

# MISSION: POSSIBLE

New York's only  
K-12 independent  
inclusion school

Upper School  
Grades 6-12



The  
IDEAL  
School  
*of Manhattan*

## **Mission:**

The IDEAL School of Manhattan is an inclusion school dedicated to creating a diverse community that affirms and accepts the full identities of all people, while inspiring academic excellence, creative leadership, and a desire to build a more just and equitable world.



# At IDEAL, no one leaves their identity at the door.



**The Upper School at The IDEAL School of Manhattan** is a unique educational experience: small classes, infused with art and discussion, where students can be themselves and where teachers are singularly skilled at bringing forth the full potential of their students.

IDEAL is a school where the pursuit of personal and academic excellence within a nurturing, inclusive community is more than just an ideal, it's our mission.





**In an  
IDEAL world,  
everything is  
possible.**

**Dear Future IDEAL Students:  
Thank you for your interest in  
The IDEAL School of Manhattan,  
the only K-12 independent inclusion  
school in New York City.**

At IDEAL, our experienced faculty members will challenge and inspire you to grow as individuals and leaders, in and out of the classroom. Within the context of our collaborative and welcoming community, we tailor the IDEAL education to each learner through differentiated instruction. By keeping class sizes small, identifying each student's learning style, and offering a range of classes as students progress through our program, IDEAL brings out the confidence, voice, and passion of all learners. Our robust curriculum, focus on cooperative learning, experiential learning opportunities, and partnerships with cultural institutions ensure that at IDEAL each child receives a strong academic foundation and develops exceptional critical thinking skills.

With the confidence that comes from being known and celebrated, IDEAL students not only strive for academic and personal excellence, but they also support their peers in their endeavors and cheer on their accomplishments. IDEAL traditions such as Community Time and Pioneer Period, in combination with our integrated social justice curriculum, teach teamwork and self-advocacy. IDEAL students thrive academically, gain confidence, experience joy in learning, and are equipped with the skills to be empathetic, kind, and respectful 21st-century leaders.

I hope this viewbook will give you a glimpse into the transformative power of an IDEAL education. We encourage you to visit our website or contact the Admissions Office at 212-769-1699 or [admissions@theidealschool.org](mailto:admissions@theidealschool.org) and schedule a visit to our Upper West Side campus.

Sincerely,  
Janet Wolfe  
Head of School



# Every child has a team behind them.

**IDEAL faculty and staff  
know each student in and  
out of the classroom.**

Faculty members are also advisors, committed to our students' academic, social, and emotional success and fully invested in their development. Collaborative teaching teams provide individualized instruction and attention to students in seminar-style classes.

Talented occupational, speech and language, and physical therapists work with students in our Zenith and Dylan Programs and school counselors are available to support the social and emotional growth of all students.





# Imagine the possibilities.

IDEAL's mission calls us to educate children from a wide variety of backgrounds, socioeconomic levels, ethnicities, readiness levels, and abilities together in an inclusive environment. Every aspect of the IDEAL experience--instruction, assessment, program, enrichment--reflects a research-based commitment to inclusion as a means for academic excellence. IDEAL teachers differentiate instruction so that students may pursue the same subjects at multiple levels of complexity. Research shows that students with and without disabilities benefit academically and socially from learning together in a well-designed inclusive classroom.

# Four-Year Course

IDEAL’s unique High School model features a rotating curriculum. Students in Grades 9-12 are blended and learn together in intentional groups designed to challenge and support each individual learner. This means all students in High School study the same essential subject matter in English, history, and science at the same time. Each course is offered at a variety of levels based on student readiness, including foundational, standard, and honors.

## Graduation Requirements

English	4 Credits
History	4 Credits
Math	4 Credits
Science	3 Credits
Spanish	3 Credits
Arts	4 Credits
Physical Education	3 Credits
Health	1 Credit
Credits Required Per Year	7 Credits
Credits Required for Graduation	26 Credits

English
Year 1: Identity and Power
Year 2: Coming of Age and Journeys
Year 3: Conflict and Resolution
Year 4: Leadership and World Leaders
AP English Literature and Composition and AP English Language and Composition are offered in alternate years.
History
Year 1: American History
Year 2: Semester 1--Government, Semester 2--Economics
Year 3: World History
Year 4: World History--Global Civil Rights Movements
Math
<i>All students are placed in the appropriate course in the math sequence below, as determined by the math department and Upper School Head.</i>
Real World Math Program--Levels 1-4
Introduction to Algebra, Algebra 1, or Algebra 1 Honors
Geometry or Geometry Honors
Algebra 2/Trigonometry or Algebra 2/Trigonometry Honors
Precalculus or Precalculus Honors
Calculus or AP Calculus AB or BC
Science
Year 1: Chemistry
Year 2: Physics
Year 3: Biology
Year 4: Electives and online options, including AP, will be available and suited to student and teacher interest and expertise

# Map

## Spanish

*All students take the appropriate course in the Spanish sequence below, as determined by the Spanish department and Upper School Heads. Language exemptions may be granted at the discretion of the Upper School Head and Assistant Head.*

Spanish Exposure, Spanish 1, Spanish 2, Spanish 3, Spanish 4, Spanish 5/AP Spanish

## Arts Electives

IDEAL offers a variety of arts electives each year, based on student and teacher interest

Students select a new elective--Drama, Music, or Visual Art--each semester in High School

STEAM units such as coding and video-editing are integrated through the curriculum and engage students in self-expression, communication, and problem-solving

## Physical Education and Health

Physical education classes meet three days per week for all students in Grades 9-12

Health classes meet one day per week during the PE block for all students in Grades 9-12

## One Schoolhouse

*IDEAL students who meet the prerequisites for a One Schoolhouse class and demonstrate interest and independence in this area of curriculum may apply to take one One Schoolhouse class per year at no additional charge. Prerequisites are listed in the One Schoolhouse online curriculum guide.*

## 18-21 Program

Students continue to develop core skills in math, reading, and writing

Community outings/volunteering

Public transportation

Life skills (cooking, cleaning, daily routines)

Organizational skills (planning, time management, etc.)

Extended internship opportunities

**Visual and  
performing arts,  
dynamically  
woven through  
the curriculum,  
are essential elements  
of our core academic  
program.**

In arts-infused classes, IDEAL students develop creativity, critical thinking skills, and confidence. They learn to take healthy risks and to explore multiple perspectives, and the constructive critique process fosters a growth mindset.





# **APEX: Academic and Physical Excellence**

**An inclusive athletics  
program finds a team for  
every player.**

IDEAL is a member of the Middle School Athletic League and the APEX program also includes noncompetitive and club-level teams. APEX sports include volleyball and cross country in fall, basketball in winter, and track and field and golf in spring.





**Mind-body balance** is the goal of physical education at IDEAL where Upper School students have PE class three days a week and health once a week, developing lifelong habits that lead to overall fitness.



**Advisory and the Learning Center:**

# **Realize your full potential.**

**Every Middle and High  
School student is a member  
of an advisory group.**

Each advisory group is led by two faculty members who support the academic, social, and emotional growth of the individuals and the group. Advisors know each student and their learning style and support their academic and personal growth on a daily basis.

Therapists partner with advisors to design and deliver lessons that scaffold executive functioning skills, social and pragmatic language skills, and self confidence, empathy, and respect.





## **The Learning Center is the hub of academic life at IDEAL.**

It provides a comfortable space for one-to-one and group work where experienced learning specialists and faculty expand upon classroom instruction by providing individualized or small-group support, enrichment, and resources. Students' schedules allow visits to the Learning Center one to three times a week.

# Everyone leads at IDEAL.

**Experiential learning is the process of learning through doing.**

Utilizing technology in science and math classes, IDEAL students identify and solve problems by creating new, useful, and imaginative solutions.

**STEAM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) units such as coding and video-editing are integrated through the curriculum and engage students in self-expression, communication, and problem-solving.





## **Building a more just and equitable world:**

Designated service learning days provide students with service experiences with a range of organizations that they have personally surveyed and resonate with their interests.

**Outside of the city,** students participate in environmental education, outdoor adventures, and team-building exercises. The Civil Rights Journey allows High School students to walk in the footsteps of the leaders of the civil rights movement.



# **IDEAL's College and Postsecondary Counseling Program**

**is led by a faculty member and a highly experienced consultant who work closely with students and their families to develop an individualized plan for life after High School.**





## Highlights of IDEAL's College Preparation Program:

- Regular communication and conferencing with students and parents
- College and career exploration and research, including a personal statement writing workshop, discussion of college goals, and interview-process preparation
- SCOIR website to guide students and parents through the application process
- SAT/ACT test prep with Empire Edge and the opportunity to take the SAT, PSAT, and PSAT 10 on our campus
- Annual trips to visit local colleges and universities
- College information nights with college representatives, current college students, and financial aid officers

## College and Postsecondary Program Acceptances

- Borough of Manhattan Community College
- Bronx Community College
- Brooklyn College
- City College
- Concordia College
- Cooke School
- Goucher College
- Hamilton College
- Hostos Community College
- Hunter College
- Le Moyne College
- Lehman College
- Loyola University
- LIU Brooklyn - Honors Program
- Manhattanville College
- Marist College
- Pace University
- Queens College - Honors College
- Riverview School
- Roosevelt University
- Suffolk County Community College
- SUNY Binghamton
- SUNY Cobleskill
- SUNY Geneseo
- SUNY Purchase
- University of Rhode Island

# IDEAL at-a-Glance

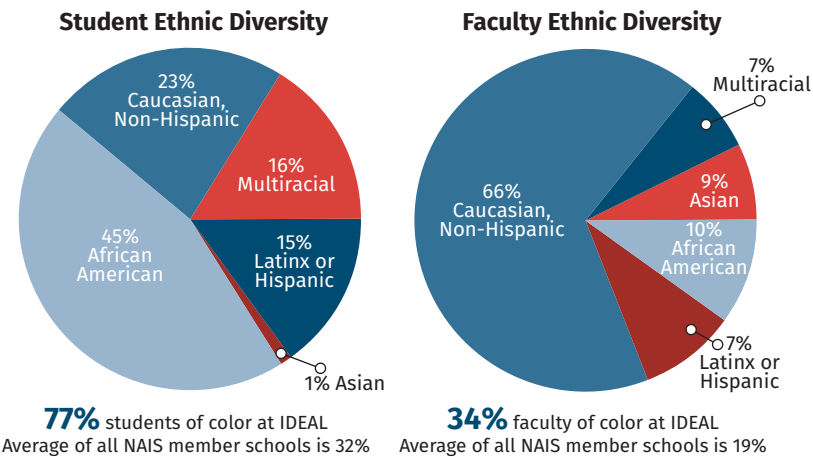
INCLUDED IN TUITION  
**Lunch** **Snack** **The Learning**  
**Center** **SAT Test Prep Class**  
**Theatre** **and Museum Trips**  
**Sports Clubs** **One Schoolhouse**

**61%**  
of students  
receive  
financial aid

Average award  
is  
**88%**  
of tuition

**201** Students  
**77** Faculty  
**K-12**

**AVERAGE CLASS SIZE**  
**14** **10**  
Middle School High School  
**STUDENT:FACULTY RATIO**  
**4:1**



**78%**  
Upper School lead faculty  
with advanced degrees

S P O R T S  
**Basketball** **Volleyball**  
**Cross Country** **Golf**  
**Badminton** **Track & Field**

C L U B S  
**Fashion Coding Comics Glee**  
**Prom and Dance Yearbook**  
**Sports Cooking Star Wars**  
**Dungeons and Dragons**  
**Comedy and Spoken Word**

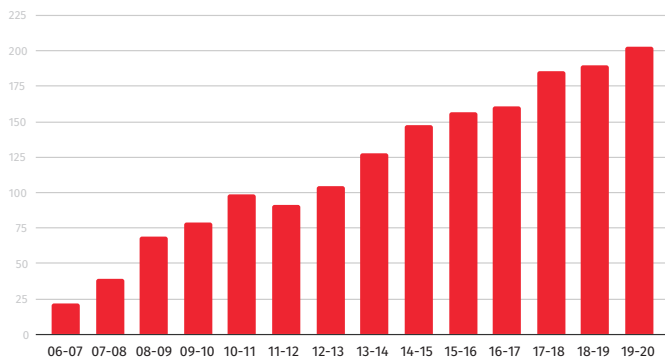
### Accreditations, Memberships, Associations

- Absolute Charter, Grades K-12, New York State
- Accredited, Grades K-12, New York State Association of Independent Schools
- High School Registered with the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York
- National Association of Independent Schools
- Independent Schools Admissions Association of Greater New York
- Guild of Independent Schools of New York City
- The Heads Network

### The Five I's of IDEAL

- I will be respectful of the learning process, strive for excellence in and out of the classroom, and engage respectfully in all school classes, programs, and activities.
- I will act with integrity and represent myself and my work honestly.
- I will ensure that my words and actions demonstrate respect for all and acceptance of the full identity of all individuals that make up our diverse community.
- I will strive to ensure that my actions, my work, and my words help to create a more inclusive community and a more just and equitable world.
- I will be a creative and compassionate leader by modeling IDEAL's core values both in and out of school.

Enrollment since opening in 2006



Opened in **2006**  
**20 students K-2**

First graduates **2018**  
**201 students 2019-20**

**Imagine...**  
**the possibilities**  
**the opportunities**  
**your potential**  
**your growth**  
**Imagine you**  
**at IDEAL**

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212-769-1699 • [www.theidealschool.org](http://www.theidealschool.org)



The  
**IDEAL**  
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