

Bishop Ireton High School

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School Profile 2009-2010

The School. Bishop Ireton High School, a Catholic high school located in the Diocese of Arlington, Virginia, was founded in 1964 by the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, with whom the school remains affiliated. The coeducational, college preparatory high school, grades nine through twelve, operates on a semester system. The student population of 828 includes 198 seniors in the Class of 2010. Emphasis is placed on the Salesian community of learning and the principles of Christian living and academic preparation for continuing education. These goals are pursued through the school motto modeled on the words of Pope Paul VI, "advance always".

Accreditation. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA), Virginia Catholic Education Association (VCEA).

Mission Statement. In the Catholic tradition and in the spirit of St. Francis de Sales, Bishop Ireton High School is a college preparatory high school that promotes spiritual, intellectual, creative, scientific, technological, social and physical development. As a Salesian community of learning, Bishop Ireton challenges students to recognize and respect the multicultural diversity within our global society. In addition, the school fosters Christian ethics, religious values and community service. A Bishop Ireton education teaches students to think critically and develops the whole person to meet present and future challenges and opportunities.

Faculty. Members of the Bishop Ireton faculty and administration are individuals chosen for their dedication to Christian standards as well as expertise in their field. The teaching faculty of 63 includes 41 with master's degrees and 3 with doctorates. Fifty-one percent of the faculty has taught at the school for more than 5 years.

Students. Enrollment: 828; Class of 2010: 198. Percent of graduates attending a four-year college or university: 99%.

Admission. Admission to Bishop Ireton is selective and is based on previous grades (typically a C average or higher), standardized test scores, high school placement test scores, school recommendation and student application and essay.

School year and school day. The school year of 180 days is divided into four (4) quarters and two (2) semesters. The school day is comprised of seven 47-minute class periods.

Diploma requirements. Earning a Bishop Ireton High School diploma entails completing requirements in the following areas:

1. **Total credits each year.** Each student must take a minimum of six structured courses each year, for a minimum of 26.5 credits for a four-year student.

2. **Distribution of credits.**

Department	Credits required
English	4
Mathematics	4
Foreign Language (through level 3 in the same language or level 2 of two languages)	3
Science	4
Social Studies	4
Religion	4
Fine Arts	1
Health/Physical Educ.	1.5
Computer Science	1
Total	26.5

Students attaining advanced status in Math, Science, and/or Foreign Language and students entering after 9th grade may have fewer required credits.

3. **Community service.** Verification of 60 hours of approved community service over four years, balanced between on- and off-campus commitments.

Honors courses. Strongly qualified students can pursue advanced courses, designated Honors (HN), in Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12.

Advanced Placement courses. The school offers 15 AP Courses: Biology, Calculus AB, Chemistry, Computer Science A, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, European History, French Language, Human Geography, Music Theory, Spanish Literature, Statistics, Studio Art, United States Government and Politics, and United States History, all approved by the College Board.

Highest-level courses available:

English

- AP English Language and Composition
- AP English Literature and Composition

Mathematics

- AP Calculus A
- AP Statistics

Foreign Language

- AP French Language
- Honors German IV
- Honors Latin IV
- Italian III
- Russian III
- AP Spanish Literature

Science

- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry

Social Studies

- AP European History
- AP Human Geography
- AP United States Government and Politics
- AP United States History

Computer Science

- AP Computer Science A

Fine Arts

- AP Studio Art
- AP Music Theory
- Honors Symphonic Wind Ensemble

Grading Scale, GPA, and Testing.

Bishop Ireton moved to a 10-point grading scale for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Grades weighted for GPA. Grades in Honors and Advanced Placement courses receive additional quality points in GPA calculations.

Prior to 2009

	College Prep	Honors	AP	Grade Scale
A	4.0	4.5	5.0	93-100
B+	3.4	3.9	4.4	91-92
B	3.0	3.5	4.0	85-90
C+	2.4	2.9	3.4	83-84
C	2.0	2.5	3.0	77-82
D	1.0	1.5	2.0	70-76
F	0.0	0.0	0.0	0-69

2009-Present

	College Prep	Honors	AP	Grade Scale
A	4.0	4.5	5.0	93-100
A-	3.7	4.2	4.7	90-92
B+	3.3	3.8	4.3	87-89
B	3.0	3.5	4.0	83-86
B-	2.7	3.2	3.7	80-82
C+	2.3	2.8	3.3	77-79
C	2.0	2.5	3.0	73-76
C-	1.7	2.2	2.7	70-72
D	1.0	1.5	2.0	65-69
F	0.0	0.0	0.0	0-64

Rank in class. Bishop Ireton High School does not rank its students.

SAT Reasoning Test Scores

(Mid-50th Percentile Average)

	Class of 2009
Critical Reading	520-650
Math	500-610
Writing	530-640

Transcripts and GPA. Bishop Ireton’s transcripts and GPA include only courses taken at the school plus courses approved for summer work and approved advanced classes taken at the 8th grade level. Students may receive credit for Algebra I and a Foreign Language taken in 8th grade. Photocopies of official transcripts of courses completed in other high schools or accredited programs are attached, if the student has placed an official transcript for that work on file at Bishop Ireton High School.

Standardized test scores. SAT, ACT, and other test scores are not part of the student’s Bishop Ireton High School transcript. Each student is responsible for sending such scores directly to colleges and other institutions.

Discipline reporting policy. Bishop Ireton High School informs students of their responsibility to answer questions about discipline truthfully.

Fine Arts. Bishop Ireton’s Symphonic Wind Ensemble enjoys a reputation as one of the country’s leading educational models. The Drama department enjoys a reputation as one of the area’s finest programs. Many mainstage productions have won several Cappies awards. The Art department offers classes for beginner and advanced students.

Co-Curricular Activities. These activities offer additional opportunities for a student’s personal and spiritual growth. A sampling of the clubs and activities include: Campus Ministry, Pro-Life Club, Drama Club, French Club, Model United Nations, International Thespian Society, Student Government, National Honor Society and the Economics Club.

Athletics. The Bishop Ireton Cardinals compete in the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference in both boys’ and girls’ sports. Bishop Ireton offers a full range of athletic teams in three levels: freshman, junior varsity and varsity. In 2008-2009 seventy-four percent (74%) of the student body participated in one or more of the over 42 team sports offered at Bishop Ireton.

College Acceptances

Included among the many schools offering admission to Bishop Ireton students over the past five years are the following:

- American University
- Berklee College of Music
- Boston College
- Brown University
- Bucknell University
- Carnegie Mellon University
- The Catholic University of America
- Christopher Newport University
- Clemson University
- College of Charleston
- College of William and Mary
- Columbia University
- The Corcoran College of Art and Design
- Cornell University
- Duke University
- Elon University
- Fairfield University
- Fordham University
- George Mason University
- The George Washington University
- Georgetown University
- Gettysburg College
- Harvard University
- James Madison University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Lehigh University
- Middlebury College
- New York University
- Pepperdine University
- Pomona College
- Princeton University
- Radford University
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Saint Joseph’s University
- Savannah College of Art and Design
- Sewanee: The University of the South
- Smith College
- Syracuse University
- Tulane University
- United States Air Force Academy
- United States Coast Guard Academy
- United States Merchant Marine Academy
- United States Military Academy
- United States Naval Academy
- University of Chicago
- University of Georgia
- University of Maryland
- University of Mary Washington
- University of Notre Dame
- The University of North Carolina
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Vermont
- University of Virginia
- Vanderbilt University
- Villanova University
- Virginia Tech
- Washington and Lee University

Do an act of kindness with respect...and do it now, for the present is all you have.
-St. Francis de Sales