

Browne Academy

5917 Telegraph Road, Alexandria, VA 22310-2298

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“Browne Academy is a pre-kindergarten through grade eight independent school preparing girls and boys in the metropolitan Washington, DC area for competitive secondary schools. Browne is dedicated to the development of the individual child as an independent, lifelong learner who embraces the core values of excellence, diversity, character, and community.”

Preschool-8 | Co-ed | No Religious Affiliation

Enrollment: 240; **Average Class Size:** 12

Admissions and Testing: Deadline February 1; WPPSI-III/WISC-IV (K-8), SSAT or ISEE (6-8)

Tuition and Financial Aid: \$17,000 to \$22,895 (Preschool, based on schedule option), \$27,110 (JK-8); 25% of students receive aid; uses FACTS tuition agreement.

Mission Statement

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Curriculum

Browne Academy offers students small class sizes that do not exceed 15 students. Teachers in the Lower School frequently use a hands-on approach. Additionally, a strong emphasis is placed on language arts in order to develop each student’s reading, creative writing, and public speaking skills. The school also looks to cultivate a love of language and culture by introducing French and Spanish instruction at an early age. Specialty classes include technology, art, music, physical education, and library.

Students in the Middle School have the same subject teachers for two years, except in math, which is differentiated, based on academic skill level. Most students at Browne take Algebra I in eighth grade, though it is not required. In Middle School, students choose whether they will focus on Spanish or French for the remainder of their time at the school. Additional coursework includes music, language arts, and social studies.

Arts

Browne Academy places a considerable focus on its music program. The school offers hand bells beginning in fourth grade. Students can choose to join the junior choir beginning in second grade and continue through middle school. The school believes that knowledge of music is imperative to creating a solid academic basis and teaches music classes covering the topics of music technique, theory, cultural and historical significance, and reflection. The school also offers art theory, history, and studio work as part of its curriculum.

Athletics

Browne is a member of the ABC Athletic League of Greater Washington. Participation in a sport is not mandatory at Browne. Browne offers softball, basketball, soccer, and cross-country. The program has a no-cut policy, so everyone has the opportunity to play.

Student Life

The school puts a strong emphasis on student leadership and those in Middle School are highly encouraged to take leadership positions within student council and community service activities.

Campus

The campus consists of three separate classroom building and a performing arts and athletic center. The school is situated on 11 acres of land and includes a stream, swimming pool, playing fields, playgrounds, and basketball court.

Learning Support

Browne Academy has two learning specialists on staff. While Browne does not have services to accommodate students with severe learning disabilities, the school does have services in place to accommodate mild to moderate disabilities through classroom accommodations, study skills, and remediation services.

Schools Attended by Graduates

St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, Bishop Ireton High School, Flint Hill School, Maret School, The Madeira School

Takeaways

Small class sizes are an attribute that every private and independent school boasts; but with only 240 students from preschool to eighth grade, Browne Academy provides significant individualized instruction. The school's size allows for students to take on a number of leadership roles. Browne hosts a diverse student population, which is evidenced by an emphasis on language and culture from the beginning in the preschool school.

Browne Academy is a great option for parents seeking a personalized education. The small class sizes are Browne's most distinctive characteristic. Families desiring an education that provides a strong cultural and language foundation should also consider Browne Academy.