

Sacred Heart Education

Sacred Heart is so much more than a part of our name. It's who we are, it connects us to more than 150 schools around the world, and it sets the guiding principles that form the foundation for everything we do on campus and beyond.

The Five Goals

All Sacred Heart schools adhere to the same goals: Faith in God, Intellectual Values, Social Awareness, Building Community, and Personal Growth.

These principles are not just a mission statement — they build a foundation for life. At Duchesne Academy, we live out the Goals on campus each day, and our graduates continue to live by these principles long after they've left our campus. See the reverse side for more information about the *Goals and Criteria*.

A Worldwide Network

Originally founded by St. Madeleine Sophie Barat in 19th century France, Sacred Heart education now spans the globe with more than 150 schools in 41 countries.

Duchesne Academy connects and collaborates with other Sacred Heart schools on various initiatives throughout the year including visiting other Sacred Heart campuses, collaborating with our local brother school on service projects and social gatherings, and fundraising to support scholarships for students at Sacred Heart schools in developing countries.

Our Catholic Identity

Duchesne Academy is a school that is concurrently Catholic, independent, and Sacred Heart.

This three-dimensional nature of our identity creates a framework for us to serve girls of all faiths while focusing on educating the whole child. Nearly 60% of our students are Catholic and we welcome families of all faith traditions. Additionally, we include education about world religions in the curricula for Lower School, Middle School, and Upper School.

Sisterhood for Life

Our community of girls and young women has strong bonds and forms friendships that last a lifetime.

No matter where they go in the world, Duchesne graduates have an uncanny knack for finding Sacred Heart sisters from Duchesne and other schools in the Network. Upon graduation, all Duchesne girls become members of three distinct alumnae associations — the Duchesne Alumnae Association, the Associated Alumnae and Alumni of the Sacred Heart (AASH), and Association Mondiale des Anciennes et Anciens du Sacré-Coeur (AMASC), the global alumni association for graduates of Sacred Heart schools worldwide.

"Duchesne is just as academically rigorous as other independent schools, but because of the Sacred Heart Goals, this school offers a unique opportunity for girls unlike anywhere else in Houston. They develop holistically, not narrowly."

LOWER SCHOOL DAD

The 5 Goals of Sacred Heart Education

Active Faith

Duchesne Academy is committed to educate to a personal and active faith in God.

Rooted in the love of Jesus Christ, the school promotes a personal relationship with God and fosters the spiritual lives of its members.

The school seeks to form its students in the attitudes of the heart of Jesus expressed in respect, compassion, forgiveness, and generosity.

The entire school program explores one's relationship to God, to self, to others, and to all creation.

Opening themselves to the transforming power of the Spirit of God, members of the school community engage in personal and communal prayer, reflection and action.

The entire school program affirms that there is meaning and value in life and fosters a sense of hope in the individual and in the school community.

The school fosters inter-religious acceptance and dialogue by educating to an understanding of and deep respect for the religions of the world.

The school presents itself to the wider community as a Christ-centered institution and as an expression of the mission of the Society of the Sacred Heart.

Intellectual Values

Duchesne Academy is committed to educate to a deep respect for intellectual values.

The school develops and implements a curriculum based on the *Goals and Criteria*, educational research and ongoing evaluation.

The school provides a rigorous education that incorporates all forms of critical thinking and inspires a life-long love of learning.

The school program develops aesthetic values and the creative use of the imagination.

The faculty utilizes a variety of teaching and learning strategies that recognize the individual needs of the students.

The school provides ongoing professional development for faculty and staff.

Members of the school community model and teach ethical and respectful use of technology.

Social Awareness

Duchesne Academy is committed to educate to a social awareness which impels to action.

The school educates to a critical consciousness that leads its total community to analyze and reflect on the values of society and to act for justice.

The school offers all its members opportunities for direct service and advocacy and instills a life-long commitment to service.

The school is linked in a reciprocal manner with ministries among people who are poor, marginalized and suffering from injustice.

In our multicultural world, the school prepares and inspires students to be active, informed, and responsible citizens locally, nationally, and globally.

The school teaches respect for creation and prepares students to be stewards of the earth's resources.

Building Community

Duchesne Academy is committed to educate to the building of community as a Christian value.

The school implements an ongoing plan for educating both adults and students in the heritage and mission of Sacred Heart education.

The school promotes a safe and welcoming environment in which each person is valued, cared for and respected.

Adult members of the school model and teach skills needed to build community and practice clear, direct, and open communication.

The school has programs that teach the principles of nonviolence, conflict resolution, and peacemaking.

The school makes a deliberate effort to recruit students and employ faculty and staff of diverse races, ethnicities, and backgrounds.

The financial aid program effectively supports socioeconomic diversity.

The school participates actively in the national and international networks of Sacred Heart schools.

Personal Growth

Duchesne Academy is committed to educate to personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom.

All members of the school community show respect, acceptance and concern for themselves and for others.

School policies and practices promote self-discipline, responsible decision-making, and accountability.

Students grow in self-knowledge and develop self-confidence as they learn to deal realistically with their gifts and limitations.

School programs provide for recognizing, nurturing, and exercising leadership in its many forms.

The school provides opportunities for all members of the community to share their knowledge and gifts with others.

All members of the school community take personal responsibility for balance in their lives and for their health and well-being.



24
SCHOOLS IN
NORTH AMERICA

150+
SCHOOLS
WORLDWIDE

50,000+
SACRED HEART
ALUMNI GLOBALLY