

Upper School First Days of School FAQs

What should my scholar bring on the first day of school? Backpack, lunchbox, labeled water bottle, school supplies, literature book, and student planner.

What time does carline begin? Morning carline will begin at 7:50am on Tuesday, August 13th. All students will enter and exit from Cooper Street. **The right lane is unassisted – students may exit their vehicle when the traffic director holds up the stop sign. The left lane is assisted – students must wait for a teacher to open their door, and escort them to the sidewalk.** Students must be seated in their classrooms by 8:15am or they will be marked as tardy.

Should I pack my scholar lunch? Yes. We do encourage healthy eating habits and ask that you pack your scholar a full and healthy lunch. **Scholars who do not bring lunch from home will be given a school lunch, which costs \$4, charged to their online lunch account.**

Families are welcome to apply for the Free/Reduced Lunch Program. See website for details!

What is the uniform policy? The uniform policy is outlined online and in our academy handbook. The basics are as follows:

6th-8th Grade: Great Hearts white or navy-blue polo shirt, with khaki-colored pants or shorts for 6th-8th grade students. All students must wear a belt. Female students are allowed to wear the uniform skirts, with modesty shorts underneath. Shoes should be all black or all white and meet the [middle school dress-code guidelines](#).

9th-10th Grade: Great Hearts white collared Oxford shirt, with khaki-colored pants or shorts for 9th-10th grade students. All students must wear a belt. Female students are allowed to wear the uniform skirts, with modesty shorts underneath. Male students are required to wear the GHA uniform tie. Shoes for all high-school students must meet our dress-code guidelines—[see dress code for details](#).

When is pick-up? Afternoon carline starts at 4pm and ends at 4:25pm, Monday-Thursday, and 2pm-2:25pm on most Fridays. There are a total of 6 full-day Fridays this year—[these are listed on the academic calendar](#). Full day Fridays follow a Monday schedule, 8:15am-4pm. Anyone picking up students **MUST** have their green student placard displayed on their dashboard every single day. ***Please note that we will not accept the yellow placards from the previous school year! ***

If you need a replacement placard, please email GHAfrontdesk@greatheartstxschools.org.

Each replacement placards will cost \$2.

How long can I expect to wait during pick-up? **Pick up during the first few days of school will likely take longer than usual. As our scholars, staff and families learn the system over the first few days things will improve; we promise. We ask that you plan for this extended pick-up line early in the year and be patient with us and our families. As days go by, the line will move faster and faster. We work hard to ensure our dismissal is as safe and efficient as possible. We thank you in advance!**

Early Student Pick Up- Students needing to be picked up for early dismissal **cannot** be picked up later than 2:45pm Monday-Thursday, or 12:45pm on Fridays. This is due to the constraints of our parking lot and car line. This policy ensures our parking lot is clear and safe for afternoon dismissal.

Late Student Pick-Up- If your scholar is still with us after 4:25pm, they will be sent to our after-school program, and you will be charged a late fee. Late students will need to be picked up at the front desk. Please bring your placard with you. This policy will go into effect on Monday, August 26th.