

A collage of various student activities and portraits surrounding the central text. The collage includes: a student typing on a MacBook Air; a microphone; a student in a purple hoodie; a student playing drums; a smiling male student; a cartoon Viking character; a group of students sitting at a table; a student sitting on a soccer field with a ball; a student swimming; a student playing pool; a student playing a cello; a student painting; a student cheering; a student smiling; a student taking a photo; a student wearing glasses; a student in a Vistamar School uniform; and a student in a white shirt.

# WHAT IS YOUR V FACTOR?

V

VISTAMAR  
SCHOOL



**The V FACTOR is a set of characteristics that you possess that compel you to be a self-thinker, a mold-breaker, a nonconformist. It's what makes you *you*.**



Where others follow a path, you blaze a trail. When others check boxes, you dig deeply. While others accept the status quo, you take bold, varied steps to greatness. If you want to discover your V FACTOR, then Vistamar is the high school for you.



**We get it. You want to be challenged. And you want to be successful on the path to any college you choose.**

At Vistamar, that's a given. Bonus: We've created a school that honors who you are, not who we think you should be.

We're independent thinkers with diverse viewpoints and backgrounds. We offer coursework that's about how deep you go, not how much you pack in. And we're a community that cares about your health and wellness as much as we do about your grades. With us, you'll never think about school the same way again.



# IN THEIR OWN WORDS. NOT OURS.

**"The Vistamar community gave me space to craft my own identity. With such a 'diverse with purpose' environment, I was challenged both intellectually and socially. Now I use those learnings to succeed at life."**

— Lydia, Class of 2015

**"I'm an athlete and an academic. And it's because Vistamar created an environment that's challenging without being cutthroat or crushing that I was more easily able to balance school and activities."**

— Alex, Class of 2011

**"I learned that nothing, including literature, exists in a vacuum. The contextual and deeply holistic way I learned about science, math, politics, art, and languages still influences how I think about books."**

— Julia, Class of 2015

**"My Vistamar teachers, and now professors, are more than educators: They're people I learned to form deeper relationships with, making me a better intellectual. Having partnered with them will be a lifelong benefit."**

— Victor, Class of 2014



# NO NEED TO FAKE IT: COME AS YOU ARE.



The world is already full of people trying to be who they are not. At Vistamar, you'll discover that the best way to be outstanding is to stand out as an individual. All students who walk down our halls are their own person. And no matter your viewpoints or your background, we've set up all kinds of resources to help you be yourself in a world that constantly tries to make you into someone else.

## Here are some of the things we offer to help you be real:

### G BLOCK

Time is built into Vistamar's weekly schedule for students to explore their interests and passions, as well as try things they otherwise might not.

### LIFE PLANNING

A highly individualized framework designed to help seniors prepare for college as part of a broader life plan, not just an end goal.



What characteristics drive a Vistamar student to success? Their V FACTOR. Here's Alex's:

FAVORITE EMOJI:



DREAM JOB:

**DOCTORS WITHOUT  
BORDERS**



COLLEGE OF CHOICE:

**AMHERST  
COLLEGE**

SURPRISING FACT:  
I'M A FEARLESS ADVENTURER



PASSION:

**USING SCIENCE  
TO HEAL PEOPLE &  
THE ENVIRONMENT**



# THINK INDEPENDENTLY. TOGETHER.

At Vistamar, you're going to be surrounded by people who look and think differently than you. We've designed our school that way on purpose. You are defined by a compilation of stories, so the most dangerous thing you can do is reduce yourself—or others—to a single story. The most powerful thing you can do is take advantage of the resources, spaces, and opportunities we offer to broaden your narrative—and empathize with others. Do this and you will belong anywhere and everywhere in the world.

## Here are some of the things we offer to help you broaden your horizon:

### DIVERSE COMMUNITY

Because Vistamar is more diverse than most independent schools in Los Angeles, students enjoy livelier class discussions, engage in deeper learning, and develop greater empathy.

### GLOBAL CURRICULUM

Following the best educational practices from around the world means students are more prepared to meet the world's challenging social, cultural, and technological movements.





# HOW TO THINK, NOT WHAT TO THINK.

For some, the formula for success might mean covering every topic broadly. In order to accomplish that, you'd have to be taught very little about a lot—and quickly. But here's the thing: colleges want your intellectual engagement to be deep and personal. The *unformula* for success at Vistamar means we teach you to learn so deeply that your knowledge bridges the understanding of your world with that of others. We integrate classes that help you make unexpected connections, while preparing you to be resourceful enough to solve real-world situations. That's the kind of critical thinking and true citizenship that colleges are looking for.

## Here are some of the ways you'll learn how to think differently:

### OPI LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Oral proficiency in a second language is a graduation requirement. By learning to communicate coherently in multiple languages, students have a more textured, connected perspective on the world.

### VISTAMATH

An integrated, problem-based approach, this program teaches students more than how to do math: It teaches them how to think and work like mathematicians, developing skills to solve math problems in multiple ways.

What characteristics drive a Vistamar student to success? Their V FACTOR. Here's Ellie's:

FAVORITE SUBJECT MATTER:  
SOCIOLOGY



PASSION:  
**PEOPLE**

FAVORITE PASTIME: BEACHING



MOST MEANINGFUL COMPLIMENT:  
**"YOU'RE A  
GOOD FRIEND."**



DREAM JOB:  
**LEADING  
PHILANTHROPIC  
ENDEAVORS**



# “NO PAIN NO GAIN” IS ACTUALLY A MYTH.

We encourage you to find the things you are passionate about. Then we teach you how to balance the things you love with the things you need to get into college. We’re not just checking boxes here. Universities are no longer looking for students with a padded laundry list of accomplishments: They’re looking for the qualities that reflect the best version of who you are as a person. They want students whose healthy balance of academics and activities showcase who they are as individuals.

## Here are some ways you’ll learn to prevent burnout:

### 8:55 AM CLASS START TIME

With a later start time, you get more of the recommended amount of sleep and and have more energy to participate in school and activities.

### ATHLETICS AND FITNESS ELECTIVES

We offer nearly 30 athletic and fitness programs that build character, confidence, and uncompromising grit—healthy qualities that will elevate you through adulthood.





# YOU TAKE THE LEAD. WE INSIST.



Don't expect to see the teacher standing at the head of the class all the time. We wholeheartedly reject towering over our students and instead embrace the student-teacher partnership. The whole point of high school is for you to figure out who you are. That can't happen if we're not letting you lead the conversation. It's not our job to help you find your voice: you already have one. Our job is to help you find the words to be heard.

## Here are some of the ways you can partner with your teachers:

### MORNING MEETING

Our entire student body, faculty, and staff come together three times a week to foster a community of connection and collaboration.

### STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITY

Our school's layout is designed to be open, modular, and conducive to students and teachers working side by side to develop solutions together.



What characteristics drive a Vistamar student to success? Their V FACTOR. Here's Harrison's:

PASSION:  
COMPUTERS. SCIENCE.  
ENGINEERING.



DREAM JOB:  
**GAME STUDIO HEAD**



VISTAMAR IN 3 WORDS:  
**INCLUSIVE.  
PROUD.  
VIKINGS.**

SURPRISING FACT:  
I'M A SELF-TAUGHT GUITARIST



FAVORITE ARTIST:  
**STU MACKENZIE**  
OF KING GIZZARD AND  
THE LIZARD WIZARD



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**Students take the lead  
on our social media.  
Follow us and discover  
their V FACTOR.**

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