP CANADA: https://isguardianshipcanada.com/
- Custodian/Guardianship Form: https://forms.gle/7Fch3chUfcfHfiJs5