

# CHESHIRE ACADEMY 1794

Meeting students where they are, and taking them beyond where they imagined.



# HIGH SCHOOL IS SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST THE NEXT STEP ON THE PATH OF DOING WHAT'S EXPECTED.

Cheshire Academy is a college preparatory, boarding and day school for students in grades 9-12 and postgraduate. The historic 104-acre campus is nestled in the bucolic but central town of Cheshire, Connecticut, just two hours from both Boston and New York City. With approximately 344 students from 19 states and 31 countries, Cheshire Academy takes a flexible and tailored approach to education, allowing students to combine a variety of academic and extracurricular offerings optimal to their individual needs, strengths, and interests.

Cheshire Academy is a community in which talented, dedicated faculty and staff motivate students to stretch beyond their comfort zones. We encourage our learners to embrace academic rigor, challenge themselves in their course load, and to try new activities to broaden their perspectives.

We recognize that all students learn differently. Through our optional Roxbury Academic Support Program, our trained learning specialists create proactive, independent, competent learners by fostering tools and strategies to meet the rigors of a college-preparatory environment and beyond. This proven approach yields thriving students who take responsibility for their academic success.



# Academic Program



Cheshire Academy students grow increasingly capable of independently observing, questioning, explaining, interpreting, and analyzing the world. Our academic process starts with what students know and want to know, and develops active learners who reflect on their growth and the implications of their learning.

We offer more than 110 courses and have an average class size of 10 students. Each child is assured his or her interests and challenges are recognized and each voice and perspective will be heard. Our schedule maximizes class time, with 195 minutes per course, per week.

Course selection is tailored specifically to each student through individual meetings with advisors, college counselors, and the Academic Office. And we find the exact mix of classes, with the right level of



challenge and support, for each student's needs and aspirations.

We are the only independent school in the state to offer the International Baccalaureate® (IB) Diploma

Programme—recognized as the leader in international education. All students take at least one IB course during their time at the Academy, while many take a mix of IB and non-IB courses. For students interested in our most rigorous, high-level

curriculum, the full Diploma Programme

helps them become thoughtful, global

citizens.

We offer a wide array of visual and performing arts experiences, including courses on drawing, painting, photography, theater, and other mediums. Students serious about the arts pursue our unique Art Major program.

For recent high school graduates, Cheshire Academy offers a comprehensive Postgraduate (PG) Program. A robust academic experience, the PG program is an opportunity for students to build upon their skills, improve their academic portfolio, and prepare for their next step of attending college. The college counseling staff supports every student throughout each step of the college search and application process. Our expansive college matriculation list is testament to the team's commitment of finding the best fit for each Cheshire Academy student. It also reflects the success of the Cheshire Academy experience and our college counselors, and includes impressive acceptances and enrollments year after year in colleges and universities throughout the world. Upon graduating, students are ready for their next chapter in life, confident in their options and choices made.

We provide a range of academic support services, including our signature **Roxbury Academic Support Program**. Through



this supplemental support, students receive the individualized instruction and resources they need to continue as flourishing and productive learners.

Additional academic resources to help students succeed as global thinkers include our Center for Writing, the Math Lab, the library, our Advisory program, ELL courses, and SAT/ACT prep.

Students read diversely, converse deeply, and write passionately in their **English** classes.

They explore how the world got to be the way it is, and how it might be made better through intercultural connections in their **History and Social Science** classes.

They discover, unearth, and enhance ways of engaging with the world through creative acts in their **Fine and Performing Arts** classes.

Their minds are opened to new ways of viewing the world and the range of perspectives on life in their **Language** classes. They learn to take risks and work collaboratively in their **Mathematics and Computer Science** classes.

In their **Science** classes, students collect and interpret data which shows them connections between the natural world and the global community.

# IB Programme

### International Baccalaureate® Diploma Programme

The International Baccalaureate® (IB)

Programme is for globally-minded students looking to challenge themselves academically while potentially earning college credits. Recognized as the leader in international education, the IB Programme is another way that Cheshire Academy prioritizes an individualized approach to high school education.

The IB Programme's demanding, yet balanced curriculum aims to develop a capacity for inquiry, research, collaboration, and problem solving. Students make connections by taking courses across academic disciplines that prepare them to participate in a global society intellectually, emotionally, and ethically.

Viewed as an alternative to Advanced Placement (AP) courses, IB is an internationally consistent, liberal arts means to global education that emphasizes creativity, synthesis, critical thinking, and deep understanding. It is a holistic approach to teaching and learning in which students are assessed through oral, written, and group projects, celebrating the knowledge they have acquired.

Students who want the full experience consider the IB Diploma Programme, which requires the completion of six IB courses (three high level and three standard level) and a three-part core requirement. Because there is the freedom to choose which three high level and which three standard level courses, the IB Programme can serve many areas of interest and expertise. Students who do not choose the full Diploma Programme are encouraged to take individual IB courses, including the core requirements, to earn IB course certificates.







# Academic Support

Roxbury Academic Support

As part of our focus on putting the unique needs of each student first, Cheshire Academy offers the Roxbury Academic Support Program for young adults who need to discover how they learn best. Students develop confidence, acquire new and effective skill sets, and strengthen their abilities to achieve their full potential for success in the classroom.

Through a multi-tiered approach, students meet from one to four times per week with their trusted Roxbury instructor, at a time based on the student's course schedule and commitments. The one-to-one attention allows the Roxbury instructor to individualize strategies and customize the tools necessary for the student to become a more productive, self-assured, and independent learner.

Sessions include emphasizing executive functioning skills; organization, planning, problem-solving, note taking, test-taking, effective reading and writing strategies; and self-advocacy skills. These take place in a safe and comfortable environment that encourages openness, self-reflection,

trial-and-error, and a positive attitude, all designed to promote individual success.

Placement in one of the four levels of service is determined on a case-by-case basis in conjunction with Academy faculty and staff. Depending on the level chosen, the student's parents/guardians are notified through detailed monthly, bi-weekly, or weekly reports and direct contact by the instructor.





# College Counseling

At Cheshire Academy, our College Counseling Office team is dedicated to finding the school that is the right fit for every student. While college "placement" is the term often used, college options, selection, and best match are the goals we persistently pursue.

Beginning in their sophomore year, students are assigned a college counselor who will help guide them through every facet of the college search process, including researching schools, registering and preparing for standardized tests, visiting college campuses, writing application essays, and navigating financial aid, among other steps.

Students meet one-on-one and in small groups with their counselors, who act as confidants and guides. Counselors get to know each individual student they work with, carefully understanding and even challenging their aspirations and priorities. They tailor their support and provide a wealth of information necessary to navigate the college application process.

To further prepare our students, Cheshire Academy hosts more than 125 college representatives to meet with students every fall. In the spring, a college fair is held on campus for members of the sophomore and junior classes. Juniors also meet with visiting college representatives one-on-one for mock interviews.

A workshop for seniors is held in mid-October, where students meet with faculty and college counselors as they finalize the necessary steps, allowing them to submit their college applications.

We value the collaborative nature of the college process. As such, families are encouraged to remain involved in their child's search, and are invited to the junior College Day program and the college fair. Parents are also informed about important dates and events in the college admission process.

While it can be a challenging, timeintensive, and sometimes confusing experience, students and parents are assured there is a professional advisor at their side and an effective college program that will help guide them to what is best and appropriate for the next phase of the student's academic career.



### **College Enrollment:** Classes of 2015-2019

In the last five years, 99% of Academy graduates attended selective colleges and universities. According to Barron's Profile of American Colleges, there are five distinct categories: Most Competitive, Highly Competitive, Very Competitive, Competitive, and Less Competitive.

### **Enrollment** in the "Most Competitive" category\*

Bates College Boston College Boston University Brown University Carnegie Mellon University Colby College Colgate University

College of the Holy Cross

College of William & Mary

Columbia University Connecticut College

Cornell University Dartmouth College

Davidson College

Duke University Emory University

Fordham University

Georgetown University

Grinnell College

Hamilton College - NY

Harvard University

Lafayette College Lehigh University

New York University

Northeastern University

Oberlin College of Arts and Sciences

Princeton University

Reed College

Rensselaer Polytechnic

Institute

Southern Methodist University

Stony Brook University

The George Washington

University

Tulane University

Union College (New

York)

University of California,

Los Angeles

University of California, San Diego

University of Michigan

University of Notre Dame

University of Pennsylvania

University of Richmond

University of Rochester

Vanderbilt University

Vassar College

Wake Forest University

Washington and Lee

University

Wesleyan University

Worcester Polytechnic

Institute

Yale University

<sup>\*</sup> A to B+ cumulative grade point average, 3.67+; test scores in top 10%; ACT: 32+, SAT: 1400+, TOEFL: 100+ on IBT



# Fine & Performing Arts



Students who have a passion for the arts or are looking to expand their horizons will find many rewarding experiences through the Fine & Performing Arts program at Cheshire Academy.

In the **visual arts**, our instructors encourage students to explore the deeper meanings of personal expression while cultivating technical and creative skills in a variety of disciplines, such as digital photography, ceramics, painting, drawing, and printmaking.

The **theater** program provides students the opportunity to perform in front of an audience in a comedy, drama, or musical, or work behind the scenes as a sound and light technician or set designer. With enough experience, they may also have the chance to direct a play of their own.

Whether they are a seasoned vocalist or musician, or just a beginner, students in Cheshire Academy's **music** program will develop the skill, focus, and tenacity to confidently perform before a variety of school events either as a solo artist, or as part of one of the many ensembles available.

Unique to Cheshire Academy is the **Art Major** program—a class for aspiring artists who wish to develop a complete portfolio for the college admission process. Each student is given a personal studio space, has contact with visiting college representatives, and takes part in an end-of-year Art Major exhibition.

There are many venues on campus for students to perform or exhibit their work. Plus, the Kohn-Joseloff Gallery, founded in 1998 through a gift from the Kohn-Joseloff Foundation, features the work of local and national artists on a rotating basis. Here, students can gain new perspectives on the arts as they attend lectures by these visiting artists.

#### **Course Offerings**

Advanced Drawing Advanced Painting AP Music Theory Art Major Ceramics Design Thinking Digital Photography Dramatic Arts

Drawing

IB Music (high and standard level)

IB Theater (high and standard level)

IB Visual Arts (high and standard level)

Music Skills and Performance

Music Technology

Painting Printmaking

Songwriting

### **Athletics**



The Cheshire Academy athletics program offers more than 20 competitive sports programs for boys and girls, as well as a range of non-competitive athletic activities.

At the Academy, students participate in a competitive team sport for two of the three seasons (fall, winter, spring) of every academic year as part of an afternoon program. Athletics is an important priority because it encourages all students to take pride in contributing to something bigger than themselves. Students build new relationships with classmates, learning how to work as a team and support one another. They struggle and succeed together in new or higher-level challenges, and they continue to be lifelong learners through these afternoon activities.

Seasoned coaches with experience at the collegiate, semi-pro, and pro levels lead many Cheshire Academy teams. In addition, coaches and assistant coaches are members of the faculty—athletes themselves—who are passionate about sports and the teams they lead.

Having faculty on the field further strengthens the bond between students and teachers outside the classroom. The dynamic of a classroom teacher working with a student in both settings enhances teaching and learning, creates stronger connections, and has a positive impact in countless ways.









Cheshire Academy alumni have gone on to play at various colleges in recent years, including:

- Brown University
- Bucknell University
- Colgate University
- Columbia University
- Dartmouth University
- Fordham University
- Harvard University
- Holy Cross University
- LaFayette University
- Michigan University
- Princeton University
- The University of Alabama
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute
- Yale University

At the professional level, our graduates have competed in the LPGA, NBA, NFL, and the Olympics.







### 3 Seasons 14 Sports 26 Teams

#### FALL

Cross Country Field Hockey Football Soccer Volleyball

#### WINTER

Basketball Fencing Skiing



Baseball Golf Lacrosse Softball Tennis Track and Field











# Campus Life

Campus Life 5-Day and 7-Day Boarding

Our tight-knit and dynamic environment is rich in diversity. Boarding and day students become friends, teammates, and confidants who form lasting connections.

Our faculty members living on and off campus lend a helping hand to students at all hours, during study hall, extra help sessions, afternoon activities, and in the classroom. Weeknight and weekend activities include residential programming, trips into nearby towns and cities, community service, college tours, adventure excursions, and countless other opportunities for exploring and forming friendships.

#### 5-Day and 7-Day Boarding

Cheshire Academy offers two forms of on-campus living: 5-day and 7-day boarding. Students enjoy a full-service



dining facility, fitness center, study areas, and student center, and the convenience of restaurants and grocery stores within walking distance. Our 5-day boarding program has all the benefits of 7-day and might be the ideal option for families who live just outside of the commuting range. This often allows students to be home on the weekends for other commitments and to be with family and friends. It's also an ideal way to start high school boarding with the option to change to 7-day when ready.

Boarding students make up 55 percent of the school community, hailing from 19 states and 31 countries. These students have access to one of the best ways to prepare for life at college, through a safe environment to explore their independence and learn to take responsibility for their own lives.

Living on campus provides students with the structure and adult guidance they need to build self-reliance and maturity that will serve them not only in college, but throughout their adult lives. Our five single-gender dormitories and several houses on campus are home to faculty members and their families, enhancing the campus experience for all. Dorm rooms are designed for two students, and a limited number of single rooms are also available. More than just a place to sleep, on-campus housing for students and faculty becomes a second home—a place to relax, bond, share perspectives, and learn about one another's unique lives and experiences.

#### **Day Students**

Day students are equally immersed in campus life. Many day and boarding students develop strong bonds and friendships that continue beyond their time at Cheshire Academy, formed through the hours spent in classes, athletics, the arts, and a range of afternoon activities. Day students often host boarding students at their homes during short vacations. Similarly, day students can spend a night in a dorm with boarding friends to extend their time on campus and experience the independent lifestyle and camaraderie of living on-campus.

#### International Students

International students in our community represent more than 30 countries.

They bring their perspectives into the classroom and daily life, enriching the experience for everyone in the community. Traditions and cultures are shared and celebrated among the entire school community.









Cheshire Academy offers a comprehensive learning environment and support system for international students including:

- ELL/ESL classes
- A private TOEFL testing site
- A dedicated International Student Office
- SEVIS/F-1 Visa and I-20 Support
- A peer counselor program for new students
- Monthly orientation meetings for new students

#### **Afternoon Program**

All students enroll in one of our many afternoon programs, which include athletic teams, student-led organizations, and performance groups. The afternoon program is part of our philosophy at the Academy, and is as important and inclusive as the academic, social, and residential facets of each day.

# Postgraduate Program



### Not just another senior year in high school

Cheshire Academy offers a Postgraduate (PG) Program for students looking to strengthen and develop their academic skills, improve their academic portfolio, and prepare for college. The program is a comprehensive experience specifically designed to help graduates of a traditional high school transition to a college curriculum, well prepared for the requirements and expectations of life after high school.

#### In the Classroom

More than just a fifth year of high school, the Cheshire Academy PG program is comprised of specific university-level courses, complemented by a number of electives. PG students round out their academic portfolio by pursuing interests and passions while preparing themselves for the increased course workload demanded at the college level. PG students learn and hone critical skills, such as time management, public speaking, and focused study habits.

#### **College Prep and Athletics**

The PG year serves as a time to push one's self academically, taking a challenging, rigorous course load while gaining a level of freedom and flexibility. PG students are supported by the program's advisor and

by our College Counseling Office team. Each PG student is assigned a college advisor who provides a concentrated, individualized plan to help the student—and parents—manage the college research, decision, and admission process.

PG students are also eligible to participate on our athletic teams, as sanctioned by the New England Preparatory School Athletic Council (NEPSAC). Coaches work to gain exposure for our talented athletes, resulting in a high placement record for many alumni athletes in a range of sports.

#### **Campus Life**

For all PG students—especially for those who have not lived away from home—living at Cheshire Academy provides a college-like experience, but with much more support and guidance. While they live independently, with roommates and dorm mates, they also receive attention, care, and a level of camaraderie from their teachers, dorm parents, advisors, and coaches.

For international students, the PG program is an ideal way to further develop and mature in the U.S., and prepare for success at an American university.

# YOU GET SO MUCH MORE AT CHESHIRE ACADEMY: NEW CHALLENGES, GUIDANCE, SUPPORT, AND AN ENGAGING, DIVERSE, AND FUN COMMUNITY

























A HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCE AS IT WAS MEANT TO BE: ALL ABOUT YOU!

#### CHESHIRE ACADEMY AT-A-GLANCE

#### **Enrollment**

344 students from 19 states and 31 countries

Grades 9-12, and postgraduate

34% international students

55% boarding students (5-day and 7-day)

45% day students

#### **Faculty**

57 teaching faculty members

81% with advanced degrees

#### Academics

6:1 student-to-faculty ratio

Average class size: 10

Curricular offerings:

119 courses, 32 IB courses

Modern languages: French, Mandarin,

and Spanish

### Campus

104 acres (.42 km2)

Two-hour drive from Boston and New York

Walking distance to downtown Cheshire

Short drive to the culture and vibrancy of New Haven and Hartford

30-minute drive from Bradley International Airport (Hartford/Springfield)

New York City (JFK/LaGuardia) and Boston (Logan) airports are two hours away

#### Financial 2020-2021

7-day tuition: \$63,600

5-day tuition: \$55,375

Day tuition: \$42,320

\$4.2 million awarded for financial aid

55% of students awarded aid

### CHESHIRE ACADEMY

1794

# Grades 9-12 and Postgraduate Coed, Boarding and Day







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