



Dear New Family,

Welcome to Madeira. We are thrilled that you and your daughter are joining our community. With each day that passes without our girls here I am reminded of the immense power and transformative nature of a community like ours. While on campus their absence is palpable, the kindness, empathy, support, and resilience that I have witnessed daily online from our girls reminds me that the bonds our students share, with one another as well as with our faculty, help sustain us while we are apart, and will grow ever stronger when we come together again. I am so pleased that your daughter will soon be part of this sisterhood of girls who are becoming women who will change the world.

My name may seem familiar as for the 2019-2020 school year I was the Interim Director of Enrollment Management and I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know you and your girls throughout the admissions process. I moved to Admissions from the Dean of Students Office and this summer I will return to the that role which I have held for six years. Ms. Zahradnik, who many of you met at revisit days, is in the role through the end of June and will then return to the classroom as a member of the English Department As the Dean of Students, I oversee all aspects of residential life, student leadership, student activities, and the Health & Wellness Center. My office is located in the student center building, where the dining hall and student lounge are located, and where you will drop off/pick up your daughter daily if she is a day student. This is also where the Adult-On-Duty desk (or AOD) is housed; it is here that all boarding students sign in and out when they leave campus for outings and activities.

Parents, you will want to note the [Orientation](#) page on the Madeira website, which is home to the arrival and orientation schedules. We are tremendously hopeful that we will be able to all be together on campus in August. However, given the fluid nature of the COVID situation, it is possible that we will need to amend this schedule. It is our goal to return campus as fully as possible, as soon as is deemed appropriate by public health officials. Our senior administrative team supported by our Director of Nursing and Director of Facilities, is actively planning for a myriad of scenarios and we will communicate updates with families regularly, sharing the complete plan for the fall no later than July 17th.

The [Important Dates](#) page will give you a sense of everything from when classes begin, to when breaks are, and most importantly, what day your daughter should arrive on campus! (I suggest bookmarking this page in your browser, but it can always be found under Quicklinks or the [Parents & Families](#) section of the Madeira website.) Please note the weekends that are identified as Community Weekends, as all boarding students are expected to be on campus for these five weekends. Day families will want to make note of these weekends as well, since many campus-wide social events happen on these days. Day students are always encouraged to participate in

weekend activities. You will receive more information about the activity program from Ms. Pubal (apubal@madeira.org), our Assistant Dean of Students for Campus Life, in early-June.

Girls, we know you must be curious about what to expect your first few days at Madeira (Trust me, you will be very busy!), so we have posted a detailed schedule on the website for you. Make sure not to miss the regular videos that will be sent from our student leadership team; they start in June and cover topics like “The Dress Code Decoded” to “Favorite Madeira Traditions” and “Best Places That Deliver Food to Campus!” Parents, we know you may be wondering which portions of Orientation you are a part of, so we have included that information in the schedule as well.

All new students will arrive on Sunday, August 23rd between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. There is a full day of orientation programming for both students and parents on Sunday, including a dinner for new parents hosted by Ms. Warner, our new Head of School. Students have their own special dinner, followed by evening activities; boarding students are expected to spend Sunday night on campus. Orientation continues for everyone through Monday morning. At lunch, parents depart, and all students who plan to play a fall sport, tryout for the IEA or Varsity Riding Show team, or audition for the fall play, will begin the preseason period. Please see the attached information sheet for more details. Students who are not participating in the play or a fall sport will participate in the Mad Voyager Program (M.V.P.), and will spend time each day exploring the Washington, D.C. area with faculty and staff, and returning students. New students will be all together for meals and new student programming each day of the orientation period. Classes begin on Friday, August 28th.

The Dean of Students Office has posted our forms in your My Forms section of The Student Parent Portal. These forms are due July 1st. More information specific to boarding life, such as the packing list and link to the roommate questionnaire, will be sent to boarding students in early June by Mr. Southworth (hsouthworth@madeira.org), our Director of Residential Life. Boarding parents, you have a questionnaire as well! Please use [this link](#) to help us get to know your daughter.

You can find the link to the Student-Parent Portal in the Quicklinks section of the website. If you are unsure of your password please email Mr. Dayton, Director of Technology, at jdayton@madeira.org.

You will notice that several forms make reference to the Student Parent Handbook. If you are eager to get a more complete understanding of our community values and expectations, please feel free to access this year’s version of the [Student Parent Handbook](#). It will give you a sense of Madeira’s policies and protocols around everything from boarding student permissions to day student parking. Updates to the handbook will be completed in late summer, and you will be asked to review the document in its entirety at that time.

Finally, girls don’t forget to upload your photo for the community directory by July 15th. Instructions can be found [here](#).

We are excited to welcome you to the community and eager to answer your questions and share information. Please do not hesitate to contact the Dean of Students Office with any questions at 703-556-8211 or by emailing aod@madeira.org.

Sincerely,
Kim Newsome, Director of Enrollment Management
703-556-8273
knewsome@madeira.org