

EDUCATIONAL INSIGHT

ALCUIN SCHOOL

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Dallas, TX

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Nestled in the heart of north Dallas on twelve acres with lovely gardens and a small winding brook, the Alcuin School has for fifty plus years provided a lovely learning environment for the approximately 550 students it serves. Parents select the School for a progressive education which focuses on the 21st Century Skills of communication, collaboration, critical thinking and creativity.

As a result, it is not just one characteristic, but rather a combination of key distinctions which has created a learning environment known as the “The Alcuin School Experience.” Central to the Alcuin Experience are the International Baccalaureate Organization[®] (IB) Diploma Programme, IB Middle Years Programme and Montessori program. Fewer than ten schools in the world provide the combination of IB and Montessori education found at Alcuin School.

With a robust offering of IB Diploma Programme courses, students have more than 200 possible combinations enabling the creation of unique degree plans which maximize student opportunities, aptitudes and preparation for university.

This unique combination is creating an educational evolution through IB and Montessori to provide a dynamic environment for students to become "*innovative thinkers and passionate learners*." With faculty support, including many instructors with doctoral degrees, students at Alcuin School are eager to embrace change, question the status quo, and prepare for their future as leaders in a global society. One parent expresses the spirit of the Alcuin community with these thoughts, "Our most sacred obligation to these splendid beings is to open their hearts, inform their minds and encourage their dreams that they may be ready when life calls them to greatness."

In addition to its academic programs and extraordinary faculty, Alcuin School is nationally known for its exemplary extracurricular programs and facilities. Not only do students learn in state-of-the-art classrooms and laboratories, but also they have access to the Wyly Performing Arts Center and the Innovation Studio, a state-of-the-art space where students can use the most recent technologies and are free to create outside the classroom.

Alcuin School also provides an exemplary program of Academic Travel and Outdoor Education. While our elementary students participate in overnight campouts and history trips, Middle School students enjoy a number of educational travel experiences to enhance their knowledge of outdoor education, cultural literacy, world geography, and Spanish immersion. In recent years, students have enjoyed backpacking and canoeing in Estes Park Colorado and touring Washington, D.C. to experience our national history.

Upper School freshmen begin their experience with a team building trip. Students visit the University of British Columbia and kayak in the coastal waters of Canada. Sophomore students experience a London adventure which includes unique elements tied to the Alcuin curriculum. These include visiting Richmond University, meeting the head of a successful start-up company, and engaging with a member of the Olympic Legacy Team at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

Alcuin provides an environment where each student's innate passion for learning is encouraged through opportunities to engage in thought-provoking, purposeful activities with trained educators. Through their work, students develop academic expertise, concentration, responsibility, and self-discipline.

What sets Alcuin apart is the deep belief in and adherence to the IB and Montessori systems that have been refined and validated by leading educators over decades of use around the world. Everything done at Alcuin gives the community the confidence to say that our school is "Unique to all. Second to none."