

CONNELLY SCHOOL OF THE HOLY CHILD



engaging



classic



smart



joyful



authentic





*Experience
the exhilaration
of excellence.*

What would you like to know?
What would you like to tell us?
Share the experience.

Find your place at Holy Child.

We invite you to get to know Connelly School of the Holy Child. As you explore our community, we believe you'll discover a place where a girl can both be herself and push herself—knowing she'll find support at every step.

We'd like to get to know you, too. At Holy Child, everyone's voice matters—and action matters most of all. So whether you're a student or a parent, we encourage you to pick up your pencil and use this booklet to pinpoint what you want most. Jot down your answers, browse our website, visit our campus. Experience for yourself the exhilaration of excellence.



Experience

At its heart, the academic experience is so much more than textbooks and words. At Holy Child, we stress action. We welcome you to a safe place to take risks. What sounds like a contradiction in terms translates into self-assured graduates.

We know self-confidence can't be given. It is developed with repeated practice and eventual mastery of real-world interactions, sometimes with joy and sometimes with struggle. Our goal at Holy Child is to graduate not only college-ready girls, but life-ready young women.

“Holy Child gave me confidence in who I am. I learned how to write, I learned how to deal with people, and I learned how to be a part of a great community.” – Kris R., Alumna, Class of 1982 and Parent of an Alumna 

What will you take a chance
on today?

a:



“I think the environment is conducive to growing up
and becoming an independent, strong young woman.”

— Meghan R., Alumna, Class of 2012 

Grow through motion.

Active, hands-on learning keeps students engaged and provides a more realistic sense of what they'll encounter in the future.

Principles of physics come alive with Nerf guns and bubbles.

Giant origami enhances geometry lessons.

And writing takes off through blogs,

graphic novels, and personal poetry, alongside traditional research papers. The immigrant experience becomes real as girls walk in their forebears' footsteps, first in the classroom, then on the actual paths of Ellis Island.

Will an experiment fail? Will a creative effort impress? The result matters, but so does the journey.

Lead with heart.

Our school's size creates an ideal incubator for achievement and leadership. From serving on student council to running the back of the house for a school play, opportunities to get involved abound in class, clubs, even chorus. This is where the strength of being small shows its muscle: no girl gets lost here.

What's more, we encourage girls to find their own passions.

Can't find a club or team that suits your interests? Start one yourself—after all, that's how our equestrian champions and

Engage with experts.

Holy Child teachers recognize that motivating girls requires approaches that work with, not against, girls' personalities. Our experienced team transforms "drama" into energy, strong will, and positive results.

Our faculty is guided by the philosophy of Cornelia Connelly: Understand each young woman, bring out her best, and allow her to blossom.

Let reality rule.

Relationships form the safety net that allows girls to take risks in academics, sports, and the arts. Among students in small groups, between a teacher and student, or at full-school assemblies, it's always clear: Not only is there room for all, but everyone is essential to our tight-knit community. A sense of elitism goes directly against what we believe is best for girls' education.

Because of this, Holy Child cultivates diversity. You will find students of widely varying appearance, culture, and socioeconomic background here; their contributions are what make our educational environment a treasure. Our school is what reality looks like—and the type of place employers look to for leaders. We take pride in that.



What school experience do you feel best prepared you for the real world?

a:





Exhilaration

With a careful blend of diligence and delight, the Holy Child faculty works to make our school a place where students want to be. We've learned that a happy girl opens up to learning. And she shares that joy in the classroom, encouraging others.

Girls look forward to a Holy Child day. Teachers make sure of it, infusing liveliness into lessons with interactivity, bright classrooms, and instruction with just enough laughter. While a science class heads outdoors to learn physics concepts by riding scooters, another group celebrates world cultures at the International Club's Ladies Night, with folk dancing, henna tattoos, and exotic dishes.

From dance studio to theater stage, our girls dig deep into a wide array of activities, building skills as they go. Parents speak freely about how Holy Child girls bubble over at the end of every day with stories about what they've experienced.

“She’s happy every day when she comes home from school. She gets in the car and says, ‘It was so much fun today.’ And she talks about what went on in the classroom.”

— Donna S., Parent 

Reclaim the love of learning.

What makes your daughter bubble over
with enthusiasm?

a:



The camaraderie here is refreshing: easy friendships among girls and a mutually respectful rapport between student and teacher. From science class to the soccer field, girls lift one another through challenges, share congratulations after successful struggles, and win with grace. Although bad days are bound to happen, peers step in to console one another.

“Sustain a bright and joyful spirit,” as Cornelia Connelly would say. And she showed it with abandon, trooping students off to a swimming hole to study the environment, unhindered by the rote learning styles of the day.

Holy Child girls inquire and wonder; they surprise and amaze. The “Eureka!” moment when a chemistry concept becomes clear or the underlying message of Shakespeare’s sonnets shines through: These are the prizes for teachers and students.





What moments in your day
make you beam with pride?

a:



“I’m so happy my daughter picked this place on her own. She came here and got the feeling that I did years back: where you just walk in and know it’s a good fit. You can tell it’s a warm, inviting environment.” — Jennifer U., Parent and Alumna, Class of 1988





Build confidence together.

In learning and life, it's not a matter of whether struggles will come but how to overcome them. Holy Child girls don't fear stress—they conquer it.

The pre-exam "Stressbusters" sessions help girls release tension by encouraging them to play with clay, color, swat a Wii tennis racket, or just run around. Breaks are built into each day, especially in Middle School, as girls revel in rounds of tetherball or dance routines. By controlling their stress, girls feel the joy of triumph.

Our girls practice healthy ways to cope, overcoming challenges to reach goals they never thought possible.

Students here know they can achieve anything they want. Recent research tells us that by mastering difficult tasks, facing rigor, and staying determined, successful students emerge with excitement and earn self-confidence.





What kind of achievement
would be the first you'd share
with your friends?

a:



What are your hopes and dreams for your daughter?

a:





Excellence

How do you define success, excellence, or a life fulfilled? At Holy Child, graduates turn personal goals into real accomplishments that make a difference in the world.

Jane Rosinki Grenier, a 1976 Holy Child graduate, runs Condé Nast International's digital arm. Giovanna Vidoli, a forensic anthropologist who graduated in 1994, travels the world unearthing ancient civilizations and modern-day mysteries. Meghan Rodgers, a 1992 graduate with a Harvard MBA, uses her financial acumen as the Travel Channel's CFO and as head of her own charitable foundation. And 1979 alumna Jacqueline Berrien, a civil rights activist who fought South African apartheid, is now director of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The success stories are many from an alumnae slate filled with doctors, authors, lawyers, legislators, and artists. These signature paths toward excellence all began with steps first taken in the classrooms of Holy Child.

"The self-confidence I developed at Holy Child has helped me in countless academic, professional, and social settings."
— Martha N., Alumna, Class of 1995, DC lawyer 

How do you imagine your future?

a:



“Being at Holy Child was a springboard to the future, like being launched out of a rocket. The skills to be able to collaborate with technologists, editors, advertising clients, and financial executives were founded here.”

– Jane G., Alumna, Class of 1975, publishing executive 🌿

Driven to advance.

We accelerate each student's education toward the heights we know she can achieve. Whether this means a boost to higher level calculus or early college admission, we help every girl use her energy and will to reach the upper limits of her potential. If a girl seeks greater challenge, we create the path that opens the way.

Holy Child provides the space for girls to excel. Classes are small enough and teachers are flexible enough to afford the individual attention that makes advancement possible.

With Middle School and Upper School side by side, students have greater possibilities, both academically and socially. Although Sydney F. is in the eighth grade, she's

taking upper-level math. While Cecile P. was in Middle School, she took French and math classes in the Upper School. And those who excel in basketball, soccer, field hockey, or lacrosse can try out for junior varsity a year early. Art students and band members, too, have the same "play-up" options.

Challenging ourselves, too.

Supporting student excellence means setting the example. Holy Child faculty and administration stay current through ongoing training in emerging methods, keeping up with the latest thought leadership in education. Our in-house team of girls' education experts provides guidance to teachers, parents, and students alike.

Our continual research and openness to improvement allow us to provide personalized programs.

Does she want to study Chinese? We'll work with her to find a class in our partner school consortium. Does she need a higher level of math? The Online School for Girls complements our curriculum. And our personalization extends beyond even these ready examples, such as mentoring from alumnae now successful in many ventures, from Capitol Hill to Wall Street.



Ready for more.

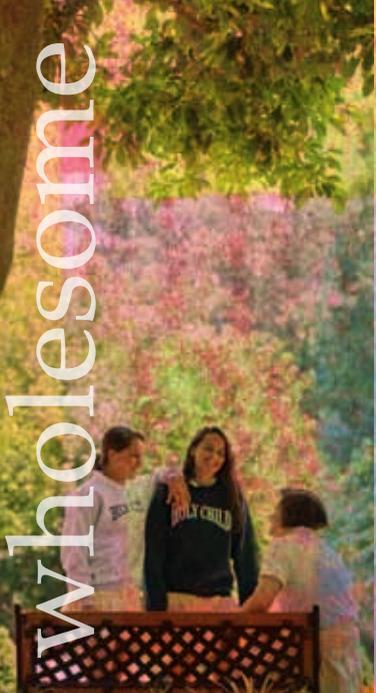
At Holy Child, we make sure our college counseling process smooths the way to the next level, inspiring excitement, not stress. The goal is to find the best school for the student, not to fit the student to a particular school.

Our graduates go on to diverse futures: the Ivy Leagues, honors programs at state universities, or even a gap year at an embassy in a foreign country. We help make the match that's right, so each girl can continue to excel.

Follow those who were not afraid to fail, who find confidence in pulling themselves up, who have taken risks and been rewarded. Emulate those who have reached their potential and gone looking for bigger challenges. Follow the self-assured Holy Child girls.

Learn more about Holy Child today. Find your new home.





wholesome



uplifting



generous



confident



spirited



intimate

Actions not words.

Tell us more.

What else would you like to know?

We can't wait to hear from you.

Let's get to know each other.

Looking for more ways to get to know the Holy Child community? Let's keep our conversation going.

Tour our website. And come back often! You'll find frequent updates, news, and photos about what's happening in the world of Holy Child at www.holychild.org.

Come to our Open House. Each October, we open our doors for a full tour of campus. Meet students, teachers, and staff to get a true feel for our school.

Check out our Preview Days. Offered November through January, these smaller-scale presentations and tours of our Middle School take place during the school day.

Shadow a student. Talk to current students and you'll quickly see why they love it here. Schedule a visit online or call the admissions office to spend a day as a Holy Child girl. Come more than once!

Set up an interview. We want to get to know you better—and we know you have questions, too. Sit down for a face-to-face discussion with us before you make a decision.

Ready to apply? It's quick and easy; just look for the **Apply NOW** button at www.holychild.org.

CONNELLY
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A Catholic school for young women grades 6 through 12.

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