

WOODSTOCK SCHOOL



SINCE 1854



ASIA'S OLDEST RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

Our Story



Woodstock has followed its own path through three different centuries to become a unique educational community with its own distinctive background, institutions, strengths and character. It produces adventurous, critically aware thinkers and doers who are broadminded in their outlook, who carry with them Christian values of service and integrity and who go out into the world and affect positive change.

Established in 1854, Woodstock is Asia's oldest and India's leading international residential school. Set against a magnificent backdrop on the balcony of the world in a national park-like setting, Woodstock School has always been both rooted in tradition and a school of the future.

Today we carry forward that legacy by offering an innovative model of education where academics, residential life, outdoor education and co-curricular pursuits are integrated as equally formative. As a co-educational, Christian school, Woodstock provides a world-class education to a diverse group of 450 students from more than 30 countries. We are committed to preparing young people for the complexities of the 21st century, and to ensuring that a Woodstock education remains distinctive among schools in India and beyond.

While Woodstock is founded upon, and stresses the importance of strong service-oriented Christian values, staff members are drawn from and committed to promoting respect for all faiths. In total, Woodstock has more than 160 faculty members, residential and support staff. More than 5,000 Woodstock alumni worldwide, many of whom are leaders in their professions and communities, form an active and supportive network both for the school and our graduates.

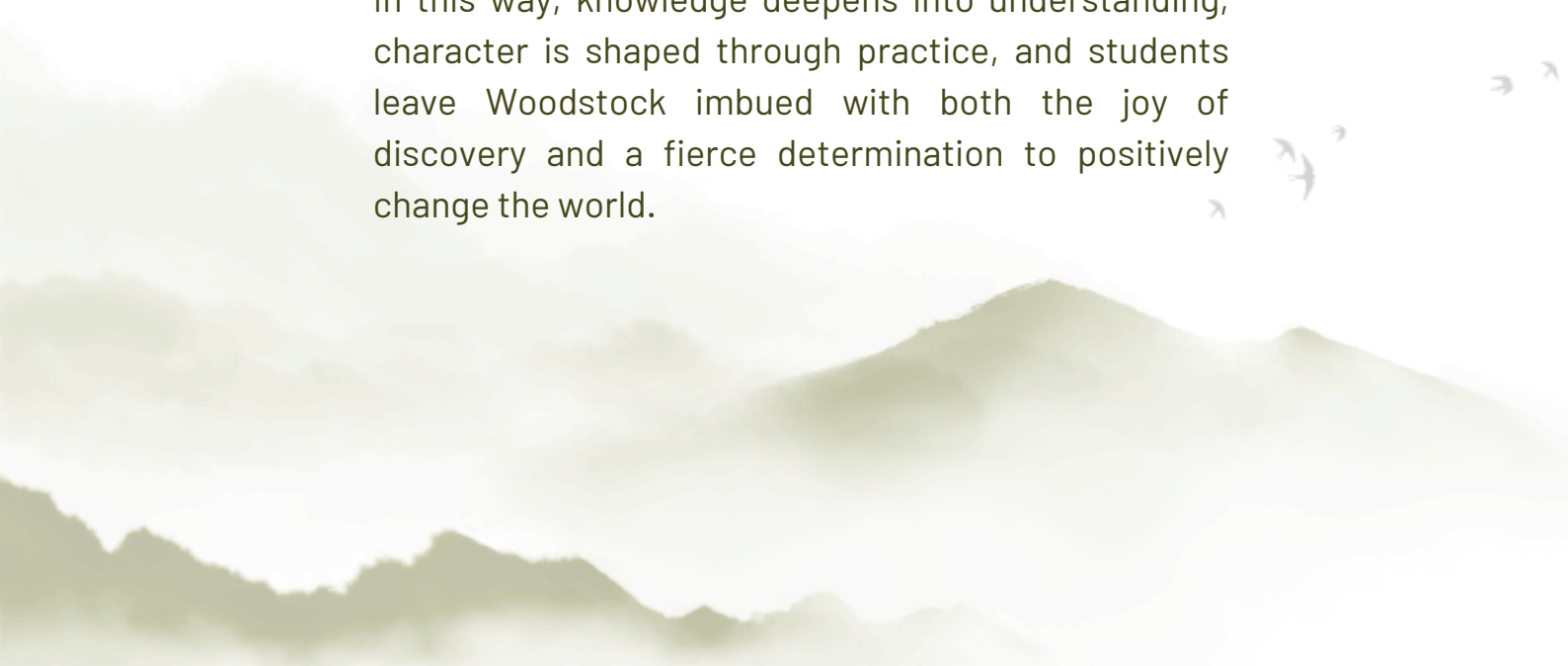
We offer a progressive, inquiry-based curriculum that is based on the accredited and widely respected Woodstock School Diploma Programme. In addition, students may choose the International Baccalaureate (Early Years, Middle Years, IBDP), or Advanced Placements. Students matriculate primarily to colleges and universities in the United States, Europe, United Kingdom and Australia.

OUR CALLING

Woodstock School imagines education as a daring, whole-life journey. At home in the Himalaya and shaped by over 170 years of lived experience, we build on our Christian identity by raising young people with integrity and the capacity for generosity of spirit, bold questioning and imagination; people who learn with excitement, grow in character and are ready to transform the world.

At Woodstock, learning is not confined to classrooms but woven into the whole fabric of life. We seek wisdom through study, service, creativity, friendship, the responsible use of technology and caring for the natural world. Our accepting and nurturing community challenges and supports one another to thrive and grow in resilience, compassion, and courage. Whether in academics, the arts, athletics, outdoor life, or daily living together, experiences are collaborative, formative and balanced.

In this way, knowledge deepens into understanding, character is shaped through practice, and students leave Woodstock imbued with both the joy of discovery and a fierce determination to positively change the world.





Life at Woodstock School

THE LOCATION

Based in Mussoorie, North India, and situated between 2000 and 2300 metres (6500-7500 feet) above sea level, Woodstock School's beautiful campus covers more than 250 acres of protected forest in the foothills of the Himalayas. This location offers students plentiful opportunities to appreciate India's history and culture, to experience complex human interactions and to explore environmental issues first-hand. Its stunning Himalayan surroundings provide an exceptional environment for outdoor education and learning.

CAMPUS LIFE AND LEARNING

At Woodstock, learning is a lived experience that stretches well beyond the classroom. Academic challenge is matched by opportunities for creativity and exploration. Students are encouraged to pursue passions in music, theatre, art, sport and service while building practical life skills and habits of resilience. Our Himalayan setting gives rise to exceptional outdoor and environmental programmes found nowhere else, while the Centre for Imagination inspires young people to dream and to discover vocation and purpose. Woodstock's carefully restored, historic campus is equipped with cutting-edge modern technology, as well as advanced design and science laboratories.

The school offers a dual academic pathway comprising of the **Woodstock Diploma** alongside the **IB Middle Years Programme (MYP)** for Grades 6 to 10, and the **IB Diploma Programme (DP)** (currently under review) for Grades 11 and 12. Additionally, **Advanced Placement (AP)** courses are available in Grades 11 and 12 as a standardized test supplement to the Woodstock Diploma. In the **Early Years (EY)**, covering Kindergarten through Grade 5, the curriculum follows a Montessori / Common Core-based program.

ACCREDITATION

Woodstock School provides a college preparatory education leading to a US high school diploma. In India, the Woodstock School Diploma is recognised as equivalent to the 10+2 system by the Association of Indian Universities. In 1959, Woodstock was the first school in Asia to receive US accreditation through the Middle States Association (MSA) of Colleges and Secondary Schools. In 2019 Woodstock was accredited by the Council of International Schools (CIS). Woodstock School is also an IB-authorised school.

Boarding begins in Grade 6. For students who come to Woodstock as English language learners, an intensive English as an Additional Language programme augments the Grades 6-10 curriculum.

Our flagship **Hanifl Centre** for Outdoor Education and Environmental Study offer programmes in leadership, outdoor education, service learning and environmental science. The truly unique **Centre for Imagination** serves to imagine new ways of learning, inspiring young people to discover their grand passion in life and to explore what it means to live with a strong sense of vocation.

Woodstock's impactful **Community Engagement Programme** enables students to work collaboratively with neighbouring communities in a way that deeply impacts their value system and brings real benefits to local groups.

Activity Week each year is devoted to off-campus experiences, service and learning, often in adventurous and challenging situations, from mountaineering to white-water rafting. Our **Global Alliance for Innovative Learning (GAIL)** school partnership provides opportunities to travel through annual conferences, student exchanges and study abroad.

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMME

Residential life is at the heart of Woodstock education. More than dormitories, our residences are vibrant, multicultural communities where students from over 35 nations live, learn and grow together. As a friendly, caring and diverse multi-cultural community representing over 35 nationalities, dedicated dorm parents and staff guide daily life, helping students balance independence with responsibility, and ensuring that weekends and evenings are filled with purposeful, healthy activities. In this shared environment, young people develop empathy, lifelong friendships and the capacity to thrive in a diverse and interconnected world. Students learn about their own cultures as well as the values and perspectives of others through interaction with peers and staff from around the world. They forge strong bonds and shared values, understanding that unity grows richer when differences are respected rather than erased.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Drawn from the foundational documents which articulate our school's identity, ethos and direction, these statements summarize the values that guide us, shaping the policies and practices for all members of our community:

Wholeness – nurturing mind, body, spirit and relationships in balance.

Well-being – creating a safe, caring and joyful environment.

Greatness – drawing out each person's unique gifts and capacity for excellence.

Compassion – acting with kindness and justice, serving others beyond ourselves.

Stewardship – treading lightly on the earth and caring for the world entrusted to us.

OUR VISION OF ELICITING GREATNESS

We believe greatness is not imposed but drawn out. It emerges when students see adults striving after the same ideals and when values are lived across the community. At Woodstock, to elicit greatness means to:

- Ground education in clear purpose and enduring values.
- Cultivate a compassionate, diverse community where every individual is known and valued.
- Challenge students with learning that is engaging, rigorous, and experiential.
- Develop the whole person – intellectually, physically, emotionally, spiritually, and creatively.
- Provide authentic opportunities for initiative, leadership and service.
- Embrace the outdoors and the natural world as teachers in their own right.
- Promote balance, resilience and healthy living as foundations for growth.

THE FACULTY

The school aims to maintain no more than half the faculty members from any one country, with representation from the rest of the world – United States, Canada, Europe, Africa, South America and other countries in Asia. The teacher to student ratio is one to eight, to ensure adequate individual attention and to allow teachers to assess each student's learning needs. Woodstock also invests in high-quality professional development for staff by enabling them to attend professional courses during breaks and by bringing expert practitioners onto campus for training programmes. In addition, Woodstock's Director of Teaching and Learning works with teaching staff to provide regular in-house training and induction into the school's wonderful teaching and learning philosophy and practice.





Our Himalayan environment provides amazing opportunities not just for outdoor education, but for our students to gain resilience, to grow as leaders and for students to gain transformative experiences that will last a lifetime.

"It may be a good thing to live on the top of mountains and on the edge of precipices: you learn early not to fear the heights and the depths."



Pearl Buck,
Nobel Prize
winner's
comments
Woodstock
1963 yearbook