

DARLINGTON SCHOOL

PLANNING FOR COLLEGE

MIDDLE SCHOOL

1. Begin thinking ahead about your curriculum plan for all four years in the Upper School.
2. Take English, math, science, history, and foreign language classes; if appropriate and recommended by the school, take Honors courses
3. Begin the study of a foreign language in order to continue that language through the advanced or AP level – or to take a second language in the Upper School.
4. Pursue 2-3 extracurricular activities which you enjoy; also pursue those out-of-school activities which are important to you (scouts, volunteer work, community service, dance, piano, etc.).
5. Become involved in leadership roles in your activities; take advantage of leadership opportunities available to you.
6. Work hard in all of your classes. **Read more.** This will improve your SAT scores!
7. Work to develop your own effective study skills and learning habits that will help you achieve academic excellence.
8. Take ERB tests for experience with standardized testing and to evaluate your progress.
9. If qualified, participate in the Duke TIP program and take the SAT.
10. Make good use of your summer; get a summer job, go to camp or work as a camp counselor, travel, take a computer course, etc.
11. Make use of family trips and vacations to take a first look at colleges.
12. Check out college websites & CD's and use Darlington's *Naviance* college search program.
13. As you begin to have questions about college planning, see Mr. Moss, Ms. Brewer, or Mrs. Crawford in the College Guidance Office, for information and advice.
14. Parents: begin financial planning for college now! Don't wait! Investigate college costs, savings plans, etc., and begin saving now!