

An aerial photograph of the Applewild School campus. The main building is a large, white, multi-story structure with green shutters and a grey roof. It is surrounded by a lush green lawn and a paved parking lot. In the background, there are dense green trees and rolling hills under a clear blue sky. The text 'APPLEWILD' is overlaid in large white letters at the bottom of the image.

APPLEWILD

EST. SCHOOL 1957

Welcome to Applewild!

Mrs. Amy Jolly (& Rosemary, our school corgi)

Head of School

“An Applewild education is an immersive, transformative educational experience and the gift of a lifetime.”

APPLEWILD
EST. SCHOOL 1957



Other contacts

Dr. Amanda Packard (Academics/Residential Life)

- Assistant Head of School

Mr. Tyler Moore

- Admissions



What is a junior boarding school?

There are only 11 junior boarding schools in the USA which specialize in the unique needs of early adolescent children.

Must be fully accredited by the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) and be a full member of The Association of Boarding Schools (TABS). To affiliate with NAIS and TABS, a school must be of the highest quality.

Must offer a ninth grade but no higher grades. This is because junior boarding schools specialize in early adolescence and many students benefit from the opportunity of a ninth grade in a smaller environment, and without the influences of older teens.



Where are the junior boarding schools?

MASSACHUSETTS

Applewild School: co-ed, 320 students in grades PS-9

Bement School: co-ed, 170 k-9

Eaglebrook School: boys 250 6-9

Fay School: co-ed 475 students K-9

Fessenden School: boys 520 students Pre-K-9

Hillside School: boys 165 students 4-9

CONNECTICUT

Indian Mountain School: co-ed 300 students pk-9

Rectory School: co-ed 230 students K-9

Rumsey Hall School: co-ed 309 K-9

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Cardigan Mountain School: boys 230 6-9

NEW YORK

North Country School: co-ed 78 4-9



APPLEWILD
EST. SCHOOL 1937

Junior boarding supports Cognitive & Social Development

All junior boarding schools understand the opportunity to help students develop to their fullest potential given the rapid changes that occur in a child's brain in early adolescence :

- Skills around time management, executive functioning, self-regulation are being developed!
- Being in a place with “green” spaces- helps develop focus
- Physical activities are key for development of executive function and working memory, and reduced levels of depression and anxiety
- All learning occurs within a relational context and connectedness.
- Identity is formed - They learn who they are while they are with us
- They do best when they have agency and know they matter within their community
- Stable, structured, high-nurture environment

The above skills produce students who are competent and confident...and secondary schools know our students are poised for success!



The benefits of junior boarding

- Learn cultural competence in vibrant multicultural, global community
- Opportunity to explore talents and identity within a supportive climate (“non-optional”)
- A community of adults who are “all in”
- Academic excellence & support
- Supervision and structure
- Wholesome living - diet is monitored
- Preserving childhood - technology is controlled





Location: 1-hour west of Boston

Convenient airport and travel logistics.

Near best American Boarding schools

Many cultural, athletic, natural, and artistic attractions available.





Applewild Advantages

Dynamic Academics

Small classes that are taught by talented educators mean that everyone gets lots of attention

Skills are valued over content

Electives allow for student choice which teaches good decision making



2022 Electives:

- History of Tea
- History of Musical Theater
- Game Design
- Woodshop
- Creative writing/illustration
- History of Street Art
- Sports Psychology

APPLEWILD
EST. SCHOOL 1957

8th/9th Grade Program

Interdisciplinary,
project-based
curriculum based on a
central theme

Weekly writing, math
and design labs in
addition to core
courses

Weekly fieldwork
provides immersive,
real-world learning



APPLEWILD
EST. SCHOOL 1957

Designed to prepare students for successful transition to secondary school — academically and socially

Metacognition

We teach students to plan, monitor, and reflect on their learning.

This self-motivation and self-regulation is the foundation for future success

Organizational skills, resilience, persistence, responsibility, and critical-thinking



Students develop ***intrinsic motivation*** because they are broadly encouraged to reflect on their own learning instead of focusing solely on grades or pleasing an adult.

8-9th Grade Public Speaking Contest

All students write and memorize a speech that is delivered to the community.

A panel of three judges evaluates each student.

Is a graduation requirement and an Applewild traditional rite-of-passage

This training allows students to go on to become leaders in their secondary schools!



Leadership development program

Many opportunities for formal and organic leadership:

student government,

team captains,

Club leadership,

dormitory prefects

We expect all of our students to learn formal and informal leadership skills needed for success in secondary school, college, & life

APPLEWILD
EST. SCHOOL 1957



Club Program

Meet during the school day, 4 times a 7 day rotation.

Students select two different clubs by trimester

Our students determine what clubs will be offered by making proposals and voting

8-12 clubs every trimester give students opportunities to explore new interests, develop leadership skills, build social skills, and identify items that may be highlighted in secondary school applications.



Sample Clubs:

Creative Arts Magazine

Ukulele

Debate

Woodworking

Jewelry Making

Cooking

Fresh Air

Art Studio

Sports + Games

Yearbook

Bring Joy (service)

Environmental

Yoga + Meditation

Puzzles

Fresh Air

Genius Hour

Performing Arts

Instrumental lessons and band start in 4th grade

Concert and Symphonic Band

Jazz band

Chorus and a capella



Drama



Annual drama productions:
K-3rd Grade Spring Play
4-5th Grade Radio Play
6-9th Winter Play



Our 6-9th grade students are currently preparing to perform "10 Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse"

APPLEWILD
EST. SCHOOL 1957

Fine Arts

Studio art is part of every student's program.

2-Dimensional drawing and painting, ceramics, woodworking

Students may also pursue additional arts through the clubs program



Community Traditions: Big Buddies

All middle school students have a younger student who they mentor throughout the year

Students read together, take nature hikes, participate in fun events together such as Mountain Day and Teddy Bear Picnic

These experiences elevate our older students and provide them with additional mentoring relationships.



Community Traditions: Mountain Day

The 4th to 9th grade climbs Mt. Wachusett in the morning and returns to campus for a picnic and lawn games with K-3rd grades.

Big buddies help their little buddies with the games and then play Green vs. White team games!

All school fun!

APPLEWILD
EST. SCHOOL 1957



Community Traditions: Field Day



Older students help their “little buddies” compete in lawn games

Tug-of-war, potato sack races, races, ring toss, and many other games!

Older students compete in GREEN vs WHITE team events! Go Green! Go White!

APPLEWILD

EST. SCHOOL 1957



Community Traditions: All School Meeting

We gather in our beautiful 350 seat theater to share performances and build community.



Community Traditions: Social Events

Harvest Fair

Family Bingo Night

Middle School Dances

Open Microphone Night

And so much more!



Athletics

Fall

- Cross Country - co-ed
- Field Hockey - boys / girls
- Soccer -boys / girls

Winter

- Basketball - boys / girls
- Recreational ski/snowboarding
- SkiHawks Alpine Racing
- Yoga - co-ed

Spring

- Lacrosse - boys / girls
- Track & Field - co-ed



APPLEWILD
EST. SCHOOL 1957

No cut policy - everyone plays! We believe middle school is a time to try new things, and learn what it means to be part of a team

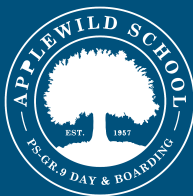
SKI HAWKS Alpine Racing

We focus on the specific needs of young ski racers.

Specific metacognitive skills essential to successful ski racing are taught and instructs young elite athletes in the practice of planning, monitoring, and reflecting on their performance. These skills not only heighten their athletic performance, but transfer to other areas of their lives.

Skiers take a specialized sports psychology class to help navigate the ski race season, manage stress and improve executive function. This focused support is key to skier success over time, and promotes well-being and intrinsic motivation.

Dryland conditioning in the Fall in addition to cardiovascular training in soccer, field hockey, or cross country.





Secondary School Placement Process & Results

The Junior Boarding Placement Advantage

Many secondary schools prefer to admit junior boarding students because they have proven they can manage the rigors of American boarding school life.

Our relationships and experiences with the secondary schools will provide your students with both better advice and opportunities

Junior boarding students are generally more mature and organized than their day school counterparts because they have learned to live somewhat independently. This means they are more successful and ready to assume leadership roles.

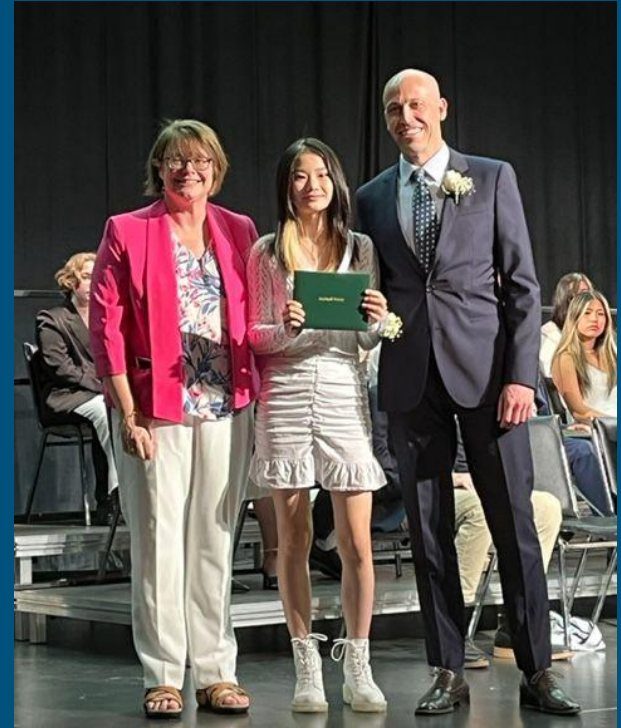


Two Options to Apply Out

Students who are ready to matriculate to secondary school after the 8th grade if they are ready. We define “ready” as the following:

- Has attended Applewild for at least 2 years
- Has developed English skills sufficiently
- In good academic standing with strong grades and corresponding student behaviors such as study habits, class participation, homework completion
- Has demonstrated leadership in some aspect of campus life.

If one or more of the above are not yet true, then it is in the best interest of the student to stay for 9th grade.

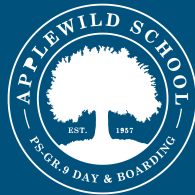


Jessica, one of our residential students, won the the character award at graduation as an 8th grader and stayed for 9th grade.

Why 9th Grade?



- Reduce stress by staying young for another year
- Leadership opportunities that would not be possible in a secondary school environment
- One more year of foundational skill development
- Placement is strong for 9 to 10 or 9 to 9
- Development varies - allow for physical growth



Secondary School Strategy

40% of junior boarding school graduates choose to go “9 to 9” or repeat the 9th grade.

Many top-tier schools add seats for 10th graders because this is when junior boarding students want to attend, for example: Pomfret adds 35-40, Tabor 30, Holderness 15, Northfield-Mt. Herman 50-60, and Westminster 15-20.

There are fewer applicants for 10th grade so statistically a well-qualified candidate will typically have twice the chance for acceptance to 10th grade than at 9th. Students applying from a position of strength, with solid grades and co-curricular experiences to offer the secondary schools, are at a competitive relative advantage.

Kelly Sheehan, Associate Director of Admission at Pomfret shared, *“while we love welcoming our freshmen students and have a special dormitory for them, we find there is a talented cohort of students who are ready for boarding school in the tenth grade and we don’t want to miss that pool of amazing talent.”*

Secondary School Process



We divide graduating students into three groups. The Head of School, Assistant Head of School, and Dean of Students each take a group and work individually with each student, their family, and consultant (if applicable) to identify a list.

We help our students identify a narrative to help them stand out from the crowd.

Representatives from secondary schools are invited to visit Applewild and meet with small groups of students.

Over half of the graduating class are returning to public schools so there is little competition against other Applewild students.

We advocate directly with the secondary schools to help our students find success!

Strong Secondary School Placement

90% of graduates receive admission from one of their top 3 school choices



Avon Old Farms



Cambridge School of Weston



Cheshire Academy



Concord Academy



Cushing Academy



Dublin School



Ethel Walker School



Frederick Gunn School



The Governor's Academy



Groton School



Kimball Union Academy



Lawrence Academy



Loomis Chaffee



Middlesex School



Miss Porter's School



Phillips Academy Andover



Pomfret School



Vermont Academy



Wilbraham & Monson Academy



The Winchendon School



Worcester Academy



SkiHawks Placement



Goal is to find 'best fit' for academics and skiing:

Path A: Traditional prep schools with strong skiing programs such as Proctor, Holderness, Vermont, Gould, Tilton, Kimball Union, Noble & Greenough, Milton, Fryburg, Kents Hill, Thornton, St. Johnsbury

Path B: Ski Academies such as Burke Mountain, Stratton Mountain, Green Mountain, Killington Mountain, Carrabassett Valley, Northwoods, Waterville Valley, Rowmark

SkiHawks will visit several schools during the year to expose students to various options, and we network extensively with admission officers and coaches.

Being a SkiHawk helps differentiate a candidate for admission into selective secondary schools and colleges with a rich tradition of skiing.



Our Residential Program



Annual 8/9th Gr. Carwash
to raise funds for class gift
to school

Designed specifically for young students

Constant supervision by trained, caring faculty whose first priority is the physical and emotional safety of your children.

All rooms are doubles or triples. All residences were fully renovated within the last two years.

Dorm parents live in the residences and genuinely enjoy working with middle school students.

State of the art security system

APPLEWILD

EST. SCHOOL 1957



Flat Rock Residence, fully renovated
in 2020





Typical Flat Rock Room

Full security

- Single, double, and triple rooms
- Home-like environment



View Street
Residence, Fully
renovated in 2022



Typical View Street Room



Residential Schedule: Monday-Friday

7:00 AM Wake up, dress, brush teeth

7:30 AM Walk together to dining hall and have breakfast

8:00 AM Meet with advisor

8:15-10 AM Classes

10:00 AM Recess

10:20 Classes

11:45 Lunch

12:15 Clubs & Activities

1:00 Classes

2:10 PM Sports

3:30 PM Break

4:30 PM Proctored Study Hall

5:45 PM Dinner

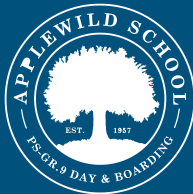
6:30 PM Tech time, shower, relax, call home

8:30-9:30 PM Bedtime (varies by age)

Monday - Family Dinner with all Dorm Parents & Administrators



Students 3-D printed my office label in our makerspace



Residential Schedule: Saturday-Sunday

Saturday:

Adventure Day!

Sleep in: 8:30-9:00 AM

Brunch: 10:30 AM

Leave campus for adventure
11:00 AM

Return & rest 4:00 PM

Dinner: 5:45 PM

Evening programming
6:30-8:30 PM



Sunday:

Dorm Quiet until 8:30 AM

Brunch: 10:30 AM

Walmart/Target/CVS: 12 PM

Deep Clean: 2:00 PM

Study Hall: 4:30 PM

Dinner: 5:45 PM

Free time: 6:30-8:45 PM



Weekend Activities

Hiking & Camping in mountains of New Hampshire, Boston: New England Aquarium/IMAX & Red Sox game, College Hockey/Basketball Games, High ropes course, Sterling Country Fair, Boating with Mrs. Jolly, Movie Night, Rock climbing, Bowling, Plymouth & the Mayflower, Apple picking & pie-making, Rafting on the Deerfield River, NYC trip, Historic Salem, Visit other secondary schools, and much more!

Students and Dorm parents participate together! We have a family atmosphere.



Great Food

Beautiful dining hall

Assigned seating at lunch so all students get to know each other

Snacks provided during recess

3-meals a day on weekdays,
2-meals a day on weekends

American-style foods, with influences from other cultures



Special Notes for 4th & 5th Grade Boarding

We recognize the unique needs of our youngest residential students

Earlier bedtime! Similar age roommate

Additional organizational support (ex. labeling drawers, helping to pack, 'toybox')

Tailored approach for ELL

Socio-emotional support - we give them a birthday party!

Gives students the advantage to learn English over longer period of time



Application Process





Who is a good candidate?

- #1 predictor of success: some level of buy-in from the student
- Academically capable as demonstrated by grades in current school
- Strong character
- We don't expect perfection in our candidates, but we are looking for great potential
- Ski Hawks Applicants: Should submit tape and description of ski experience.



How we evaluate candidates

Our Admission Committee reviews **ALL** elements of a student's file with no part being more important than any other. We want to get to know each student as a person and to understand their potential.

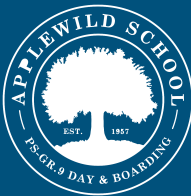
We look at grades, interview, teacher recommendation, testing, and the writing sample as indicators of student potential.

No specific test "number" is required, but we are a selective school and we're looking for good students. Younger students need less English proficiency than older applying students.



How to Apply

1. Complete the Standard Application Online (“SAO”)
2. Schedule your Student & Family interview with Admissions
 - a. We require student interview, and offer our time to speak with parents to answer questions.
3. Schedule SSAT, TOEFL jr, or Duolingo and send scores to Admissions.



Boarding Tuition - Financial Information

Tuition, Room & Board:

- **7-Day Tuition and Boarding** - \$68,900
- **5-Day Tuition and Boarding** - \$64,500

ELL Program Fee - \$5,000 (students for whom English is not their first language may be exempted from this fee if they demonstrate fluency.)

- All on-campus meals & snacks
- Chromebook computer
- Books & supplies
- Laundry service
- Weekend activities
- Airport transportation to/from campus within specific windows of time

Does not include:

- Health insurance: \$2,295 USD (zero copay/deductible)
- Pocket money for incidental spending
 - Student should be provided with credit card or cash. The Front Office Manager will hold these items for a student until needed.
- Additional tutoring services or test preparation
- Homestay fees for school holidays: approximately \$95/day



SkiHawks Alpine Racing Admission

Open to students entering grades 5 to 9.

Must love and have a passion for skiing!

Will have strong general athletic ability and a work ethic.

Must meet Applewild's overall academic & behavioral admission requirements, and

- Supply video demonstrating skiing ability
- Provide your current ski club and experience.

Given that Applewild draws students from a broad national and international market, and the relative youth of our skiers, we give preference to skiers with Buddy Werner experience/FIS points, NASTAR Silver & Gold handicap, or other ranking evidence of ski racing competency.



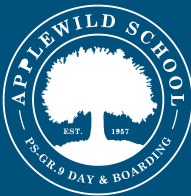
SkiHawks Alpine Ski Academy - Financial

Tuition / Room & Board: \$70,000 USD

- All on-campus meals & snacks
- Chromebook computer
- Books & supplies
- Laundry service
- Weekend activities
- Daily proctored study hall
- Airport transportation to/from campus within specific windows of time

Does not include:

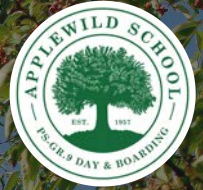
- Ski equipment or repairs/tuning
- Race fees, USSA membership, and optional travel or competition that requires airfare and/or hotel are not included.
- Health insurance: \$2,295 USD (zero copay / deductible)
- Additional tutoring services or test preparation
- ELL instruction: \$5,000
- Homestay fees for school holidays: approximately \$95/day (incl. Food, housing, transportation)



Questions?



Contact Us!



admissions@applewild.org

+1-978-342-6053 x163

applewild.org/inquire

Apply Today!



We look forward to meeting you!

Apply early for best results, space is limited.