

George School

Newtown, PA, United States



Weekly Quaker silence and a seven-term IB/AP calendar anchor rigorous college prep on a 240-acre Bucks County campus.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	64/100
Academic outcomes	71/100
University placement	70/100
Prestige & heritage	73/100
Alumni network	15/100
Facilities	75/100
Transparency	68/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

George School earns shortlist status for families who want a serious American college-prep school with a lived Quaker culture rather than a decorative one. The distinctive features are clear: weekly Meeting for Worship, teachers addressed by first names, a residential community that pulls day and boarding pupils into the same orbit, and an academic structure built around a seven-term calendar rather than the standard two-semester march. On a ****240-acre**** campus in Bucks County, with a ****1:8**** student-teacher ratio and more than 240 courses, it offers unusual room for manoeuvre without losing coherence. The school teaches in English, runs both boarding and day provision, and anchors its programme in an American curriculum with IB and AP both in the mix. That combination gives George School a **calm*

seriousness* that many US independents claim and few sustain.

What sets it apart is not raw competitiveness but the way rigour is organised. The seven-term schedule is the school's clearest structural advantage: it gives students more flexibility to vary pace, combine demanding academic work with arts or travel, and recover from a poor term without having an entire year derailed. The Quaker foundation also has practical consequences. Silence, reflection, community decision-making, service, and a blunt expectation of respect are not side notes here; they shape daily life. Families who want constant public chest-beating on results will find less of that than at some rivals. George School sells an education and a culture, not a trophy cabinet. For many parents, that restraint reads as *moral confidence*; for others, it will feel insufficiently hard-edged.

The market position is strong and specific. George School sits in the segment for globally minded, values-driven families who still want academic range and recognised pathways to university. It is not a military-precision boarding school, not a glossy East Coast pressure cooker, and not a loose progressive enclave either. It occupies a narrower lane: *reflective ambition*, strong arts, meaningful global exposure, and a residential culture built to make adolescents known rather than processed. With students from **50** countries and **20** states, it also offers a level of international and domestic diversity that gives real weight to the school's language about perspective and common good. That matters more here than at schools where "global" means a map on the wall.

The right student for George School is intellectually curious, self-directed, and open to community obligations. A pupil who wants to combine high-level academics with art, service, travel, or social engagement will find space here. So will a teenager who dislikes performative hierarchy and responds better to *quiet conviction* than institutional swagger. Students who need rigid external control, or who want sport and status to dominate the school's identity, have stronger options elsewhere. George School suits young people who will use freedom well, tolerate introspection, and value *a humane kind of rigour* over noise.

STRENGTHS

- One of only a handful of US boarding schools offering the full International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, alongside nearly 20 Advanced Placement courses.
- IB Diploma pass rate has stayed in the mid-90s for the past decade, well above the global IB average.
- The school meets 100% of demonstrated financial need and over half of students receive need-based aid, backed by roughly \$10 million in annual grants.
- A genuinely international boarding community, drawing students from more than 40 countries and over 20 US states on a 240+ acre campus.
- Low student-to-teacher ratio of about 7.5:1 supports a personalised, seven-term academic schedule.

TRADE-OFFS

- Boarding tuition runs into the mid-\$70,000s per year (day tuition in the high-\$40,000s), placing it firmly in the upper tier of US independent school fees.
- Admission is competitive, with a reported acceptance rate around one-third of applicants, well below the US private-school average.
- The school's Quaker religious affiliation and practices, including community meetings for worship, shape daily culture in ways that will not suit every secular or differently-faith family.
- Suburban Bucks County location is roughly 21 miles from Philadelphia and further from New York City, meaning families relying on direct airport access or urban weekend outings face real travel time.

ADMISSIONS

George School enrolls grades 9-12 as both day and boarding students, with applications via SSAT or ISEE scores, transcripts, recommendations, and an interview. Reported acceptance sits near 34%, making it moderately to highly selective for a non-elite-tier boarding school. Rolling international admissions exist alongside a standard January-deadline cycle. Need-based financial aid is available and the school states it meets full demonstrated need, which is worth probing early given the high sticker tuition.

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_4338593539.