



# Summer Course 2025 Handbook

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## WE'RE GETTING EXCITED!

We are very excited that you have chosen Brillantmont for your Summer Course 2025 and we are very much looking forward to welcoming you. We're sure you're going to have a great time and make lots of friends from all over the world.

In this handbook, you will find lots of information about daily life. Please read it carefully to be sure you have understood what your experience will be like.

## TRAVELING TO BRILLANTMONT

Now that your place is confirmed, you can start to make travel plans.

Please note that **all arrivals and departures take place on Saturday only**, within the designated times below. It is not possible to arrive on any other day.

### For students coming alone by plane

The transfer to and from Geneva airport on the day of your arrival and departure, within regular working hours, is included in your Summer Course fees.

**Please ensure that your flight arrives at / departs from Geneva Airport between 9h00 AM - 17h00 PM.**

if for some reason, you reserve a flight which is outside regular working hours, we may need to use an external transfer service, for which there is an additional charge.

Please bear in mind that our transfer service is for Geneva Airport only and all flights should arrive there. Geneva airport is approximately 45 minutes from Lausanne. The transfer service is for students only (not parents).

If the student is traveling alone, you may wish to use UM service offered by the airline. It is your responsibility to organise this and provide us with the relevant information.

### For students being dropped off/picked up by the family

Please note the following arrival /departure times:

Date	Programme	Arrival time with parents	Departure time with parents
Saturday 5th July	Week 1 begins	11h00-15h00	no departures
Saturday 12th July	Week 2 begins	no arrivals	no departures
Saturday 19th July	Week 3 begins	11h00-15h00	9h00-12h00
Saturday 26th July	Week 4 begins	11h00-15h00	9h00-12h00
Saturday 2nd August	Week 5 begins	11h00-15h00	9h00-12h00
Saturday 9th August	Week 6 begins	no arrivals	9h00-12h00
Saturday 16th August	End of Summer Course	no arrivals	9h00-12h00

## YOUR ARRIVAL AT BRILLANTMONT

We will contact you about 6 weeks prior to the start of Summer Course and ask you to complete a travel form, giving full details of your arrival and departure.

## WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU

### Suitable clothing



The weather in Switzerland in summer is usually warm and sunny. However, because of the mountains, there can sometimes be rain, so you need to be prepared!

Students should bring:

- shorts (no very short or ripped shorts)
- T-shirts (covering the midriff)
- trousers (no ripped jeans)
- tennis shoes and tennis racket (if you have your own)
- tracksuit / sports clothes
- trainers / sports shoes for sports classes
- sports shoes or hiking shoes with a good grip for hikes /walks in the mountains
- a swimming costume / swimming trunks for watersports
- large beach towel
- a waterproof rain jacket (K-Way) with a hood
- a warm jacket and/ pullover / sweatshirt
- a smart outfit for the Friday disco or leaving party
- baseball cap / sunhat

Although it is summer and the weather will probably be warm, we do expect that all clothing and in particular shorts and hemlines are respectful to others' cultural backgrounds and appropriate for school.

Very short dresses, skirts, shorts and crop tops are not appropriate. T-shirts should not show any offensive image or slogan.

The student's clothing should be tasteful and appropriate for the intended activity. The school may ask students to change if clothing is considered inappropriate.



## Basic mobile phone



Students can bring their mobile phones. Please refer to the school rules to read about how / when they can be used. We reserve the right to confiscate a phone.

## Electrical devices



The Swiss use two different kinds of plug. Plug type C has two round pins. Plug type J has three round pins. Switzerland uses a voltage of 230V (50Hz).

## Pocket money



When you arrive at Brillantmont, you will give us your pocket money, which will be kept in the school safe. You can withdraw the money during the week, against a signature.

It is very important that you bring your money in Swiss Francs. Please do not bring money in other currencies. We cannot change money for you.

We recommend that you bring between CHF30.- – CHF50.- per week.

## Medicine



You should have indicated any medication that you require on the medical form you have already sent. Please make sure that your medicine is clearly labelled and that your name is clearly visible. All medication is handed in on arrival to our School Nurse

## OUR TEAM

In the Summer Course, you are in great hands! Many of our teachers /staff also work during the school year and all have experience working at the Summer Course. There are many people who make our Summer Course a great success. However, let's introduce you to a few key people.

Brillantmont is a family-run, family-owned school and the Summer Course is overseen by the Senior Leadership Team - Mrs Anne Frei, Head of School (5<sup>th</sup> generation of the founding family) and her sister-in-law, Mrs Sarah Frei, Head of Admissions.



Mrs Anne Frei  
Head of School



Mrs Sarah Frei  
Head of Admissions

We have a fantastic administrative team who are here to help you in any way, but you'll probably have most contact with Cristiana. She is usually the person behind the Summer Course email address ([summercourse@brillantmont.ch](mailto:summercourse@brillantmont.ch)).

The daily running and organisation of the Summer Course is under the responsibility of our Summer Course Coordinators, who are also key staff in our dedicated school year team.



Cristiana Lima  
Admissions  
Assistant



Tim Rouge  
Summer Course  
Coordinator



Roxane Feunette  
Summer Course  
Coordinator



Santiago Lavanchy  
Summer Course  
Coordinator

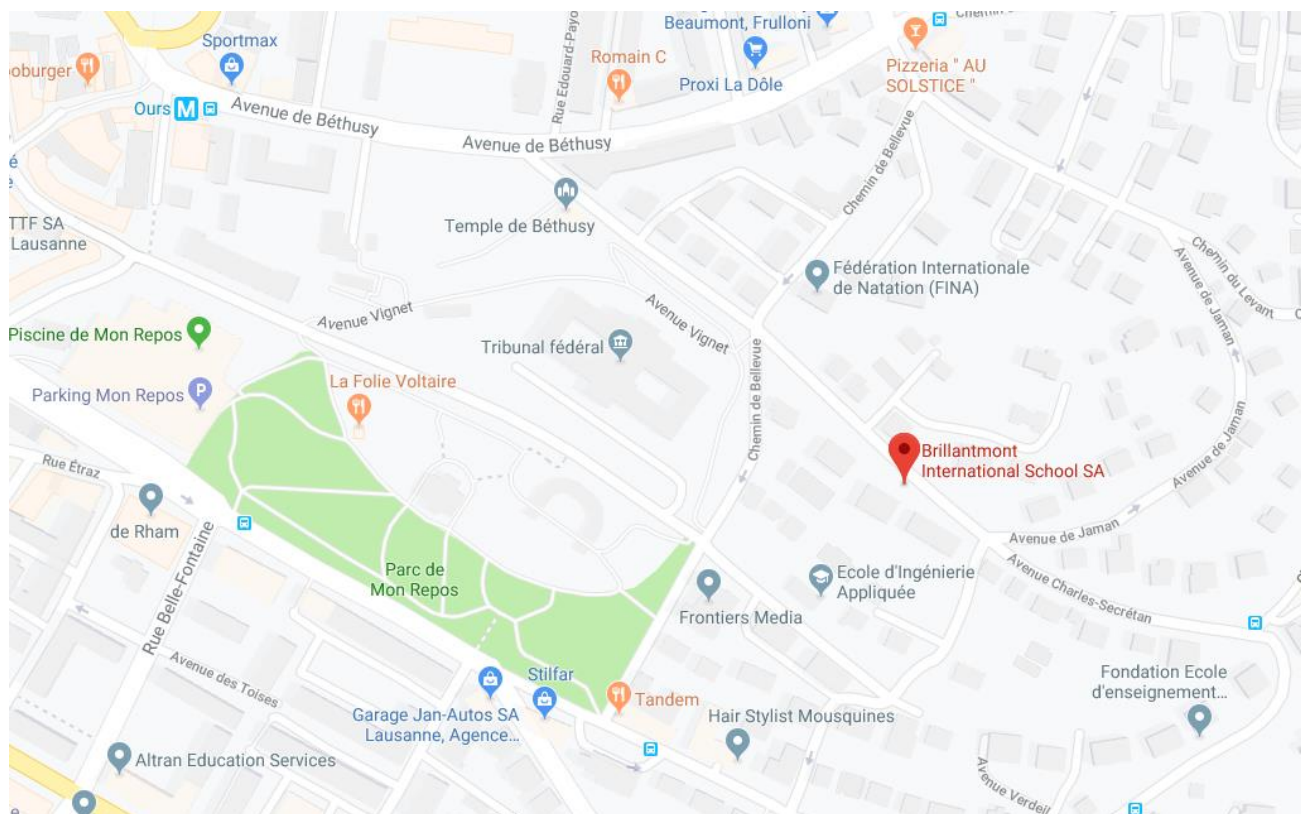
### WHO TO CALL / EMERGENCY NUMBERS

If you have a question about the Summer Course during the school day, please telephone this number:

T: + 41 21 310 0400

If you have a question outside of the school day, your telephone will connect to our message service. The message will indicate the emergency number which connects directly to a senior member of staff.

## HOW TO REACH SCHOOL



The school address is Avenue Charles Secrétan 16, 1005, Lausanne, Switzerland

Lausanne is in the French speaking part of Switzerland. It is just 45 minutes from Geneva, where there is the international Airport.

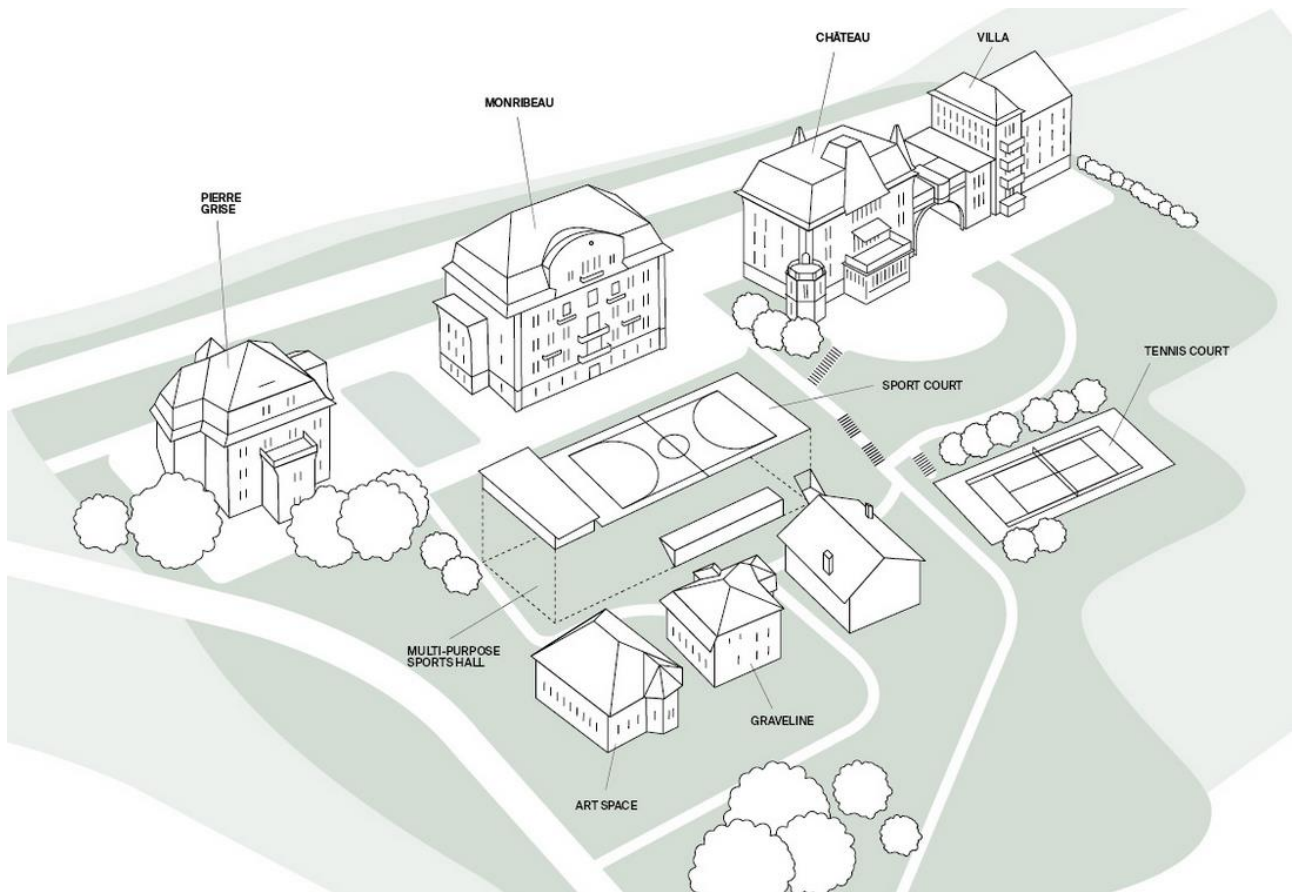
The school is 5 minutes by taxi from Lausanne train station.

It can be reached via the metro (stop Ours – 5 minutes walk) or by bus number 13 (Verdeil – 2 minutes walk).

## SCHOOL FACILITIES

Brillantmont is in the centre of Lausanne. Our campus is amazing. In addition to our sports courts and multipurpose sports hall on campus, we also use sports facilities locally and watersports take place by the lake.

Many excursions and activities take place off campus, in the local area and in the mountains.



## BEDROOMS

All Summer Course students live on campus. Boys and girls live in separate boarding houses, which are organised by age.

You will share a room with one or two other students from a different nationality and of a similar age to you. This will enable you to make new friends and discover new cultures. A teacher lives on the same floor in your boarding house and is there to look after and support you.

All bedrooms are large and spacious, all have a lockable wardrobe and many have views over the Lake and mountains. A few rooms have en-suite bathrooms, but mostly students share bathrooms (3-4 students per bathroom).

All students eat their meals together with the Summer Course staff in the dining room.



## SUMMER COURSE RULES 2025

(the school reserves the right to adjust the Summer Course rules)

### BEDROOMS

Beds must be made every morning, curtains must be opened and rooms kept tidy.

Suitcases must be stored in the baggage room.

All damage incurred will be billed.

Hairdryers, kettles and irons are not allowed in the rooms.

### TELEPHONE WITH THE SCHOOL

If you need to contact the school, please use the main school telephone: + 41 21 310 0400.

### MOBILE PHONES

We understand that keeping contact with family is important and we also understand that students love to take photos of their stay. This is why we allow students to bring their mobile phone to Brillantmont and we ask you to share your child's telephone number with the school.

However, we limit the use of mobile phones to specific times of day, in order to promote face to face interactions and to enable all students to fully participate in all the activities and social life at the school. Teachers may confiscate a phone if they feel a student is not fully respecting the rules or is not engaging and interacting enough with other students.

Staff will apply these guidelines. We thank you for your cooperation and support in this matter.

- Weekday mornings in class: phones are handed in to the classroom teacher and returned to the student after the lunchtime information session.
- Weekday afternoons in class / sports: phones are handed in to the teacher and returned to the student at the end of the class.
- Evenings on campus: phones are handed in to the teacher and returned to the student at the end of the activity.
- During excursions and activities off campus: students are encouraged to have their mobile phones with them, in case of emergency. Unless requested by the teacher, the phone should be kept out of sight unless it is being used to take photographs.
- At night: students under the age of 14 must hand in their phones to their boarding teacher at night and it will be given back in the morning. All other students must put their phone on flight mode: the phone will be confiscated if this is not respected.

### CONNECTED WATCHES / EARPODS/ HEADPHONES

Students are not allowed to bring connected watches to campus. Students should not walk around the campus with earpods or headphones. We will not hesitate to confiscate these if necessary.

### COMPUTERS

Students do not need a computer/tablet and therefore, no computers/tablets should be brought to campus, unless the student has chosen the Coding / Robotics afternoon option.

Students who are taking Coding /Robotics must bring a computer or tablet which **MUST** have a keyboard. They can keep their computer in their lockable wardrobe.

Wireless internet access is available throughout the campus and school computers are available for use at certain times of day, if required.

## MEAL TIMES/ TABLE MANNERS

Meals are compulsory for everyone Breakfast: 08h30      Lunch: 12h30      Dinner: 18h45

One or two members of staff sit at each table:

- seats are not assigned
- no-one leaves before the table has been cleared and everyone has finished eating
- the dining room is supervised by staff members
- meals take place in a calm atmosphere, and food must be respected (no food outside the dining room)
- students must be suitably dressed and display good behaviour throughout the meals.

## FRENCH / ENGLISH CLASSES

MON-TUE-WED-THU-FRI: 09h00 - 10h30 & 10h45 - 12h15      WED afternoon class excursion

## AFTERNOON PROGRAMME

Multisports or afternoon option      MON-TUE-THU-FRI      14h00 – 17h00

## STUDY

45 minutes of study, in a classroom, is fixed 2-3 times a week according to the excursion programme.

## EXCURSIONS & ACTIVITIES

All excursions and activities are compulsory.

## GOING OUT

If no activity or excursion has been organized, the following rules for leaving campus apply:

Afternoon (17h15 – 18h30)

- Students aged 10 - 13 are only allowed to leave the campus with a member of staff
- Students aged 14 must ask permission from a member of staff before leaving the campus  
(in groups of 3 minimum)
- students aged 15 and above are allowed off the campus unsupervised

According to Swiss law : “ frequentation of public establishments” *a young person aged under 16 unaccompanied by his/ her legal representative is not allowed to go to cafés, restaurants, tea-rooms, bars, pubs and discos without a written consent.*

Evening (after dinner or study)

- Students under the age of 16 are not allowed off the campus
- Students who are aged 16 and above must return to school by 21h00.

On Friday evenings, no-one is allowed to leave the campus after 18h30 because a special activity is organised.

**ANY STUDENT WHO LEAVES THE CAMPUS IN VIOLATION OF THE RULES OR WITHOUT PERMISSION MAY BE EXPELLED.**

### **SMOKING – VAPING - DRUGS - ALCOHOL – ENERGY DRINKS**

These are strictly forbidden. Any student breaking this rule may be expelled.

### **MEDICINES**

No students are allowed to keep medicines in their room without the permission of the school nurse.

### **VIOLENCE**

Any incident of violence will be severely punished and could result in an immediate expulsion.

### **LAUNDRY**

A laundry room is at students' disposal on specific days and at specific times.

### **POCKET MONEY, PASSPORTS AND TICKETS**

Students should keep their money in the school safe. They can collect what they need every day (except Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays) after lunch. Each student has a cupboard which can be locked where they have to put their personal belongings. School does not accept responsibility for theft, loss or damage of personal belongings. All passports and tickets must be handed in to the office.

### **CONTACT WITH PARENTS / HOMESICKNESS**

Constant contact with your child does not help adaptation and can lead to homesickness. For this reason, we encourage you to resist the temptation to frequently phone him /her. Visits from parents are only authorised on a Saturday and only by prior arrangement, since during the Summer Course we are often off campus.

### **VARIOUS**

The throwing of gravel is strictly forbidden.

No scarves or other items should be placed over lights for fire safety reasons.

Students should always close their windows and doors when leaving their room.

## DAILY LIFE

### YOUR ARRIVAL AT BRILLANTMONT

Prior to your arrival, we will ask you to complete an arrival form, so we know where and when you are arriving, if we need to collect you at the airport or if you are arriving with your parents. You should arrive at Geneva airport only.

When you arrive at school, you will be welcomed by senior staff members. They will ask you to give them your passport, your flight tickets for safe keeping. You will also give them your pocket money and any medication you have.

You will meet the boarding teacher who lives on your floor and will be taken to your room. You will be able to meet and get to know your room-mate. The teacher will explain the programme for the rest of the day.



### A TYPICAL DAY

8h00: Wake up

8h30: Breakfast

9h00 – 10h30: English or French class

10h30 – 10h45: 15 minute break; snacks and drinks are available in the dining room

10h45 – 12h15: English or French class

12h30: Lunch

14h00: Sports classes on campus or by the lake / Afternoon options ( 2 x per week)

16h30: If nice weather, we may go together to the open air swimming pool. Otherwise, return to school

17h00: Free time / study period / activity

18h45: Dinner

After dinner – activities on or off campus

Bedtime – the time may vary depending on the activity taking place and the age of the students



## PLACEMENT TEST IN FRENCH OR ENGLISH

You will take a placement test to see the level of your English or French. Don't get stressed about it! The test helps us decide which class you will enter, but we can change your class if necessary.

## FRENCH / ENGLISH CLASSES

MON-TUE-WED-THU-FRI  
Wednesday afternoon

09h00 - 10h30 & 10h45 - 12h15  
excursion with the language class

## WEEKLY CLASS TEST

Every Friday, you take a short test which checks if you have fully understood the material taught during the week.

## LEAVING CERTIFICATE

When you leave Brillantmont, you will receive a certificate with a grade and comment from your teacher, with advice on how you can develop your future language skills.

## STUDY

45 minutes of study, in a classroom, is fixed on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays depending on the excursion programme.

## AFTERNOON CLASSES

Afternoon sports classes (BM Move) take place on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 14h00 – 17h00.

The optional activities that you chose on registration (Creative Arts, Coding/Robotics / Tennis) take place 2 x afternoon a week.

Remember – if you are taking Coding/ Robotics as an afternoon option, you must bring a computer with a keyboard (not a tablet).

**It is not possible to change the activity for which you registered because all our teachers have been organised.**

You will be in a sports class with other girls or boys of the same age and you will do a different sport every day. We want you to try as many different sports as possible. Some sports take place on campus, others take place by the lake.



### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

On Wednesday afternoon, you go out with your class to visit a place of local interest. If the weather is good, you will meet up later with the other students for a barbecue and fun time by the lake. In case of bad weather, we will return to school and an activity will be organised on the campus.

### EVENINGS

Two or three times a week, an activity is organised. This may take place on campus – quiz night, sports tournaments, film night or off campus – ice skating, indoor climbing, trampoline park. Friday night is the highlight of the week because it's disco night. Our students like to get dressed up smartly for this special evening, which has lots of fun and laughter in store!



### WEEKENDS

At weekends, excursions and activities take place. Weather permitting, we usually go outside – sometimes to the mountains, sometimes to a city. Because the weather can change quickly, we do not pre-publish the excursion plan for weekends, as we need to ensure that our students are participating in an excursion in safe conditions.

On Friday, the teachers will tell you more about where you will be going during the weekend and explain what you will need to take / how you should be dressed.



## EXCURSIONS & ACTIVITIES

All excursions and activities are compulsory.



## YOUR CLASSMATES

You are coming to an international school. That means that you will be living and studying with boys and girls from all over the world. They come from many different cultures and experiences. It is important to respect others' cultures and traditions.

You will share a room with someone from a different country. Maybe you don't speak the same language, so you will need to find a way to communicate!

You have a unique opportunity to make friends from all over the world and broaden your horizons.

See how many languages you can say hello in by the end of the Summer Course!



## SOME FACTS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT SWITZERLAND

The Swiss eat more chocolate per person per year than any other nationality (9.9kg)!

The lake in Lausanne is not called Lake Geneva - its proper name is Lake Léman.

The Swiss National Day is celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> August and is a major event with special celebrations all over the country.

There are 208 mountains over 3000m high.

The highest mountain is the Dufourspitze, part of the Monte Rosa range, near the Swiss/Italian border.

Climate change means that, without action, half of Switzerland's glaciers will disappear by 2050.

Military service is compulsory for Swiss males.

Women in Switzerland were not allowed to vote until 1971.

25% of the population of Switzerland is made up of foreigners.

There are four national languages - French, German, Italian and Romansch. English is not an official national language.

There is a rule that if you want to have a pet rabbit or a guinea pig, you have to have two, so they have a friend to play with!

If you cross the road when the crossing light is red, even when there are no cars, you are breaking the law and may be fined.

You are not allowed to mow your lawn on a Sunday.

Switzerland is one of only two countries in the world with a square flag (the other is the Vatican!).

We're looking forward to welcoming you into the Brillantmont Summer family!  
See you soon - à bientôt