Reasons St. Francis Prep is Forever.

ST. FRANCIS PREPARATORY SCHOOL
“High School is four years; St. Francis Prep is Forever.”
We’re a Community

In 1858, two Franciscan brothers from Ireland came to Brooklyn and established what is today St. Francis Preparatory School in Fresh Meadows, Queens. St. Francis was the first private Catholic School on Long Island, and remains the largest Catholic school in the country. Despite that fact, anyone who walks through the doors of Prep instantly senses what close-knit community we are. In the tradition of St. Francis, all members of our community are welcomed, nurtured and supported. All members of the Prep Community work together to create an environment filled with respect, integrity, joy, and the ability for students to succeed academically. Freshmen are integrated into St. Francis community at events such as Orientation, Strategies for Success and Freshmen Follies. Our annual Walk-a-Thon demonstrates to the larger community we are part of, how the St. Francis family comes together on a fun and spirited day for a common cause—supporting SFP so that future generations can be part of St. Francis. Students at St. Francis from friendships and bonds that last a lifetime, and make them eager to stay connected with their Prep family after they graduate.

“Attending St. Francis Prep was one of the best choices I have made thus far in my lifetime. SFP is more than a high school, it truly becomes your second home for your entire four years there. The students, teachers, and faculty become one big family and everyone has a sense of closeness to one another.”

-Prep Student
Our Faculty

St. Francis Prep's faculty embrace the spirit of Franciscan education and support the high standards that are a beacon for high school education. Our faculty members are highly educated, passionate about their disciplines and continuously seeking new ways to enhance student learning through professional development activities. Our faculty is dedicated to the success and well-being of every student who attends SFP by offering academic support in the classroom as well as before and after school.

The passing grade at Prep is 75%, creating an incentive filled and rigorous environment for students to always do their best. St. Francis Preparatory offers students a wide variety of options to ensure that all students have assistance available. Individualized instruction, hands-on resources, peer-to-peer tutoring, our Homework Assistance Table, and technology are readily available for students who might need extra help in their academic success. The Prep's Math, Writing and Science Centers are available to all students requiring extra help, free of charge.

St. Francis Prep faculty has embraced and integrated technology as a tool, within the classroom and beyond. All our classrooms, as well as all conference and meeting rooms, are equipped with SmartBoards and AppleTV. These devices, in conjunction with our 1-to-1 iPad program, allows our students the best opportunity for a creative, collaborative learning environment.

Prep has been at the forefront in using technology as a part of a student’s education. Every freshman student receives an iPad. Each department has designed and developed elements of the curriculum where the iPad will serve to enhance the student’s experience, academic growth, and future prowess in the workplace. The use of technology however does not end in the classroom. The Prep provides full Internet access for faculty, staff, and students. Parents can utilize our online gradebook, PowerSchool, to monitor their child’s progress.

“'I love the teachers and the staff, they challenge me every day to become a better student and person overall.”
Prep Student

Our teachers strive to not only instruct students, but to inspire them.
Course Offerings

St. Francis Preparatory School strives to prepare its students for spiritual, intellectual, social, and physical success in today’s society. Students who attend St. Francis Preparatory School take traditional academic courses that integrate Common Core standards. Within those traditional disciplines, students have opportunities to “personalize” their programs. Students can choose the foreign language they wish to learn, select the genre of literature they wish to concentrate on as seniors, or decide upon which physical education activity they prefer as upperclassmen. Students interested in the sciences can get involved with our Science Research program. On the upper levels, students can choose religion class that allows them to explore a specific aspect of their faith and spiritually. St. Francis offers Honors and AP courses. Many courses on the junior and senior level can be taken for college credit through our affiliations with several colleges. Students who attend St. Francis receive a superior education, in part because of the many courses, which the school offers.

St. Francis Preparatory School is the leading co-educational college preparatory school in New York City. Our tradition of educating our student through the Four Golden Links of Franciscan Education helps our students graduate as well-rounded young adults prepared for the challenges of today’s colleges and universities. Our students are sought out by the best colleges as exhibited by the Class of 2017 earning over $156 million in academic merit based scholarships.
The Arts

St. Francis offers an exceptional Arts program that is unrivaled by other Catholic schools in the area. The school’s commitment to the arts is evident by the recently constructed Art Education Center and the current construction of the state-of-the-art Music Education Center.

ART DEPARTMENT

St. Francis Preparatory School offers an exceptional Art Program that is unrivaled by other Catholic Schools in the area. There are 31 course offerings in the performing and visual arts. The school's commitment to the arts is evident by the recently constructed Art Education Center. The Art Education Center consists of two large art studios, an Advanced Fine Art Studio, a Sculpture and Ceramics Studio and two Mac Computer labs. Prep graduates attend some of the most prestigious Art colleges in the nation, such as Pratt Institute, the Parsons School of Design, School of Visual Arts, FIT and Rhode Island School of Design. St Francis proudly displays the talents of our students at various production and our annual art show.

The St. Francis Preparatory School Art Department’s objective is to foster the growth of all students in sensitivity, skill, and appreciation of the arts while developing perception, personal insight and conceptual thinking. The Art Department provides a sequential program of instruction which integrates the four disciplines of art, art production, art history, and art criticism and aesthetics, while fulfilling national and state standards. Each student is given the fundamentals to enjoy the art experience and the opportunity to develop on a more advanced level, either for self-fulfillment or to prepare and qualify for admission to a recognized college.

At St. Francis Preparatory Art Department we expand our computer technology to keep up with changing times and new computer advancements. It is crucial for the art department to keep growing and keeping up with changing technology.

For our architecture and CAD classes, we use Floorplanner.com, as well as several free iOS apps. We use an educational version of Autodesk Maya, Renderman, Mudbox, Fusion 360, TinkerCAD, and Cura for CAD and Advanced Digital Design. We have used Unity and the Unreal Engine 4 for Video Game Design, as well as educational versions of GameMaker and several other browser-based game engines. We use Pixate, Marvel, xCode, and several browser-based resources for Web Page Design. We also have Graphic Design with InDesign, Film & Video and Animation with St. Francis Preparatory art students are also able to use Wacom pen tablets and pens which are crucial in the learning to Graphic Design, Computer Graphics, CAD, Advanced Digital Design, and Video Game Design. Drawing skills demand pen tablets. Having pen tool skill and know-how is an invaluable skill for college admission and portfolio enhancement. The department also houses two Epson printers and a 3D printer in our library.

In comparison to other high schools, we are truly in the lead with advancements in computer technology.
“Nobody is doing it better!”

These words describe St. Francis Preparatory School’s Music Department as expressed by the Middle States Association when we were the first school ever to earn the Association’s Music Credential. The Music Credential is aimed at recognizing only those schools with the most sophisticated programs and the highest goals in music education.

Most recently we have opened the first phase of our new, state-of-the-art Music facilities which include a rehearsal room for our elite Chamber Orchestra, a dedicated percussion studio, a suite of 7 Wenger SoundLok sound isolation rooms for individual practice and lessons, and a classroom for our upperclassman electives. During our next phase a new Orchestra Room, and state of the art Music Studio will be added to the Music Education Center.

The program has been described as having an “open and creative atmosphere…that allows students to have fun, enjoy learning and freely express themselves through their music.” Simply put, Prep provides a program that is of superior quality and is clearly articulated and comprehensive.

The Music Department has established a Music Department Parent Association, redesigned the Introduction to Music curriculum to be iPad-centered and welcomes numerous teaching artists to Prep to work with students.

Our elite ensembles have performed for, among others, Pope John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI, President and Secretary Clinton. They have toured Australia, England and Italy, as well as, performed at countless school functions and community outreach events.
“You can rest assured that you will be receiving a quality education while attending SFP. Everything I learned during my time at St. Francis Prep has prepared me for what I would learn in college, sometimes giving me an upper edge. Speaking of college; SFP prepares you beyond belief for being a successful student in college. I went to college nervous like most people, but soon realized I had nothing to worry about thanks to my teachers and advisors at St. Francis Prep.”

-Prep Alumnus

Guidance Department

Students at St. Francis are fortunate to have the support of our very dedicated Guidance Counselors, College Counselors, and staff. Students are assigned a counselor in their freshmen year who will provide academic advisement and emotional support over the four years that they are at Prep. Our counselors are proactive in their efforts to ensure the academic success and personal growth of every student. The College office assists our Seniors with the sometimes overwhelming process of applying to colleges, as do their assigned counselors. Students at Prep recognize that they have a constant support system throughout their high school experience. Additionally, the Guidance department is often instrumental in bringing together present students with alumni who are willing to offer advice and assistance in whatever manner they can.
“Prep truly is holy ground because God’s work is done here every day. The teachers look on it as more than a job, but a ministry that truly invites everyone to grow to the next level. We tell our kids, just as St. Francis told his followers, that their life may be the only homily people hear today!”

~Father Bill Sweeney, Past Chaplain of St. Francis Prep

“Preach often, sometimes use words”

~St. Francis of Assisi

Campus Ministry

As a Catholic High School, the spiritual growth of Prep students is a shared ministry of the administration, faculty and staff. The Campus Ministry team, which includes the only full-time High School Chaplain in the Diocese of Brooklyn, as well as three lay people and a Franciscan Brother, are devoted to guiding students on their spiritual journey during their years at St. Francis Prep. The Campus Ministry team organizes school-wide liturgies for Holidays and Feast days, as well as level masses and prayer services throughout the year. The Campus Ministry Team invites students to serve as Retreat Leaders, Ministers of Holy Communion and Liturgical Assistants. Campus Ministry offers a comprehensive retreat program using Camp Alvernia in Centerport, and dozens of opportunities for students to participate in community service, including volunteering at soup kitchens, Midnight Runs to help the homeless by delivering food and essentials, and service immersion programs in places like Camden, NJ and Peru. The Campus Ministry team also organizes school-wide collections throughout the year for our local non profit organizations to help our local communities, as well as for our sister school St. Francis Secondary School in Lare, Kenya. Our dedicated team provides pastoral care and support to the members of the school community and coordinates a sacramental preparation program. Students who get involved in Campus Ministry become servant leaders inspired by our Catholic and Franciscan values.
Clubs and Activities

St. Francis Prep has truly something for everyone. SFP students are encouraged to get involved in extracurricular activities for a fuller high school experience. Prep offers 60 clubs and activities (more than any other high school in New York City), including 19 ethnic clubs where students can celebrate their heritage and others. The clubs are diverse and meet a broad range of interests, from acting (the Alvernian Drama Society), to poetry (The Little Portion and Poetry Out Loud) to martial arts and paintball, and photography. Students have some of their most memorable high school experiences with the activities they participate in, and through these activities form some of their closest bonds at St. Francis Prep.

St. Francis Preparatory School has great resources for their student to use and the opportunities here are endless. The school is very diverse and there are many activities to choose from.

-Prep Student
Students at St. Francis are encouraged to live healthy lifestyles. The Physical Education program and Interscholastic and Intramural Sports Program, provide a gateway to students being physically fit while having fun. The Physical Education Department offers 21 Health and Physical Education courses ranging from Cardio Kickboxing, to Golf, to Tai Chi and Yoga. St. Francis has a state of the art Fitness Training Center where students can work out both before and after school. The Fitness Center has all the latest fitness technology including a Trazer 2 Virtual Workout, a PowerGroove Resistance Trainer, Viper Rope Climbers, Arc Trainers and Cybex Equipment including a Cybex Big Iron and a Jacob's Ladder. Our Intramural and Interscholastic Sports Programs allow students interested in sports to compete competitively either against classmates or against other schools. Students who compete learn the value of hard work, discipline and sportsmanship. Our Sports Program has won over 190 City Championships including 6 consecutive Girls Varsity Tennis titles, 13 consecutive Boys Varsity Handball titles and 7 consecutive Girls Varsity Volleyball Titles.

What I loved about SFP was that it was full of teachers and administration that actually cared about the success and wellbeing of all of their students. Whenever I struggled in a subject there was always someone there who helped and had a real concern about what I needed help with academically.

-Prep Alumnus
Facility

Students who attend St. Francis Prep are in a secure building that is continually being improved upon and modernized. Our Capital Improvement Campaign provided many needed, and exceptional improvements to the building in recent years, and will continue to do so as we go forward. There was an overhaul of the infrastructure of the school that, for example, made the heating and cooling system of the building more effective. Major construction was done that created the Art Education Center, the Vince O’Connor Fitness Center and five-state-of-the-art Science Labs. A stadium seating style lecture classroom was also built and now offer students a true “college lecture” environment, Current construction is being done on our Music Facilities and Gymnasium. Future construction plans will create new locker rooms for students.

*St. Francis Preparatory School is still improving ever since I entered from freshman year. The Prep has built music rooms that I have enjoyed using and the hallways have been redone. Even some of their bathrooms have been redone. The Prep also has an amazing physical education facility. Send your children here because high school is for 4 years, but the Prep is forever!*

—Prep Student
With St. Francis Prep, CulinArt Group encourages students to enjoy a healthy lifestyle – one that incorporates balanced food choices, regular exercise and an overall attention to living well.

While students have access to the typical teenage fare, CulinArt’s signature Eat Well program ensures that there is always something nutritious in the café. Eat well incorporates whole, naturally flavorful and nutritious foods prepared with healthful, cooking methods.

These dishes also meet strict nutritional parameters, taking USDA guidelines into account – while never sacrificing taste CulinArt’s “food first” philosophy.

Eat Well is just one of many options students can enjoy on the wellness front. To the end, a system of icons strategically placed on the weekly cycle menus, signage and around the café allows students to make the choice that is right for them, whether that is Eat Well, vegan, vegetarian, gluten-free or a combination of these.

Whether students are looking for healthy offerings or are in need of special dietary options, the icon system clearly identifies selections and makes eating in St. Francis Prep’s café simple and enjoyable.

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My experience at St. Francis Prep is one I will not forget. I had made many friends within the diverse community and always felt included whether it be in class or the cafeteria. Students were always nice and teachers were hardworking and cared about whether you succeeded or not.

-Prep Alumnus
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All SFP students receive an ID Card in September. This card can be used in our cafeteria to purchase items from our food service company, CulinArt. They offer a wide choice of items, including fresh and wholesome foods. Each register is set up to accept the ID Card to purchase items as a debit transaction. The Prep Card enables students to purchase food without having to use cash. Students using the Prep Card check out in a fraction of the time it takes to pay with cash. The bar code on the card will be scanned, displaying the student’s photograph.
Enrollment: 2,600
Tuition: 2017-2018 $9,550
Fees: One time $350 Registration Fee and $500 Assurance Fund
      Payment Plans are available
      Financial Assistance available
Dress: Uniform
Choices Considered: 1st Preferred; 2nd and 3rd Considered
School Code: #019
Open House: October 14, 2017, from 12:00 until 4:00 pm.
            Auditorium Presentations: 12:15, 1:15, 2:15, and 3:30
Travel Directions: St. Francis Prep is located at the intersection of the Horace Harding Expressway (the
                   service road of the Long Island Expressway) and Francis Lewis Boulevard. Prep
                   is directly accessible by three bus routes: Q76, Q30, and Q26.
Scholarships: Prep offers a number of full and partial scholarships. Scholarships are awarded to the
              students who select St. Francis Prep as their first choice and score highest on the entrance
              exam. Students must maintain an average of 90% or higher with 6th, 7th and 8th grade
              marks. Applicants may not have attendance or disciplinary issues. Students will be
              notified in their acceptance letter in January if they are recipients of a scholarship.
Consideration: Consideration is given for family relationships such as brother, sister, son, or daughter
              of those who are presently in attendance or have graduated from the Prep. Familial
              relationship does not guarantee admission. Special Consideration Cards may be obtained
              from the Admissions Office or on line at www.sfponline.org.
APPLICATION PROCEDURE

9th Grade Applicants

- Applicants for the 9th grade (N.Y.C. residents) are expected to take the T.A.C.H.S. on Nov. 4, 2017, of their 8th grade. Nassau County residents are expected to take the Rockville Centre Exam on Oct. 28, 2017. (Call any Catholic High School in Rockville Centre to register.)
- Applications for the T.A.C.H.S. may be obtained from Catholic elementary or high schools, Religious Education Offices, parishes, or public elementary schools. Beginning Aug. 21, 2017, you may register 7 days a week online at www.tachsinfo.com or via telephone 1-866-618-2247.
- Deadline for Internet and telephone registration: October 16, 2017.
- Catholic school students: Once you have submitted an application to take the T.A.C.H.S. test, the testing company will forward a 9th-grade applicant form to your 8th grade teacher. This application will contain information regarding your 6th, 7th, and 8th grade marks, conduct, and attendance.
- Public school students: Students must submit the applicant form to their current teacher or guidance counselor and have it mailed to the Admissions Office at St. Francis Prep. If the form is not available, please submit copies of your 6th, 7th, and 8th grade report cards by Dec. 15, 2017.
- Nassau County students: Applicants must go to our web site: www.sfponline.org. There will be a link under admissions to download the applicant record for you to give to your current teacher or guidance counselor or submit a copy of your 6th, 7th and 8th grade (1st quarter) report card. This information is due to the St. Francis Prep Admissions Office by Dec. 15, 2017.

Transfer Applicants

- Applicants to grades 10, 11, or 12 (transfer students) must obtain a transfer application from the Admissions Office or online: Applications are accepted in November for January admission and in May for September acceptance.
- Transfer students are expected to have a B+ (85%) average and good conduct and attendance. All final grades from high school must be 75% or above.

www.sfponline.org
admissions@sfponline.org
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