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ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC SCHOOL – HIGH SCHOOL

Profile 2017-2018

St. Ignatius Catholic School – High School, is a Catholic, co-educational, independent day school established in 1994 on the Island of Grand Cayman, the largest of the Cayman Islands (population c.55,000) in the western Caribbean. Banking and tourism are at the heart of the vibrant economy and Caymanians enjoy the highest income per capita in the region. As a British Overseas Territory, English is spoken and there are strong American and Canadian influences. St. Ignatius Catholic School is viewed as one of the leading non-selective schools in the British Caribbean. The Cayman Islands Education Standards & Assessment Unit (ESAU) described it as “a good school” in 2007.

There are 300 students of 20 nationalities in Grades 7-13, 75 of whom have graduated from a high school programme and are following advanced courses in Years 12 and 13. The 30 highly qualified teachers provide the school with a student teacher ratio of 10:1.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to nurture the spiritual, academic, social and personal development of every student in our care in a supportive Catholic atmosphere which welcomes and embraces all denominations.

Academic Programme

The school offers a British based curriculum with the addition of the PSAT and the SAT 1 which are available to all senior students.

Those in **Years 7-9** follow a broad foundation programme comprising English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Religious Education, Science, Information Technology, History, Geography, Spanish, French, Art, Music, Drama, Physical Education and Lifeskills. It is intended that all students get experience of knowledge, understanding, skills and values from a wide range of subject areas.

In **Years 10-11** students follow a core curriculum of English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Religious Education (R.E.), Double Award Science, Physical Education (P.E.), and Careers Education (C.E.), with Work Experience (W.E.) in Year 10. In addition they choose options (electives) in which they specialize for two years. The option subjects are Accounting, Art, Business Studies, Computer Science, Drama, French, Geography, History, Information and Communication Technology (I.C.T.), Music, Physical Education and Spanish, from which the students choose three subjects. They graduate at the end of Year 11 having taken I./G.C.S.E. examinations.

Those students selected to study advanced courses in **Years 12 and 13** are required to achieve a minimum of 5 higher I./G.C.S.E. passes (Grades A*-C) before being considered for advanced level study on Honours courses. Each advanced level subject is 160 hours of study. Nineteen subjects are currently offered: Accounting, Art and Design, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Computer Science, Drama, English Literature, French, Geography, History, Information and Communication Technology (I.C.T.), Law, Marine Science, Mathematics, Music, Physics, Religious Studies and Spanish, of which students may opt for 3 or 4 in any one year. In addition, non-examination classes are compulsory in Religion (R.E.) and Physical Education (P.E.). Community Service (C.S.) is also required on a weekly basis from all college bound students.

Testing

Students in Years 10-11 prepare for the University of Cambridge, International General Certificate of Secondary Education (I.G.C.S.E.) Examinations and the WJEC GCSE Examinations which they take in 9 subjects at the end of Year 11. 90.5% of the graduating class of 2017 achieved 5 or more higher passes (Grades A*-C) at I./G.C.S.E. level. Many graduates move directly into U.S. universities and colleges at this stage of their education.

A large percentage of Year 11 graduates move directly into Year 12 pre-university courses from the University of Cambridge and WJEC. The Advanced Subsidiary Examination (AS) and A2 Examination is offered in Years 12-13. A total of 6 AS subjects is equally as demanding as 3 full A level subjects and equivalent credit may be awarded to successful AS candidates. A grade 5 in the US Advanced Placement examination is also regarded as the equivalent of an “A” grade in AS. For institutions that choose to award advanced standing on a course-by-course basis, it might be considered appropriate to offer one-fifth of a full year’s credit for individual AS subjects, say an average of six credit hours per subject in a thirty-credit year.

Grading Policy			
Scale for I./G.C.S.E. courses in Years 10-11 Ages: 14-16		Scale for AS/A2 courses in Years 12-13 Ages: 16-18	
Suggested US Equivalent:		<u>AS:</u>	<u>A2/A Level:</u>
A*: 85 – 100		A: 75 – 100	A*: 90 – 100
A: 75 – 84	A+	B: 65 – 74	A: 75 – 89
B: 65 – 74	A- or B+	C: 55 – 64	B: 65 – 74
C: 55 – 64	B	D: 45 – 54	C: 55 – 64
D: 45 – 54	C+	E: 35 – 44	D: 45 – 54
E: 35 – 44	C-	Fail: 0 – 34	E: 35 – 44
F: 25 – 34	D+		Fail: 0 – 34
G: 15 – 24			
Fail: 0 – 15	“Five passes at Grade C or higher would indicate a student’s readiness to begin freshman level courses in US universities.” (Source Cambridge Int’l Examinations briefing paper to US Admission Counsellors.)		

See transcript for grade point conversion scale.

St. Ignatius Catholic School does not rank its students.

College Enrollment

100% of St. Ignatius Catholic School advanced level students plan to attend four-year colleges and universities. Our students have graduated from or are presently enrolled at:

U.S.A.:

Barry University	Boston College	Boston University
Brenau University	Brigham Young University	Brown University
California Baptist University	Canisius College	Embry-Riddle University
Emory University	Florida Institute of Technology	Grand Valley State University
George Mason University	Georgia Institute of Technology	Indiana University
Johnson & Wales University	Liberty University	Louisiana State University
Loyola University	Michigan State University	North Carolina State University
Notre Dame University	Pennsylvania State University	Philadelphia College of Technology
Purdue University	Rice University	Rollins University
Savannah College of Art & Design	St. Leo University	St. Mary’s University, San Antonio, Texas
Southern Methodist University	Stetson University	University of Advancing Technology, Arizona
University of Colorado at Boulder	University of Florida	University of Miami
University of North Carolina	University of North Texas	University of South Carolina
University of South Florida	University of Tampa	West Palm Beach Atlantic College

Canada:

Brock University, Ontario	Bishop’s University, Quebec,	Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia
Guelph University, Ontario	Queen’s University, Ontario	Ryerson University, Ontario
Saint Mary’s University, Nova Scotia	St. Thomas University, New Brunswick	SAIT, Alberta
University of King’s College, Nova Scotia	University of Toronto, Ontario	University of Western Ontario
York University, Ontario		

United Kingdom:

Brunel University	Canterbury Christ Church University	Cardiff University
Edinburgh Napier University	Hull York Medical School	Keele University
King’s College London	Leeds Metropolitan University	Manchester Metropolitan University
Nottingham Trent University	Oxford Brookes University	Plymouth University
Queen Mary University of London	Royal Holloway College, University of London	Southampton University
University College Birmingham	University of Bedfordshire	University of Bradford
University of Bristol	University of Derby	University of Durham
University of East London	University of Exeter	University of Hull
University of Kent	University of Lancaster	University of Leicester
University of Liverpool	University of London	University of Manchester
University of Newcastle	University of Northumbria	University of Nottingham
University of Oxford	University of Portsmouth	University of Sheffield
University of Southampton	University of Sunderland	University of Surrey
University of the West of England	University of Wales	University of Worcester

Caribbean:

Cayman Islands Law School	University College of the Cayman Islands	University of the West Indies, Jamaica
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Other:

Trinity College – Dublin, Ireland	University College Dublin – Ireland	University of Galway – Ireland
University of Brisbane – Australia	University D’Ex-Marseille - France	University of Oslo – Norway
Washington University of St. Louis, Madrid Campus – Spain		