Barrie School

Barrie School is a co-educational, independent day school serving 257 students from 3 Months through Grade 12. Founded in 1932, Barrie is one of the oldest progressive schools in the Washington, DC area.

OUR MISSION

Empower individuals to expand their intellectual abilities, develop their creative talents, and discover their passions to make a positive impact in a rapidly changing world.

Fast Facts

9 Number of students in the class of 2027

4:1 Student to faculty ratio for Grades 6-12

60% Students receiving financial aid for Grades 6-12

14-18 Average Class Size

Middle and Upper School (MUS) Diversity

Of 68 MUS respondents, 41 families specified: 21 identified as students of color and 20 identified as White/Caucasian. Barrie School students and faculty reflect the cultural, economic, linguistic, and religious diversity of the Greater Washington area and the world as a whole. Sixty-seven percent of Middle and Upper School faculty members and staff hold advanced degrees. Our programs and resources provide both intellectual rigor and academic support to a diverse community of learners with a wide range of strengths and talents.

Experiential Learning

FALL EXCURSIONS

Building on our identity as a premier school for experiential learning and academic excellence, the Fall Excursions Program centers hands-on, place-based education, placing a specific focus on the environment and community in the DMV. All students take part in the Fall Excursions.

- **Unified by Cohort:** Each specific Fall Excursion explores a particular theme, and is organized by grade cohort. For mixed-grade cohorts, Excursions will alternate so that students never repeat the same Excursion.
- **Organized by Pathway:** For Grades 6-10, each of the four days highlights one of the Global Impact Diploma pathways developed by our students:
  - Design, Engineering, and Innovation
  - Health, Sustainability, and Living Systems
  - Arts, Communication, and Creative Human Expression
  - Law, Society, and Global Impact

  Each year, our students will encounter a variety of topics and experiences related to these four pathways, allowing them to explore all of the possibilities before they choose their specialization as an upperclassman (Grades 11 & 12).
- **Purpose:** The overarching goals of this program are to use our region as a classroom to help students deeply explore topics that affect our communities and our environment, and to prepare our students to take action and create impact.

EXTENDED STUDY WEEK (ESW)

- **Project-Based:** Each Extended Study Week program uses a Project-Based curriculum and is designed with academics in mind. Students are asked an essential question and given the tools to answer it. Often, this includes the development of a new skill.
- **Purpose:** The overarching goal of this program is to use our region, country, and world as a classroom to help students explore topics and skills outside the core curriculum.

2026-27 SCHOOL PROFILE

Brittney Howell, M.Ed
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Ben Thrash, MAT; M.Ed
Head of School

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Head of Middle & Upper School

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Accreditations:
Association of Independent Maryland Schools
Middle States Association of College and Schools

BARRIE.ORG

CURRICULUM

Barrie offers a rigorous academic program anchored in the essential capacities for the 21st Century. Students acquire their learning through an **Experiential Learning** and **Project-Based Curriculum** ranging from Discovery & Invention to Diplomacy & Global Issues. This year we are piloting the Global Impact Diploma with the Class of 2028 as its first graduating class. See Barrie.org/Curriculum for details.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Barrie School Diploma (24 1/4 credits)

- **Humanities** (8 credits; satisfies both social studies and ELA requirements)
- **Mathematics** (4 credits)
- **Science** (4 credits: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Advanced Science)
- **World Languages** (2 credits in Upper School)
- **Arts** (1 credit)
- **Electives** (4 credits)
- **Athletics, Health, & Wellness** (1 season per year or 1 credit + 1/4 credit Health)
- **Service Learning** (100 hours completed)

Global Impact Diploma (7 credits)

- **Foundational Courses** (4; 2 are fulfilled by Humanities 11/12)
- **Specialization Courses** (2)
- **Senior Year: Internship for Impact** (.5) + **Impact Project** (.5)

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) & SPECIALIZATION COURSES

The Upper School currently offers the following AP courses: Calculus AB and Statistics. Students can take AP courses online through Global Online Academy (GOA), which are designated by an asterisk on the transcript. We also offer a range of project-based specialization courses, including Oceanography, Marine Biology, and Advanced Physics. Students can be approved to take no more than 1 in-house and 1 online AP course. Through GOA, Barrie students may opt to take online, rigorous, credit-bearing classes alongside students from over 150 member schools representing over 30 states, six continents, and more than 30 countries.

HUMANITIES CURRICULUM

The Humanities curriculum is a distinctive Barrie academic experience that combines the study of English, history, political science, philosophy, comparative religion, and art history. Taught in two-year cycles in mixed-grade cohorts, these double-credit courses offer greater depth and intellectual challenge for students than traditional English, history, and social science courses taught separately in most schools.

SERVICE LEARNING

All students participating in Barrie's service learning programs complete a range of pre- and post-reflective exercises. Our standard requirement for service learning and internships is 100 hours completed.

Barrie School

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES & DESTINATIONS

Barrie School students apply and are accepted to a wide range of public and private colleges and universities.

GRADING

Grades are reported numerically and GPAs are calculated on an unweighted, standard 4.0 scale. We do not recognize a valedictorian, and we do not rank students. AP Courses are weighted 1/2 letter grade.

A+	97-100 • 4.0	**B-**	80-83 • 2.67	**D+**	67-69 • 1.33
A	94-96 • 4.0	**C+**	77-79 • 2.33	**D**	64-66 • 1.0
A-	90-93 • 3.67	**C**	74-76 • 2.0	**D-**	60-63 • 0.67
B+	87-89 • 3.33	**C-**	70-73 • 1.67	**F**	59 • 0
B	84-86 • 3.0				

Barrie School follows a quarter schedule for the academic year. Quarter 1 ends in late October, Quarter 2 ends in late January, Quarter 3 ends in early April, Quarter 4 ends in early June

Selected College Acceptances 2021–2026

Allegheny College
American University
Art Institute of Chicago
Bard College
Barnard College
Barry University
Beloit College
Bennington College
Bentley University
Berry College
Boston College
Bowie State University
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College
Bucknell University
California College of the Arts
California Institute of Technology
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve Univ.
Catawba College
Catholic University
Chapman University
Clark University
Clark Atlanta University
College of Charleston
Connecticut College
Cornell University
Davidson College
Denison University
DePaul University
Dickinson College
Drexel University
Duquesne University
Earlham College
Eckerd College
Elon University
Emerson College
Emory University
Florida A&M University
Fordham University
George Mason University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Georgia State University
Georgetown University
Gettysburg College
Goucher College
Hampshire College
Hampton University
High Point University
Hofstra University
Hood College
Howard University
Indiana University-Bloomington
Ithaca College
Jacksonville University
James Madison University
Johns Hopkins University
Johnson & Wales University
Juniata College
Kalamazoo College
Kansas State University
Lawrence University
Lewis & Clark College
Louisiana State University
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Maryland
Lynchburg College
Lynn University
Maryland Institute College of Art
Marymount University
McDaniel College
McGill University
Mercer University
Miami University (OH)
Michigan State University
Middlebury College
Montana State University
Montgomery College
Morehouse College
Morgan State University
Muhlenberg College
New York University
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University
Nova Southeastern University
Ohio Wesleyan University
Oregon State University
Oxford College of Emory Univ.
Pace University
Pennsylvania State University University Park
Pepperdine University
Purdue University
Quinnipiac University
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
Rhodes College
Roanoke College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rollins College
Salisbury University
Savannah College of Art and Design
Seattle University
Seton Hall University
Smith College
Southwestern University
Spelman College
St. John's University - Queens
St. Lawrence University
St. Mary's College of Maryland
St. Olaf College
Stetson University
Stevenson University
SUNY at Purchase College
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
Temple University
The Catholic University of America
The College of Wooster
The George Washington University
The Ohio State University
The University of Alabama
The University of Tampa
Towson University
Trinity College
Tulane University
Union College
University of British Columbia
University of California: Davis | Irvine | San Diego | Santa Cruz
University of Connecticut
University of Chicago
University of Dayton
University of Delaware
University of the District of Columbia
University of Florida
University of Illinois-Chicago
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Liverpool (UK)
University of Mary Washington
University of Maryland: Baltimore County | College Park | Eastern Shore
University of Massachusetts Amherst
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Nevada Las Vegas
University of North Carolina: Asheville | Greensboro
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Puget Sound
University of Rhode Island
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of South Carolina
University of Southern California
University of Tampa
University of Toronto
University of Utah
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Waterloo
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Ursinus College
Villanova University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Tech
Wagner College
Wake Forest University
Warren Wilson College
Washington and Jefferson College
Washington University, St. Louis
Western University
Western Kentucky University
West Virginia University
Whittier College
William Paterson University of NJ
Williams College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
York College of Pennsylvania

*** Bold indicates matriculation**