



# Virginia Episcopal School Academic Profile 2024-2025

CEEB CODE: 471305



## ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

VES is a college preparatory, coeducational, boarding (70%) and day (30%) school serving students in grades 9 – 12. Located in the foothills of Lynchburg, Virginia, we take advantage of our city and natural surroundings to expand our campus beyond our beautiful 160 acres. We have 250 enrolled students—52% male, 48% female, and 20% international. Students benefit from small classes, with a student-teacher ratio of 6:1. Among our 44 teaching faculty, 83% hold advanced degrees and 13% hold a doctoral degree. And 80% of our faculty live on campus, bringing added value to our student experience.

## TOWARD FULL STATURE

Inspired by the school’s founding motto, Toward Full Stature is an intentional four-year journey to help students identify and realize their full potential academically, athletically, spiritually, and ethically.

Our Portrait of a VES Graduate guides students to live into this ideal by developing the knowledge, skills, character, and learning mindsets necessary to succeed in college and life beyond.

Our Academic Philosophy guides our classroom practice. At VES, our faculty are designers, and we are committed to an Academic Philosophy in which:

- Dynamic questions shape our content, experiences, perspectives, and outcomes.
- Intellectual playfulness drives our practice.
- Creative thinkers and producers are our goal—committed to making beautiful work and communicating effectively, with one another and throughout the world.

## HONOR CODE

The underlying principle that governs the life of any member of the VES community is the school’s Honor Code, developed by the first class of VES students in 1916. “One shall not lie, steal, cheat, or tolerate that behavior in any other member of the community” is a simple code that instills the moral and ethical values by which all members of the VES family live.

## FINANCIAL AID

For the 2024-25 school year, VES awarded \$2.28 million in need-based financial aid to 30% of the enrolled student body.

## ACCREDITATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

Among its professional organization affiliations, VES is a member of:

- Virginia Association of Independent Schools (VAIS)
- National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)
- The Association of American Boarding Schools (TABS)
- Virginia Council for Private Education
- National Association of College Admissions Counselors
- Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools
- National Association of Episcopal Schools

**GARTH AINSLIE** - HEAD OF SCHOOL

**MIMI CSATLOS** - DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

**AMY KOUDELKA** - ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

**MATT PORTER** - ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

**ESTHER JOHNSON** -

ADMIN. ASST. TO COLLEGE COUNSELING & TESTING COORDINATOR

## LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT

The Honor Committee and Counselor Body provides opportunities for seniors to lead the school. The Honor Committee is elected by students to promote and uphold the Honor Code. The Counselor Body is appointed by the Head of School based on student and faculty votes. Counselors serve as Resident Advisors on dorm and help in every aspect of daily school life. In addition, each year a member of the senior class who has been elected to the Student Council is appointed to serve as Student Body President, acting as a liaison between the student body and the administration.

VES offers many avenues through which students in all grade levels can lead their peers, strengthen communities, and grow as individuals. Junior Resident Advisors, Service Learning Coordinators, Student Government Representatives, Team Captains, Club Leaders, and Chapel Speakers are just some of the many titles our students hold as they learn to lead on campus.

Participation in an afternoon activity each season is a requirement for graduation. Students may sign up to be part of a sports team, in a fine arts program, and/or a member of a wide variety of special interest clubs.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS & GLOBAL EXPERIENCES

In our increasingly interconnected world, it's essential that our students become global citizens and leaders with cross-cultural understanding and respect.

VES brings the world to our campus, which is a meeting place for diverse perspectives and global cultures. Each year, we welcome students from many countries, including the Czech Republic, China, Germany, Mexico, Senegal, Spain, Turkey, Vietnam, and other locales. Faculty also hail from around the globe. This integration of various cultures is an enriching experience for us all. And through a diverse range of speakers, the arts and cultural events, we explore why it is so important to seek out, empathize with, and value varied perspectives.

## DISTINCTIVE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

### Advanced Studies Program

Students may be approved to pursue the Advanced Studies program in a specific discipline if they have completed the most advanced course in that discipline and if they wish to explore a related topic in greater depth. Advanced Studies students complete a rigorous application process, gain the support of a faculty mentor, and set their own deadlines and goals as they develop a project to present to the VES community. Grades are based on the final project, the presentation and on their process, especially their ability to work independently and display mature habits of mind as they pursue their goals.

### 9th Grade ARCH Collaborative

The 9th Grade ARCH Collaborative provides an interdisciplinary introduction to four subject areas that students can apply across their VES experience and future studies. 'A' stands for the Arts, which students engage with through a quarter-long Introduction to the Arts course; 'R' stands for Reasoning, which is the focus of their quarter in the Critical Thinking course; 'C' represents their study in Computer Science I; 'H' stands for quarter of the year during which students focus on Health and Life Skills.

The ARCH Collaborative enriches students' learning in core subject areas while exposing them to other aspects of our curriculum that may spark a new interest, talent, or passion to pursue further over the course of their VES career.

### AP Program

VES offers 17 AP courses. While students must meet requirements to enroll in certain AP courses, others are open to any interested student. All 10th and 11th grade students enrolled in AP classes are required to sit for the exam; 12th graders may opt out of the AP exams if the college they choose to attend will not honor AP credits; the average score earned is 3. Over the past three years, VES students have been recognized by the AP Scholar Program as:

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**SCHOLARS 83**

**SCHOLARS WITH HONOR 23**

**SCHOLARS WITH DISTINCTION 79**

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### AP Course Cap

The number of AP courses in which a student can enroll is capped as follows: 10th Graders - 1 AP (highly accelerated math or foreign language students may petition for 2 AP classes this year), 11th Graders - 3 APs (may petition for 4), 12th Graders - no limit. We believe the cap will encourage students to delve deeply into their academic interests and make balanced decisions about their schedules. In 2020, it was decided that our AP Arts courses will not be counted toward the AP cap so that students with special talents in the arts can pursue their interest without having to limit their AP options in core academic areas.

## GRADE STRUCTURE

VES reports grades in percentages and uses a 10-point scale when determining letter grades (100 to 90 is an A, 89 to 80 is a B, etc.). If necessary, please use the traditional 4.0 scale to convert our unweighted percentage-based averages into the scale preferred by your institution. VES does not weight grades or report class rank.

## SAT SCORES

These averages represent the scores earned by our Class of 2024 who took the SAT at any time over their careers at VES, including those who opted instead to submit ACT scores to colleges, and those who applied using test-optional plans. These numbers also include the 20% of our class for whom English is not their native language.

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**MID-50%**

ERWB: 530 - 660

MATH: 510 - 710

**TOTAL: 1060 - 1380**

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## ACT SCORES

These averages represent the scores earned by our Class of 2024 who took the ACT at any time over their careers at VES, including those who opted instead to submit SAT scores to colleges, and those who applied using test-optional plans. These numbers also include the 20% of our class for whom English is not their native language.

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**MID-50%**

COMPOSITE: 20 - 30

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In the Class of 2024, approximately 50% of our seniors opted not to submit their SAT or ACT scores with their applications.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & COURSE OFFERINGS

Each student must earn 19 credits to graduate. All VES students must carry a course load of at least five classes per term. Students must choose at least four core classes each year (though five is expected), and they may choose from a variety of electives each term. **Advanced courses in each subject are noted in bold.**

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### ENGLISH (4 CREDITS REQUIRED)

English Seminars  
(12th grade courses):

- Literature as Art
- Truth and Fiction/Truth in Fiction
- Experimental Literature:  
Toys Writers Play With
- The Uncanny: Gothic Horror
- The Essential Stories
- Poetry Across the Curriculum

11th Grade English: Ethics, Inquiry &  
Rhetoric II

10th Grade English: Ethics, Inquiry  
& Rhetoric

9th Grade English: Culture &  
Identity

**AP Literature & Composition**

**AP Language & Composition**

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### SCIENCE (3 CREDITS REQUIRED, INCLUDING BIOLOGY AND EITHER CHEMISTRY OR PHYSICS)

Biology

**Honors Biology**

**AP Biology**

Chemistry

**Honors Chemistry**

**AP Chemistry**

Human Anatomy & Physiology

Physics

Physics in the Modern World

**AP Physics**

**AP Environmental Science**

Intro to Sports Medicine

Biomedical Science

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### MATHEMATICS (3 CREDITS REQUIRED, INCLUDING ALGEBRA I, GEOMETRY, ALGEBRA II/TRIGONOMETRY)

Algebra I

Geometry

**Honors Geometry**

Algebra II/Trigonometry

**Honors Algebra II/Trig**

Math Analysis

**Honors Math Analysis**

Statistics

**AP Statistics**

Calculus

**AP Calculus AB**

**AP Calculus BC**

**Multivariable Calculus**

**Linear Algebra**

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### FINE & PERFORMING ARTS (1 CREDIT REQUIRED)

Introduction to the Arts

Ceramics I & II

Advanced Ceramics

Digital Photography

Studio Art I & II

**AP Studio Art**

Portfolio Prep

Glee Club

Chamber Ensemble

Stage Combat

Jazz Ensemble

Vocal Ensemble

**AP Music Theory**

Video Production I & II

Acting

Technical Theater

Public Speaking

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### HISTORY (3 CREDITS REQUIRED, INCLUDING U.S. HISTORY; THIRD CREDIT CAN INCLUDE 2 ONE-TERM COURSES)

Global Cultures

Modern World History

**AP World History**

US History

**AP United States History**

US Government

**AP Comparative Government**

**AP US Government & Politics**

Economics

Psychology

International Relations

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### COMPUTER SCIENCE (.5 CREDIT REQUIRED)

Computer Science I -  
Collaboration & Design

Computer Science II -  
Programming & Web Design

Computer Science III -  
Body Recognition Programming

**Computer Science IV -  
App Development**

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### WORLD LANGUAGES (2 CREDITS REQUIRED IN THE SAME LANGUAGE)

French I-V

**AP French Language & Culture**

Spanish I-V

**Honors Spanish III & IV**

**AP Spanish Language & Culture**

**Spanish VI: Advanced Seminar**

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### RELIGION (.5 CREDIT REQUIRED)

New Testament

World Religions I

World Religions II



## FIVE-YEAR COLLEGE MATRICULATION

Students in the Virginia Episcopal School classes of 2020-2024 enrolled in colleges and universities throughout the United States and world, including:

- |                                      |   |  |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| American University                  | High Point University (2)   | University of California, Davis (2)              |
| Anahuac Mayab University (3)         | Howard University   | University of California, Irvine (2)             |
| Anderson University                  | James Madison University (6)                                      | University of California, Los Angeles            |
| Appalachian State University (6)     | Johns Hopkins University (3)                                      | University of California, San Diego              |
| Auburn University (2)                | Lafayette College   | University of California, Santa Barbara (3)      |
| Barnard College                      | Lehigh University   | University of Cincinnati                         |
| Bellarmino University                | Liberty University (3)  | University of Colorado Boulder (2)               |
| Boston University                    | McGill University   | University of Denver                             |
| Bowie State University               | Milliken University   | University of Delaware                           |
| Brigham Young University             | Minerva School  | University of Georgia (2)                        |
| California Institute of Technology   | Mississippi State University                                      | University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign (3)      |
| Campbell University                  | New York University (8)   | University of Lynchburg (6)                      |
| Case Western Reserve University (2)  | North Carolina State University (5)                               | University of Mary Washington                    |
| Central Virginia Community College   | North Carolina State University<br>(2 yr. Agricultural Institute) | University of Miami                              |
| Christopher Newport University       | Northeastern University   | University of Mississippi (7)                    |
| Clemson University (6)               | Ohio State University (2)   | University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (10) |
| Coastal Carolina University          | Pace University   | University of North Carolina at Charlotte (2)    |
| Colby College                        | Pennsylvania State University (2)                                 | University of North Carolina at Wilmington       |
| College of Charleston (3)            | Pepperdine University   | University of Pennsylvania                       |
| Columbia University                  | Princeton University (3)  | University of Richmond (2)                       |
| Cornell University (4)               | Purdue University   | University of South Carolina (12)                |
| Davidson College                     | Randolph-Macon College  | University of Southern California (2)            |
| Dickinson College (4)                | Rhodes College  | University of St. Andrews                        |
| Drexel University (3)                | Rice University (2)   | University of Tennessee                          |
| Duke University                      | Roanoke College (2)   | University of Utah                               |
| East Carolina University (2)         | Savannah College of Art and Design (4)                            | University of Virginia (21)                      |
| Elon University (8)                  | Sciences Po - Paris, France                                       | University of Washington (2)                     |
| Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University | Seton Hill University   | Vanderbilt University                            |
| Emory University                     | Sewanee: University of the South                                  | Virginia Commonwealth University (4)             |
| Furman University (2)                | Skidmore College  | Virginia Military Institute                      |
| Frostburg State University           | Southern Methodist University (3)                                 | Virginia Tech (14)                               |
| George Mason University (5)          | Stevens Institute of Technology                                   | Wake Forest University (6)                       |
| Georgetown University                | Swarthmore College (2)  | Washington College                               |
| George Washington University (2)     | Texas Christian University  | Washington and Lee University (8)                |
| Gettysburg College                   | Tufts University (4)  | Washington University, St. Louis (2)             |
| Guilford College                     | Tulane University (2)   | Wellesley College                                |
| Hampden-Sydney College (4)           | University of Alabama (7)   | West Virginia University                         |
| Harford Community College            | University of California, Berkeley (3)                            | William & Mary (19)                              |
| Haverford College                    |   | Wofford College (5)                              |