

GREEN HILL SCHOOL PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Green Hill School is a medium/maximum-security facility for adjudicated male juveniles. We act in conjunction with other state juvenile institutions, community facilities, and the local school district to provide a continuum of treatment and education for youth that includes building skills through offense-specific counseling, treatment groups, academic school, and vocational training.

Green Hill School proudly maintains the highest standards of care and service to the clients, communities, and state. The institution adheres to operational standards through the American Correctional Association and Performance-based Standards. Our health center is accredited through the National Commission on Correctional Health Care.

Parents and guardians are encouraged to maintain contact with youth and their counselor. Our counselors will keep you informed about treatment and programming progress and you are welcome to call with questions or concerns at any time.

Some of the most commonly asked questions are addressed below.

- **What happens upon arrival to GHS?**

Upon arrival to GHS all new youth are issued clothing as well as provided a medical and dental examination. Youth are assigned to a residential living unit based on their specific treatment needs. While in the living unit, youth are assigned a counselor who manages the youth's treatment and transition needs. Since family involvement and participation, and community transition are a very important part of Juvenile Rehabilitation Rehabilitative Treatment Model, counselors make every effort to include parents/legal guardian in the treatment process.

- **What will the youth treatment program look like?**

Youth are provided individualized treatment plans designed to teach them the skills they will need to successfully reintegrate into their communities and families while maintaining a crime-free and socially appropriate lifestyle. A typical program consists of individual counseling with an assigned counselor, treatment groups, academic, and vocational education. In addition, there is ample opportunity for recreation, and many youth hold part-time paid pre-vocational service jobs throughout the institution.

- **What are the visiting procedures?**

Each youth, with the help of his counselor, completes a Visitor Request/Registration form for family and community support persons during the orientation phase. As soon as they are verified and approved by the unit Program Manager, they are entered onto the youth's Visitors List. Visitors over the age of 12 must have picture identification. Mothers of youths' children will be allowed to visit after paternity has been established with a birth certificate and when accompanied by the child. If the mother is a minor, she must be accompanied by a custodial parent or legal guardian. Youth may request exceptions for visits by significant others who are not members of immediate family, for visits by more than five family members at a time, and for visits outside of normal visiting hours. Exceptions are considered on a case-by-case basis. Family members sign in with Security staff prior to passing through a metal detector and entering the Visitor Center. All visits are conducted in the Visitor Center except those youth who are assigned to Willow, who receive visitors in the Willow living unit.

Each living unit is assigned a specific time for visitation. Visiting on designated state holidays will be open to all living units, and is limited to one visit either morning or afternoon session. Space limitations are dictated by available seating and rated capacity issues and will be determined by the Security Supervisor. Any exceptions to the assigned visiting time must be made prior to your visit and with the approval of the Program Manager of the youth's assigned living unit.

Visiting times for each living unit will be assigned as follows:

Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Willow Living Unit
Hawthorn Living Unit
Spruce Living Unit

Saturday 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Willow Living Unit
Cypress Living Unit
Baker Living Unit
Maple Living Unit

Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Cypress Living Unit
Baker Living Unit
Maple Living Unit

Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Hawthorn Living Unit
Spruce Living Unit

- **What can I bring to visits?**

The only items that may be taken into the Visitor Center are personal identification, life sustaining medication (nitroglycerine tablets or spray), and ten dollars in cash for the vending machines. There are only a limited number of storage lockers, so visitors are encouraged to leave their personal effects in their cars. Visitors are expected to maintain appropriate behavior, be responsible for the behavior of children who accompany them, and refrain from physical contact with the GHS youth except for brief hugs, kisses, and handshakes at the start and end of visits. Visitors may not give anything to the youth. The visiting center is monitored by Security staff and video surveillance. Violation of visiting rules may be considered grounds for terminating the visit and suspension of visiting privileges. Youth are searched after visits and those who are found to be in possession of anything brought in by a visitor will be considered for disciplinary sanctions.

- **What can I send in?**

Youth can receive letters, small photographs, and greeting cards in the mail. Youth may receive other items only through a vendor approved by their Program Manager. Please do not send in food, hygiene, clothing or other items directly to the youth. These items will be returned to you.

- **How do I write or call?**

Youth and their counselor complete telephone lists and mail lists during the orientation phase. Immediate family members are placed on both lists unless there are unusual circumstances. Several youth must share the telephone; therefore, all calls are limited to 10 minutes. Time to call in will depend upon the program the youth resides in. The number of incoming and outgoing calls will depend upon his treatment progress in his program. Youth will be able to give you specific information at the time of his first call to you. Each youth is allowed one free 10-minute outgoing call per week. You may send as many letters as you wish. We have found that regular contact with family is very important to the youth. Youth may send two letters a day.

Our mailing address is: Green Hill School
375 SW 11th Street
Chehalis, WA 98532

Our switchboard number is: (360) 748-0131

It is important to note that the mail sent to GHS is scanned for appropriateness of content. Letters and enclosed pictures that are not considered legally or socially appropriate will be returned to sender and may result in suspension of correspondence privileges with the sender.

- **Can I send money for a youth's account?**

You may mail personal checks or money orders for deposit to a youth's account. We discourage sending a large sum as there are limits to what youth may spend. Please do not attempt to pass money to youth during visits or in mail. Youth are not allowed to have money in their possession and it will be confiscated. They are allowed to spend money at the commissary for snacks and hygiene items.

- **What clothing do youth wear at GHS?**

Youth are provided a complete wardrobe consisting of pants, sweatshirts, T-shirts, socks, underwear, bathrobe, shower sandals, gym shorts, shoes, and a jacket. The clothing in which they arrive is laundered and maintained in the property room for them to wear when they leave the institution.

- **What property can youth have?**

In addition to GHS issued clothing, youth may possess the following:

School material	Work-related protective clothing
Approved photos	One issued water bottle
Approved hygiene items	Religious materials
Legal and approved personal papers	Approved hobby material
Five approved personal books or magazines	*Honor youth may be provided a state issued television, based on availability.
Approved writing material	

- **What does the academic school offer?**

The academic school is operated by the Chehalis School District and offers the same type of classes as middle and high schools throughout the state. Youth may earn their GED or high school diploma. Graduation ceremonies are conducted at which diplomas are awarded. The school also provides vocational programs that include welding, auto mechanics, and auto bodywork. The vocational program is growing, and additional areas are being explored by the school district.

- **Can youth earn money?**

Youth may be employed in a variety of jobs including kitchen aide, laundry worker, and grounds and building maintenance for an hourly wage. GHS will facilitate the payment of restitution as part of each youth's treatment plan. Youth work with their counselor to develop a restitution payment plan. Payment plans must consider each youth's circumstances.

- **What is done for youth with drug or alcohol problems?**

GHS has an intensive outpatient treatment program. Youth may also participate in outpatient treatment in community facilities.

- **What is done for youth who need mental health treatment?**

Mental health is assessed by a GHS mental health professional upon arrival to the institution. Youth with mental health needs will be monitored by a mental health resource person. Ongoing evaluation by a psychiatrist and a psychologist is conducted, and any necessary medication is prescribed.

- **Do youth have access to religious activities?**

Religious programs are available for all youth. Volunteer religious groups frequently visit to present religious programs and offer mentoring for youth.

- **Is medical care readily available?**

Our Health Center staff provides medical, dental, and mental health care for all youth. A registered nurse conducts an intake assessment on all youth. A physician, registered nurses, and a mental health professional are always available. Youth who require hospitalization are transported to the local hospital.

- **What can a youth do if he believes he is being treated unfairly?**

Youth are encouraged to resolve grievances through discussion with their counselors. There is a formal complaint procedure through which youth may appeal to their Program Manager, the Superintendent, and the Division Director of JR. Youth also have access to legal assistance by calling or writing an independent law firm that contracts with JR.

- **Is there a behavior code?**

Youth are expected to comply with all laws and all rules established by the Department of Social and Health Services, JR, and the GHS Standard Rules of Conduct. The rules are basic and are of the type necessary to succeed in an environment where people live together. The rules are based on respect for others, safety, responsible choices, and assumption of personal responsibility. Youth who follow the rules receive all privileges, and those who fail to do so will have their privileges curtailed.

Law violations are taken seriously at GHS. Law violations are reviewed by GHS Administration on a case-by-case basis, and then referred to local law enforcement and the prosecuting attorney for their review and disposition.

- **Do youth spend their entire sentences at GHS?**

Youth who invest in treatment and practice responsible behavior may be community eligible prior to their maximum release date. At that point, they are referred to community facilities throughout the state and, if accepted, may spend the rest of their sentence there. Community facilities differ from institutions in that youth at a community facility typically attend a public school and have a part-time job in the community, while participating in evening treatment at the facility.

Youth may also earn time off of their maximum release date by participating in treatment, following GHS behavioral expectations, and establishing a viable release plan. The counselor and Program Manager may recommend time off their maximum release date.

- **How can I get answers to other questions about the institution and programs?**

You may call the youth's living unit counselor for specific information about treatment. For information regarding the living unit program or institutional rules you may contact the living unit counselors, Supervisors, or Program Manager.

- **How can I help?**

Visits, letters and phone calls are very important to youth and often provide the encouragement they need to put forth the effort to excel in their treatment and earn additional privileges, community eligibility, and early release.