NOTRE DAME SUMMER PROGRAMS

Character · Compassion · Confidence

Educating the Minds and Hearts of Students in the Holy Cross Tradition

2027

Family Handbook

One Notre Dame Way, West Haven, CT, 06516
www.NotreDameHS.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WELCOME MESSAGE

ADMINISTRATION

FACULTY

MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

OBJECTIVES OF SUMMER PROGRAMS

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY/ANTI-DESCRIMINATION POLICY

HANDBOOK AUTHORIZATION

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Attendance - School Absences and Early Dismissals
- Drop-off and Pick-up
- Dismissal
- What to Wear and What to Bring
- Lunch and Snack
- Behavior and the ND Code
- Medication and Medical Needs
- Emergency and Evacuation
- Daily Schedule

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

- Academic Integrity
- Homework
- Technology
- End-of-course Certificates and Reports

SCHOOL MAP

Back to Table of Contents

Welcome to Notre Dame High School Summer Programs

Summer is a time for students to explore their interests and passions in a setting that offers options, engages caring adults, and helps them make new friends. Summer Programs at Notre Dame High School provide middle and high school students with opportunities to take meaningful courses that are of interest and benefit to their long-term academic and personal goals. Our faculty and administration provide the structure, learning environment, and feedback to ensure their growth and development. Coupled with opportunities in athletics, Notre Dame Summer Programs are a great way to spend part of the summer and get to know our community.

The courses offered reflect Notre Dame's commitment to educating Minds and Hearts. Students can choose from courses designed to give incoming freshmen a "head start" on getting to know their teachers and expectations, or courses that cultivate their interests in areas such as engineering and the arts. Courses are also offered for current Notre Dame students in areas that benefit them academically and in the college admissions process. Our faculty teaches all classes and will provide feedback on students' growth and insights into future paths.

We are eager and ready to challenge our students and show them the value of the Notre Dame Experience!



Ruben Valencia
Vice President for Academic Affairs / ***Director of Summer Programs*** / Notre Dame High School
(203) 937-3287| summerprograms@notredamehs.com
rvalencia@notredamehs.com | www.notredamehs.com
One Notre Dame Way | West Haven | CT 06516
We inspire academic excellence, nurture personal growth, and foster integrity and compassion in students of diverse talents, backgrounds, and beliefs through our Catholic, Holy Cross tradition.

Back to Table of Contents

ADMINISTRATION

Notre Dame High School Main Number	203-933-1673

President	Mr. Robert F. Curis

Business Manager	Mrs. Rachel Blessing
Dean of Students	Mr. Nick DeFeo
Director of Athletics	Mr. Jason Shea '96
Director of Facilities	Mr. Chris Ciuca
Director of Institutional Technology	Mr. Brian Footit
Director of School and College Counseling	Mr. Dominick Mastriano '86
Main Office Coordinator and Executive Assistant	Ms. Sara Gerity
Vice President for Academic Affairs Director of Summer Programs	Mr. Ruben Valencia
Vice President for Enrollment Management	Ms. Caroline Burns
Vice President for Student Success	Mrs. Casey LaMonaca

Summer Programs Contact Information			
Academics	Mr. Ruben Valencia	rvalencia@notredamehs.com	203-937-3287
Athletics	Mr. Jason Shea '96	jshea@notredamehs.com	203-937-3289

Back to Table of Contents

SUMMER PROGRAMS FACULTY

Academic Enrichment		
Course	**Teacher Email**	**Work Phone**
Art Studio	Ms. Linda Dempsey	203-937-3259
Engineering Lab	Dr. Yolanda Valencia	203-937-3254
Green Knights Faith and Service	Mr. Michael Celentano '86	203-937-3296
Jazz, Rock and Hip Hop Summer Jam	Mr. Jonathan Bean	203-937-3281
Mock Trial	Mr. Thomas Johnson	203-933-1673
ND English Prep	Mrs. Lucy Abbott	203-937-3260
ND Math Prep	Mrs. Nicole Graham	203-937-3237
The Playwrights Workshop	Ms. Tracy Stratton	203-937-3264
Acceleration		
Math Acceleration	Mr. Dennis Yacono '07	203-937-3293
Readiness		
Algebra 2 Readiness	Mr. Zahir Mannan	203-937-3220
Biology IB/ECE Readiness	Mr. Christopher McMullen	203-937-3258
IB Extended Essay Workshop	Mrs. Kim Butz	203-937-3262
Latin IB/ECE Readiness	Ms. Miko-Rydzaj	203-937-3244
Spanish IB/ECE Readiness	Mrs. Dacia Mirabelle	203-937-3263
College Readiness		
College Admissions Boot Camp	TBD	203-933-3287
SAT Test Prep		
SAT Math	Mr. Pierce Klein	203-937-3290
SAT English	Mrs. Betsy Whittaker	203-937-3294

Back to Table of Contents

MISSION, VISION, VALUES

Our Mission

To inspire academic excellence, nurture personal growth, and foster integrity and compassion in young students of diverse talents, backgrounds, and beliefs through our Catholic, Holy Cross tradition.

Our Vision

To be a transformative leader in educating the hearts and minds of young students by maximizing innovation, tradition, and the strength of our community to empower every Notre Dame student to realize his full potential.

Our Core Values

Tradition: Notre Dame High School remains anchored in the Holy Cross mission to educate the hearts and minds of young students.

Innovation: We embrace innovative teaching practices and support diverse learning styles to help students become flexible, independent, 21st-century thinkers.

Transformation: We help each Notre Dame student develop character, compassion, and confidence, who is college and life-ready.

Back to Table of Contents

OBJECTIVES OF NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAMS

- To allow students to engage with Notre Dame teachers and the learning that will take place when they enroll in the Fall.
- To learn and reinforce the basic skills that are necessary to be successful in high school.
- To learn about ND's school culture so that students understand the possibilities and expectations of what it means to be a Green Knight.
- To engage in meaningful course(s) that stimulate thinking and doing.
- To build lifelong friendships and learn from those with different points of view.
- To understand the school's mission: to provide all students with the tools to navigate an ever-changing world.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY/ANTI-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Notre Dame High School maintains a policy of equal educational opportunity and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, or national origin in its educational programs or in any activities it operates.

HANDBOOK AUTHORIZATION

Failure to read this handbook does not excuse students and parents/guardians from the rules and procedures described herein. Personal factors, illnesses, or contradictory advice from any source are not acceptable grounds for seeking exemption from these rules and procedures. By enrolling in and attending Notre Dame High School Summer Programs, students and parents/guardians agree to the policies and procedures set forth in the Summer Programs Family Handbook. Notre Dame High School reserves the right to change any of its provisions or requirements at any time within a student's term of enrollment.

✱ *The Notre Dame Summer Programs Family Handbook does not supplant or replace the Notre Dame High School Student & Parent/Guardian Handbook.*

Back to Table of Contents

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Attendance - School Absences and Early Dismissals

Parents must email the Summer Programs Office at summerprograms@notredamehs.com no later than 8:00 AM. The email must come from the parent/guardian. Please include the following information:

- Student's first and last name
- Date of the absence or early dismissal
- Reason for the absence or early dismissal

Additionally, parents or guardians are required to present a valid form of identification upon arrival to pick up their student.

Drop-off and Pick-up

Drop-off and pick-up will be at the main entrance of the school.



Dismissal

Students attending a morning course must be picked up promptly at 12:00 PM, as no supervision will be provided thereafter. Students attending afternoon courses must be picked up promptly at 3:00 PM.

What to Wear and What to Bring

What to wear:

- T-shirt and shorts with sneakers (no flip-flops or Crocs)
- Clothing must not have slogans, words, or pictures promoting or depicting violence, profanity, racism, alcohol, drugs, or sexual connotations.

What to bring:

- A water bottle
- Materials requested by the teacher

Back to Table of Contents

Lunch and Snack

Students enrolled in Notre Dame's Summer Programs will receive a snack during the morning break at 9:45 AM. Lunch will be provided at 11:30 AM and will conclude at noon. Both are included in the registration fee. A water bottle is recommended. Meals for students with dietary restrictions, as indicated on their registration forms, will be prepared and available at lunch.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Session 1	Sandwiches Chicken Patty Italian Combo Turkey & Cheese	Pasta/Sauce Sandwiches Italian Combo Turkey & Cheese	Hamburgers/Hot dogs Sandwiches Italian Combo Turkey & Cheese	Chicken Tenders & Fries Sandwiches Italian Combo Turkey & Cheese	Pizza Sandwiches Italian Combo Turkey & Cheese
Session 2	Sandwiches Chicken Patty Italian Combo Turkey & Cheese	Pasta/Sauce Sandwiches Italian Combo Turkey & Cheese	Hamburgers/Hot dogs Sandwiches Italian Combo Turkey & Cheese	Chicken Tenders & Fries Sandwiches Italian Combo Turkey & Cheese	Pizza Sandwiches Italian Combo Turkey & Cheese

Meals for students with dietary restrictions are available upon request. GLUTEN FREE VEGETARIAN



DAILY SCHEDULE

(Schedule for all Summer Programs except Accelerated Math)

Students may be dropped off as early as 7:30 am	
8:15 am - 8:25 am	Daily class meeting
8:30 am	Classes begin, phones are caddied, and attendance is taken
9:45 am - 10:15 am	Break *(snacks will be provided, bring your water bottle)*
11:30 am	Classes end
11:30 am - 12 noon	Lunch *(lunch will be provided)*
12:00 noon	Dismissal *Those students enrolled in the Green Knight Sports Camp would move to the Gymnasium at this time.*

*The Accelerated Math (5-week program) will run from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM.

Back to Table of Contents

Behavior and the Notre Dame Code

Students enrolled in the Notre Dame High School Summer Programs are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that allows each student to benefit from a positive learning environment. It is to be understood that a student is responsible for their actions and decisions. All students should abide by the following:

- Do not harm or endanger themselves or other participants or staff
- Use respectful language towards all peers and staff
- Respect supplies, equipment, and facilities
- Leave inappropriate items at home

Classroom teachers will have discretion to handle disciplinary issues that arise in their classrooms. Any student not in compliance will be referred to the Director of Summer Programs. Further disciplinary action may be taken at that time, including being asked to leave Summer Programs without any refund of tuition paid.

Notre Dame students are responsible for their actions off campus and during non-school hours and may be subject to disciplinary action for various violations. At any school function or any activity in which a student participates as a Notre Dame student, the student will be subject to school regulations. Negative behavior, whether inside or outside the school, that is detrimental to the school's reputation can result in disciplinary action against the student. These actions may result in the student being asked to withdraw or being dismissed from Notre Dame High School's Summer Program.

Medication and Medical Needs

A school nurse will not be on campus over the summer. The Director of Summer Programs, Mr. Ruben Valencia, will keep all medications in a locked cabinet.

- Medical issues requiring medication and/or supervision by a health care professional must be reported to the Director of Summer Programs.
- A Medical Authorization form must be completed and turned in to the Director of Summer Programs.
- Connecticut State Law requires that no medication, prescription, or non-prescription medication be taken by or given to any student unless ordered, in writing, by a physician. Such an order must be signed by both the parent/guardian and the physician and must be on file at school.
- Students who require a doctor's prescription for EpiPens and inhalers must carry them at all times.

Back to Table of Contents

ACCIDENTS

- If a participant is involved in an accident, an incident form will be completed, and the parent or guardian will be contacted by phone or email. In the event of an emergency, parents or guardians will be notified immediately, and an ambulance will be called to transport the student to the nearest hospital.

Emergency and Evacuation

Should a schoolwide emergency occur, students will be directed to the appropriate location on our campus as directed by Notre Dame Faculty and Administration.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Academic Integrity

Notre Dame takes academic integrity very seriously. Academic dishonesty is defined as behavior that results in, or may result in, the student or any other student gaining an unfair advantage in one or more assessment components. The Director of Summer Programs will deal with cases of academic dishonesty. Multiple incidences of academic dishonesty may result in a student being asked to leave Summer Programs.

Homework

Teachers may assign homework to extend learning or for practice. Students are required to complete assignments by the next day or by the teacher's stated due date.

Technology

Student Email Accounts:

- Notre Dame High School provides official student email accounts to support school communication, learning management systems, digital coursework, collaboration, and access to approved educational resources.
- Student email accounts are school-issued educational accounts and remain the property of Notre Dame High School.
- Student email accounts will be created after official registration and payment confirmation.
- Student accounts remain active while the student is actively enrolled at Notre Dame High School.
- Accounts issued to summer program participants may be temporary and may be disabled or removed at the conclusion of the program unless the student subsequently enrolls as a full-time Notre Dame High School student.

Back to Table of Contents

Chromebooks:

- Only school-issued Chromebooks may be used in class and only for classwork. Their use to access outside and/or inappropriate content will result in their confiscation by the Director of Summer Programs.
    - Students who have a Notre Dame-issued Chromebook may continue to use it during Summer Programs.
    - Non-ND students and newly accepted ND students who do not have a Notre Dame-issued Chromebook will have access to one during their class time. These devices should remain in the classroom during the entire Summer Programs and cannot be taken home.

Desktop Computers:

- Desktop Computers are for classroom use only. Students may not download or use unauthorized software, or make unapproved changes to the computer's background picture or settings.

Cell Phones:

- All cell phones must be caddied at the beginning of class and cannot be removed without permission. They should not be taken to the bathroom or anywhere outside the classroom. Students may not take pictures or videos in classrooms without the teacher's permission. Failure to follow these rules will result in the Director of Summer Programs confiscating your cell phone.

AirPods and Personal Headphones:

- AirPods and student headphones are not allowed in classrooms unless the teacher specifically permits their use.

Artificial Intelligence (AI):

- Students may not use AI platforms to produce work for submission. Such unoriginal uses of AI will be treated like cheating. There may be instances when using such platforms is allowed in class, but only under supervision.

End-of-Course Certificates and Reports

Certificates:

- Students who successfully complete a summer program course will receive an End-of-Course Certificate from their teacher on the last day of the course.

End-of-Course Reports:

- Upon completion of a summer course, students will receive an End-of-Course Report by email from their teacher indicating the achievement level attained. A description of each achievement level is provided in the table below.

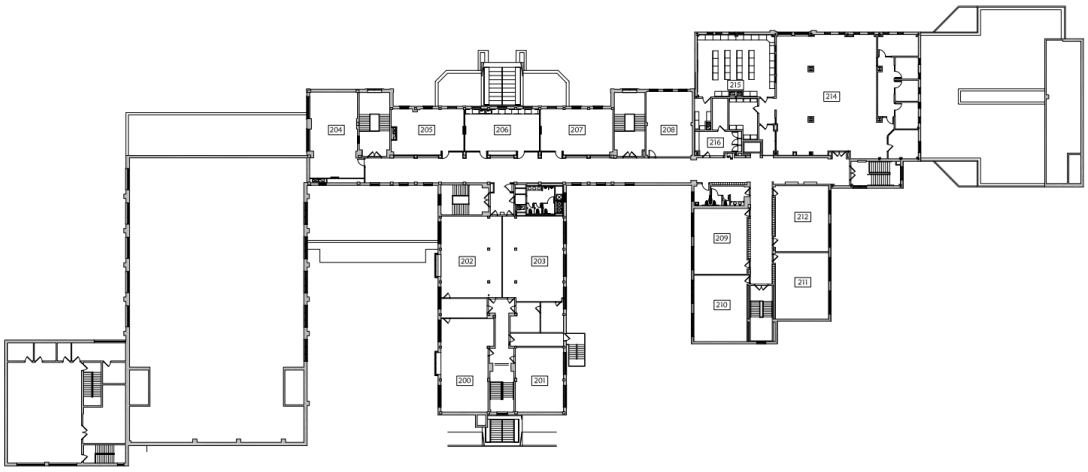
Back to Table of Contents

End-of-Course achievement levels and descriptions.

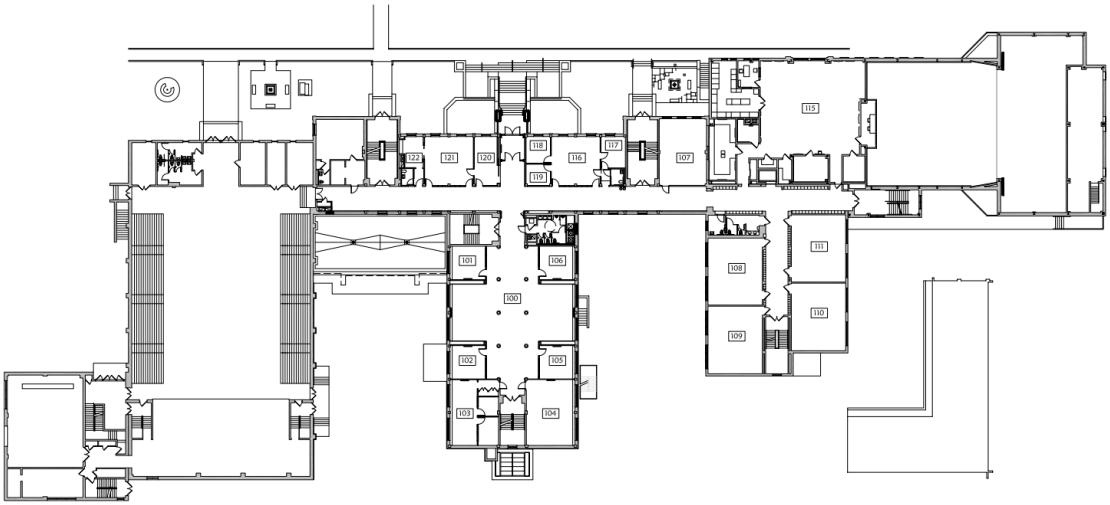
Achievement Level	Description
Exemplary	Demonstrates outstanding understanding, engagement, and initiative. Consistently exceeds expectations in all assignments, participation, and conduct.
Proficient	Meets expectations with solid understanding and consistent participation. Completes all tasks and demonstrates dependable academic performance.
Developing	Shows partial understanding and inconsistent participation. Some tasks are incomplete or lack depth; they need occasional guidance to stay on track.
Emerging	Struggles to meet expectations. Limited participation or comprehension; requires frequent support and improvement in engagement and work completion.

Back to Table of Contents

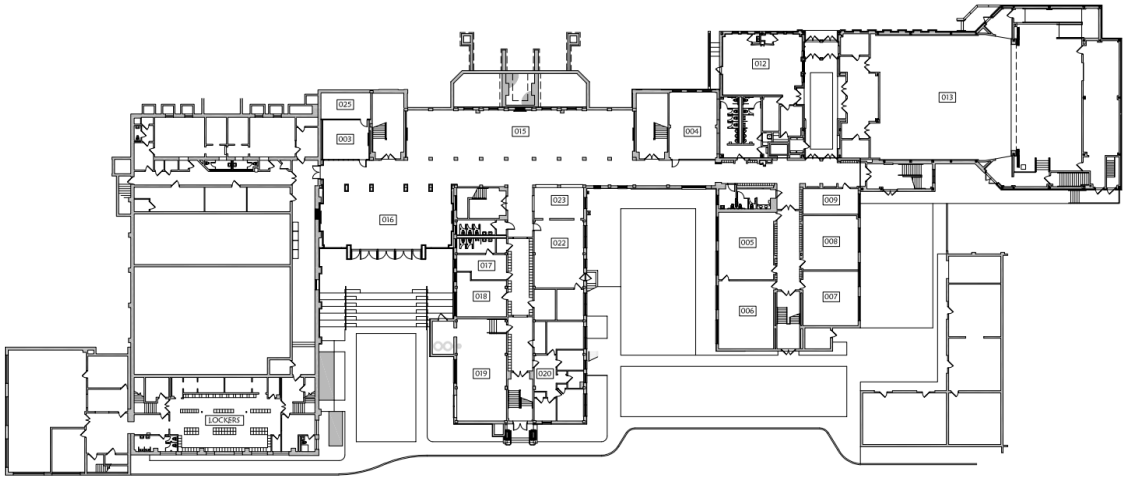
SCHOOL MAP



Upper Level



Middle Level



Lower Level

Back to Table of Contents