Trevor Day School
The Grades 6–12 Experience
You’re looking for a school with your teenager (or almost teenager).

In Manhattan.

And you’re looking for a place that values challenge and childhood. Success and happiness.

You want academic ambition.

At Trevor, you won’t find overstressed students who had to skip dinner to complete their homework. What you will find is lively debate, intellectual energy, constant questioning of the status quo, and serious investigation into topics ranging from net neutrality to *The Canterbury Tales* to quantum physics, Plato, and Pythagoras.

You want real engagement—

with life’s big questions, with history’s big ideas, and with each other, our city, and the wider world. We invite everyone into the discussion, knowing that together we weave a richer, more profound intellectual experience that prepares students not only for college, but for the world beyond.
And you want a balanced experience— 

between school and life. 

Across academics, the arts, and athletics. 

Because achieving balance as a teenager in Manhattan—being comfortable in your own skin, finding your passions, honing your voice, opening up your perspective, and enjoying going to school every day—doesn’t just make for a better-adjusted high schooler.
Balance is the bedrock on which each Trevor student builds the enriched, fulfilling, and far-reaching life to come.
Trevor Day School exists for families like yours. In fact, at Trevor, you immediately join a community where you can exhale together as you watch students grow into amazing people in this amazing city.
And, at Trevor, there’s no trade-off. Outstanding college prep occurs in a supportive, friendly, and inclusive community.

Because we know happy children learn more, we’ve built a school culture that asks a lot of our students, and extends to them respect and the gift of high expectations.

I debate, therefore I am
Middle School history immerses students in the world of ancient Greece. *How do Athens and Sparta compare, in terms of democracy, culture, and prowess? What is a border, why is it formed, and should it be controlled?*

Students draw on the knowledge they gain from reading and study to form powerful, informed arguments that tie the lessons of history into our current society. Lively discourse is an energizing hallmark of Trevor’s learning philosophy.

What can your child learn from researching and articulating an original perspective? *How to put knowledge into action, how to make change, how to navigate the world.*
Engaging the imagination through the unexpected
By stepping outside of the expected, students find new ways to solve problems, and they figure out new ways to learn about their own learning.

In grades 7 and 8 Digital Art and Coding, students dive into the logic of programming on the very first day—without using computers. Instead, the class “programs” the teacher. The results are often hilarious, but the learning sticks.

Trevor middle schoolers also reinvent the periodic table. Instead of a dry chart to be memorized, we ask students to turn the table into a mystery they must solve.
The age-old question: How to make math practical and relatable?
Math at Trevor means students apply abstract theory to the world around them.

So they use algebra to figure out how long it would take Noah Syndergaard’s pitch to reach home plate, based on distance and velocity.

Another day, a Trevor teacher prompts students with the old adage, “The journey of 1,000 miles begins with a single step.” Students must then explore how many steps it would take to finish a journey of 1,000 miles. Along the way, they determine what information they need to find a reasonable answer.

Through the fascinating and fun application of complex ideas, 
*Trevor students grow into flexible, adept, and inventive problem solvers.*
Replacing lecture with lively learning
Our inquiry-based approach transforms students from readers to thinkers, from absorbers to actors, and prepares them for the next-level conversations in college.

We don’t often lecture. Instead, upper school English students lean in around a conference table and ignite challenging discussions on texts from *Beowulf* to *Bel Canto*.

Meanwhile, French students investigate Fragonard’s *The Swing* and provide critiques in the artist’s native language, melding language, art, and critical theory.
Using our city as a lab
Our advanced biology class performs cutting-edge neuroscience research with partners such as NYU. By exploring the idea of metacognition—studying the brain as it learns—Trevor students don’t just get unmatched field experience. They also better understand how their own cognitive process works. Their study was even published in a peer-reviewed academic journal.

And as one of the only high schools in the country implementing a digital humanities curriculum, Trevor’s students are making a unique and lasting mark on the historical record. They are out in the field, examining archival sources, in order to map the social geography of their own school’s neighborhood—Yorkville.

Our world needs creative problem solvers more than ever. 

*We’re preparing them here.*
Trevor in profile:
ambitious, engaged, and balanced

well-honed curriculum that paves the path toward

Trevor teachers develop and deliver a college-prep curriculum that sparks joy in learning from the earliest age and leads to sophisticated academic work well before graduation. Our teachers enhance the outcomes of our classic curriculum by responding to how and why each child learns, drawing out the inner scientist, artist, performer, or debater who lives within each student. By navigating advanced and creative coursework alongside such passionate educators, Trevor students step into college as ambitious thinkers and agile learners, ready to flourish.

teams for every type of athlete

Research shows that physical activity increases mental acuity in children from an early age, and that team sports call on problem-solving and relational skills that build on what your child learns in the classroom. Beginning in sixth grade, every student has the opportunity to join a team in a wide variety of sports, where they put into play the Trevor values of good sportsmanship, high effort, teamwork, and personal accountability. As athletes grow and mature, so too do the competition levels, as Trevor contends against city rivals.

an inclusive, down-to-earth family culture

At Trevor, when we accept a student, we welcome the entire family into our close-knit community. As a Trevor parent, you are an essential part of the team that helps your child reach their fullest potential, and you can rest assured each student is surrounded by peers and families who care deeply about education, balance, and one another. Trevor students are so well-adjusted and secure in themselves, in large part, because of the family culture we maintain at every grade level.
an ever-widening arts program

Trevor students are immersed in the arts as early as nursery, and progress all the way up through dramatic and musical performances, pottery, photography, jazz and concert band, chorus, stained glass-making, and the ever-popular Choreolab, where students choreograph and perform original dances. Our encompassing arts curriculum grabs your child’s attention from an early age, and whether just a doodler or a serious dramatic artist, painter, or pianist, each can pursue myriad interests at Trevor.

new facilities that match our long-held commitment

Our new, LEED Gold building on East 95th Street may look like a modern marvel—shiny steel and glinting glass rising high above its neighbors. But inside, you find time-honored Trevor values and Trevor learning living as vibrantly as ever. With more light-filled rooms for active exploration, more Common Rooms for dialogue and debate, and more modern technology to facilitate limitless learning, the building perfectly represents Trevor’s 21st-century incarnation.

student-centric college guidance

Too often, prep schools narrow choices for a student before they have any say in the matter. At Trevor, we start with your child’s strengths, interests, opinions, and goals, and then counsel them toward a custom set of colleges where they would thrive and continue the intellectual and personal growth begun at Trevor. Each year, our graduates go on to colleges and universities across the U.S. and the world, from Ivies and top liberal arts colleges to large research universities, arts schools, and conservatories. A young person can go anywhere with Trevor as their launchpad.
Our greatest pursuit is the same as yours:
Know your child, and help them expand upon their innate gifts, while challenging them to go deeper.

Trevor isn’t just a choice. It’s a life-changing event for your child and your family.