McDONOGH

Founded in 1873, McDonogh School is an independent, non-denominational, coeducational day and five-day boarding school with a long legacy of delivering educational excellence to students in prekindergarten through twelfth grade. Our college preparatory curriculum is centered around LifeReady, McDonogh's distinctive academic framework. LifeReady elevates our programs with enhanced rigor and ignites creativity in our faculty, empowering students to excel and distinguish themselves as self-reliant, critical thinkers ready to make a meaningful impact on an ever-evolving world.

ACCREDITATION

Association of Independent Maryland & DC Schools

National Association of Independent Schools

Approved by the Maryland State Department of Education

2026-2027 ENROLLMENT

Class of 2027.....174

Upper School (US).....670

Total (PK-12).....1,445

BIPOC (US).....45%

Financial Aid (US).....25%

8600 McDonogh Road, Owings Mills, Maryland 21117

2026–2027 SCHOOL PROFILE

mcdonogh.org | CEEB #210750 | 443-544-7428

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

McDonogh's most demanding courses are designated Honors (H) and Advanced (A); many of these courses were designated AP prior to the 2022-2023 school year, at which time we stopped offering the AP curriculum. Access to Advanced and Honors courses is based on teacher recommendation with Advanced courses generally reserved for students in 11th and 12th grade.

GPA AND CLASS RANK

Based on a two-semester calendar and a 4.0 grading scale, non-cumulative, weighted GPAs are calculated at the end of each academic year and do not include Wellness/Health courses. Honors and Advanced designated courses receive an extra two-thirds of a point in calculating a GPA. McDonogh does not rank students.

A+ = 4.333	A = 4.0	A- = 3.667	B+ = 3.333	B = 3.0	B- = 2.667	
C+ = 2.333	C = 2.0	C- = 1.667	D+ = 1.333	D = 1.0	D- = 0.667	F = 0

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Subject	Number of Credits	
English	4	
History	3	*(2 World History, 1 U.S. History)*
Mathematics	3	*(Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II)*
Science	3	*(Physics, Chemistry, Biology)*
World Language	3	*(Through Level III)*
Arts	1	
Wellness/Health	1	
Additional Electives	3	

Community Service and a Senior Project are additional graduation requirements.

ADVANCED AND HONORS COURSE OFFERINGS

View the Upper School Course Description Guide for all courses offered.

ENGLISH

- H English I
- H English II
- A English III: Novel*
- A English III: Poetry*
- A English IV: World Literature*
- A English IV: Literature, Culture & Modern Media*
- A English III Seminar: Nonfiction Studies*
- A English IV Seminar: Writing for Justice*

HISTORY

- H World History I
- H World History II
- H Understanding Current Events
- A History Seminar: Arab-Israeli Conflict*
- A Government*
- A Microeconomics and Macroeconomics*
- A United States History*
- A History Seminar: Vietnam & the Vietnam War*

**Course eligible for dual credit*

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

- H Yearbook II
- H Yearbook III

MATHEMATICS

- H Algebra II
- H Geometry
- H Precalculus Accelerated
- H Precalculus
- A Calculus I*
- A Calculus I/II*
- A Calculus II-A*
- A Math: Linear Algebra*
- A Calculus II-B*
- A Statistics*
- A Math: Topics in Advanced Mathematics

COMPUTER SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND SCIENCE

Computer Science

- H Computer Science Principles
- H Object Oriented Programming
- A Algorithms & Data Structures*
- A Computational Physics
- A Computing Systems Design*

Engineering

- H Principles of Engineering
- H Engineering: 3-D Modeling*
- H Engineering: 3-D Electronics*
- A Engineering Capstone

Science

- H Biology
- H Chemistry
- H Physics
- A Applied Chemical Inquiry
- A Biology*
- A Chemistry*
- A Physics*
- A Physics C*
- A Science Seminars:
  - Anatomy and Physiology*
  - Astronomy and Weather
  - Chemical Engineering
  - Environmental Science*
  - Genetics and Biotechnology*
  - Geology
  - Neuroscience

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

Dance

- H Dance III: Techniques
- A Dance IV: Dance Company

Music

- H Concert Band
- H Jazz Band
- H Music Technology
- H String Orchestra
- H Vocal Music II
- H Vocal Music III
- A Concert Band
- A Jazz Band
- A Music Technology
- A String Orchestra
- A Vocal Music IV

Theatre

- H Movie-Making II
- H Movie-Making III
- H Theatre Technical Crew II
- H Theatre Technical Crew III
- H Theatre III: Improv II
- H Theatre IV: Improv III

Visual Arts

- H Drawing and Painting II
- H Fashion & Fibers II
- H Photography & Digital Media II
- H 3-D Art and Architecture II
- A Senior Art Capstone*

WORLD LANGUAGE

Chinese

- H Chinese II
- H Chinese III
- H Chinese IV
- A Chinese V
- A Chinese VI
- A Chinese VII

French

- H French II
- H French III
- H French IV
- A French V*

Latin

- H Latin II
- H Latin III
- A Latin IV*
- A Latin V*

Spanish

- H Spanish II
- H Spanish III
- H Spanish IV
- A Spanish V*
- A Spanish VI*

DUAL CREDIT PROGRAM

McDonogh offers dual credit courses, enabling students to earn both Upper School and college credit simultaneously through approved classes taught by McDonogh faculty on our campus. In partnership with Washington College, Notre Dame of Maryland University, and St. Mary's College of Maryland — the program spans more than two dozen approved courses across nearly every academic discipline: English, mathematics, the sciences, history and government, economics, world languages, art history, and computer science.

Depending on course selection and how McDonogh's offerings align with each partner's curriculum, a student may earn as few as three credits in a year or, in the right configuration, 15 or more. Students must select to enroll at the start of the school year. At the time of course completion, students receive a college transcript, and that credit can follow them to the college or university they ultimately attend.

McDONOGH SCHOOL

McDonogh is a school that finds joy in work and play. We prepare students to lead in a rapidly changing world.

OUR MISSION is to provide life-altering educational experiences that inspire personal and intellectual growth.

OUR VISION is of a dynamic, inclusive community built on lifelong relationships, the pursuit of excellence, and a shared commitment to do the greatest possible amount of good.

OUR VALUES

Integrity: *Strong character consists of being true to oneself and honest with others.*

Respect: *Empathy and civil discourse help make McDonogh a place where everyone belongs.*

Resilience: *The ability to overcome life's challenges with grace is essential for self-discovery.*

Curiosity: *We are lifelong learners in joyful pursuit of knowledge and wisdom.*

Gratitude: *"We give something more than we take" because service to others brings meaning and purpose.*

CHARACTER COMPASS AND HONOR CODE

McDonogh's goal is to teach lifelong lessons of honor, personal accountability, and respect. Students are expected to respond honestly to questions regarding personal and academic integrity. These values are incorporated in the School's Character Compass and the McDonogh Honor Code which states: *I will not lie, cheat, or steal. I will respect the rights and well-being of myself and others.* Students are expected to adhere to the Honor Code and are held accountable for honor violations by appearing before the Honor Council, comprised of both students and teachers.

DISTINCTIVE PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Vibrant and active with extensive performing and visual arts, an ethic of community service, 31 varsity teams (25 championship wins in 2022–2026), and a plethora of student-run and student-initiated clubs, involvement is an integral part of McDonogh campus life. To learn more, visit mcdonogh.org.

While McDonogh provides many avenues for student leadership, in order to ensure more students have access to these opportunities, each student is eligible to hold just one elected position among the four governing bodies: the Diversity Leadership Council, Greatest Good McDonogh, Student Government Association, and Honor Council.

CLASS OF 2026 SAT MIDDLE 50% RANGES

Based on highest score per student.

Evidence-Based Reading and Writing: 620-730
Mathematics: 600-750
Composite: 1230-1480
(*141 students tested)*

CLASS OF 2026 ACT MIDDLE 50% RANGES

Based on highest score per student.

English: 27–35
Mathematics: 25–33
Reading: 27–36
Science: 23–34
Composite: 27–34 *(29 students tested)*

CLASS OF 2026 COLLEGE MATRICULATIONS

Amherst College, 1
Arizona State University, 1
Auburn University, 2
Boston College, 6
Brown University, 3
Bucknell University, 2
Case Western Reserve University, 1
Clemson University, 3
Colgate University, 1
Columbia University, 1
Cornell University, 1
Denison University, 1
Dickinson College, 2
Drexel University, 2
Duke University, 4
East Tennessee State University, 1
Elon University, 2
Emory University, 2
Fairfield University, 2
Fairleigh Dickinson University (Florham), 1
Florida State University, 1
Franklin and Marshall College, 2
Georgetown University, 1
Hampton University, 1
Harvard University, 1
High Point University, 1
Hobart and William Smith Colleges, 1
Hofstra University, 1
Howard University, 7
Indiana University (Bloomington), 2
Ithaca College, 1
Jacksonville University, 1
Johns Hopkins University, 1
Kenyon College, 1
Lafayette College, 1
Lehigh University, 1
Loyola Marymount University, 1
Loyola University Maryland, 2
Merrimack College, 1
Methodist University, 1
Miami University, 1
Middlebury College, 1
Morgan State University, 1
New York University, 3
Northeastern University, 2
Northwestern University, 1
Penn State University, 2
Princeton University, 2
Purdue University, 1
Randolph-Macon College, 1
Rhodes College, 1
Rice University, 1
Saint Joseph's University, 2
Salisbury University, 1
San Diego State University, 1
Santa Monica College, 1
Savannah College of Art and Design, 1
School of the Art Institute of Chicago, 1
St. Mary's College of Maryland, 2
Stevens Institute of Technology, 1
Stevenson University, 1
Stonehill College, 2
SUNY Buffalo, 1
Syracuse University, 2
The Ohio State University, 2
Thomas Jefferson University, 1
Towson University, 1
Trinity College Dublin, 1
Tufts University, 2
Tulane University, 1
Union College, 1
University of Alabama, 1
University of California (Los Angeles), 1
University of California (Santa Cruz), 1
University of Chicago, 1
University of Colorado (Boulder), 1
University of Delaware, 1
University of Denver, 1
University of Florida, 2
University of Georgia, 1
University of Maryland, 15
University of Maryland (Baltimore County), 2
University of Maryland Eastern Shore, 1
University of Massachusetts (Amherst), 2
University of Michigan, 1
University of Mount Union, 1
University of Notre Dame, 3
University of Pennsylvania, 1
University of Rochester, 1
University of South Carolina, 2
University of Tampa, 1
University of Wisconsin, 4
Villanova University, 1
Virginia Tech, 3
Wake Forest University, 2
Washington & Jefferson College, 1
Washington University in St. Louis, 1
Wellesley College, 1
William & Mary, 1
Xavier University of Louisiana, 1
Yale University, 1

David J. Farace '87
Head of School

Kate Mueller
Associate Head of School

Merritt Livermore '91
Head of Upper School

Alice Margraff
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