



What is *Instructional Support*?

Divine Child High School's **Instructional Support Program (ISP)** provides academic interventions and accommodations to students with diagnosed learning differences, allowing them to receive a high-quality Catholic education while optimizing their ability to learn and achieve.

Divine Child has been a pioneer and leader in developing an ISP in the Archdiocese of Detroit to support the diverse needs of all students. In the last decade, our program has grown exponentially to meet the expanding population of students in need of academic interventions and accommodations.

Our ISP currently serves more than 100 students, comprising almost **15% of the overall student population** (or, 1 in every 7 students), which aligns with the national average of students receiving these services.

Who does it *Serve*?

ISP students are very diverse. Many take Honors or AP classes and/or graduate at or near the top of their class, frequently going on to receive scholarships to notable institutions.

To be eligible for the ISP, students must be professionally diagnosed with a *learning difference* and have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)/Non-Public Service Plan (NPSP) or a 504 Plan.

"Learning difference" refers to the diverse ways that all students learn and the rates at which they learn, taking into account individual learning motivators, learner aspirations, interests, experience and cultural background, and the individual student's strengths and needs.

Our program commonly supports students diagnosed with:

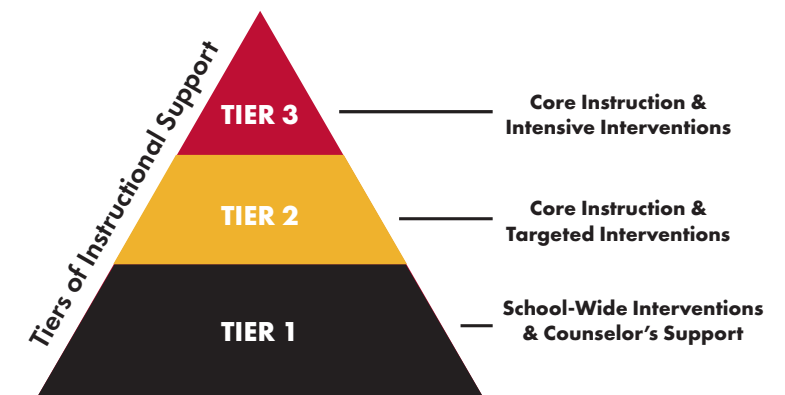
- ADD/ADHD
- Executive Function
- Dyslexia
- Dysgraphia
- Dyscalculia
- Nonverbal Learning Disorder (NVLD)
- Social Communication Disorder
- Anxiety/Depression
- Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

How the ISP *Serves Students*

ISP students learn to be self-advocates and independent learners through excellent instruction and support in the classroom, and during individualized time with the Instructional Support Staff.

The ISP's Instructional Specialists teach using a variety of visual, auditory, kinesthetic, and tactile techniques, and guide students through exploration of these styles in order to identify which one best corresponds with their learning preferences.

We understand that each and every student learns differently, and we embrace the fact that they require evidence-based intervention to ensure that they are maximizing their ability to achieve at an optimal level. As such, the ISP offers three, tiered levels of intervention, depending on the individual student's learning difference and a variety of other factors.



Tier 1 provides the lowest level of intervention for students with mild learning differences with assistance provided by the student's counselor.

Tier 2 provides an intermediate level of intervention for struggling students who have an individualized academic accommodation in a particular subject area or areas.

Tier 3 provides the highest level of ISP intervention, and is primarily for students who receive individualized academic accommodations in more subject areas and need a greater degree of assistance.

The Impact of *the ISP*

Through the ISP we encourage our students to take responsibility for their unique educational journeys and to develop the skills that will drive their success in the future as Christian leaders. Most importantly, the ISP program teaches our student body how to collaborate with others that work differently than they do, uplifting each other to achieve success spiritually, academically, creatively, socially and athletically.

The ISP makes a lifetime of impact on students in the program. We help students break down barriers and provide them with the resources they need to achieve higher education goals. Many of our students not only attend their dream college, but also receive academic, athletic and performance scholarships.

"Divine Child High School's Instructional Support Program gave me a built-in community, a new found confidence, and the ability to problem solve and advocate for myself. Without the ISP I don't think I would be the same student that I am today."

Cara Dunn '19

Divine Child High School
Alumna & Former ISP Student

Saint Mary's College
Class of 2023



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Instructional Support Program

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OUR MISSION

Divine Child High School,
centered in the teachings of Jesus Christ,
the rich Tradition of the Catholic Church,
and the call to unconditional love,
develops young men and women for lives
of responsibility, leadership, and faith in action.

