



2026 - 2027

SCHOOL PROFILE

**MENS
VOLUNTAS
GRATIA**

ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Founded in 1964, St. Stephen's School is a **four-year, non-profit, independent, coeducational, non-denominational, day and boarding school** that draws on the strengths of both **American and European educational traditions** to give our students a well-rounded, global perspective. In celebration of its 60th anniversary, St. Stephen's embarked on a significant transformation of its classrooms with cutting-edge collaborative technologies designed to foster collaboration and innovation. It also expanded its boarding facilities with the opening of *the Collegio*, a state-of-the-art boarding residence near the Colosseum that offers students an immersive educational and cultural experience.

School Motto: **Mens** (mind), **Voluntas** (will), **Gratia** (influence)

Core values of **Care, Scholarship, Creativity, Integrity** and **Independence**.

ACCREDITATION & MEMBERSHIP

- St. Stephen's has been accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (**NEASC**) since 1974, the Council of International Schools (**CIS**) since 1995, and the Boarding Schools' Association (**BSA**) since 2025. The school has been an **IB World School** since 1975.
- Member of the Mediterranean Association of International Schools (**MAIS**), Educational Collaborative for International Schools (**ECIS**), National Association for College Admission Counseling (**NACAC**), International Association for College Admission Counseling (**IACAC**), National Association of Independent Schools (**NAIS**).

STUDENT POPULATION

In 2026, the St. Stephen's student community comprises **309 students** from **70 different nationalities**. **63 students** in our community live full-time in our boarding accommodations on- and off-campus (*the Collegio*). The average class size across all four grade levels is 11 students per class.

FACULTY PROFILE

St. Stephen's is proud of its diverse and highly qualified faculty community, with **56 faculty members representing 13 nationalities**. **Eighty-eight percent of our faculty hold advanced degrees**. With a student-teacher ratio of 6:1, students benefit from specialized and focused instruction.

CORE STRENGTHS

Our Location - Situated in the historic heart of Rome, St. Stephen's School offers students unparalleled cultural, historical, and educational opportunities. The Eternal City serves as an extension of the classroom. As part of our curriculum, all Grade 9 and 10 students engage in mandatory courses in classical languages and history through the distinctive "City of Rome" program.

Experiential Learning - Students develop global awareness and intellectual curiosity through regular academic excursions across Italy and Europe. Beyond the classroom, they take initiative in creating and leading a wide array of extracurricular clubs and associations, fostering independence, leadership, and collaboration.

Advisory & Student Support - Each student is paired with a dedicated faculty advisor who provides guidance on academic progress and personal well-being. Through weekly meetings and regular check-ins, students benefit from consistent mentorship and a strong support network.

Athletics & Activities - St. Stephen's athletes compete in soccer, basketball, and volleyball against international schools in Rome, across Italy, and throughout Europe. Students also enjoy a broad range of non-competitive options including tennis, badminton, running, yoga, pilates, and dance, ensuring opportunities for both team spirit and personal wellness.

DISTINCTIVE PROGRAMS

The Lyceum - A vibrant program that brings the classical world to life through lectures, cultural events, and experiential learning opportunities. Open not only to students but also to the wider St. Stephen's community, the Lyceum bridges academic study with Rome's living history.

Molecular Biology - An advanced program designed to deepen student understanding of biotechnology and molecular sciences. Given the popularity of these fields in higher education, this program prepares students with rigorous, research-based experiences and laboratory work.

Engineering & Robotics - Students acquire practical STEM skills through hands-on projects in engineering, robotics, and space technology. A highlight of the program is the design and construction of a miniaturized satellite—roughly the size of a soda can—demonstrating the integration of creativity, problem-solving, and technical expertise.

Performing & Visual Arts - Beginning in Grades 9 and 10, students pursue a rich program in the performing and visual arts, with opportunities in theater, music, studio art, and design. This program encourages creativity, self-expression, and interdisciplinary collaboration, culminating in exhibitions and performances that showcase student talent.

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ACADEMICS AT ST. STEPHEN'S

The St. Stephen's curriculum prepares students for the **American High School Diploma** and the **International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP)**, which allows students to enter universities worldwide.

International Baccalaureate and Course Offerings

All courses at St. Stephen's are highly demanding, with the IB Diploma Program being the most rigorous. If a student's academic focus does not align with the full IB program, they may opt for individual IB certificates. While the school does not offer Advanced Placement (AP) courses, students can choose to take AP exams in addition to their regular coursework. St. Stephen's offers the following IB subjects per group:

- **Language A:** English Language and Literature (SL/HL), English Literature (HL), French Language and Literature (SL/HL), Italian Language and Literature (SL/HL)
- **Language B:** Mandarin Chinese (SL), Classical Greek (SL), Latin (HL), Spanish (SL/HL), Italian (SL/HL), Italian ab initio (SL), French (SL/HL), Russian (SL)
- **Individuals & Societies:** History (HL), Art History (SL), Economics (SL/HL), Environmental Systems and Societies (SL), Classical Greek and Roman Studies (SL), Global Politics (SL), Business Management (SL/HL)
- **Sciences:** Biology (SL/HL), Chemistry (SL/HL), Physics (SL/HL), Environmental Systems and Societies (SL)
- **Maths:** Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches (SL/HL), Mathematics: Applications and Interpretations (SL/HL)
- **Arts:** Visual Arts (HL), Theatre (SL/HL)

Grading Philosophy & Context

St. Stephen's maintains rigorous grading standards. Grades are **unweighted**, and students are **not ranked**. Although St. Stephen's does not report individual student GPAs, for school-profile statistical purposes the five-year equivalent GPA average is **3.30**.

Academic Calendar & Assessment

St. Stephen's follows a semester system with four marking periods per year. Students take at least five academic courses each semester. The school grading system requires three summative assessments per marking period and an examination each semester.

Graduation Requirements

English: 4 credits	Arts: 1 credit
Mathematics: 4 credits	Electives: 2 credits
Foreign Language: 3 credits	Core (Study Skills)/Health: 2 years
Experimental Science: 3 credits	Service/Sports: Yearly Requirement
History/Social Sciences: 3 credits	Extended Essay: Senior Requirement

Class of 2025

78 IBDP Candidates
 + 3 IB Certificates
 + 3 Non-IB Students
 Average IBDP Score: 36 points
 Highest IBDP Score: 44 points
 Average SAT Score: 1298
 Average GPA: 3.29

Class of 2026

77 IBDP Candidates
 + 2 Non-IB Students
 Average IBDP Score: 35 points
 Highest IBDP Score: 43 points
 Average SAT Score: 1328
 Average GPA: 3.30

Class of 2027

77 IBDP Candidates
 + 3 IB Certificates
 + 4 Non-IB Students

Key Application Details

At St. Stephen's, individual student **GPA is not calculated**, and students **are not ranked**.

Grade Predictions

Grade predictions at St. Stephen's are based on **summative assessments, in-class progress, and internal assessments** - guided by the **IB standards and descriptors**. Graduating students will receive predictions on multiple occasions during their last two years of school to help guide their decision-making for post-secondary applications.

In Grade 11:

- March (Marking Period 3)
- June (Semester 2 End)

In Grade 12:

- Each Marking Period (October, January, March and June)
- For university applications, students **will use** IB subject predictions beginning in October 2026.
- **Semester 1 grades are available in February 2027.**

Note: Senior students have the opportunity to choose two teacher-reviewed aspirational IB predictions which may be included in their applications.

Note: Over the past ten years, St. Stephen's IBDP candidates have averaged 2 bonus points.

Median Grades by Department: Class of 2027

The table below shows the median grades reported on Class of 2027 transcripts, by department and grade level.

Median Grades by Department: Class of 2027			
Department	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11
English	B+	A-	B+
Modern Languages	A-	A-	B+
History & Classics	B+	A-	B+
Science & Technology	B+	B+	B+
Mathematics	B+	B+	B+
Arts	A-	A-	B+

IB Grade Distribution: Class of 2026

IB grade results from St. Stephen's tend to be above the world average, with the overall grade distribution remaining consistently strong from year to year. The Class of 2026 continues this trend, with results reflecting the strong academic performance of our students.

IB Grade Distribution: Class of 2026									
Subject Group	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	SSS Avg.	World Avg.
Language A	12	40	49	7	0	0	0	5.53	4.91
Language B	37	19	11	4	2	0	0	6.16	5.22
Individuals & Societies	9	46	37	18	11	1	0	5.17	4.72
Sciences	9	20	20	10	2	0	0	5.39	4.59
Maths	14	11	20	20	8	5	0	4.85	4.49
Arts	0	3	11	1	0	0	0	5.13	4.68
Overall	Higher Level (HL)	37	85	78	26	7	0		
	Standard Level (SL)	44	54	70	34	16	6		

UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS

Students at St. Stephen's have the opportunity to apply to post-secondary opportunities worldwide. We limit our students to a maximum of 12 university applications. This policy ensures that students prioritize best fit institutions, and submit quality, deeply considered applications.

Bolded names indicate the universities where our Class of 2026 graduates have enrolled.

BELGIUM

KU Leuven
University of Ghent

CANADA

Algonquin College
Concordia University
McGill University
McMaster University
Toronto Metropolitan University
University of Alberta
University of British Columbia (UBC)
University of New Brunswick
University of Toronto
Western University

CYPRUS

European University Cyprus (EUC)

FRANCE

ESCP Business School
ISART Digital
Istituto Marangoni Paris
National Institute of Applied Sciences
Parsons Paris
Paris School of Business
Sciences Po
Sorbonne Université

GERMANY

Bard College Berlin
Catalyst, Institute for Creative Arts and Technology

HONG KONG

University of Hong Kong (HKU)

IRELAND

University College Dublin
University of Galway

ITALY

Accademia Koefia Roma
American University of Rome (AUR)
Humanitas
Istituto Marangoni
John Cabot University

LUISS

Marist College Florence
Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti (NABA)
Polimoda
Politecnico di Milano
UniCamillus Università Medica Internazionale
Università Bocconi
Università Campus Bio-medico di Roma
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore
Università degli studi di Tor Vergata
Università degli studi Roma Tre
Università di Bologna
Università Europea di Roma
Università La Sapienza di Roma
Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele

LITHUANIA

Vilnius University

NETHERLANDS

Delft University of Technology
Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam
Erasmus University College Maastricht University
Tilburg University
TU Eindhoven
University of Amsterdam
University of Twente
Utrecht University
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
Willem de Kooning Academy

POLAND

University of Warsaw

PORTUGAL

Forward College Lisbon

RUSSIA

British Higher School of Art and Design

SOUTH KOREA

Yonsei University

SPAIN

ESADE Business School
European Sport Business School (ESBS)
IE Business School
St. Louis University (Madrid)

SWITZERLAND

École hôtelière de Lausanne (EHL)
Les Roches

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

University of Birmingham Dubai

UNITED KINGDOM

AA (Architectural Association) School of Architecture
Bath Spa University
City St George's, University of London
Courtauld Institute of Art
Durham University
Goldsmiths, University of London
Glasgow School of Art
Hult International Business School
Imperial College London
King's College London (KCL)
London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)
Northeastern University London
Queen Mary University of London
Ravensbourne University London
Regent's University London
Royal Holloway, University of London
SOAS University of London
University College London (UCL)
University of Aberdeen
University of Bath
University of Birmingham
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
University of Chester
University of Edinburgh
University of Exeter
University of Glasgow
University of Hertfordshire
University of Leeds
University of Manchester

UNITED KINGDOM CONT'D

University of Nottingham
University of Oxford
University of Reading
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University of St Andrews
University of Sussex
University of the Arts London (UAL)
University of the West of England
Bristol
University of Westminster
University of Warwick

UNITED STATES

Arizona State University
Barnard College
Bates College
Boston University
Brigham Young University
Brown University
Case Western Reserve University
Christopher Newport University
Colgate University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
Emerson College
Emory University
Fordham University
Georgetown University
Harvard University
Haverford College
Illinois Institute of Technology
Lehigh University
New York University
Nicholls State University
North Carolina Wesleyan College
Northeastern University
Parsons School of Design
Pennsylvania State University
Pepperdine University
Pitzer College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
Saint Leo University
Santa Monica College
Savannah College of Art and Design
Scripps College
St. Olaf College
Stanford University
SUNY Binghamton
The New School
Tulane University of Louisiana
University of Arizona
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of Miami
University of Michigan - Ann Arbor
University of Michigan-Dearborn
University of Minnesota Twin Cities
University of Pennsylvania
University of Texas at Austin
University of Virginia
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Washington University in St. Louis
Wesleyan University
William & Mary
Williams College
Yale University