


A close-up photograph of a young boy with light brown hair, wearing a dark blue polo shirt. He is looking intently through the eyepiece of a white and black compound microscope. His right hand is resting on the microscope's body. The background is a blurred classroom setting with colorful posters on the wall. A large, curved green graphic element separates the photograph from the dark green footer.

MIND OPENING
since 1869.

CCES
Always OPEN

A hiker with a large blue backpack is crossing a stream using a mossy log as a bridge. The hiker is wearing blue shorts and brown hiking boots. The stream is flowing over rocks and logs, creating white water. The forest is dense with tall trees and sunlight filtering through the canopy. Another hiker is visible in the background, also crossing the stream.

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING
YOU HAVE TO BE HERE...



OPEN

A closed mind will never cure cancer, transform healthcare, or write a great American novel.

That's why Oregon Episcopal School is always open. To great questions and new ideas. To each other and the community. To learning. To growing. And to making the world a better place for everyone.

OES is a PreK–12 day and boarding school located in Portland, Oregon between the Cascade Mountains and the Pacific Ocean. Our campus is just minutes from downtown and is bordered by natural wetlands. We offer our students an ideal setting for learning about the world.



HOW DO YOU OPEN A MIND?

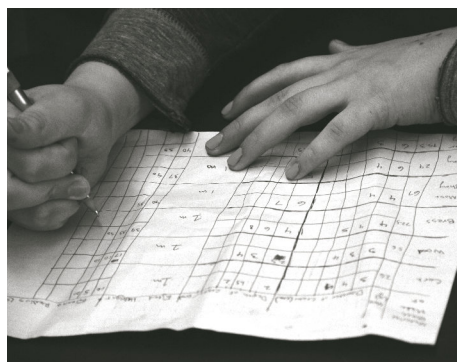
Great question.

In fact, a great question can open just about anything.

Once children sink their teeth into a big, juicy question, they naturally take off running in search of the answers. That's why life at OES is designed to spark children's curiosity. From there, they learn how to explore, evaluate, and act for the greater good. Suddenly, the whole world opens up.



"If we can capture and cultivate our students' innate curiosity, we can teach them how to learn anything." — David Lowell, Head of Lower School



How many people can the earth hold? Why do people fight wars? What happens when we run out of oil?

These are the kinds of questions that OES kids think about every day. Why? Because great answers – solutions to the world's big problems, life-changing technology, soul-moving works of art – all start with great questions.

Children are hardwired for exploration. We use that natural curiosity to drive their desire for learning. We help them form their own questions, find their own answers, and reach their own conclusions.

One question leads to another, then another, then another. That's the goal. When you ask, you can answer; when you answer, you can act. That's the power of being open.



OES is an independent college preparatory school founded in the Episcopal tradition.

Since 1869, OES has been helping children develop solid academic skills, great character, strong leadership abilities, and an appreciation for the value of hard work and giving back to the community.

OES spans Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade, including a boarding option in the Upper School with students from many countries. As part of the Episcopal tradition, we honor diversity and welcome the opportunity to learn from different traditions. OES is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), the National Association of Episcopal Schools (NAES), and is accredited by the Northwest Association of Independent Schools and AdvancEd.

TO BE INSPIRED,
BE OPEN TO
CURIOSITY.



Lower School

Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth Grade



“You get to learn something new each week. It’s difficult – but in a good way. So it’s fun.”

OES students love school. The way we teach is based on the idea that children learn best through experiences that fascinate them. Officially, it’s called inquiry-based learning. In practice, it’s all about creating environments and experiences that open children up to the wonders of the world around them – like the tree frog that inspired kindergarteners to explore biology, art, and ethical behavior.

As students progress through the Lower School, they take on more responsibility and begin learning how

to manage an age-appropriate workload. The curriculum continues to build upon each child’s innate curiosity through constantly evolving projects. First graders explore natural habitats, creation stories, and writing by designing and building the imaginary world of “Portal-landia.” Third graders studying the westward migration to Oregon learn to think like real explorers in the OES wetlands. And 5th graders use their math and tech savvy to design websites.



“If you look at highly successful people, they really pursue ideas they are interested in. The motivation comes from themselves instead of coming from someone else.” – Kirstin McAuley, Kindergarten Teacher



TO BUILD CONFIDENCE, BE OPEN TO MISTAKES.

Middle School | Sixth through Eighth Grades



Middle School starts with a trip.

Every September, our 6th graders leave campus for three days. Students have fun, get to know each other, and talk about what they want from their Middle School experience.

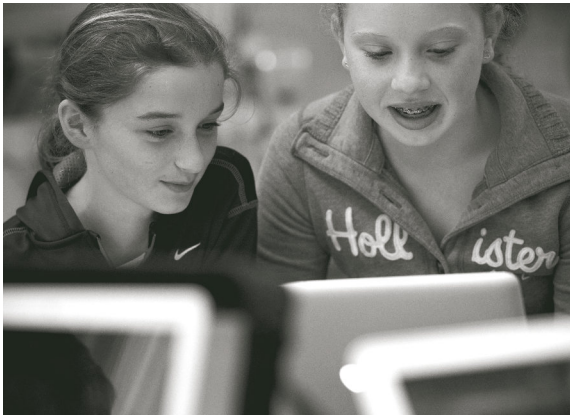
This community-building exercise is specifically designed to support the changing developmental needs of middle schoolers. To learn, students have to venture outside the comfort of what they already know. They have

to be open to asking questions and making mistakes. We help them create a culture of inclusivity, trust, and respect.

"Students learn from mistakes as well as from achievements," said Head of Middle School Scott Hardister. "We want them to see that mistakes are just opportunities to assess, adapt, and develop resilience, so they'll continue learning and growing."

Using technology wisely.

In Middle School, OES issues every student a laptop computer so they can learn the benefits and responsibilities of technology. They learn how to find information and present their ideas in a variety of ways, such as writing, videos, and podcasts. In the process they also learn about taking care of the hardware and online safety.



Every student has an Advisory: a group of eight to nine students and a faculty advisor.

Advisories, which meet three to four times per week, give students opportunities to talk with each other and their advisor about anything – school or life or current events. Advisors get to know their advisees and are great resources for students and parents.



"Children learn when they feel safe. Our students know that they are loved here. They know that we see them, value them, and will help them."
— Cindy McEnroe, Middle School Counselor



TO BUILD RESILIENCE,
BE OPEN TO A
CHALLENGE.

Upper School

Ninth through Twelfth Grades, Day and Boarding



In Upper School, students are still cultivating curiosity as the internal motivator for learning.

The difference is that now the thinking and questioning rise to a much higher level. Upper School academics are a blend of traditional, research-based, cross-disciplinary, and experiential coursework.

OES science programs challenge students through independent research, professional mentoring, and national and international competition. Our research-based humanities programs lead students to create truly impressive works like the Literary Journalism Project.

Upper School students also begin taking on greater leadership responsibilities: they contribute to student government, clubs and organizations, lead our athletic teams, and tackle bigger roles in both visual and performing arts.

This is also when students begin to consider more seriously what they might like to do with their lives. They start talking with our college counselors as early as 9th grade and seek experiences through our Service Learning, Winterim, and Discovery programs.

Boarding begins in the 9th grade at OES. Our Upper School is comprised of local day students as well as domestic and international boarding students. The “dormies” bring a broad global perspective to life at OES.

“I like the fact that the teachers demand a lot and make kids try things that are hard. They’re developing intellectual agility.” — Rob C., parent

WHERE DO GREAT QUESTIONS LEAD?



VOLCANO STUDY AT MOUNT ST. HELENS. LA
MIDWINTER MADNESS. HERO SPEECHES. M
PORTLAND MEAT COLLECTIVE. DISCOVER
PET VET. ROPES COURSE. WETLANDS EXP
EXPERIMENTS. ANIMATION. OREGON FOOD
WEEK. STORY WORKSHOP. JAZZ BAND. BEG
LEGO PHYSICS. BACKYARD EXCHANGE. CR

The greatest questions lead to action.

We believe in learning by doing and in using what we learn to make a difference in the world.

OES students have opportunities to do everything from service learning in Guatemala to the campus ropes course. They tutor children who speak English as a second language, perform with the Oregon Symphony, and explore potential career paths through

professional apprenticeships. Students go on language immersion trips, conduct original research, write and produce plays, and exhibit their artwork in Portland galleries.

All of these experiences are designed to help students connect their classwork to their life's work – and teach them how to use their power for good.



LANGUAGE IMMERSION IN CHINA, ECUADOR, FRANCE, SPAIN. WINTERIM
MOUNT HOOD CLIMB SERVICE DAY. DOGSLEDDING. SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM
Y APPRENTICESHIPS. OREGON HUMANE SOCIETY. SPRING MUSICAL.
LORATION. ROCK CLIMBING AT SMITH ROCK. PROJECT VOICE. BUBBLE
BANK. ARGENTINE TANGO. ART TREK. OCTOBERIM. SKI PATROL. ARTS
NINING SCHOOL GARDEN. WORLD PEACE GAME. INVENTEAM. PI MANIA
OSS-COUNTRY SKIING. IGLOO BUILDING. HEAD START. GIVING CHAPEL





TO LEARN, BE OPEN TO
THE UNKNOWN.



What you don't know can make you smarter.

But only if you're open to new ideas.

Some people fear the unknown. We embrace it. We question it, examine it, and – ultimately – illuminate it. The way we teach at OES turns the fear of the unknown into a passion for discovery.

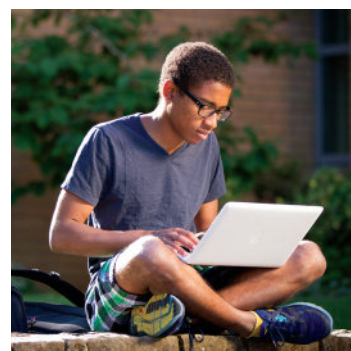
"I wouldn't say learning is easy," said Raja M., 5th grade student. "If it's too easy, they'll find something harder for

you to do." The OES curriculum is demanding, yet it's also responsive to individual needs. Teachers cultivate an environment where students want to learn and students advocate for how they learn best. Our academic specialists work with faculty and staff whenever a student needs extra support or is open to a bigger challenge.



We have high expectations for our students' academic performance. However, learning facts and figures is just one part of the OES education. Our inquiry-based curriculum engages students in four essential areas: to seek meaning and understanding, to design and apply solutions, to make connections, and to use their knowledge to make a difference in the world. That translates into original research, scientific innovation, literary publications, theatrical productions, service learning, study abroad, and so much more.

"We've created a challenging and exciting curriculum at OES that prepares children for higher education and lifelong learning. We encourage students to challenge themselves by exploring many areas of learning in order to discover their gifts and interests." – Jordan Elliott, Head of Upper School



Writing is a critical component of every discipline at OES.

Students learn how to express themselves eloquently and effectively, whether they're working on a 3rd grade Pioneer Journal, a research thesis, or a college application. OES writers frequently attend the Oregon Writing Festival.



Scientific exploration starts early and finishes strong.

Our youngest students begin their scientific adventure by examining their natural surroundings. By Middle and Upper Schools, they're fully engaged in advanced study and research. OES students regularly place in national and international competitions like the Siemens Competition in Math, Science, and Technology and the Intel Science Talent Search. Students design independent research projects from hypothesis to conclusion, and some present at conferences and publish in professional journals.



TO FOSTER PEACE, BE OPEN TO DISCUSSION.

You can tell what people value by how they spend their time.

At OES, we devote a lot of time to community. Our Episcopal tradition calls us to be inclusive, respect differences, and be open to all we can learn from one another.

Gathering, Chapel, and shared meals allow students to explore what being part of a community means from civic, ethical, and social perspectives. Our international boarding program takes the notion global, as day students get to know students from other countries and learn firsthand about their cultures.

In Lower School, gathering helps students focus on the day's activities. In Middle and Upper School, it becomes totally student-run where the community shares information, collaborates on campus issues, discusses world events, and celebrates accomplishments.

Chapel gives students time to reflect on something greater than themselves and learn about other cultures. They may hear the Episcopal liturgy, celebrate Hanukkah or Diwali, or learn traditions from the Quran.

But community isn't limited to our campus. At every age, our students participate in experiential and service learning throughout the Portland region. Older students venture even farther through service learning travel and our global classroom.

Communities are where future leaders, change-makers, and problem-solvers grow. At OES, we want all our students to know their own value and to understand the difference they can make in the world.



The Platt Global Classroom allows OES to expand its community anywhere in the world just by walking down the hall. For example, a group of seniors from OES connected with students in Afghanistan. For several weeks, the two groups met via videoconference and explored the differences and similarities between life in the United States and life in Afghanistan. Eighth graders preparing for a French language immersion exchange trip were able to visit with their counterparts in Martinique. And a 1st grade class was able to talk about Japanese culture and school life with students from Japan.

"My son has gained such self-confidence and awareness of his place in the world. He's been given an opportunity to use his skills to impact others in a positive way." — Sally L., parent



TO WIN,
BE OPEN
TO PLAYING
THE GAME.



Aardvarks know there's more to life than winning. But winning is still pretty great.

Participating in team and individual sports helps our students develop self-confidence, good sportsmanship, discipline, and respect for themselves and others.

Physical activity is part of OES life. Students go from practicing basic motor skills in Lower School P.E. to championship varsity competition in Upper School (with a wide range of opportunities in between).

OES fields more than 60 teams gauged for different levels of skill. Our no-cut policy means every student who wants to play gets the chance.

Middle and Upper School sports include: soccer, cross country, volleyball, basketball, skiing, tennis, track, lacrosse, golf, and fencing. After School Classes provide even more variety with such options as circus arts, Wushu, and Parkour.



OES varsity teams regularly go to the state playoffs. Over the years, our girls' and boys' teams have claimed numerous state championships.

86% of OES Upper School students participate in team sports.

OES athletic facilities include two gymnasiums, three soccer/lacrosse fields, an all-weather track, three indoor and four lighted outdoor tennis courts, a fencing room, and a racquetball court.

Are you ready to embrace your inner Aardvark? OES students chose our beloved (and somewhat unusual) mascot. Aardy is a favorite subject for our student artists. Recently, the OES Aardvark placed second in the West in *USA Today High School Sports'* "Best Mascot" competition.



"Physical activity is part of our educational philosophy. This isn't something that's just happened recently; it's been part of the school for more than a hundred years." — Mo Copeland, Head of School



TO THRIVE,
BE OPEN TO
THE FUTURE.



What does the future hold for OES grads?

OES graduates continue to ask questions, seek answers, and use their power for good wherever they go.

We work in partnership with parents to encourage our students to take ownership of discovering the next step after OES. The goal is to teach students how to find colleges that best fit and support their interests and goals. In the process, they learn how to investigate and evaluate a variety of options, establish priorities, and take effective action – key skills,

whether they’re looking for a college, a job or making any of the other big life decisions that lie ahead.

OES graduates attend an array of excellent colleges. As lifelong learners, they seek fulfilling careers and opportunities to contribute to their communities. Wherever OES graduates go, they’re building the kind of future that only open minds can imagine.

Starting in 9th grade, our college counselors are available to meet with Upper School students and parents. Junior year begins with a College Admission Retreat, which introduces the key components of the college application process. In addition, we offer workshops for parents to learn all the ins and outs of the college search process. College admission officers also regularly visit OES to meet with our students.

Recent OES graduates have enrolled in:

Bates	Davidson	Occidental	Stanford
Boston University	Duke	University of Oregon	Tufts
Bowdoin	Gonzaga	Oregon State University	Vassar
Brown	Harvey Mudd College	Pitzer	University of Washington
University of California at Berkeley	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	Pomona	Washington University in St. Louis
Carleton	Kenyon	University of Puget Sound	Wellesley
Carnegie Mellon	Macalester	Santa Clara	Whitman
Chapman	Middlebury	Scripps	Willamette
Colorado College	New York University	University of Southern California	Yale

“OES does an amazing job with college counseling. They really focus on helping you find a college that’s the right fit.” – Katie L. ’11



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

The most powerful evidence of the value of an OES education lies in our faculty and our students.

We could tell you a million great facts about OES (and we'd be happy to), but the best way to get to know us is through first-hand experience.

When you visit OES, you'll have opportunities to meet our faculty, tour the campus, talk with students, and see for yourself if OES is right for your child and your family.

Ready to apply?

You'll find information in the pocket and step-by-step instructions at www.oes.edu/admissions/process.html.

Have questions?

For more information or to schedule a visit, contact the OES Admissions Office at 503.768.3115 or admit@oes.edu.

Where in the world is OES?

OES is located about 15 minutes southwest of downtown Portland. We're at the end of SW Nicol Road off SW Scholls Ferry Road, easily accessible from either Highway 217 or Highway 26. Please visit www.oes.edu for more information.





OES

Oregon Episcopal School

Founded: 1869

Location: 15 minutes from downtown Portland and 90 minutes from the Cascade Mountains and the Oregon Coast

Type of School: Independent, co-educational, day and boarding

Campus: 59 wooded acres with two wetland areas, ropes course, nature trails, greenhouse, gardens, and multiple indoor and outdoor athletic facilities

Grades: Pre-Kindergarten – 12th Grade

Average Enrollment: 850 students including 60 boarding students from the Greater Portland area and many countries

Episcopal Tradition: We educate toward a larger purpose: inclusion and respect, understanding and compassion, service and social justice, meaning and commitment beyond ourselves. OES welcomes students from all backgrounds.

Student-to-Faculty Ratio: 7:1; 76 percent of OES faculty have advanced degrees

Average Class Size: 16

Financial Aid: 16 percent of our students receive financial aid

Graduates: 99 percent attend four-year colleges

Mascot: Aardvark

