

Our Beliefs About Teaching



BOSTON PREP

Clear is kind.

We ensure students deeply understand the school's rules and procedures. This is achieved through proactive teaching upon arrival at Boston Prep, consistent modeling by staff, and a carefully designed system of positive and negative consequences. Regular check-ins with students help keep them on track, fostering a supportive environment where they can thrive.

Our approach is not punitive but rather aims to guide students towards making responsible choices. By emphasizing understanding and accountability, we create a culture of respect and adherence to standards.



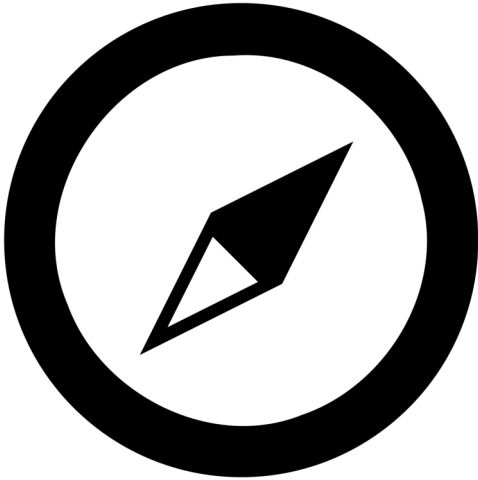
We are warm demanders because we care.



We believe that warmth and strictness are not mutually exclusive in classroom management. Teachers should always interact with students in a warm, professional, and consistent manner. When we are able to do this, students will see that the high expectations and strict adherence to meeting them come from the fact that we care about them and want them to be successful in life.

Positive relationships are the key to productive and happy classrooms. Students who feel valued and supported are more likely to engage with their learning and follow school rules. Every adult in the school shares the responsibility of fostering deep connections with students, using tools like merits and demerits to reinforce expectations while demonstrating genuine care.

Ethics is our compass.



The best teaching fosters an ethical climate consistent with our mission objectives. The best classrooms are characterized by the understanding that students' ethical growth is as important as their academic growth. Teachers seek out opportunities to challenge students ethically, and students demonstrate substantive investment in the moral climate of their community. Students reflect genuinely and deeply on their personal choices.

By prioritizing ethical development alongside academic achievement, we empower students to become responsible and conscientious members of society. This holistic approach prepares them to navigate complex challenges and make choices that reflect strong moral values.

Every minute counts.



Our program is developed with the understanding that every minute is valued. Transitions are efficient. Students and teachers model professionalism through careful use of language, humor, and physical appearance.

We instill a sense of urgency in our students, teaching them to make the most of every learning opportunity. This approach fosters discipline and focus, enabling students to achieve more in their academic pursuits and develop valuable time-management skills.



Our students *can...*

The best teaching engages students and enables them to master rigorous academic material. In the best classrooms, students demonstrate that they are engaged physically and emotionally in the work at hand. 100% of students are performing sophisticated cognitive work, aligned with challenging standards. Students experience high rates of success with difficult material.

We believe that academic rigor should be accessible to all students, regardless of their background or prior experience. Our teachers use a variety of strategies to engage students, differentiate instruction, and provide the support needed to master challenging concepts.

Intellectual prep comes first.

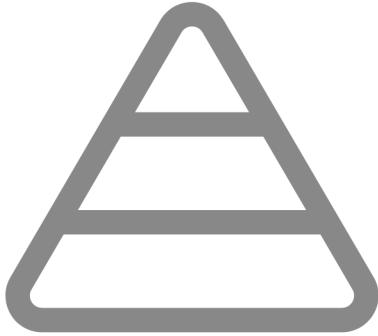
The best teaching is predicated on intentional and detailed planning that reflects a deep understanding of the course content, students' current performance levels, and the pedagogy necessary to support all students to reach mastery. In the best classrooms, teachers use data strategically to design lessons, determine topics and skills for reteaching, differentiate instruction for individual or small groups of students, and to monitor individual and collective student progress toward mastery



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Our teachers are data-driven and responsive, constantly adjusting their instruction to meet the needs of their students. This commitment to continuous improvement ensures that all students are challenged and supported in their learning.

Higher order thinking requires knowledge.



The best teaching integrates research-based methods and strategies from various schools of thought in order to promote **both** the acquisition of discrete knowledge **and** skills and the development of higher order thinking skills. We believe in the principles of the science of learning, namely that learners require access to frequent repetition and practice of new content spread out over time. We also believe in inquiry-based instruction that centers students and their lived experiences to innovate or problem solve. We reject “all or nothing” instructional models (e.g. direct instruction all the time; a completely project-based learning course) and instead incorporate elements from various models to strike the right balance between direct instruction and inquiry-based learning.

By drawing on a wide range of instructional models, we create a dynamic and engaging learning environment that promotes deep understanding and critical thinking. Our goal is to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and mindset needed to succeed in college and beyond.