



EASTSIDE CATHOLIC

2025-26

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROFILE

Eastside Catholic Middle School

offers a well-rounded curriculum that nurtures curiosity and fosters a growth mindset. With high academic standards and compassionate support, our students are both challenged and well-prepared for their next academic step. In our close-knit community of just over 200 students, each individual is known, valued and supported on their unique journey.

President

Gil Picciotto

Principal

Ashley Hylton

Assistant Principal

Erin Vickers

School Counselor

Sidney Richardson

Director of Admissions

Laura Leach

Director of Student Life

Elisha Pa'aga '14

Director of Equity and Social Action

Jenny Abbey

Director of Learning Support

Brandi Faith

Director of Curriculum

Mollie Page

Director of Campus Ministry

Lynn Kittridge

CEEB: 480067

ISEE Test Site: 480067

SSAT School Code: 2946

ECMS QUICK FACTS

Enrollment	210
Average class size	17
Student-to-teacher ratio	17:1
Students of color	53%
Catholic	32%
Other faith traditions	68%

425-295-3000

info@eastsidecatholic.org

eastsidecatholic.org

ACCREDITATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

- Accredited by the Northwest Association of Independent Schools (NWAIS)
- Member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)
- Approved as a Catholic school by the Archdiocese of Seattle
- Approved by the Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Member of the Washington Federation of Independent Schools

FACULTY AND STAFF

- 12 faculty and staff members are National Board Certified Teachers
- 45% of the faculty hold a master's degree or higher

CURRICULUM

The middle school at Eastside Catholic offers a close-knit, community-oriented learning environment, providing a nurturing space during a pivotal time of personal growth. We encourage students to think independently, challenge their assumptions and develop strong learning habits—setting the foundation for success in high school.

Our well-rounded curriculum combines challenging academics with essential life and leadership skills. For those needing extra support, we offer two specialized classes. EMC (English-Math Class) provides focused help in math, reading and writing in a small group setting, co-taught by a math and English teacher. SOAR focuses on developing and practicing executive functioning skills to enhance student success.

As a 6-12 school, our middle school faculty collaborates closely with high school teachers to ensure a smooth and successful transition. This partnership allows us to prepare students both academically and personally for the challenges and opportunities ahead in high school.

Middle School Course Plan:

3 years humanities: language arts, social studies

3 years mathematics

3 years science

Up to 3 years physical education/health

Up to 3 years world languages

LEARNING TO LOVE LEARNING

Middle school teachers serve as trusted guides, helping students develop a deep understanding of the material rather than merely memorizing facts. This approach results in students acquiring invaluable skills in critical inquiry and a lifelong love of learning. High academic expectations combined with appropriate support allow students to be challenged and prepared for the next grade level. Students are encouraged to ask questions like:

How do we know what we know? What's the evidence and how reliable is it?

How do viewpoints and implied values influence what we see, read or hear?

How are things, ideas, events or people connected?

Why does this matter? What does it all mean?

STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS

Extracurricular activities foster intellectual curiosity, uncover interests and talents and encourage growth in our students as they prepare for high school and beyond.

CLUBS

Battle of the Books
Leadership
Intro to Robotics
Yearbook

ELECTIVES

Band
Choir
Computer Science
Drama
Visual Arts

CYO SPORTS

Fall: Cross Country
Soccer
Winter: Basketball
Spring: Track
Volleyball

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

Once per month during EC3, students will sign up for an enrichment activity to learn something new! Many activities are modeled after our high school clubs, exposing our middle school students to various clubs and activities. Past enrichment activities have included arts and crafts, spelling bees, science dissections, mat ball and pickleball tournaments, kickball games, a Harry Potter escape room, brain teasers and trivia or community service activities.

THE VALUE OF OUR SMALL LEARNING COMMUNITY

Research suggests that middle school students in smaller learning communities like Eastside Catholic perform better academically, are more engaged in school, have more meaningful relationships and, ultimately, are more successful.

Small class size can mean the difference between a student feeling lost and anonymous, to feeling like they have a place where they truly belong. With an average class size of 17 and a student to teacher ratio of 17:1, each student is known and valued as an individual in our school community.

EC3

EC3 is a weekly time for our students to engage in activities associated with our Touchstones of academics, relationships and service. During EC3, students may choose academic-focused time where they review their work for the quarter, complete a goal-setting form or hear presentations about topics such as vaping and social media awareness.



THE MIDDLE SCHOOL MENTOR PROGRAM

The Mentor Program provides a “middle school family” for each student. Each mentor class meets once per week and includes a small group of students and a teacher who knows them well.

This program eases the transition of personal and academic challenges often experienced in middle school by providing students with an immediate support network of trusted peers and mentors. Lessons during Mentor class time focus on our Touchstones and students’ social and emotional needs.

ENGLISH/MATH CLASS (EMC) ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Our EMC class supports students with recognized learning gaps in English and/or mathematics.

Using sequential materials that parallel the general education curriculum, EMC teachers may provide additional instruction, homework assistance or other aids to meet the needs of individual students. EMC students develop new English and math understanding within a small group and increase their potential for success in middle and high school.

This course takes the place of a student’s middle school world language class. The EMC class is not designed to address severe learning disabilities or to provide curriculum modifications.

SOAR - STUDY SKILLS

This course is designed for students who could benefit from help with organization, work completion, test-taking and learning classroom strategies. Students are taught an organization system and study skills to help them reach their potential as a learner. SOAR is only open to middle school students.



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