



PROVIDENCE DAY
SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

Developing critical
thinkers and empathetic
problem solvers

Grades 9–12



Our dedicated teachers challenge students in grades 9 through 12 to think critically, creatively solve problems, appreciate the arts, communicate effectively, collaborate with peers, respect individual differences, and play competitively.



OUR MISSION

Providence Day School exists to inspire in its students a passion for learning, a commitment to personal integrity, and a sense of social responsibility.

Leadership



Dr. Glyn Cowlshaw
Head of School



Lisa Knight
Director of Admissions &
Enrollment Management



Eric Hedinger
Head of
Upper School



Tosha Arriola
Assistant Head
of Upper School



Gordon Bynum
Assistant Head of
Upper School &
Dean of Students

Fast Facts

76 Upper School
faculty members

28 AP classes
offered

29% students
of color

72 student countries
of origin

89%
of students
scored 3 or
higher on
the AP exam

218
faculty
members
across all
divisions

**\$16.4
million**

in merit
scholarships
for the class
of 2020

110
faculty
members with
advanced
degrees

614
students in
grades 9-12



Global Curriculum

All Providence Day School students embrace a global mindset for today's highly interconnected world. Students in the Global Studies Diploma program take courses in international relations, attend multicultural events, receive leadership training, and have opportunities for international travel. Students have travel opportunities each year, with recent destinations including Iceland, Spain, and South Africa. Providence Day's membership in Round Square International brings students to conferences in destinations including India and Peru. World Languages offered include Mandarin Chinese, French, Spanish, Latin, and German.

Equity & Inclusion

Providence Day School understands that valuing diversity is the key to global citizenship. We believe in developing within our students an ability to appreciate and value the differences among people in our school community, as well as those in the larger world around us.

The Office of Equity and Inclusion supports and fosters a school community that reflects the increasing diversity in our nation and the world, with an appreciation for the rich variety of cultures, religions, races, sexual orientations, socioeconomic backgrounds, countries of origin, languages, and other cultural identifiers that add to the strength of our community. We are committed to actively cultivating an inclusive environment that champions difference while highlighting our similarities through dialogue and curriculum.



PD PASSPORT

THE TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN–GRADE 12 CURRICULAR FRAMEWORK

CHARACTER DISPOSITIONS

Empathy · Open-mindedness · Humility · Confidence
 Courage · Patience · Selflessness · Self-motivation
 Respect for self and others · Perseverance
 Conscientiousness · Integrity



ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Creativity · Innovation · Critical Thinking
 Problem Solving · Communication · Collaboration
 Information Literacy · Media Literacy
 Information and Communication Technology Literacy



NECESSARY KNOWLEDGE

- World historical eras and trends, forces of historical change
- The impact of geography on the understanding of local, regional, and global issues
- Ideological paradigms
- Economic systems and globalization
- Political systems and political change
- Social structures and social change
- Cultural expressions through art, literature, and music
- Major religious orientations
- Contemporary norms and values of major cultures: U.S., China, India, Russia, Iran, South Africa, Nigeria, Israel, Turkey, Germany, Brazil, Mexico, or other important country/cultures
- Global ecosystems and environmental impact
- Proficiency in a world language





Social Responsibility & Character Education

Social responsibility is woven throughout the curriculum at Providence Day. We emphasize cultivating a sense of connection to our community and the world, and taking action to improve the lives of others.

In Upper School, the focus on social responsibility is centered on investigation, innovation, and reflection. Classroom curriculum and campus initiatives direct students to investigate the economic, cultural, social, political, educational, and environmental obstacles that impede community development. Through their experiences in problem-based or experiential learning coursework, Upper School students are encouraged to propose and implement innovative solutions to community challenges.

In 9th Grade, students learn through the Charger Impact Challenge. Throughout all four grades, student-centered Service Clubs work with area organizations to support community needs. A Teen Board supports the Freedom School, which works with area scholars in grades K-8 to prevent summer learning loss. And a student-led Foundation Board lends financial support to student-centered social responsibility initiatives.



Honor Code

All students are evaluated on the basis of their own accomplishments, and they must trust that all other students are evaluated likewise. To assure such knowledge and trust, an Honor Code has been established with the primary purpose being the creation of an atmosphere of optimum learning and trust, not one of suspicion. The honor pledge states: "On my honor, I pledge that I have neither given nor received help on this work."



“ I think Providence Day has done a fantastic job of preparing us for this ‘next step.’ They’ve helped us figure out our studying techniques, study habits, how to prepare for exams and tests. They’ve challenged us academically and pushed us to our limits. They’ve also helped us in every way and assisted us (in) being the best students we can possibly be.

Marissa Hart, Class of 2019



Curriculum

The Upper School curriculum is based on a course of study essential to a quality college preparatory education, along with elective courses designed to broaden and deepen the students' academic experiences.

ADVANCED AND AP COURSES

ARTS

Honors Band; Honors Chorus;
Honors Strings; Studio Art;
Art History; Music Theory

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Advanced Structures in
Java; Computer Science A;
Computer Science Principles

ENGLISH

Current American Literature;
English Literature and
Composition; English
Language and Composition

HISTORY

Global Leadership; World History;
US History; European History;
US Government and Politics;
Psychology; Microeconomics;
Macroeconomics;
Human Geography

MATH

Algebra II/Trigonometry;
Analysis; Calculus; Calculus III;
Differential Equations; Geometry;
Linear Algebra; Pre-Calculus;
Calculus AB and BC; Statistics

SCIENCE

Biology; Chemistry; Physics;
Environmental Science

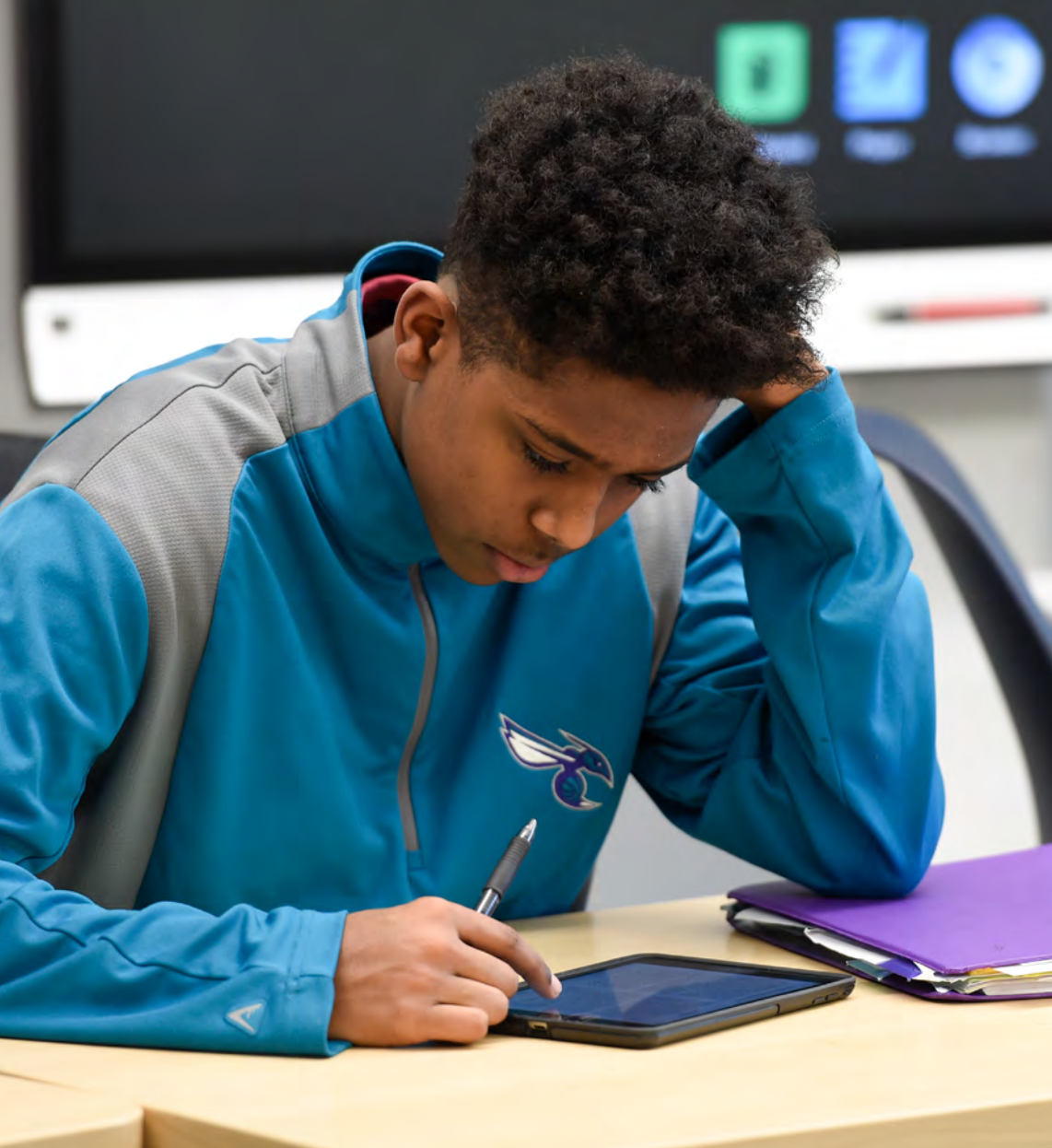
PHYSICAL EDUCATION / HEALTH

Health; Lifetime Wellness;
Athletic Development; Dancercise;
International Games; Life Fitness;
Early Bird Athletic Development

WORLD LANGUAGE

French; German; Latin;
Spanish; Mandarin Chinese





Technology

Students in all Upper School grades use their school-issued iPad to become active learners, and each student finds different strategies for digital integration into their academic career.

Innovation

At Providence Day, innovation goes far beyond the use of technology, and is woven into every aspect of teaching and learning. In Upper School, students might find themselves in the Makerspace, learning 3D printing, laser cutting, or other hands-on ways to solve problems. A Digital Makerspace known as “the studio” is also available with equipment for students to practice filming, video editing, audio recording, podcasting, and more.



PD is home to The Center for the Art and Science of Teaching, Learning, and Entrepreneurship, led by a three-member team consisting of the Director of Digital Integration and Innovation; a Design Strategist; and a Community Strategist. The team is deployed by faculty and administrators across the organization whenever requested, to address challenges and encourage development of new concepts. The Center has been recognized nationally as a center for innovation by organizations including the National Association of Independent Schools.



Arts

We are committed to nurturing creativity and confidence at all levels of learning. Comprehensive exposure to visual arts, music, and theatre is essential to the complete educational experience for each student. Upper School students experience theatre, choral, and other performing and visual arts events throughout the year where students are showcase their talents.



Clubs & Activities

The Providence Day upper school offers over 42 clubs that cater to student interests, spanning from community service and social responsibility to politics and current events to robotics and craftsmanship to the arts & athletics. Students may also contribute to one of Providence Day's publications, or serve in a leadership role through the Student Government Association, Honor Council, or class office. Clubs promote the development of student leadership, communication, and innovation. Each year, students initiate the creation of new clubs, allowing them to pursue interests beyond the classroom.

Athletics



Participation in the Providence Day athletic program provides student-athletes with the opportunity to pursue excellence, build long-lasting relationships, and grow both physically and emotionally. For more on PD's rich athletic offerings and record of excellence, visit ProvidenceDay.org/Athletics.

Go Chargers!

Alumni Opportunities

Providence Day School cultivates its vibrant network of more than 4,000 alumni who keep in touch via social and networking opportunities, and assist Upper School students in their college selection process. Alumni parents remain a part of the school family. Once a Charger, Always a Charger!



Parent Opportunities

All Providence Day parents are members of the Parents' Association, whose mission is to work with the school to foster an engaged community through volunteer activities, fellowship opportunities, and fundraising events that support families, faculty, and staff. Additionally, parents are encouraged to join the Charger Club, which strengthens the athletic experience through fundraising and volunteerism; and Friends of the Arts, supporting visual and performing arts.



“ My wife always says to ‘bloom where you’re planted,’ and PD is a very fertile place. Not only are the parents very supportive of each other, but I have found our kids’ friends within the PD community are wonderful people, and are developing into wonderful young adults.

John Olin, father of students in the classes of 2020, 2022, and 2023

To explore the application process, visit
www.providenceday.org/admissions.

Follow Providence Day:



PROVIDENCE DAY
SCHOOL

We exist to inspire.

Providence Day School
5800 Sardis Road
Charlotte, NC 28270
704.887.6000
pds.admissions@providenceday.org