

# Malvern Preparatory School Student and Parent Handbook 2025-2026

# ABOUT MALVERN PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Malvern is an Augustinian School, Catholic, and Independent. Our community is committed to the Augustinian values of *Truth, Unity,* and *Love*. Since 1842, the School's tradition has been to prepare young men for college, for leadership, and for life. Malvern educates its students in a caring environment focused on academics while maintaining balance among spirituality, arts, athletics, and activities. Students learn today so that they may lead with integrity tomorrow.

### **Our Mission**

An Augustinian School, Catholic, and independent, living the Augustinian spirit of *Veritas*, *Unitas*, and *Caritas*.

- **TRUTH:** Malvern is dedicated to the pursuit of Truth through academic excellence and the growth of each of its students so that he is prepared fully for college and for a life of integrity and courageous leadership.
- **UNITY:** Seeking oneness of mind and heart in the journey toward God, Malvern strives to build a diverse community in which a caring faculty works with parents and students to instill in everyone a personal responsibility for the common good.
- **LOVE:** Inspired by Christ, the Malvern Tradition invites each individual to grow and give in a family distinguished by respect, challenge, service, and exceptional love.

# SPIRITUAL LIFE

Malvern attempts to weave together all the expressions of faith that make the school community a uniquely Judeo-Christian, Catholic-Augustinian center of learning. Fostering the integration of the school's academic curriculum, campus ministry, spiritual renewal, and Christian Service programs, our aim is to construct a setting where every person can learn his/ her unique role in the formation of God's Kingdom. Our purpose is accomplished in the following ways:

#### **Prayer and Liturgy**

Developing and nurturing one's spiritual life is an integral part of being a well-rounded, compassionate, and empathetic person. Malvern offers many opportunities for such spiritual growth:

- In the spirit of Augustinian Interiority, students begin the school day with quiet prayer and reflection in the chapel at least once weekly.
- It is the tradition at Malvern to open each class session with a prayer.
- The Eucharist is also celebrated weekly, as well as special feasts and occasions during the academic year.



- The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated, especially during the Advent and Lenten seasons.
- Time permitting, the campus chapel is always available for private prayer during the day.

You can find more information & resources on prayer and the spiritual life HERE

#### **Christian Service Program**

In addition to classroom work, all students will participate in a journey of growth in helping others during their time at Malvern. Christian Service is a concrete way to put faith into practice. Our Statement of Core Values directs that "members of the Malvern Community will respond to a call of service." All Malvern Prep students are required to reflect the message of Christ and to live our mission as an Augustinian Catholic school through their service to others.

We strongly believe in our commitment to serve others. We ask everyone to do Christian Service, not community service. The difference is that we follow Christ's example and work directly with people in need. Many times we are asked to help with financial donations. We are eager to consider a request as long as the raised funds go directly to people in need.

Service opportunities are organized throughout the year and students can sign up, log, and reflect on their experience through an online volunteer platform. Additionally, our monthly Dress Down Fridays highlight a non-profit charity for our community to support and learn about. The Caritas Carnival invites schools to our campus to enjoy a field day that they otherwise would not be able to have. Various other grade-level service immersion experiences are offered both at Malvern, in the region, around the USA, and across the globe.

You can find more information, including the Service Requirements **HERE** 



# **ACADEMICS**

## **Middle School Advancement Requirements**

Theology	3 credits	Social Studies	3 credits
English	3 credits	Keystone/Elective Courses	1 per term
Life Skills/PE	3 credits	Science	3 credits
Mathematics	3 credits	Ensemble (Musical)	1 credit

# **Upper School Graduation Requirements**

To graduate from Malvern Preparatory School, a student must successfully complete the following specific course areas:

Theology	4 credits	Social Studies	2 credits
English	4 credits	Language	2 credits
Health	½ credits	Science	3 credits
Mathematics	3 credits	Music/Art	1 credit
Phys. Ed.	1 credit		

In addition to the required courses, elective courses are offered. **Students are required to take a minimum of six courses each semester (three per term),** with the possible exception of those students taking two or more A.P. courses.

To read more about our Academic Policies, Grading Systems, Academic Warning & Probation, and Extra Help, click this link.



# **ATHLETICS**

Malvern Prep's position as an athletic powerhouse reflects the school's all-around emphasis on team building and leadership. Whether in the classroom or on the court, our student-athletes strive together to achieve excellence, encouraging each other to become the best version of themselves. Malvern Preparatory School is a member of the Inter-Academic (Inter-Ac) League, which embraces the philosophy that competitive athletic programs balance the excellent academic tradition of member schools.

Malvern's program recognizes the importance of physical conditioning and athletic competition to enhance the school experience. Winning is a long and honored tradition at Malvern, but it is only part of the whole picture. Win or lose, the success of Malvern's athletic teams stems from the same philosophy that guides our excellent academic program: hard work, discipline, team commitment, and sportsmanship. Malvern builds self-esteem and confidence through 58 teams in 17 interscholastic sports.

You can find additional information in the Athletics Handbook HERE



# **INCLUSIVITY & BELONGING**

As a Catholic, Augustinian educational institution, Malvern Prep welcomes diversity of all types, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, and national origin. We also express authentic curiosity about those differences. As a result, we respect, value, and celebrate diversity. We integrate this diversity into the day-to-day intellectual, social, and spiritual development of every member of the Malvern community. Accordingly, Malvern Prep strives to proudly reflect the diversity of the world. We integrate diversity and inclusion principles into the core aspects of the school: academic priorities, hiring, student recruitment, leadership expectations, decision-making, day-to-day operations, recognition efforts, and our overall organizational culture.

Every member of the Malvern Prep Community is entitled to feel safe on campus. This includes feeling safe from racist comments or treatment of any kind, including but not limited to verbal, physical, and cyberbullying. Malvern condemns racism, hate speech, violence, and bias in all forms. Racist symbols and any forms of hate speech that actually disrupt or are reasonably forecasted to disrupt the learning environment will not be tolerated and will lead to disciplinary action or possible expulsion.

You can find more information on Inclusivity and Belonging <u>HERE</u>.

#### **Student Life**

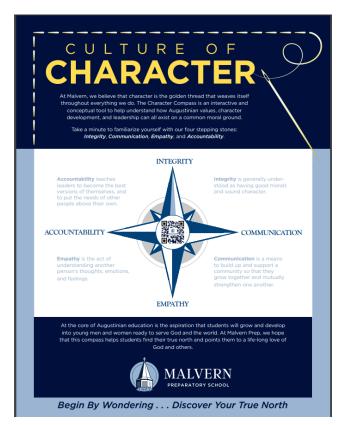
The Student Life Department of Malvern Preparatory School is dedicated to providing a well-rounded education, including a positive social development of all students. The activities program fosters a social atmosphere where students can explore hidden talents and find new passions.

The Department is organized to promote the extra-curricular and co-curricular interests of all its students. The experiences offered at Malvern help students find their niche and strengthen their non-academic skills. The department provides opportunities to strengthen the bonds between students who share similar interests and allows for an enhanced feeling of community as it supports positive relationships between faculty and students. In order for a student to become a leader of tomorrow, he needs to develop academically, athletically, spiritually, and socially.

If you would like a list of offerings and policies for Student Life, click this link.



# **COMMUNITY STANDARDS AND RULES**



**Community Expectations** 

#### **Student Academy Leader Team**

One of the primary functions of the Student Academy Leader Team is to ensure that the students conduct themselves as Augustinian gentlemen within the framework established by the school's Mission Statement. The Student Academy Leaders also ensure that the students understand their responsibilities as members of the Malvern Community and accept responsibility for their activities associated with the school.

The Student Academy Leader Team works with the Head of Character Development and Wellness to address disciplinary situations, except expulsion, which is the right of the Head of School.

- 12th Grade: Tim Dougherty; tdougherty@malvernprep.org
- 11th Grade: Dante Coles; <a href="mailto:dcoles@mailvernprep.org">dcoles@mailvernprep.org</a>
- 10th Grade: Matthew McDonald; mmcdonald@malvernprep.org
- 9th Grade: Jeff Carroll; jcarroll@malvernprep.org
- Middle School: Tony DelPizzo; <u>adelpizzo@malvernprep.orq</u>



#### **The Brotherhood Promise**

I promise to bring any concern about a fellow Friar's health, including substance use and/or safety, to the attention of a School Counselor, the Student Academy Leader Team, Administration, or any other trusted faculty or staff member. In doing so, I know that Malvern will seek help for the student in a confidential manner and provide that student with the necessary resources and support he may need. I understand that protecting a brother often means getting him help when needed.

# **SCHOOL POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

- Attendance, Absence, Lateness Policies and Procedures found HERE
- Phone-free policy <u>HERE</u>
- Malvern Prep's Dress Code Policies <u>HERE</u>
- Malvern Prep's Drug & Alcohol Policies <u>HERE</u>
- Behavioral expectations and infractions <u>HERE</u>

# AREAS OF THE SCHOOL'S MISSION WARRANTING SPECIAL ATTENTION

# **Academic Honesty Policy**

It is expected that all Malvern Prep students will be academically honest; this means never cheating and/or plagiarizing. **Cheating** can be defined as attempting to represent another's academic work as one's own or using inappropriate written, verbal, or AI-generated aid. **Plagiarism** can be defined as stealing and passing off the ideas or words of another as one's own; using a created production without crediting the source; committing literary theft; presenting as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source.

Students are always expected to act independently unless otherwise advised by their teacher while working on homework, classwork, projects, lab reports, quizzes, tests, exams, and any other graded assignments. Discussing or sharing any work that might be graded with any member of another section of the same course who has already done that work earlier that day or on a previous day is considered cheating. Also, cheating includes getting expert help on projects such as research, paper writing, and/or project designing that goes beyond the level of constructive learning. Because the boundary between ethical help and unethical help is often unclear to students, it is the student's obligation to get prior permission from their teacher for any outside help that seems questionable.

More details concerning our Academic Honesty Policy can be found HERE

#### **Safe Community Policy**

Malvern Prep is committed to maintaining a safe and respectful environment for all members of its community. Violence, threats of violence, and harassment in any form are strictly prohibited and considered unacceptable means of resolving conflict.

Hazing, a form of harassment, harms group unity and causes personal degradation. It directly opposes the Augustinian values of *Unitas* (unity) and *Caritas* (charity). Any activity—whether direct



or indirect—that harms a person for the purpose of initiation, admission, affiliation, or continued membership in a group may be considered hazing. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Physical abuse (e.g., whipping, beating, branding, forced exercise, or exposure to elements)
- Forced consumption of food, alcohol, drugs, or other substances
- Activities that cause mental distress (e.g., sleep deprivation, social isolation, humiliation)
- Damage or destruction of property

Hazing and harassment are not permitted and will result in formal disciplinary action against individuals or groups involved. Anyone who witnesses or suspects such behavior must report it to the Student Academy Leader Team and the Head of Student Leadership. If it involves a school club, team, or organization, the appropriate coach or moderator must also be informed. Students may also report to a trusted adult (teacher, priest, coach, or moderator), who is then responsible for notifying school leadership.

#### Weapons

Weapons are strictly prohibited on school property, at school-sponsored events, and on transportation to and from such events. Weapons include, but are not limited to: Knives, cutting tools, and sharp instruments, firearms, pellet guns, and airsoft-style guns, explosives and chemical irritants (e.g., MACE, pepper spray), "Look-alike" weapons (e.g., toy or replica guns), and any item capable of causing bodily harm.

The administration will determine if an item qualifies as a weapon. Students with questions should consult a member of the Student Academy Leader Team.

#### **Vandalism**

Defacing school buildings, school property, and/or another student's private property is considered vandalism and will not be tolerated. A student involved in vandalism will not only face severe penalties but also have to make full restitution.

#### **School Trips - Assumption of Risk**

We, the undersigned, acknowledge that participation in school trips is voluntary and that we are aware that there are significant risks involved in all aspects of the involvement in these trips, whether local or foreign. We acknowledge that we are responsible for evaluating the risks associated with students' participation in these trips and that we have had ample opportunity to review the Trip information and details and understand the risks associated with travel.

We further recognize that travel is unpredictable, and unforeseen circumstances could result in deviation from the Trip itinerary. We assume all such risks, which include, without limitation, disease, unavailable or inadequate medical care, dangerous conditions, crime, theft, assault, physical injury, or death. We willingly assume full responsibility for these risks and accept the risks associated with these trips.



### **Digital Conduct - "Public and Permanent"**

At Malvern Prep, we treat everyone with respect, both in person and online. Our core values of *Truth, Unity,* and *Love* guide all interactions, including on social media. Before posting online, students should ask: Does this reflect Truth, Unity, and Love?

Online interactions with peers, alumni, teachers, and parents should reflect the same dignity, respect, and humility expected in face-to-face communication. This applies across all social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, and others.

More details concerning Social Media and Privacy Policies can be found **HERE** 

# **Behavioral Expectations Outside School and at School Events**

Students are expected to act responsibly and respectfully at all times—both on and off campus, in person and online. This includes interactions with members of the Malvern community and those from other schools. Malvern Prep social events are intended to provide safe, structured opportunities for students to socialize. All school rules apply, and students are expected to represent the school's values through respectful and responsible behavior.

Off-campus behavior that breaks the law, disrupts school, poses safety risks, or damages the school's reputation may lead to serious disciplinary action.



## **TECHNOLOGY**

## **Computer Ethics – Acceptable Computer Use Policy**

Malvern's technology and information network, including all email accounts, software, and hardware, are to be used for educational purposes only or those purposes directly related to Malvern Prep. Under no circumstances may the network be used for commercial or personal purposes. Email is treated in the same manner as paper mail. We expect all system users to respect the privacy of email messages. An email message should not be shared with others unless the permission of the author is obtained. However, the content of one's files, including email messages sent and received, is not considered private. Malvern's Administration reserves the right to inspect user directories for files that may affect the operation of the network and to remove them if found.

More information on the Computer Ethics and Acceptable Use Policy here.

### **Use of Third-Party Apps**

This is to advise that beginning on October 23, Google will no longer permit any student under the age of 18 to access 3rd party apps with their school-provided email and password. Malvern utilizes third-party apps like Newsela, Quizlet, Cialfo, and others for educational purposes that require students to log in via their Malvern Prep email address. The School will approve these educational apps only on behalf of students under 18 so they can continue to use this support. These apps may collect the names of students and no other personal information.

Apps that are not considered to be educational in nature will not be approved for use by Malvern Prep. Please contact John Street, Director of Technology, with specific questions or concerns.



## **SECURITY**

#### I.D. Cards

I.D. cards serve as "swipe cards" and offer access to locked school buildings, so keeping them on your person at all times is essential and part of the dress code. For security reasons, lost cards must be reported immediately to the Student Academy Leader Team Office. Any tampering with information on the I.D. card is considered to be forgery and punishable as such. Unauthorized use of another student's I.D. card may result in suspension. Replacing a lost card will cost \$20.

### **Driving On-Campus**

Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors are the only students allowed to drive on campus. Students driving on campus must have their car registered with the school and display their parking tag at all times. *More information can be found HERE* 

### **Visitors & Security**

It is important for all community members to know that some areas of the school's campus are subject to video surveillance.

#### **Restricted Areas On-Campus For Students**

During school hours (7:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) no student is ever permitted to be in a building or classroom without faculty supervision. When outside of the buildings, students must remain inside the Ring Road at all times, unless accompanied by a teacher, and are not permitted in parking lots. **Gymnasiums may only be used if there is faculty supervision.** 

Certain areas on campus, including the Dougherty Hall gymnasium and the Strength and Conditioning Center, may be available to students during lunch periods with supervision. **Absolutely, no games or activities are to utilize the sides of any buildings.** 

#### **Sports Equipment in School Buildings**

Sports equipment, including lacrosse sticks, golf clubs, and large gym bags, are not permitted in academic buildings and should be stored in the O'Neill or Dougherty Sports Center only, either in an athletic locker or in the hallway. Small gym bags may be stored in a student's regularly assigned locker in their assigned team locker room.

#### **Lost or Missing Items**

If a student has misplaced and/or believes a personal belonging has been stolen, the student must report it immediately to the Student Academy Leader Team. Any missing sports equipment must be reported immediately to the Athletic Director. Lost and Found articles are often placed in the lost and found bins



across campus. Articles not claimed after one month will be donated to the Friars' Resale Shop. Malvern Mothers' Club volunteers will attempt to reunite items and their owners if a name is on the lost article.

# **Specific Parent Policies**

## **Malvern Prep Civility Policy**

Malvern Prep is a Community that prides itself on its established culture of lifting each other up and helping to make each other become the best versions of themselves every day. "Incivility," behavior that would not be deemed "civil," breaks that culture down and devalues our sense of Unitas. More information can be found HERE.

## **Student/Parent Directory Privacy Guidelines**

Use of names, addresses, and email listings for any business or commercial purpose, solicitation, including copying, or other use, is prohibited. No part of the student directory may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, or otherwise, without prior written permission from the Head of School of Malvern Preparatory School. Violations of this policy may result in the loss of access to Malvern Prep's MyMalvern portal.

Parents/Guardians and Students - <u>please CLICK HERE to digitally sign and acknowledge</u> that you have received and read the 2025-26 Student Handbook.