



Notre Dame Prep  
A Catholic and Marist Community

# Education for life







## Our Mission

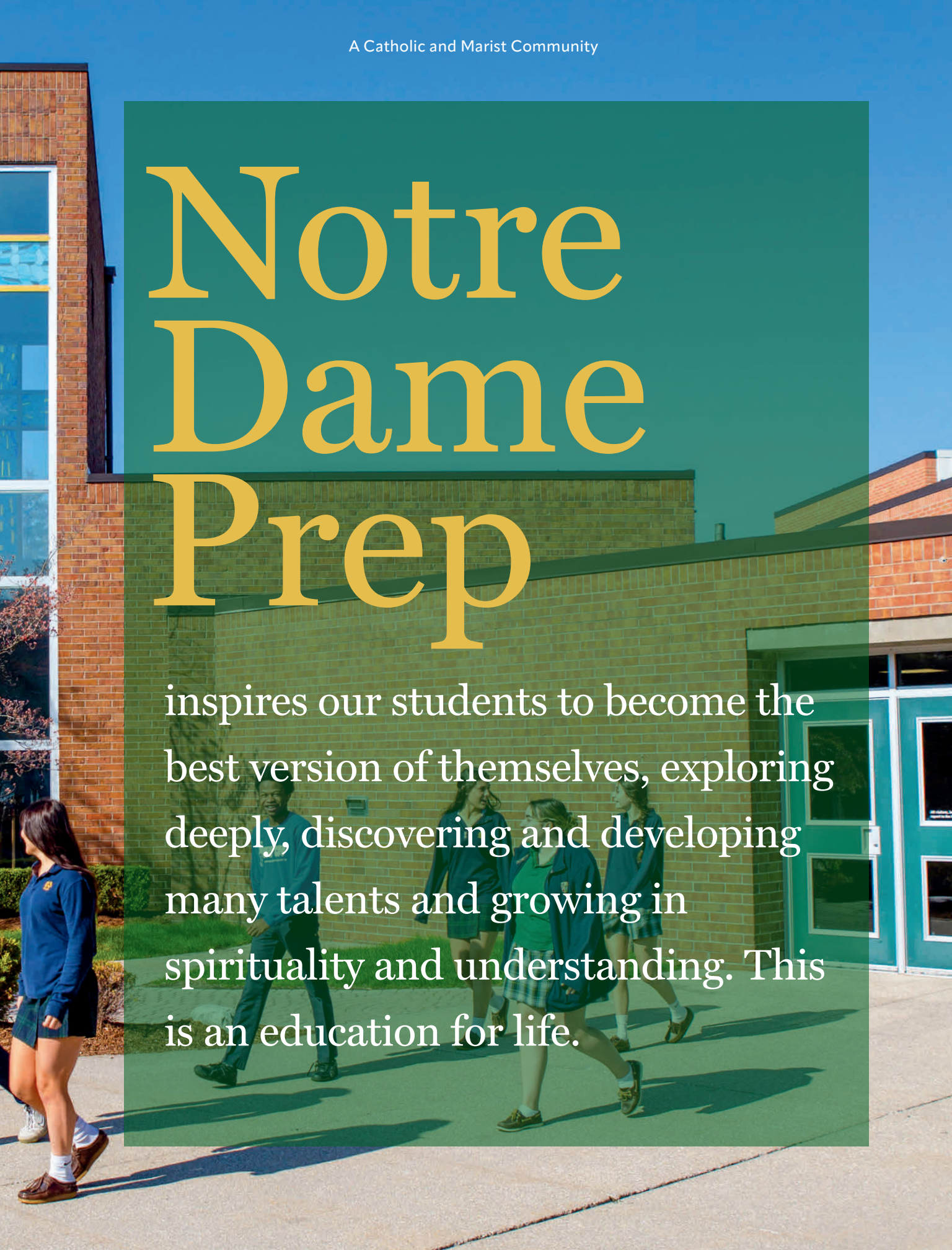
WE WORK WITH GOD TO  
FORM CHRISTIAN PEOPLE,  
UPRIGHT CITIZENS AND  
ACADEMIC SCHOLARS.





# Notre Dame Prep

inspires our students to become the best version of themselves, exploring deeply, discovering and developing many talents and growing in spirituality and understanding. This is an education for life.



## ACADEMICS

# An Experience of Excellence

EACH NOTRE DAME STUDENT IS EXCEPTIONALLY PREPARED TO THINK CRITICALLY, SOLVE PROBLEMS CREATIVELY AND COMMUNICATE CLEARLY.

## Discovery and Dialogue

Learning at Notre Dame Prep is about so much more than covering content. Our students explore deeply. They engage in active, hands-on and project-based learning. They build a real understanding of complex ideas and develop the invaluable power of critical thinking. This is a way of teaching and learning that is more challenging than most approaches—but also more meaningful, more interesting and more fun! Most importantly, it equips our students with intellectual skills that serve them well through college and in life.

## Advanced Challenges

Even Notre Dame Prep's youngest preschool students master substantive age-appropriate academic skills. Older students begin algebra not in ninth grade, the traditional starting point, but as early as sixth grade. And our high schoolers routinely complete college-level work—and earn college credit not only through 18 AP courses but also through our International Baccalaureate Program. At every level, Notre Dame sets high expectations for our students. We also provide the support they need to meet those expectations.

## Remarkable Teachers

At Notre Dame Prep, academic excellence starts with excellent teachers. These are professionals expert in the subjects they teach, skilled in the art of teaching and committed to their ongoing professional development. Most importantly, they are deeply dedicated to the young people in their care. Again and again, students, parents and alumni speak of Notre Dame faculty going above and beyond to support students in their journey of academic achievement and nurture their personal growth.





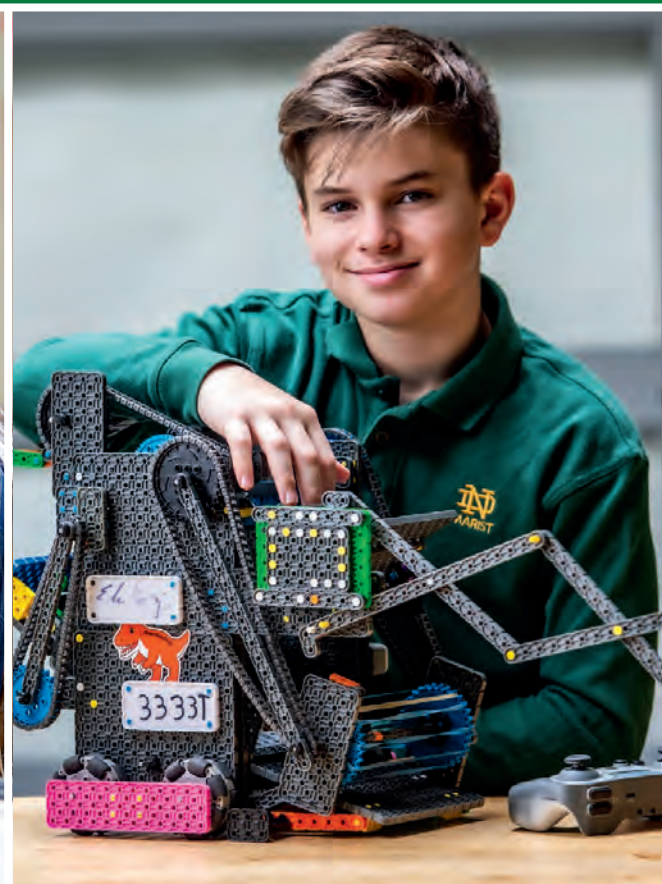


# Exploration


## The IB Program

A More Powerful Way of  
*Teaching and Learning*

At every grade level, Notre Dame Prep's curriculum is based on the widely respected International Baccalaureate (IB) Program, and in the junior and senior years, students can choose to complete the prestigious IB Diploma. Three key strengths define IB learning: thinking critically and analytically, focusing globally and putting ideas in action.







Notre Dame students are active learners, and our curriculum puts them squarely at the center of the experience. Ideas come alive through hands-on projects, from working in the school's beautiful greenhouse to joining one of our championship robotics squads, starting in lower school.





## CO-CURRICULARS

# A World of Opportunities

AT NOTRE DAME PREP, YOU WILL FIND AN ABUNDANCE OF OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND THE CLASSROOM—SO MANY OPTIONS TO EXPLORE, CHANCES TO LEAD AND WAYS TO SHINE.

## Amazing Arts

This is a school alive with creative energy and achievement. Starting in lower school, all students have art twice each eight-day cycle and music three times. By upper school, they are choosing among seven bands and seven choral groups and taking courses ranging from Digital Photography and Advanced Ceramics to portfolio development for the next level. In all, they stage six stellar theatrical productions each year. We take pride in this range of programs—and in their excellence. To cite just one indicator, our students have won more than 30 National Scholastic Art Awards in the past decade.



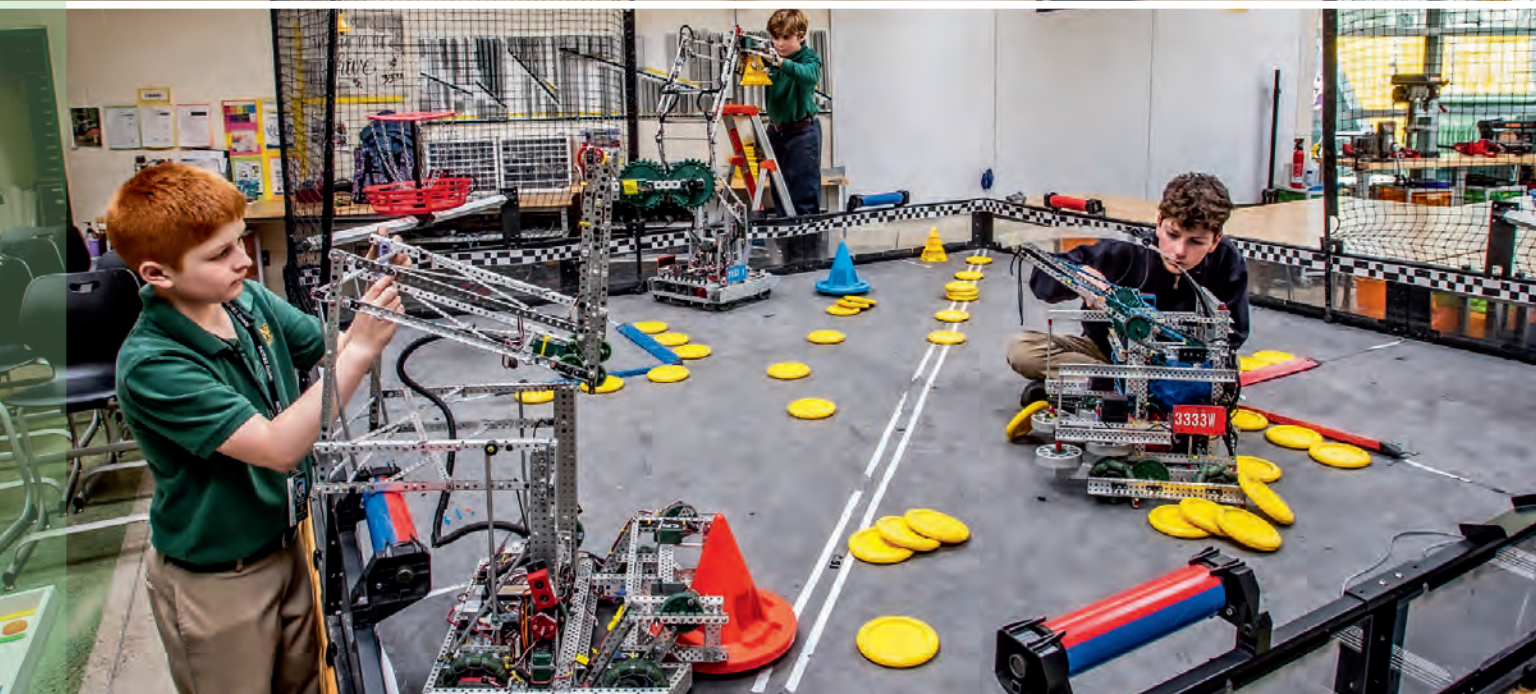
## Irish Athletics

With 31 teams in lower, middle and upper school, Notre Dame's athletics program—one of the most decorated in the state—provides an enormous range of opportunities for our student-athletes to build skills, enjoy significant playing time and know the thrill of donning the green and gold to represent their school. This is a program built on a strong core of shared values and committed to our athletes' growth in character. It also is one with a great winning tradition, including 175 district, regional and state championships to date.

## So Much More

Notre Dame students take part in nearly 50 clubs, student organizations and service programs, from the Environmental Club and Ski and Snowboard Club in lower school to Forensics and Yearbook in middle school to Podcast Club, Model U.N. and Chinese National Honor Society in upper school—to name just a few of the choices. These diverse co-curricular opportunities let students discover new interests, give back to the community and experience real leadership.







## SPIRITUAL LIFE

# An Essential Foundation in Faith

WE WELCOME STUDENTS OF EVERY BACKGROUND AND BELIEF INTO A SCHOOL STRONG IN ITS CATHOLIC AND MARIST IDENTITY.

## The Marist Tradition

In 1994, Notre Dame Preparatory School was founded by the Marist Fathers and Brothers, and the Marists continue to play an essential role in the life of the school today. In fact, the imprint of the Marist tradition is evident in every aspect of teaching, learning and daily life. The heart of Marist teachings is that we should each aspire to follow the example of our Lord's mother, living compassionately and mercifully and undertaking good works with humility—in short, "thinking, feeling, judging and acting as Mary in all things."

## Positive and Inclusive

Spiritual life is woven throughout the school experience at all grade levels, with daily prayers, weekly and monthly Masses, and highlight experiences such as class retreats. A substantive religious studies curriculum builds from foundational lessons in the early years to upper school courses ranging from The Bible to Catholic Social Teaching and World Religions. Although a majority of Notre Dame Prep families are Catholic, many are of other faiths, and all find an open-minded school community, welcoming to diverse perspectives and embracing an uplifting and affirming spirituality.

## Values for Life

The families who choose Notre Dame Prep know the value of an outstanding education. They also know that there is something that matters even more: a school that will guide their children in becoming good Christian people and upstanding citizens with the strength to live their convictions and a commitment to serving others. At Notre Dame, this is our mission. We aspire to provide our students with a foundation of values to face the challenges the future will bring and to live good lives.







Belief



A photograph of a playground with green and yellow equipment. Several children are playing. One child in a red jacket is on a slide, and another in a blue jacket is at the bottom. A green semi-transparent overlay covers the left side of the image, containing text.

Some of the most important lessons our students learn are beyond the academic. They are about being part of a community, about caring for others as good Christian people and about finding joy in everyday experiences.





PLAYLAND

# Lower School

HIGH EXPECTATIONS COME TOGETHER WITH ENCOURAGEMENT AND LOVE TO CREATE AN EXCEPTIONAL ENVIRONMENT FOR NOTRE DAME'S YOUNGEST SCHOLARS.



*"Everything we do begins in exactly the same place—with the needs of the child."* Diana Atkins, Lower School Principal

## Bright Beginnings

### Ambitious Aims

The lower school curriculum is substantive, challenging and designed with intention to build from year to year. Following the International Baccalaureate's Program of Inquiry, students and teachers explore thematic strands in each subject—forces and energy or living things in science, or human systems and economic activities in social studies. The focus is on active exploration, making connections between ideas and bringing lessons to life through hands-on projects, like our fourth-grade economics unit, in which students plan, develop and market original products.

### More to Explore

In addition to the core subjects of English, social studies, science, mathematics and religion, all lower schoolers also take Spanish, technology, music, art, library and physical education. They also can join one of several robotics teams, groups like the Drama Club or the Service Patrol, and, starting in fourth grade, play sports or join the band. The result is a wonderfully enriching experience in which even young children develop diverse talents as multidimensional Renaissance people.

### Loving and Caring

Notre Dame's lower school is a warm and strong community within the larger school, safe, welcoming and full of joy. In small class settings, students are known as individuals and form close relationships with classmates and teachers. At the heart of their experience are the Catholic and Marist values we not only teach but also strive to bring to life every day.







# Middle School

COMBINING WARMTH AND SUPPORT WITH ACADEMIC CHALLENGE, THE MIDDLE SCHOOL MEETS EACH STUDENT AT HIS OR HER LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT AND HELPS EACH TO FLOURISH.



*“When kids know who they are and feel comfortable in their own skin, they thrive”*

*Brandon Jezdimir, Middle School Principal*

# New Horizons

## A Strong Academic Foundation

Notre Dame Prep’s International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program is a rich and challenging curriculum spanning language and literature, mathematics, individuals and societies (including religion), science, performing and visual arts, language acquisition (Spanish or Mandarin Chinese), physical education and health, and design. The program emphasizes inquiry-based learning and making connections from one subject area to another and from one year to the next. Through the eighth-grade Community Project, students each plan and complete a significant service project of their own choosing with considerable independence.

## Many Adventures

The middle school boasts interscholastic athletic teams in 11 sports, multiple VEX robotics teams, the chance to take center stage in our own musical, band and choir plus organizations and activities ranging from Art Club and Girls Who Code to Michigan Youth in Government. In the middle school years, options like these provide an especially important opportunity: to experience success in multiple ways, to find your niche within the community, and to grow in confidence and independence.

## A Time of Transition

In middle school, young teens begin to grow in their sense of self-identity and to make decisions about the kind of people they will become. At Notre Dame Prep, they do so surrounded by high expectations and positive examples and supported by a community strong in faith. In a world that can present adolescents with so many stresses and misguided messages, Notre Dame provides a safe environment where children can grow into the individuals God created them to be.







# Home of the Irish

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Playing sports is a powerful and positive part of the Notre Dame Prep experience, with the chance for interscholastic competition starting in fourth grade. By upper school, 77 percent of students play at least one sport.









# Upper School

UPPER SCHOOL STUDENTS EXPERIENCE A COMBINATION OF INTENSE INTELLECTUAL ENGAGEMENT, FAR-REACHING CO-CURRICULAR EXPLORATION, SCHOOL SPIRIT, FRIENDSHIP AND FUN.



*“Each of my very different kids had an amazing education and found a phenomenal sense of belonging.”*

*Michael Genord, Notre Dame Prep parent*

## Powerful Preparation

### Challenges and Choices

Notre Dame Prep offers students a choice few schools can: to pursue a range of AP courses, to complete the International Baccalaureate Diploma or to mix AP and IB offerings. In all, upper schoolers select from more than 100 courses in 11 subject areas, including fascinating electives like Forensic Psychology, Horticulture and three courses in Computer-Aided Design. Multiple levels of classes—college preparatory, honors and AP/IB—provide the right degree of challenge for each student.

### Close Connections

When you ask Notre Dame students what they love about their school, the number-one answer is the people. The upper school community is extremely welcoming, and new arrivals find it easy to fit in and make friends. Just as important are the bonds students form with their teachers. For those from schools with larger classes or a less caring culture, these relationships can be one of the most striking differences they encounter in coming to Notre Dame.

### The Next Level

Notre Dame Prep graduates leave our school powerfully prepared to excel in college. They know how to think critically, write clearly and work both independently and in successful teams. These abilities help our students gain admission to the colleges and universities of their choice with impressive consistency, including some of the nation’s most selective. Our counseling team plays a key part, too, with both full-time college counselors and full-time social/emotional/academic counselors—and with staffing ratios that allow for extensive individual attention and support.









# Admissions and Scholarships

*"We are here to welcome and help you!"*

*Megan Haverland, Associate Director of Admissions*



## Applying for Admission

Notre Dame Prep accepts applications for admission into the lower school, middle school and upper school beginning October 1 each year. Application requirements can be found in the Admissions Center of the school website, along with the MyNotreDame application portal. Our admissions team is committed to making the application process a smooth one and is ready to answer your questions.



## Visiting Notre Dame

The best way to discover our school is to come visit. Opportunities for prospective parents include personal tours, Admissions Previews and School Day Open Houses, the latter offering visitors a chance to observe classes in action. Prospective middle and upper school students can be "Irish for a Day" by shadowing a current Notre Dame student. (Special "Lucky Days" are available to prospective ninth graders.) Visit Days are scheduled as part of the admission process for prospective lower school students.



## Merit and Gateway Scholarships

We recognize that a Notre Dame Prep education represents a significant investment for families, and we are committed to making this opportunity as accessible as possible to as many students as possible. All upper school applicants will be considered for a Marist Way merit scholarship, with awarded students representing the well-rounded Christians, citizens and scholars we value. Parents who believe Notre Dame is the right school for their child but may be out of reach for them financially are encouraged to apply for a Gateway scholarship.

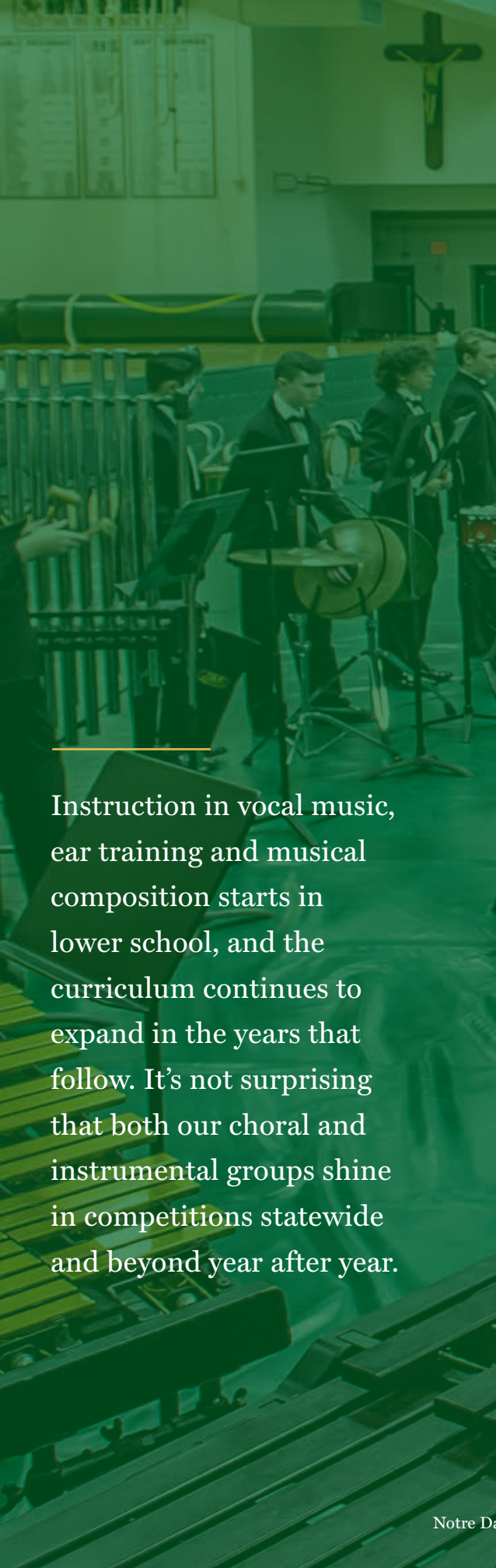


# NOTRE DAME PREPARATORY SCH



For details on visiting, applying,  
tuition rates and scholarships, visit  
Notre Dame Prep online at  
[www.ndprep.org](http://www.ndprep.org).





Instruction in vocal music, ear training and musical composition starts in lower school, and the curriculum continues to expand in the years that follow. It's not surprising that both our choral and instrumental groups shine in competitions statewide and beyond year after year.







FINISH IRISH



Malaga High School  
Competition Music Program  
Presented by the Malaga School District



# Notre Dame Prep by the Numbers

**1,000+** students, grades Pre-K through 12

**113** faculty members, 70% with advanced degrees

**1:10** faculty-student ratio

**90** acres on two neighboring campuses in Pontiac, Michigan

**65%-70%** of students are Catholic

**19%** of students are from ethnically diverse backgrounds

**50%** of students transitioning from lower to middle school  
and middle to high school are new to our campus

**40+** STEM classes

**12** state robotics championships across lower, middle and  
upper schools

**31** athletic teams, grades 4 through 12

**76%** of upper school students take part in at least one sport

**\$2 million** in tuition assistance awarded annually









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1300 Giddings Road, Pontiac, MI 48340

[ndprep.org](http://ndprep.org)

