



KHAN LAB SCHOOL

School Profile 2026-27

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KEY STATISTICS:

Founded in 2014 by Salman Khan

Type: TK-12, Independent, Day, Co-educational

Total School Enrollment (TK-12): 315

Upper School Enrollment (9-12): 85

Students in the Class of 2027: 17

Students who identify as people of color: 86%

Teacher-Student Ratio: 1:10

Calendar: Semester (effective 2025-2026); Trimester (through 2024-2025)

Graduates who enroll in 4-year colleges: 100%

SCHOOL OVERVIEW

Khan Lab School is a non-profit, mastery-based independent school implementing innovative educational ideas developed by Khan Academy founder Sal Khan. Founded to test and refine the vision outlined in his book, *The One World Schoolhouse*, KLS has grown to serve over 300 students across two Silicon Valley campuses with a full TK-12 program.

OUR STUDENTS

Khan Lab School believes that young people are capable of far more than society currently recognizes. Students at KLS embrace this philosophy in their unique journeys and experience the meaningful outcomes of mastery learning. Instead of competing against one another, they collaborate and make real contributions to the world around them. Our students are not singularly focused on chasing high marks or piling on AP courses. Instead, they take agency in their own learning, seek to understand course content, cultivate a range of interests and skills, and demonstrate their achievements in various contexts. Our students are innovators in every way, advancing their mastery-based education, and, most importantly, their own futures.

OUR FACULTY & ADMINISTRATION

Khan Lab School's team of faculty and administrators fosters a vibrant community of learners. Our faculty hold students to the same rigorous mastery standards across every subject, while adapting pace and instruction to how each student learns best. The quality of learning remains consistently high, even as our lab school regularly reimagines and tests new methods of teaching and learning. Our team is committed to this model, designed to help our community share best practices with other educators.

OUR CURRICULUM

With Khan Lab School's mastery-based learning model, students must demonstrate an understanding of content and skills identified in a course before progressing. KLS creates space within and beyond core academics for students to explore interests. Students can extend their learning beyond the classroom through dual enrollment and other programs. In this way, they further develop skills and apply learning within contexts meaningful to them—and often develop expertise at a younger age than many would expect. Our academic model is paired with an equal focus on wellness, character, and mindset woven into advisory, community culture, and student life.

ACCREDITATIONS & AFFILIATIONS

Accredited by:

- WASC (Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges)
- Cognia (NCA CASI parent organization)
- Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC)
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS CASI)

Member Organizations:

- National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)
- Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools (ACCIS)
- National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC)
- Western Association for College Admission Counseling (WACAC)

ACADEMIC PHILOSOPHY & APPROACH

Mastery-Based Learning: Students progress through curriculum at their own pace, advancing only after demonstrating clear understanding of subject matter. Evaluation is based on consistent, demonstrated mastery of knowledge and skills, not seat time or comparison to peers.

No Traditional Grades or Ranking: Students receive regular progress reports mapping achievement toward course learning outcomes rather than letter grades or class rank.

Advanced Placement: KLS does not offer AP courses. However, students are free to self-study for AP exams. The school supports this by proctoring AP testing on campus for any subject students wish to take.

Student Agency: Students take ownership of their learning, seek deep understanding, cultivate diverse interests, and demonstrate achievements in various contexts through collaboration rather than competition.

UNDERSTANDING OUR TRANSCRIPT

In our credit system, mastery-based courses and dual enrollment courses each earn one Mastery Credit toward the 21 required for graduation. Overall course mastery levels are designated as follows:

Mastery with Distinction

The student has surpassed course expectations, demonstrating exceptional achievement. This level of performance goes beyond Mastery and is pursued by very few students.

Mastery

The student has demonstrated proficiency in all course expectations. Students achieving this mastery level would earn an A in a traditional grading system.

Foundational Mastery

The student has met the minimum expectations and requirements of the course. This mastery level is necessary for progression to the next course. Students achieving this mastery level would earn a B in a traditional grading system.

Dual Enrollment

KLS partners with Foothill College to offer several courses that are listed on the transcript as “Dual” enrollment. While students receive KLS credit for these courses, Foothill College uses an A-F grading scale.

Pass / No Pass

The student has successfully completed the minimum expectations for participation in a student-designed, co-instructed elective course.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must earn 21 Mastery Credits to graduate, meeting University of California A-G requirements. Each credit represents one year of study as follows:

- **History:** 2
- **English:** 4
- **Mathematics:** 3
- **Science:** 2
- **World Language:** 2
- **Visual/Performing Arts:** 1
- **Senior Capstone:** 1 (required)
- **Electives:** 6 additional courses

External courses may fulfill requirements. The note section on the KLS transcript refers to external transcripts for additional coursework. Summer credit-bearing courses appear on the following year's transcript.

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Senior Capstone (Required)

A year-long research-based project with committee presentation, preparing students for college-level research work.

Community Engagement Program (CEP)

A mastery-based course earning one credit for rigorous academic work with community organizations, requiring proposal approval, and thesis committee presentation.

Independent Study (IND)

A mastery-based, independently designed course earning one credit and completed under the supervision of a faculty sponsor.

ACADEMIC DISTINCTIONS

The following academic distinctions appear on the transcript and do not carry additional credit:

Cornerstone Projects

Optional interdisciplinary, year-long independent projects. Cornerstones often incorporate college-level research experiences or community impact.

Teaching Assistant

In-class support and tutoring for mastered subjects. If they have the expertise, they may also be invited to lead lessons.

Curriculum Design

Courses designed and co-instructed by a student, reflecting their expertise in a subject area.

COURSES BY SUBJECT AREA

History & Social Studies

World History
US History
Government & Politics
Ethnic Studies
Humanities B

English

Methods and Meaning
Comparative Literature
American Literature
Narrative Adaptations
Senior Seminar
Humanities A

Mathematics

Algebra II
Geometry
Precalculus
Calculus I & II
Statistics
Data Science
Multivariable Calculus
Linear Algebra

Science

Calculus-based Physics
Physics & Engineering
Physics: Mechanics & Optics

World Languages

Spanish I-V
Advanced Cultural Studies in Spanish
Multiple Languages (online)

Visual and Performing Arts

Art: Foundational Art
Art: Fine Art
Art: Materials & Sustainability
Digital Design
Advanced Topics: Art Portfolio

Other Electives

Astronomy
Computer Science
Mindfulness Studies
Robotics: Prototypes
Storymapping
Marketing & Communications
Creative Writing
Journalism
Theater
Teaching Innovation Lab

Dual Enrollment Courses with Foothill College

BIO 10: General Biology
CHEM 25: Chemistry Fundamentals
PHYS 2A: General Physics
PHYS 2B: General Physics
PHYS 4A: General Physics (Calculus)

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE / MATRICULATION LIST (Classes of 2021–2026)

American University
Arizona State University
Babson College
Bard College
Barnard College
Boston College
Boston University
Brandeis University
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College
**California State Polytechnic University,
San Luis Obispo (3)**
**California State Polytechnic University,
Pomona**
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University (3)
Case Western Reserve University
Chapman University (2)
Claremont McKenna College (2)
Clark University
Colby College
Colgate University
Colorado College
Columbia University
Connecticut College
Cornell University
Drexel University
Duke University
Emerson College
Emory University
Fashion Institute of Technology
Fordham University
Franklin & Marshall College
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology (2)
Grinnell College (2)
Harvard University
Harvey Mudd College (2)
Haverford College
Johns Hopkins University (2)
Lewis & Clark College
Loyola Marymount University
Macalester College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (4)
Mount Holyoke College
New York University
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University (5)
Northwestern University
Oberlin College
Ohio State University
Parsons School of Design
Pepperdine University
Pitzer College
Pratt Institute

Princeton University
Purdue University (2)
Reed College (3)
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rice University (3)
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
San Diego State University
San Jose State University
Santa Clara University
Sarah Lawrence College
Smith College
Stanford University (2)
Stony Brook University
Syracuse University
Texas A&M University
The University of Texas at Austin
Tufts University
Tulane University
Union College
University of California, Berkeley (4)
University of California, Davis (2)
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles (4)
University of California, Merced
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara (3)
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Chicago (7)
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2)
University of Maryland (College Park)
University of Massachusetts (Amherst)
University of Massachusetts (Boston)
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota (Twin Cities)
University of Oregon
University of Portland
University of Redlands
University of Rochester
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of Southern California
University of Toronto
University of Vermont
University of Washington (4)
University of Wisconsin (Madison)
University of the Pacific
Vassar College (2)
Villanova University
Washington University in St Louis
Wellesley College (2)
Willamette University
Wesleyan University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

* Highlighted colleges indicate enrollment