

# Benefits of a Catholic School Education

**The primary reasons that parents give for sending their children to Catholic school are:**

1. Academic excellence
2. Emphasis on Catholic values
3. Healthy social relationships
4. A supportive environment

**A Catholic School Education means...**

**College-bound peers** – The vast majority, approximately 94% of Catholic school graduates, pursue higher education. Catholic School graduates are often pursued by prestigious colleges.

**A rigorous curriculum** – Catholic schools are on the forefront of curriculum development. From innovations in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), to embracing the Common Core Standards, to accreditation by rigorous national agencies (Middle States and AdvancED)

**Self-discipline** – Students are expected to accept responsibility for their actions, to respect others and to make good decisions in the context of their faith experience.

**Christ as a model** – The goal of a Catholic education is to help children mature into Christ-like people. Students are encouraged to recognize the presence of Christ in themselves and others. The religious formation of children begun at home is continued in Catholic school.

**A safe, supportive environment** – Reverence for the human dignity of every person comes from recognizing Christ in self and others. More than “Drug-free zones” or “Gun-free zones,” Catholic schools strive to be “Christ-centered zones.”

**High expectations** – Catholic school teachers expect every student to achieve and work tirelessly to help their students in after-school clubs and extra help.

**Committed parents** – Parents are a child’s first teachers. At Catholic schools, parents take an active role in their children’s education. The school supports families and works with them for the benefit of children.

**A caring community** – Catholic school parents provide hundreds of millions of volunteer service hours to their schools. Parents assist with everything from playground supervision, field trips and putting band-aids on skinned knees, to raising funds, installing computer networks and building new schools.