Welcome to our School!
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Our Vision
The German International School Sydney enables your child to live a fulfilled life in tomorrow's modern, fast changing and challenging global society.

Our Mission
The German International School Sydney offers the highest quality co-education in a continuous bi-lingual and multicultural environment and is dedicated to developing the individual student’s full potential.
We are committed to the best of German, European and Australian educational and cultural values mediated in a friendly and caring community.
We challenge our students to develop into responsible, reliable, competent and confident adults.

Our Values
We celebrate different cultures, opinions and standpoints.
We guide our students to appreciate openness, honesty and respect.
We aim for the highest educational quality standards.
We foster an atmosphere of peace and understanding amongst us all.
We educate our students with care and create an environment in which they can fully develop their knowledge and capabilities.
1. **Curriculum**

1.1 **Language Immersion**

It is our philosophy that students continue to learn additional languages right throughout their schooling. We provide students with a well-rounded linguistic backbone to their schooling, with the potential of achieving high-level multilingualism by the time the Year 12 students leave school.

Our language concept in Primary and Junior Secondary School allows all students to be taught according to their language skill set. Therefore, students can be enrolled without prior German or English language skills. A number of subjects are available in either English or German. The choice of teaching language depends on each student’s language skills. We highly recommend Language Proficiency Level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) as prerequisite.

At the GISS we use Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) to support the language development in both German and English learners. This means that we have focal subjects in which special attention is given to the language when using it to teach the subject content. This is particularly present in subjects in which the students do not have an option to choose the teaching language. In Primary School these are Music, Art and Sport and in Secondary School the subjects taught in German are PE, Art and Music. Physics, Chemistry and Geography are taught in English. Nevertheless, all subjects are CLIL subjects. Every teacher is also a language teacher because our students’ language skills range within various levels of proficiency.

**LANGUAGE IMMERSION IN STAGES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Preschool</strong> (Age 3-5)</td>
<td>Bilingual Preschool program using immersion approach, English and German are spoken by native speakers (all teachers are bilingual)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Primary School</strong> (KIGA - YR 4)</td>
<td>Weekly English and German lessons Choice of teaching language for Maths General Studies (from Year 1) taught bilingually Art, Music and Sport taught in German (CLIL) Choice of either Religion taught in German or Ethics taught in English (Years 1–4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Junior Secondary</strong> (YRS 5–10)</td>
<td>Choice of teaching language for Maths, Biology, Social Science and History CLIL Subjects taught in German: Art, Music and Sport CLIL Subjects taught in English: Geography, Physics and Chemistry Choice of either Religion taught in German or Ethics taught in English Foreign Language teaching: German for all levels, including beginners Additional language learning options: French from Year 6; Spanish from Year 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IBDP/Senior Secondary</strong> (YRS 11 &amp; 12)</td>
<td>Curriculum is primarily taught in English; Biology and History are taught in German. A broad range of languages are offered in various levels. German must be studied at either A, B or ab initio levels.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL)*
1.2 Art, Music and Physical Education

The subjects Art, Music and Physical Education are part of our Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) concept. All three subjects are taught in German throughout all classes, taking into consideration that students with all levels of German proficiency, including beginners, sit in the same class. This concept requires a less theoretical and more hands-on approach in Art and Music lessons. For example, music theory is taught rather by practical examples and exposure to different instruments and concert scenarios than through text books. Our curriculum focuses more on the exposure to various instruments than students choosing and focusing on one particular instrument in depth. Additional music and instruments tutoring is offered during breaks and within our co-curricular activities. Our practical approach in Art lessons involves many hands-on art projects that are driven by the student’s interest.

Our PE lessons are designed to expose our students to a variety of international sport disciplines. Each term is designated to either swimming at the neighbouring swim school, or to gymnastics, ball games and athletics. There is no mandatory school sport on weekends. However, we do encourage our students to join their local sports club according to their own choice. As part of our co-curricular activities and after school hours during term we offer additional activities such as taekwondo, soccer, gym wheel, ball games and tennis.

1.3 Co-Curricular Activities

On Tuesdays and Thursdays during regular school hours, the School offers a variety of co-curricular activities, in which students from Kindergarten to Year 7 can participate. Each course runs for two consecutive terms (January to June and July to December), after which a new selection can be made. A selection form with detailed descriptions of all our co-curricular activities currently on offer is available from Reception or our registrar.

1.4 Reports

Students in Kindergarten to Year 2 receive one report at the end of the school year. This report is restricted to descriptive evaluations and does not contain numerical assessments.

Students in Years 3 to 10 receive biannual, bilingual reports which show both systems, the numerical assessments, from 1 to 6, with “1” marking the highest achievement, and the alphabetical system from A to E. The grades for Year 3 and 10 are also accompanied by a performance description.

All half-yearly reports from Year 3 to Year 10 are issued on the last school day prior to the winter holidays in June. The yearly reports for Kindergarten to Year 10 are handed out on the last school day prior to the summer break in December. Students leaving the School during the year will receive a letter of attendance on their last day of school.

In the IB, quarterly update reports are issued to students and parents at the end of each term. Progress reports provide grades for effort and academic achievements for all elected subjects. The effort grade gives an indication of a student’s effort and engagement and will usually give an indication of academic potential and attitude. Half-yearly reports are issued to students and parents after each semester and provide a cumulative academic grade for the semester for each elected subject. These correspond with academic grades in the quarterly updates. Other grades on these reports are examination grades, reflecting student achievement on the formal examinations, which are held towards the end of each semester. Semester reports also indicate student achievement across a variety of general learning expectations which are common to all subjects, and subject-specific learning objectives, which correspond with those outlined by the IBO in their subject guides. Teachers also include a written comment on student progress in each subject.

The quarterly update reports are issued on the last day of the quarter for the 1st and 3rd quarter. Semester 1 reports are issued two weeks after the completion of Semester 1 examinations. Semester 2 reports are issued on the last school day prior to the winter break.

Reports can be issued in either German or English.
2. **GISS Routines and Policies**

2.1 **Tuition Times**

The School provides tuition from Monday to Friday. The timetable of the school:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roll Call</th>
<th>8.40 am</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Period</td>
<td>8.45 am - 9.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break</td>
<td>9.30 am - 9.35 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Period</td>
<td>9.35 am - 10.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break</td>
<td>10.15 am - 10.30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Period</td>
<td>10.30 am - 11.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break</td>
<td>11.15 am - 11.20 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Period</td>
<td>11.20 am - 12.05 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break</td>
<td>12.05 pm - 12.10 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Period</td>
<td>12.10 pm - 12.55 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lunch Break</strong></td>
<td><strong>12.55 pm - 1.40 pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Period</td>
<td>1.40 pm - 2.25 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break</td>
<td>2.25 pm - 2.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Period</td>
<td>2.30 pm - 3.15 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Attendance of all teaching staff:** 8.30 am - 3.30pm

**Student timetable:** 35 periods per week

**Preschool opening hours:** 8.30am - 3.30pm

**Primary School:** 26 periods/week, 1 period library, 4 periods supervised homework, 4 periods Co-curricular Activities (AGs)

**Year 5:** 31 periods, 2 periods AG, 2 periods supervised homework

**Years 6, 7 & 8:** 33 periods, 2 periods AG

**Years 9 & 10:** 35 periods/week

**IB:** more than 35 periods depending on subjects chosen

**Co-Curricular Activities (AGs):** Tuesdays (Kindy - Year 4) & Thursdays (Kindy - Year 7) during term

**Assembly dates:** for Primary School twice a term, for the entire school once a term
2.2. Holidays

Please refer to our school holiday calendar at the end of this document for all school and public holidays as well as student free / staff development days. The calendar can also be found on our website.

2.3. Lunch and Snacks

As we do not have a school canteen, students bring their own lunch and morning tea. Morning tea is a 15-min break from 10.15 am to 10.30 am and lunch is from 12.55 pm to 1.40 pm.

On Fridays, lunch may be ordered from a caterer “Flexischools”. Please order your child’s lunch prior to Friday by registering at www.flexischools.com.au. Lunch is delivered to our day room prior to the lunch break. Please note that due to the lack of demand this service is only available on Fridays!

During all breaks, students are advised to go outside the classroom to move around and get some fresh air.

We generally encourage healthy snacks such as fruit and no-nut snacks. However, we do have a vending machine which provides juices and soft drinks as well as small snacks. These are supplied by an external vendor and have to be paid in cash by the individual students. If you want your child to be able to purchase items from the vending machine, please ensure that they have cash, particularly coins with them, as our staff is not permitted to lend money or give out change.

The use of the microwave oven in the Day Room is only permitted for Years 11 and 12.

2.4 School Captains, Liaison Teachers and Student’s Welfare

Every class from Years 5 to 12 has two Student Representative Council (SRC) class representatives / captains. The SRC discusses issues which are of interest for the entire school not just for individual classes. The school captain/prefect team consists of one to maximum six students. They lead the SRC and their meetings with the support of the liaison teachers.

The liaison teachers are elected through a student vote. They advise and mediate in situations of conflict and act in support of the SRC.

If students are faced with more serious conflicts or require the help of a neutral counsellor, our Overseas Student Counsellor, Ulrike Miehle, is available to all students from Mondays to Fridays in the IB study centre. She is also involved and/or consulted by school management in circumstances that require professional assistance.

Please refer to our contact list for the current liaison teachers and school captains.
2.5 School Council / Conference

The “School Council” is the body where topics relevant to the school as a whole are discussed and opinions are exchanged. In addition, it has the task of promoting the interaction of school management, teachers, parents and students as well as mediating, advising, discussing and adopting matters that are essential for the school. The “School Council” may provide the Principal and other committees (in accordance with applicable policy) with suggestions and recommendations. A recommendation must be considered and then dealt with at the next meeting of the relevant group or committee.

The “School Council” consists of the following:

- The Principal as Chairman of the School Council
- The Chairperson of the Parents Representative Council as Deputy Chair
- Two representatives from the Teaching Staff
- One additional representative from the parent body
- Two student representatives
- One representative from the non-teaching staff.

2.6 Our Library

With a wide variety of German and English books and audio-visual material available, the Library is popular with all students from Preschool to Year 12. The Library is open during all breaks for use by students engaged on project research and independent study but also for quiet chats or games.

The Librarian assists students with their research, both with books and online. She encourages their reading for pleasure and teaches library skills and touch-typing to students from Kindergarten to Year 5. She also coordinates and supports students participating in the Premier’s Reading Challenge and the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme. Scholastic Book Fairs are held each quarter in our reception and are immensely popular with students and parents.
3. **First Week at School**

3.1 **Invitation to Information Session (for students starting January)**

You are cordially invited to join us for an information session on Tuesday, 30th of January, starting at 11.30 am, including a sausage sizzle and afternoon tea where you can meet our Principal, coordinators, bus coordinator and administration staff members who will assist you and your children with school wear, school emails, and much more. If you hadn’t had a chance to visit our school yet, a school tour can also be arranged.

On Wednesday, the first day of school, all students will assemble at 8.40 am in our sports hall. After the assembly, our Parents Representative Council will invite all parents to their traditional morning tea at 9 am where you can meet fellow parents of your class(es).

3.2 **Books and Stationary**

School books will be handed out in the first week of school. Parents will be issued an invoice for these. Our Board of Directors is planning to include these costs in the general school fees in future so that no further payment will be required. Second hand books can often be purchased directly from our librarian.

Every teacher has their own preferences and needs when it comes to stationary. In Primary School, these material lists will be noted in each student’s diary during the first week of school, however, in most cases the material list will have already been sent to new parents several weeks before commencement of school. In Secondary School (from Year 5!) we promote teaching students’ responsibility and independence by not simply handing out or emailing complete lists to the parents. All information providing an overview of the various requirements for the different subjects is easily accessible by all students. The students are then responsible to take note of the list by either copying or photographing it and to pass on this information so that they are prepared and well equipped for their classes.

Materials such as calculators, parables and geometric triangle rulers can be purchased from reception.

3.3 **School Wear and Dress Code**

Students at the German International School Sydney do not have to wear a uniform at school. However, they need to comply with our dress code ensuring decency, appropriate clothing and safety. All students must wear a hat with a sunshade which protects their face! (Details of our dress code and regulations can be found on our website on: [http://www.germanschoolsydney.com/en/Enrolments/Our-policies/](http://www.germanschoolsydney.com/en/Enrolments/Our-policies/)).

During excursions and special school events, our students must wear their school polo shirt. During the colder season, our wind & rain resistant and fleece lined school jacket is designed to keep our students warm during their outings. The first shirt and jacket is included in every student’s enrolment fee. Please come (or send your child) within the first week of school to our receptionist to try on and receive their first free shirt and jacket.

3.4 **IT and Computer Use**

Our students use technology to support their learning in the classroom. Each learning area is equipped with a smartboard allowing for interactive teaching and other modern teaching methods.

Students up to Year 6 are provided with 60 Surface Pros to be used during lessons. Touch typing, internet research and the use of computers are taught mainly in our Primary School.

For students from Year 7 onwards, the school is currently implementing a Bring-Your-Own-Device system. Devices should comply with the school’s advised system requirements. In addition, our students have access to computers in the library and IB Study Centre.
All students and staff must read and sign our Acceptable Use Policy prior to receiving a school network and email account. This policy and form will be handed out on the first day of school.

3.5 Lockers

All students from Year 1 to Year 12 are provided with their own locker. However, not every locker can be guaranteed to be located next to the respective classroom. A bond of $10 must be paid for each key. The bond will be paid back to the student when he/she leaves the school and returns the key. In case a student loses their key, a new one will be provided and a new bond of $10 must be paid.

Students from Kindergarten to Year 4 usually leave their keys with the class teacher within the classroom.

3.6 Start of School celebration for Kindergarten

As is tradition in Germany, our school celebrates the start of “big” school on the very first day of school. Adapted to the Australian start of school, this celebration has now been moved from the first day of Year 1 to the first day of our Kindergarten class. This first day, however, is generally moved to the Friday of the first week of school. All children, their class teachers and their parents meet in our sports hall at 10 am. The “new pupils” sit together with their teacher(s) at the very front where students from Years 1 to 4 perform for them, where the Principal and their teacher(s) officially welcome them to school and hand out their individual “Schultüte” a colourful cone made of cardboard and filled not only with treats but also stationary and small gifts to celebrate this exciting and big step in their lives.

As this is not a widespread tradition, mums and dads often meet before this big day (during the previous term) to craft their very individual school cone. The Kindergarten Teacher usually assists with templates and by organising this get-together, which is not only a great chance to meet other parents and design a true piece of art but also provides a lot of fun.
3.7 School Newsletter “Gutenberg Post”

Our Newsletter “Gutenberg Post” or short “GP” is a fortnightly, electronic newsletter which all families receive by email containing a link to either the German or the English version. We usually include all parents’ email addresses from completed enrolment forms into our distribution list. However, should you have not received your first GP email by the end of Friday of the first school week, please send an email to gp@giss.nsw.edu.au. This email goes directly to our newsletter editor, Barbara Koeppel, who will make sure that you receive the link and all further emails.

Barbara is also the point of contact for any advertising you may wish to place in our newsletter. Small ads from GISS families who are for example looking for a babysitter or would like to offer their services or sell second hand toys or furniture, are usually free of charge (if 1/3 of a page) and therefore quite popular.

However, the main purpose of our newsletter is communication and providing information from the school to our parents so please make sure you receive (and read) it! Many students and their teachers also use it to provide an insight into their education, to write about excursions and other activities, and often include exciting adventures.

3.8 Absence / Sick Days

By law, all children from the age of five to the completion of their schooling must attend school. However, children can become sick, or other reasons may occur preventing them from attending school for a limited time.

Following is our way of making sure we know about the absence of your child and that it is within legal rights:

**Within the first two days of absence (sickness or other reasons):**

Within the first two days, the parent/guardian of the student (if under 18 years old) should call or email Reception to inform us, preferably before roll call at 8.40am. In addition, the parent needs to provide an informal but written notice (or email) explaining the reason for absence. Please use the following email address: absent@giss.nsw.edu.au.

**After the second day of absence:**

In the event of sickness, a doctor certificate must be provided stating the duration and cause of sickness.

In the event of other absences, an informal but written application for leave of absence by the student’s parent/guardian addressed to the Principal is required.
4. **Become Involved**

“Parent volunteers offer a huge resource and support base for the school community while showing their kids the importance of participating in the larger community.

Not only will the school reap the benefits of your involvement — you will, too. By interacting with teachers, administrators, and other parents on a regular basis, you’ll gain a firsthand understanding of your child’s daily activities. You’ll also tap into trends and fads of school life that can help you communicate with your kids as they grow and change (all without intruding on their privacy or personal space).”

*http://kidshealth.org/parent/positive/learning/school.html*

**There are many ways to get involved at our school:**

- Become a member of our PRC (Parent Representative Council) and represent your child’s class.
- Volunteer at several fundraising events such as the annual Bunnings Sausage Sizzle or help at a clean-up day.
- Assist with reading in the Primary School.
- Help run an AG (co-curricular activity).
- Become a sponsor.
- Support the school with your professional knowledge or skills, as a consultant or even as a member of our Board of Directors.
- Participate at our careers night and share your experience with our older students who are yet to find their goals in life.
- Take part in the biggest and most exciting event of our school calendar, our Christmas Market in August (please check dates on website). This family event is a must! In the past two years, it attracted over 5,000 visitors over two nights and the magic is still growing. We need all hands on deck to cater for such a big crowd and we therefore urge every single member of our community to join hands, roll up their sleeves, join in and help in whatever way they can.
5. Contact List

5.1 Management

Principal: Dr Lorenz Metzger (lorenz.metzger@giss.nsw.edu.au)

Business Manager: Andreas Schaaf (andreasschaaf@giss.nsw.edu.au)

Deputy Principal / Head of Junior Secondary School: Dr Horst Giesler (horst.giesler@giss.nsw.edu.au)

IB Coordinator / Head of Senior Secondary School: Annie Thomson (annie.thomson@giss.nsw.edu.au)

Head of Primary School: Klemens Pedamig (klemens.pedamig@giss.nsw.edu.au)

Head of Preschool: Silke Bethke (silke.bethke@giss.nsw.edu.au)

5.2 Board of Directors:

Bernd Winter, Olaf Pietschner, Graham Lello, Tammi Christie, Louise Haid, Angelika Yates, Sarah Robson, Rocco Bräuniger, and Jennifer Gilmore

More details about the Board and its responsibilities can be found under:
5.3 Administration

Business Manager: Andreas Schaaf (andreas.schaaf@giss.nsw.edu.au)
IT & Invoicing: Scott Lyons (scott.lyons@giss.nsw.edu.au)
Registrar: Antje Eldemann (antje.eldemann@giss.nsw.edu.au)
Reception: Kate Rouvray (kate.rouvray@giss.nsw.edu.au)
Executive Assistant: Wibke Christian (wibke.christian@giss.nsw.edu.au)
Newsletter Editor: Barbara Koeppel (barbara.koeppel@giss.nsw.edu.au)
Marketing & Events: Franziska McCarthy (franziska.mccarthy@giss.nsw.edu.au)
Accounts: Agnes Leong (agnes.leong@giss.nsw.edu.au)
Facilities Coordinator: Michael Abicht (michael.abicht@giss.nsw.edu.au)

5.4 Student Support & Welfare, Liaison Teachers, School Captains

Liaison teachers: Kate Rouvray (kate.rouvray@giss.nsw.edu.au) & Julia Strassburger (julia.strassburger@giss.nsw.edu.au)
Student Counsellor: Ulrike Miehle (ulrike.miehle@giss.nsw.edu.au)
Learning Support teacher: Claudia Niessing (claudia.niessing@giss.nsw.edu.au)

Current School Captains:
5.6 Our teachers

Stephanie Ahwee
Primary
Class teacher Year 3

Rachel Allison
Primary & Secondary
Class teacher Year 5

Carol Barnes
Primary
Class teacher Year 2

Silke Bethke
Head of Preschool

Michaela Bisch
Primary

Katja Blankenheim
Primary & Secondary
Class teacher Year 1b

Janine Boubbov
Primary & Secondary
Class teacher Year 1b

Sibylle Burkart
Librarian

Alexander Christ
Secondary
Class teacher Year 8

Ulrike Clark
Primary & Secondary
Class teacher Year 4

Gudrun Daniel
Preschool

Anika Davey
Secondary

Thomas Dietl
Primary Religion

Birgit Eickeler
Secondary
Class teacher Year 8

Anne-Catherine Froidevaux
Secondary
Class teacher Year 6

Dr Horst Giesler
Secondary
Head of Junior Secondary

Dr Volker Gillig
Secondary
Senior Secondary

Selene Harington
Secondary
Class teacher Year 5

Rachel Hennig
Primary
Class teacher Kiga

Simone Hessling
Secondary
Class teacher Yr 9b
Our Teachers

Pia Hofmann
Primary
Class teacher Year 1b

Alison Glover
Primary
Casual teacher

Simone Keiser
Preschool & Playgroup
Transition teacher Kiga

Melanie Kessin
Primary
Class teacher Year 2

Dora Kluba
Preschool

Karina Klueckmann
Support teacher

Lusha Kodikara
Secondary
Class teacher Year 12

Jenny Krieger
Preschool Transition teacher Kiga

Christina Knoll
Primary
Class teacher Year 3

Dr. Eike Luethgens
Secondary
Class teacher Year 9a

Lysann Meinhardt
Primary
Class teacher Year 1a

Lysann Meinhardt
Primary
Class teacher Year 1a

Dr. Lorenz Metzger
Secondary
Principal

Ulrike Miehle
CAS coordinator (IB)
Student counsellor

Christina Molloy
Primary
Maternity leave

Claudia Niessing
Primary & Learning support coordinator

Theresa Nöckler
Primary
Class teacher Kiga

John Nyagah
Preschool

Belinda Özodabasyan
Secondary
Class teacher Year 10

Christine Oster
Primary
Class teacher Year 4
Our Teachers

Denise Parsons  
Secondary  
Class teacher Year 6

Klemens Pedarmig  
Primary & Secondary  
Head of Primary

Klaus Plannenmüller  
Secondary  
Class teacher Yr 7a

Nicola Prandle  
Secondary  
Class teacher Year 9b

Antje Reeves  
Primary  
Maternity leave

Tanja Ritonelle  
Secondary  
Class teacher Year 10

Mamie Sinclair  
Secondary  
Class teacher Year 11

Caroline Sinnamon  
Secondary  
Class teacher Year 9a

Catherine Squire-Blatti  
Preschool

Julia Strassburger  
Secondary  
Class teacher Year 7a

Annie Thomson  
Senior Secondary  
IB Coordinator

Jonna Vinje  
Secondary  
Class teacher Year 7b

Mednine Yureldi  
Secondary
5.7 Parent Representative Council (PRC)

The Parents Representative Council (PRC) consists of selected representatives from each class. Each class elects two parents to represent their class and to be actively involved in supporting the school. The PRC holds regular meetings during school terms where any issues parents may have are addressed. Each year the PRC organises several fundraisers. These funds are then used for useful projects to support the school.

The next election for representatives of each class will be held during the upcoming parent-teacher evenings held at the beginning of the school year.

Members of the current PRC:

- Chair: Alexandra Grosse
- Deputy: Laurence Aubineau
- Treasurer: Alexandra Mueller
6. Transport

Please note: For parents picking up or dropping off their children, we are currently extending our Kiss & Drop Zone. Please note that this zone (in front of our Preschool) is for stopping only!

The transport of our students is built on two components: government funded public buses and GISS-operated private buses.

Information on public buses:

Public transport is operated by the bus company Forest Coach Lines. There is a bus stop right in front of our school and teachers supervise the arrival and departure of all students.

Please go to nsw trip planner to find the current and most suitable public transport options from your home! The address is - https://transportnsw.info/trip#

To apply for a School Opal Card please apply online at transportnsw.info/school-students, our registrar will be automatically notified to endorse your application. The School Opal Card will eventually be sent by mail to your home address.

To obtain a free Student Opal Card, students must fulfil several criteria:

Age:

Students must be at least in Kindergarten (students in the Preschool are not eligible for a School Opal Card) and older than 4½ years old.

Distance between home and school:

There are no limits for students from Kindergarten to Year 2.

Since Terrey Hills is being surrounded by national parks only students living in Terrey Hills or the northern fringes of Belrose don’t fulfil the distance criteria and would not be eligible for a Opal Card. Other suburbs close by, such as St Ives, Ingleside, Duffy’s Forest and Belrose are already far enough to fulfil the distance criteria.

Visa-Status:

To obtain a free School Opal Card, students must be either Australian citizens, permanent residents or have one of the following visa classes: 309, 310, 444, 445, 448, 449, 450, 580, 785, 820, 826, 995.

All other visa classes (e.g. the most common 457) are not eligible for the free Student Opal Card; but students can receive a concession card from the registrar of the school and apply for a Child/Youth Opal Card, paying the normal concession fare.

Forest Coach Lines bus services are usually operated by the same driver, who will get to know the students on his/her run. The free School Opal Cards are only valid on school days and only for the direct route from home to the school and return. Students whose parents are separated can apply for two routes - one to each parent’s home.

For all bus stops please keep in mind: Please Signal the Driver!

Information on the GISS-operated Buses:

To complement the existing government funded school buses, the School offers private bus routes. The use of the School’s private buses occurs additional costs as shown in the School’s fee lists. Each route is operated by the same driver each day. Our drivers know each child (travelling on their bus) and their parents. This service reflects the caring character of our school. All our drivers have been working with us for many years and are part of the GISS community.
Please see below our map of **private GISS Routes** and our timetables on following pages.

Please note that the indicated pick up points and times may be flexible and are therefore subject to minor changes to suit our students’ families’ needs and to make the routes as efficient as possible, albeit considering traffic conditions and availability.

The most current version is generally published on our website under the following link [http://www.germanschoolsydney.com/en/Contact-Us/Transport/](http://www.germanschoolsydney.com/en/Contact-Us/Transport/).

**GISS Bus Routes**

**GISS Route A:** Mosman - Balgowlah - Fairlight - Manly - Queenscliff - Brookvale - North Curl Curl - Dee Why - Collaroy - Narrabeen - Elanora Heights

**GISS Route B:** Chatswood West - Chatswood - Willoughby - Lindfield - Killara - North Turramurra/St Ives

**GISS Route D:** Ryde - Marsfield - West Pymble - St Ives - Pymble - North Turramurra

**GISS Route E:** Parramatta - Carlingford - North Rocks - West Pennant Hills - Thornleigh - Wahroonga

**GISS Route F:** Lane Cove - Riverview - Waverton - North Sydney - Cammeray - Northbridge - Castlecrag

**GISS Route G:** Elanora Heights - Collaroy - Narrabeen - North Narrabeen - Warringah - Mona Vale - Bayview

GISS Buses are an additional service to public buses. Children up to 4½ years cannot ride unaccompanied on public buses. The fee for regular GISS Bus use is published within our school fee schedule.
**GISS Bus Timetables**

**GISS Route A**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suburb</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Pick Up Point</th>
<th>Arrival PM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mosman</td>
<td>7:00 AM</td>
<td>Spit Road</td>
<td>4:25 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balgowlah</td>
<td>7:15 AM</td>
<td>Sydney Road Balgowlah</td>
<td>4:20 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairlight</td>
<td>7:20 AM</td>
<td>Sydney Road</td>
<td>4:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manly</td>
<td>7:25 AM</td>
<td>Sydney Road / Belgrave Street</td>
<td>4:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manly</td>
<td>7:30 AM</td>
<td>Pittwater Rd / Pine St</td>
<td>4:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queenscliff</td>
<td>7:30 AM</td>
<td>Pittwater Rd / Oliver Street</td>
<td>4:10 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brookvale</td>
<td>7:35 AM</td>
<td>Abbott Rd / Habord Rd</td>
<td>4:05 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brookvale</td>
<td>7:40 AM</td>
<td>Pittwater Road / Warringah Mall Main Bus Stop</td>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Curl Curl</td>
<td>7:45 AM</td>
<td>Pitt Rd Cnr of Griffin Rd</td>
<td>3:55 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dee Why</td>
<td>7:45 AM</td>
<td>Headland Rd cnr of Griffin Rd</td>
<td>3:55 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dee Why</td>
<td>7:50 AM</td>
<td>Pittwater Road</td>
<td>3:50 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaroy</td>
<td>7:55 AM</td>
<td>Anzac Ave / Pittwater Rd</td>
<td>3:50 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaroy</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>Collaroy St / Pittwater Rd Bus Stop</td>
<td>3:45 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narrabeen</td>
<td>8:05 AM</td>
<td>Pittwater Rd (before Waterloo St)</td>
<td>3:40 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elanora Heights</td>
<td>8:05 AM</td>
<td>Powderworks Rd</td>
<td>3:35 PM</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**GISS Route B**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suburb</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Pick Up Point</th>
<th>Arrival PM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chatswood West</td>
<td>7.15 AM</td>
<td>Fullers Road</td>
<td>4.15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chatswood</td>
<td>7.20 AM</td>
<td>Johnston Street</td>
<td>4.15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chatswood</td>
<td>7.25 AM</td>
<td>Bertram St</td>
<td>4.10 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chatswood</td>
<td>7.35 AM</td>
<td>Victoria Ave</td>
<td>4.05 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willoughby</td>
<td>7.40 AM</td>
<td>Willoughby</td>
<td>4.00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lindfield</td>
<td>7.50 AM</td>
<td>Lindfield</td>
<td>3.55 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Killara</td>
<td>8.00 AM</td>
<td>Springdale St</td>
<td>3.45 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Ives / North Turramura</td>
<td>8.10 AM</td>
<td>Allara Ave / Bobbin Head Rd</td>
<td>3.35 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GISS Route D**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suburb</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Pick Up Point</th>
<th>Arrival PM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ryde</td>
<td>7:05 AM</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.25 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marsfield</td>
<td>7:20 AM</td>
<td>Herring Rd</td>
<td>4.15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Pymble</td>
<td>7:40 AM</td>
<td>Kendall St (IGA Main Carpark)</td>
<td>4.05 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Ives</td>
<td>7:50 AM</td>
<td>Telegraph Rd</td>
<td>3.55 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pymble</td>
<td>7:55 AM</td>
<td>Bobbin Head Rd</td>
<td>3.50 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Turramura</td>
<td>8.05 AM</td>
<td>Allara Ave (infront of Church)</td>
<td>3.40 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GISS Route E**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suburb</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Pick Up Point</th>
<th>Arrival PM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parramatta</td>
<td>7:10 AM</td>
<td>Castle St</td>
<td>4.30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlingford</td>
<td>7:20 AM</td>
<td>Lloyds Ave</td>
<td>4.25 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Rocks</td>
<td>7:25 AM</td>
<td>North Rocks Rd / Pennant Hills Road</td>
<td>4.20 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Pennant Hills</td>
<td>7.30 AM</td>
<td>Thompson Cnr (Liquorland Carpark)</td>
<td>4.15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thornleigh</td>
<td>7:40 AM</td>
<td>Railways Pds (in front of Station)</td>
<td>4.00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wahroonga</td>
<td>7:50 AM</td>
<td>Fox Valley Rd/ Comenarra Parkway</td>
<td>3.45 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### GISS Route F

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suburb</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Pick Up Point</th>
<th>Arrival PM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lane Cove</td>
<td>7:10 AM</td>
<td>Bridge St / River Rd</td>
<td>4:20 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverview</td>
<td>7:15 AM</td>
<td>Hamilton Street</td>
<td>4:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waverton</td>
<td>7:20 AM</td>
<td></td>
<td>4:10 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Sydney</td>
<td>7:25 AM</td>
<td>Bay Road/Pacific Highway</td>
<td>4:05 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cammeray</td>
<td>7:35 AM</td>
<td>Miller Street Shops</td>
<td>3:50 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northbridge</td>
<td>7:45 AM</td>
<td>Sailors Bay Rd</td>
<td>3:55 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CastleCrag</td>
<td>7:55 AM</td>
<td>Edinburgh Rd</td>
<td>3:50 PM</td>
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### GISS Route G

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suburb</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Pick Up Point</th>
<th>Arrival PM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elanora Heights</td>
<td>7:35 AM</td>
<td></td>
<td>4:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaroy</td>
<td>7:45 AM</td>
<td>Pittwater Road</td>
<td>4:20 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narrabeen</td>
<td>7:50 AM</td>
<td>Ocean St</td>
<td>4:10 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Narrabeen</td>
<td>7:55 AM</td>
<td>Ocean St</td>
<td>4:10 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warriewood</td>
<td>7:55 AM</td>
<td>Warriewood Bus Stop (opp Brands Lane)</td>
<td>3:50 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mona Vale</td>
<td>7:50 AM</td>
<td>Pittwater Rd Bus Stop (opp Elimatta Rd and Pittwater)</td>
<td>3:45 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mona Vale</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>Park Street Bus Stop</td>
<td>3:40 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayview</td>
<td>8:10 AM</td>
<td></td>
<td>3:40 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that these pick-up points and times may be flexible and are subject to change!