

BPS Learning Environment

Birmingham Public Schools supports high academic achievement, with a strong focus on character education, where students are challenged and inspired to make a positive impact on their world.

Rigorous Expectations

College/University preparation ~ Career/life readiness ~ Strong core offerings

Diversity/Cultural Competency

Global/regional outreach ~ Cultural competence ~ ELL/World languages

Character Education

Positive attitude ~ Honesty & integrity ~ Respect & kindness
Responsibility & accountability

Resources

State-of-the-art classrooms ~ Tiered support staff
Well-equipped classrooms

Highly Trained Committed Teachers

Select brightest and best ~ Professional Learning Communities (PLC)
Significant professional development

Parent/Community Partnerships

Building-based Community School/Service Organizers (CSOs)
Active PTAs/Booster groups ~ Extensive communication

Technology

Wireless learning environments ~ Interactive classroom tools
Digital resources

Array of Opportunities

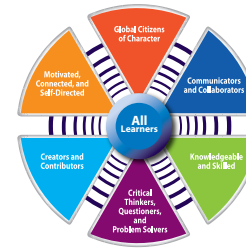
Co-Curricular/Athletics ~ Field trips ~ Enrichment ~ Arts

Sustainable Schools

Student-led initiatives ~ Multiple awards ~ Community involvement

Facilities/Safety

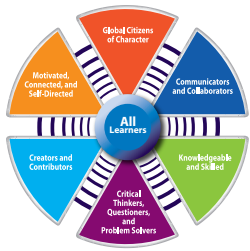
Renovated facilities ~ Updated athletic facilities
Welcoming & nurturing environments



LEARNER PROFILE

Our Mission: By ensuring educational excellence, we challenge and inspire all learners to positively impact their world.

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| <p>Vision</p> | <p>All learners are inspired and engaged, develop fully and have a positive impact on our diverse, global society, where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students develop a passion for ethical leadership, learning, excelling, innovating and contributing. • Staff work collectively and collaboratively to ensure a rigorous academic and caring environment that meets the needs of all learners. • Parents and guardians support the positive development of their children and collaborate with staff for great outcomes for their children • Community members create necessary support for children to develop well and are active partners in ensuring the continuation of a great community. |
| <p>District Goal</p> | <p>Every student is future-ready</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To contribute to their world • For the global workplace • For personal success |
| <p>Teaching and Learning for Global Competence</p> | <p>Teaching and learning for global competence provides experiences that challenge students to better understand their world, to think, develop in-depth understandings and to apply academic learning to be future-ready.</p> <p>Globally competent students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the world • Recognize and weigh perspectives • Communicate ideas • Take action |



Birmingham Public Schools students will develop the knowledge, skills, and attributes to be future-ready.

LEARNER PROFILE: Birmingham future-ready students are . . .

Global Citizens of Character

Citizens who value local and global perspectives

- Demonstrate cultural empathy
- Understand languages and peoples
- Engage in global issues
- Collaborate in cross-cultural teams
- Access global information
- Promote social justice

Citizens of character who demonstrate responsibility, respect and care

- Act ethically
- Demonstrate trustworthiness
- Care for the environment
- Engage in service learning
- Make responsible and informed decisions
- Positively influence others
- Question authority when appropriate
- Respond to a “call for action”

Communicators and Collaborators

Communicators effectively

- Read, write and speak skillfully
- Access information
- Generate ideas
- Listen actively and openly
- Receive feedback
- Build common vision
- Use a variety of media and methods
- Convey ideas clearly
- Address diverse audiences

Collaborators who work cooperatively

- Develop personal learning networks
- Mediate and resolve conflict positively
- Know when to lead and when to follow
- Empower others
- Build and sustain relationships
- Assume personal responsibility in group settings
- Celebrate strengths and difference in others

Knowledgeable and Skilled

Knowledgeable learners who access and understand information

- Have a strong interdisciplinary foundation
- Gather information using multiple resources
- Question the authenticity and legitimacy of information
- Engage in sustained learning and in-depth projects
- Communicate information effectively
- Utilize multiple sources

Skilled learners who apply knowledge

- Demonstrate digital literacy
- Rapidly adapt to new information and situations
- Synthesize and evaluate information
- Transfer knowledge to new contexts
- Engage in authentic research
- Support reasoning with evidence
- Work with precision and accuracy

Critical Thinkers, Questioners and Problem Solvers

Critical, analytical, divergent and deep thinkers

- Reflect
- Promote exchange of ideas
- Critique the ideas of others in a positive way
- Apply multiple strategies
- Synthesize concepts

Questioners who inquire

- Are curious and open-minded
- Question the status quo
- Follow a line of thinking
- Seek understanding
- Ask questions with real-world applications
- Develop concepts across disciplines

Problem finders and solvers

- Persevere and persist
- Seek issues that require solutions
- Anticipate potential problems
- Apply creative solutions
- Support a position

Creators and Contributors

Creators who imagine and innovate

- Think BIG
- Embrace artistic expression
- Construct knowledge
- Generate new ideas, plans and paradigms
- Envision and discover possibilities
- Take risks
- Use appropriate tool strategically
- Actively engage others
- Produce high-quality, original work

Contributors who share, advocate and enact

- Act with intent and passion
- Lead and inspire others
- Evaluate outcomes
- Communicate with a variety of audiences
- Work to achieve future goals

Motivated, Connected and Self-Directed

Motivated learners who engage in meaningful, authentic work

- Solve real-world problems
- Actively learn
- Produce
- Exhibit passion
- Motivate themselves and others

Connected learners discover and understand how to

- Apply knowledge and information
- Seek connections across disciplines
- Adapt to new situations

Self-directed, independent, thoughtful learners

- Seek excellence
- Analyze situations
- Set challenging goals and monitor progress
- Take responsibility for learning
- Self-guided
- Embrace an entrepreneurial spirit
- Show initiative
- Demonstrate commitment