

**A**  
***Balanced***  
**Life is a**  
***Powerful***  
**Life**

**COLUMBIA GRAMMAR &  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

[cgps.org](http://cgps.org)



# A balanced life

is a powerful life

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Every moment at Columbia Grammar & Preparatory School is a balance between curiosity and discovery, challenge and success, independence and unity.

Why do we strive for that balance? Because we want our students to achieve their highest ambitions while keeping their spirits intact. Because we believe that education is an adventure of the highest order—a time of wonder and discovery, connection and collaboration. Because we know, from centuries of experience, that excellence is a process.

At CGPS, students discover the freedom to become their full, flourishing selves. They become broad-minded, self-directed, forward-thinking scholars, citizens and leaders. Every moment of every day at CGPS leads to that powerful result.





# Balance

A robust, rewarding, uplifting education  
A community that celebrates each student's journey and success  
An experience that fortifies mind, body and spirit



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CGPS FACT  
*Founded in 1764*

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**CGPS FACT**

***6:1 student to teacher  
ratio schoolwide***

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# Challenge

Opportunities to set new goals and become your best self  
An environment where it's safe—and encouraged—to take smart risks  
A culture where courage and compassion work together



CGPS FACT

200,000 square feet  
of fully modernized  
facilities in an  
interconnected  
campus on 92nd,  
93rd and 94th Streets



# Curiosity

The joy of the search, the thrill of discovery  
An invitation to ask big questions  
A communal respect for each student's passions



# Excellence

Faculty and staff who nurture students' singular potential  
Students who are eager to explore bold ideas and high aspirations  
A schoolwide dedication to going further while staying true to yourself



## CGPS FACT

*Nationally  
recognized  
chess program  
starting in  
kindergarten*





# Unity

A clear-eyed respect for different voices, stories and experiences

An eagerness to see beyond the self, to care for the community

A school bound by shared values and timeless principles



CGPS FACT

**1,300 students**  
**in grades Pre-K-12**



# Pride

The satisfaction of knowing that you've exceeded your expectations  
A community that honors each person's distinctive achievements  
The profound, lifelong reward of a transformative education



## CGPS FACT

*60% of students in grades  
7-12 compete on one or more of  
39 competitive athletic teams*





# Grammar School

PRE-KINDERGARTEN–GRADE 4

## The academic experience

- Built on strong, individualized relationships with teachers and classmates, learning in small groups
- Development of social and emotional competencies (cooperation, assertiveness, responsibility, empathy and self-control) woven into curriculum
- Regular engagement with the city, including field trips to zoos, farms and museums
- A concern for communities near and far, with teachers connecting students to people and issues in the School and the city
- An emphasis on project-based learning, with students exploring one topic in-depth from a range of perspectives over a sustained period of time

## Signature programs

- Sunrise to Sunset program offers robust activities before and after school, including our reasonably priced After 3 Social Club and free POWER (Practice, Organize, Work, Enrich and Review) Hour with teacher-led support and enrichment, beginning as early as 7:15 a.m. and ending as late as 6 p.m.
- Nationally recognized chess program integrates chess into the curriculum and offers opportunities for league competition and service events
- Renowned swim program starting in Pre-K, using dedicated, on-campus 60-foot pool
- STEAM programming incorporated across the curriculum, using computer labs and a MakerSpace featuring age-appropriate tools
- Yoga, dance and drama program instills mindfulness, resilience, self-control and creativity

**Big-school resources** with a small-school feel

**4:1 student to teacher ratio**, with small, student-centered classes

**Over 77,000 square feet** of learning space, including **6,500 square feet** of outdoor space

**Purposeful** use of **Responsive Classroom** practices

Strong academic, social and emotional **preparation for Middle School and Prep School**

For more: **cgps.org**

## The student experience

- Cherished tradition of daily family breakfast welcomes parents and caregivers
- Nearly 40 after-school classes, from computer programming and ballet to jewelry design and karate
- A setting that brings the senses alive, with a garden, protected outdoor hallways and three play yards
- A school in a family neighborhood, on streets lined with handsome brownstones

# Middle School

GRADES 5–7

## The academic experience

- Curriculum grounded in key skills and practices: critical thinking, creative problem-solving, oral and written expression, cooperative group work, hands-on learning
- Programming dedicated to leadership and social-emotional development
- Innovative world languages rotation in sixth grade, with all students taking six weeks of study in five languages: Spanish, French, Mandarin, Japanese and Latin
- Wide-ranging exploration of arts, including music composition and music technology, drama and dance, painting and drawing, digital art and stop-motion animation
- Seventh graders complete capstone projects in every class—an opportunity to synthesize and apply their learning

## Signature programs

- CORE program in fifth grade serves as home base and origin of language arts and social studies instruction
- Current Issues Research Seminar class gives sixth graders an immersive, year-long research experience
- Full integration of arts into the curriculum, including band, chorus and orchestra
- STEAM and technology programming throughout the curriculum, including robotics, bioengineering and 3D modeling, plus critical thinking, collaboration and digital citizenship
- Enrichment Modules offer specialized courses in a range of fields (technology, creative writing, archaeology, mindfulness and more)
- Math Team and comprehensive math program allow students to sharpen their skills in-house and at national competitions

**A culture of inquiry**, resilience and independence

**Exceptional faculty** with deep understanding of the joys, needs and challenges of this age

**Dedicated Middle School facilities**, allowing students to build community and grow into leaders

Develops students who are **focused, balanced and confident**—ready for Prep School

For more: **cgps.org**

## The student experience

- Lion’s Den extended day program offers a safe, structured after-school experience, including homework help, mindfulness and physical activity
- Service learning and philanthropy are woven into every student’s experience
- Clubs and activities for a range of interests, including FIRST Lego League Team, solving real-world problems using STEAM
- Physical education curriculum includes team sports and fitness training



Prep School  
GRADES 8-12

The academic experience

- A distinctive college preparatory curriculum—a thoughtfully structured, carefully balanced, intellectually inspiring exploration of the liberal arts and sciences
- 6:1 student to teacher ratio ensures that every student is known, challenged and encouraged by extraordinary teachers
- Dean system assigns a Dean to stay with each class through the Prep School journey, serving as a liaison among students, teachers, staff and parents
- Gradual exposure to an extraordinary range of opportunities, including original research and wide-ranging electives
- A culture that supports social and emotional development, featuring our outstanding Peer Leadership program

Signature programs

- Expansive list of electives in every discipline, from forensic science to organic chemistry, computer science to podcasting, metalsmithing to music theory, world religions to literature of the underworld
- Pi-athalon—a two-day celebration of  $\pi$  Day, with multi-grade teams engaged in friendly math competition
- Flourishing arts program, featuring ambitious productions, dozens of performance opportunities and engagement with the city’s artists
- Advanced Science Research program beginning sophomore year gives students high-level, hands-on experience in pursuing original science research
- Student travel opportunities include summer immersion programs in Latin America, Model Congress and Model UN trips

All Prep School classes capped at **16 students**, led by experienced, innovative and caring faculty

**Over 100 electives offered every year**, as well as **50+ advanced, honors and Advanced Placement classes**, allowing students to pursue their academic interests at a high level

**70+** clubs and organizations; **39** athletic teams

**Responsive, individualized College Counseling team** with a formidable track record and a commitment to helping students find their best fit

**An exhilarating environment** that allows students to explore their passions, build on their accomplishments, and embrace their role as citizens of the School and the wider world

For more: [cgps.org](https://cgps.org)

Student experience

- Vast array of clubs and numerous performance groups offer opportunities for leadership, community engagement and creative expression
- Career Internship Program for grades 9–12 offers summer internships in a wide range of fields, from law to finance, education to marketing
- Robust service learning program in which all students participate; many service opportunities are student-generated
- Expansive physical education program, with two gyms, a yoga room, a dance studio and a weight room
- Student counseling office helps promote balance by offering relaxed, small-group “Issues” program as well as individual guidance

Colleges

WHERE FOUR OR MORE SENIORS HAVE  
MATRICULATED IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS

American University  
Bard College  
Boston College  
Boston University  
Brandeis University  
Brown University  
Bucknell University  
Colby College  
Colgate University  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Dartmouth College  
Davidson College  
Duke University  
Emory University  
The George Washington University  
Georgetown University  
Harvard University  
Johns Hopkins University

New York University  
Northwestern University  
Oberlin College & Conservatory  
Skidmore College  
Stanford University  
Swarthmore College  
Syracuse University  
Tufts University  
Tulane University  
The University of Chicago  
University of Michigan  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Southern California  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Vanderbilt University  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Wesleyan University  
Yale University

VARSITY

Athletic Teams

Baseball (boys)  
Basketball (boys, girls)  
Cross Country (co-ed)  
Golf (boys)  
Ice Hockey (boys)  
Indoor Track (co-ed)  
Lacrosse (boys, girls)

Powerlifting (co-ed)  
Soccer (boys, girls)  
Softball (girls)  
Swimming (boys, girls)  
Tennis (boys, girls)  
Track (co-ed)  
Volleyball (girls)



## VISITING IS A *Powerful Experience*

Please come to campus and learn more about your future at CGPS. Our Admission Open House programs provide prospective families and students with an overview of the School and our admission process; campus tours are an opportunity to see CGPS in action. Please visit our website at [cgps.org](https://cgps.org), email us at [admission@cgps.org](mailto:admission@cgps.org) or call **212.749.6200** for more information, to arrange a tour or to schedule a visit.

## *Mission*

CGPS nurtures each student's unique passions and talents inside and outside the classroom, unifying and inspiring members of its community in a rigorous but relaxed learning environment, preparing students for the finest colleges and instilling in them the confidence, ethical values, and sense of purpose to embrace challenges, to achieve their dreams, and to improve the world.

# COLUMBIA GRAMMAR & PREPARATORY SCHOOL

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