

# Mater Dei High School

Santa Ana, CA



## Today

[Mater Dei High School](#) is a co-educational college preparatory Diocesan Catholic high school that provides a holistic education and serves a diverse community of students committed to knowledge, faith, and service. Apple technology is integrated into all levels of teaching and learning at Mater Dei for the purpose of supporting the holistic educational experience and the Mission of the school. Mater Dei's goal in providing these resources is to promote educational excellence by facilitating creative thinking, resource sharing, scholarship, research, collaboration, and communication.



## Vision

In anticipation of the post COVID-19 educational landscape, Mater Dei hopes to transition back into a traditional school model with an emphasis on technology skills that build capacity, while also supporting the mental health of students. The [1:1 iPad program](#) makes

this possible without detracting from Mater Dei's Mission of delivering a Catholic education, rooted in the core principles of [Honor, Glory, and Love](#). Teachers will continue to use the iPad (and now the MacBook Pro) to foster creativity, collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and innovation amongst their students. Administrators fully support the teaching faculty in their commitment to a culture of continuous innovation in the pursuit of excellence in the classroom.

"We **honor** the God-given talents and diversity of our students through formational and innovative learning experiences; we give **glory** to God through prayer, sacraments, and service which fosters the spiritual life of the school; we develop faith-filled, responsible servant leaders who are committed to serving God, the Church, and their respective communities with a profound sense of social justice founded in **love**."



## Learning

After a decade long 1:1 program, the iPad is fully integrated in all aspects of teaching and learning. The iPad has the capacity of a computer with the mobility of a cell phone, and is the most versatile tool for the classroom. Students write, record, draw, photograph, watch, listen, test, and more. iPad integration can be observed on any given day if you walk through [classrooms on campus](#):

### ENGLISH

The sophomore English classrooms are transformed into cafes - desks rearranged for collaboration, low music plays on Apple TV in the background. Students use [library databases](#) on Canvas to conduct research for a project.



## Demographics

2149 students

120 faculty

Private Catholic  
High School

Grades 9-12



## Apple Technology

1:1 iPad  
Students & teachers

1:1 MacBook Pro  
Teachers

iPad Loaner Cart

MacBook Air Cart

iMac Labs

Apple TV



Distinguished School

### RELIGIOUS STUDIES

In freshman Religion, students open a PDF copy of a selection of scripture in [Notability](#). Their teacher guides them through the reading, highlighting and underlining specific text.

### MATH

A new unit is starting in Algebra 2, and students complete a knowledge check on [Aleks](#), a platform which uses an algorithm that changes level of difficulty based on each student's response. This provides the teacher with specific feedback for each learner to prepare for the unit ahead.

### SCIENCE

Marine Biology students use a [template in Keynote](#) to create social media postings on the harmful effects of plastic in the ocean. This will accompany a video, podcast, or presentation campaign.

### LEARNING CENTER

Students collaborate with peer mentors in the [SOAR program](#), where accessibility features like speak selection are used to help focus on specific text.



### Success

Since our last [Apple Distinguished School recognition](#), the total number of students excelling in their classes continues to rise. In the spring of 2022, a total of 1,001 students earned 4.0 or higher GPA's, including 326 seniors, the most from any graduating class to date.

According to our latest WCEA accreditation self study, graduates are **exceptionally well prepared** for college work.

# 99%

#### College Placement:

81% 4-year college  
18% 2-year college



Students can choose from

[76 Honors or AP level courses](#) and over [100 electives](#) to round out their schedule. The [course catalog](#) continues to grow to meet the interests of the student body. In 2019, a [STEM Distinction program](#) was introduced to recognize those

## iPad Usage

### TEACHERS

- Create & deliver content
- Collaborate
- Manage students
- Grade & provide feedback
- Communicate
- Complete Professional Development

### STUDENTS

- Engage in class activities
- Complete assignments
- Create videos & flyers
- Manage academics with extra curricular activities
- Communicate



students going above and beyond in Math and Science, and the coding and robotics programs continue to grow as part of this.

### ➔ What's next

Apple technology will continue to support the School's Mission and Philosophy and the education of students. Classes will be structured and curriculum will be designed to push boundaries, to be cutting edge, and to be innovative, while maintaining the core Catholic values and the rich culture that makes us "Mater Dei." Future plans include integrating SEL and DEI across curriculum and using the Technology Integration Matrix (TIM) to ensure the authentic use of technology with these additions. In our last [WCEA Accreditation Self Study](#), collaboration between departments was also identified as an area of growth. This, along with our future plans, will be a focus in PLC levels over the next 2-3 years.

In a global snapshot survey, Mater Dei teachers indicated that **student collaboration**, **personalization of learning**, and **PBL/CBL** are always valuable. This survey data will be used in the development of SEL and DEI curriculum the coming years.

