Lower School Academics

6th Grade



The mission of Boston Collegiate Charter School is simple yet ambitious: to prepare each student for college.

Overview of 6th Grade

The 6th grade curriculum begins to establish more academic independence to prepare students for the transition to the 7th grade. Students work closely with their teachers to become critical thinkers and advocates for their own education. They also learn to expand their study habits. Through work centered around themes of anti-racism and restorative justice, 6th graders learn to develop and use their own voices to make an impact on their school and community.

Advisory

Advisors serve as the main advocate and point of contact for a small group of students each year. Meeting daily, students and teachers have a period dedicated to ongoing investment in relationships. This time is used to explore character development, talk through current events, celebrate cultural understandings, and building good student habits.

Additional Programming

Focus: In Focus, students engage in work to supplement the learning in class, both to provide extra support and acceleration.

Field Trips: Students explore learning beyond the school building through trips. Examples include tree identification, circuit building at MIT, and Farm School.

Sample Daily Schedule

7:45 - 8:20 AM	Morning Advisory
8:25 - 9:10 AM	English
9:15 - 10:00 AM	Science
10:05 - 10:50 AM	PE/Art
10:55 - 11:15 AM	Lunch
11:15 - 11:40 AM	Recess
11:40 - 12:30 PM	Focus
12:35 - 1:20 PM	Explorations
1:25 - 2:10 PM	Math
2:15 - 3:00 PM	History
3:00 - 3:10 PM	Advisory

Grade Level Contacts

Lauren Cianciaruso,
Grade Level Lead
lcianciaruso@bostoncollegiate.org

Courtney Smith, Lower School Principal csmith@bostoncollegiate.org Our curriculum at Boston Collegiate is based on the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks and is designed to be culturally relevant. Our instruction is focused on engaging all students in deeper learning, enabling them to retain and transfer knowledge through analysis, synthesis, and creation.

Mathematics

Strengthening their understanding of mathematics, students extend their knowledge of number systems by collaborating to solve tasks. They focus on conceptualizing the uses of variables and expressions to solve a wide range of real-world problems, and also use statistical thinking to interpret data sets.

English

Using novels to guide content instruction, students track the multiple perspectives of dynamic characters. Paired with grammar skill work, vocabulary reinforcement, and explicit writing instruction, students produce strong arguments. They develop the skills necessary to answer their essential questions for the year. This year, students enjoyed their unit on *Refugee* by Alan Gratz.

Explorations

6th grade students have the opportunity to explore rotating courses in the Explorations block. Over the course of the year, they will have music, theatre, writing and STEM. Students prepare to showcase their knowledge at the end of each quarter.

Science

Embracing the OpenSciEd curriculum, sixth-grade scientists question, investigate and solve problems through student-led discovery. Students are introduced to the relationship between matter and energy as well as scientific events in our world.

History

Through the Investigating History curriculum, students study how the location, climate, and interactions of ancient civilizations helped regions develop. Through inquiry, discussion, and the study of primary and secondary sources they establish the basic tenets of civilization and connect the development of ancient civilizations to our interpretation of the modern world.

Specials: Art/PE

Boston Collegiate emphasizes the importance of developing the mind and body in tandem. Students stretch their creative thinking, creating work based on famous artists and artwork. Students strengthen their physical aptitude, focusing on competition and sportsmanship.

