

The IDEAL School of Manhattan





IDEAL's Lower School
is housed in a
standalone, private,
school-owned building



IDEAL's Upper School occupies four floors of the historic B'nai Jeshurun Synagogue on West 89th Street



Middle School students join kindergartners to paint flower pots on our MLK Day of Service

Affording IDEAL

Since the founding of our school in 2005, IDEAL has been dedicated to creating a student body that reflects the exceptional and dynamic diversity of New York City. Not only did our visionary founders create a school that expands the definition of diversity to include ability, but they also formed an educational community that opens doors to an independent school education and its hallmarks--small class size, low student-teacher ratio, excellent academics, an emphasis on the arts, and a student-centered approach to teaching and learning--to families who would not otherwise be able to afford these opportunities.



Affording IDEAL

- Financial Assistance
 - 86% of families receive some form of aid
 - Standard Program: Financial aid available for qualifying families
 - Zenith and Dylan Program: Amended payment plans available for qualifying families
- The Open Door Scholarship
 - Full scholarship
 - Awarded to students in Grades 2-8 who have been enrolled at IDEAL for at least three years, who have demonstrated a unique commitment to or passion for one or more of the school's core values, and whose families have demonstrated particular financial need in that school year



Affording IDEAL

- The IDEAL Scholarship
 - Designed for students entering the Standard Program
 - Ten scholarships will be available in 2021-22, five for students entering Grades K-5, and five for students entering Grades 6-8
 - For the 2021-22 school year, The IDEAL Scholarship will cover 75% of tuition
 - The scholarship renews annually through Grade 8 without additional paperwork
 - Recipients will display a unique connection to, passion for, and/or ability to contribute toward one or more of the school's core values
 - Selection Guidelines
 - Completed the required process for admission to the Standard Program in Grades K-8
 - The Director of Admissions and Enrollment and members of the IDEAL Admissions Committee will recommend candidates to receive The IDEAL Scholarship to the Head of School annually
 - Efforts will be made to include students from an array of socioeconomic backgrounds



Fast Facts

- Enrollment

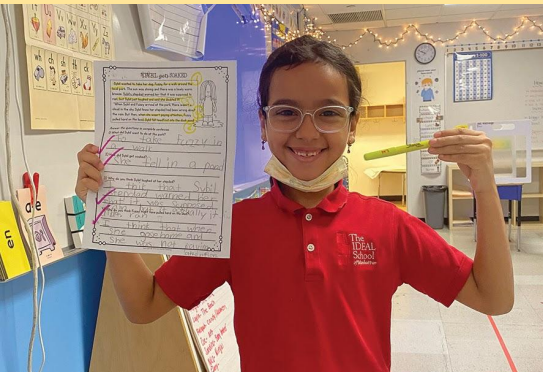
- Opened in 2006 with 20 students in Grades K-2
- Today, we have 222 students
 - 90 students in Lower School (Grades K-5)
 - 74 students in Middle School (Grades 6-8)
 - 53 students in High School (Grades 9-12)
 - 5 students in the Next Steps Transition Program

- Average class size:

- 15 Lower School
- 14 Middle School
- 10 High School

- Faculty and Staff

- 109 faculty and staff members
- 30% faculty of color, as compared to 15% average of all NAIS member schools
- 83% lead faculty with advanced degrees
- 8 Lower School therapists and counselors, all with advanced degrees
- 8 Upper School therapists and counselors, all with advanced degrees
- 3:1 student teacher ratio in Lower School
- 4:1 student teacher ratio in Upper School





Fast Facts

- **Accreditations**
 - Fully accredited by NYSAIS, Grades K-12
 - Absolute Charter, Grades K-12, New York State
 - High School Registered with the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York
- **Memberships and Affiliations**
 - National Association of Independent Schools
 - Independent Schools Admissions Association of Greater New York
 - Guild of Independent Schools of New York City
 - The Heads Network
 - Registered with the College Board as a Level II School
 - Receive students' scores for AP, PSAT/NMSQT, SAT, and ACT
 - Administer AP, PSAT/NMSQT.
 - Participate in AP Course Audit
 - Request College Board accommodations for students with disabilities
 - Receive SAT and ACT publications
 - One Schoolhouse
 - Access to electives and AP classes



The 2019-20 Girls Basketball team made it to the MSAL finals



Fast Facts

- **Location**

- Lower and Upper School Buildings
- Side street with easy access to 1, 2, 3 subway
- Close proximity to Riverside and Central Parks
- Near major museums

- **Before and after care**

- Early drop-off at 7:45 AM
- Extended Day (Lower School) and after-school activities (Upper School) until 6 PM

- **Included in tuition**

- iPads and Chromebooks - K-12+ 1:1 Technology Program
- Lunch and snack
- Almost all school supplies and books
- Field trips
- SAT test prep and college counseling
- After-school sports (Grades 5-12)

- **Identity and Leadership Development**

- Community time
- K-12 community
- Role models
- Class pairings
- Schoolwide assemblies and events
- Identity Museum
- Civil Rights Museum
- Science Expo
- Black Heritage Month
- ArtBeat
- Musical
- Assemblies
- Student Government (Grades 5-12)
- Service Learning Days



Many opportunities for students to select classes in visual and performing arts



College and Postsecondary Acceptances

*Complete list of colleges and postsecondary programs to which IDEAL students have been admitted since our first graduating class, 2018. Programs to which students have matriculated are indicated with an *.*

Adelphi University
Aiken Technical College
American University (D.C.)
Barry University
Baruch College
Binghamton University
Brooklyn College
Bronx Community College
Borough of Manhattan Community College
City College of New York
Colgate University
College of Mount Saint Vincent
The College of Saint Rose*
Cooke School*
New York City College of Technology
Drexel University
Dutchess Community College

Emerson College
Florida Atlantic University
George Mason University: Mason Life Program
Goucher College*
Guttman Community College
Hamilton College
Hampton University
Hostos Community College (CUNY)
Howard University
Hunter College*
IDEAL Next Steps Transition Program*
Iona College
John Jay College
Keuka College
LaGuardia Community College
Lasell University



College and Postsecondary Acceptances

Complete list continued

Lehman College
Le Moyne College
Long Island University
Long Island University Brooklyn-Honors College*
Loyola University New Orleans
Macaulay Honors College at Hunter College
Manhattan College
Manhattanville College
Marist College
Medgar Evers College*
Mercy College
Millersville University: Integrated Studies Program
Mitchell College
Mount Holyoke
The New School
New York University*
Norfolk State University
Nova Southeastern University

Pace University
Queens College-Honors College
Riverview School*
Roosevelt University
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art and Design
Spelman College
St. John's University Queens
Suffolk University
SUNY Albany
SUNY Binghamton
SUNY Buffalo
SUNY Cobleskill
SUNY Delhi
SUNY Geneseo
SUNY New Paltz
SUNY Old Westbury
SUNY Polytechnic Institute

SUNY Purchase
Susquehanna University
Syracuse University: Inclusive U
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Colorado Denver
University of Denver
University of Houston
University of Rhode Island
University of San Francisco
University of South Carolina Aiken
Utica College
Wesleyan College (Macon, GA)
Westchester Community College*
Winston Prep Transitions*
Xavier University of LA
York College



College and Postsecondary Acceptances

*Complete list of colleges and postsecondary programs to which students graduating from IDEAL's Zenith and Dylan Program have been admitted. Programs to which students have matriculated are indicated with an *.*

Adelphi University
Borough of Manhattan Community College
Bronx Community College
Cooke School*
Dutchess Community College
George Mason University: Mason Life Program
Guttman Community College
Hunter College*
IDEAL Next Steps Transition Program*
Iona College
Keuka College
LaGuardia Community College
Macaulay Honors College at Hunter College
Manhattan College
Manhattanville College
Medgar Evers College*
Mercy College

Millersville University:
Integrated Studies Program
Mitchell College
New York City College of Technology
Norfolk State University
Pace University
Riverview School*
Spelman College
SUNY Buffalo
SUNY Delhi
SUNY Geneseo
SUNY New Paltz
SUNY Old Westbury
SUNY Polytechnic Institute
Syracuse University: Inclusive U
The College of Saint Rose*
The New School

University of San Francisco
University of South Carolina Aiken
Utica College
Wesleyan College (Macon, GA)
Westchester Community College*
Winston Prep Transitions*
Xavier University of LA
York College



IDEAL graduates have been accepted to an impressive list of colleges and postsecondary programs including American University, Colgate University, Drexel University, George Mason University: The Mason Life Program, Hunter College, and Mount Holyoke College

Inclusion at IDEAL

- Research shows that all students benefit from an inclusive classroom
 - Access to integrated services (PT, OT, Speech, Counseling)
 - Executive functioning skills, social-emotional learning, and organizational skills
 - Rigorous curriculum helps all students reach their highest potential
- Students in inclusion classes:
 - Develop self-advocacy skills and learn to advocate for others
 - Develop leadership skills that carry over to postsecondary education or the workplace
 - Learn to work with a diverse group of people
 - Embrace the differences of others
 - Have an opportunity to act as and benefit from positive role models





Standard, Zenith, and Dylan Programs

Every student has an individualized academic plan, and instruction is differentiated based on the learning style, strengths, interests, and needs of the particular child. We offer a wide array of specialty and enrichment classes to all of our students. For students who need added layers of support, we offer the Zenith and Dylan Programs.

Features of the Zenith and Dylan Programs:

- Learning specialists and general educators working together in teaching teams to make appropriate curricular and other adaptations
- Speech and language, occupational, and physical therapies held in one-to-one and small-group sessions
- Individual and group counseling
- Students are not pulled out of whole-class instruction for therapy
- Embedded services carry over throughout the academic day and across disciplines
- Extended conference time for parents to meet with therapists as well as teachers

Standard, Zenith, and Dylan Programs

Students in the Zenith and Dylan Programs participate in all classes and the full IDEAL program while receiving a greater degree of small group and individual instruction, as well as increased weekly therapy time, depending on the child's individual needs.

Features of the Zenith and Dylan Programs:

- Support for the CSE process, when appropriate
- Zenith students receive up to 180 minutes of related services each week
- Dylan students receive 270 minutes of related services each week
- Students in both programs have access to Learning Center support
- Students in the Dylan Program also have the support of an associate teacher throughout the entire academic day and for all transitions





Lower School Curriculum

- **Reading and Writing**
 - K-2: Foundations from Wilson Language Training
 - K-2: Handwriting Without Tears from Learning Without Tears
 - K-5: Literature-based instruction
 - Great Books Foundation
 - Aspects of Teachers College Reading and Writing Project
- **Math**
 - K-5: TERC Investigations 3
- **Science and Social Studies**
 - Follow New York State guidelines
 - Social studies is rooted in social justice
- **Specialty Classes**
 - Music: experiential, skills-based learning using Game Plan curriculum
 - Art: Teaching for Artistic Behavior pedagogy and the Eight Studio Habits of Mind
 - Physical Education two times per week
 - Spanish
- **Sports (Grade 5)**
 - Basketball, Golf, Volleyball, Track & Field, Cross Country, Badminton



A small group works with the learning specialist



Upper School Curriculum

- **English**
 - Four years of High School English required for graduation
 - A variety of levels, including foundational, college-prep, and honors, are offered each year
 - Focus on the writing process - critical analysis of literature, creative writing
 - Qualified students sit for AP English exams
- **Math**
 - Four years of High School math required for graduation
 - Levels from foundational to calculus and statistics
 - Focus on mathematical problem-solving and real-world applications at all levels
 - Qualified students sit for AP exams
- **Science**
 - Graduation requirements: Biology, Chemistry, and Physics
 - Exploratory approach with digital data collection and applications to students' lives
 - Sustainability and stewardship theme woven throughout the curriculum
- **History and Social Science**
 - Four years of High School history required for graduation
 - American History, Government & Economics, two years of World History
 - Focus on linking historical events with present world and analytical writing
 - Civil Rights Museum and social justice



Upper School Curriculum

- The Arts

- Full credit courses in Middle and High School, mixed-grade, semester-long, and based on student interest
- Talented instructors create a vibrant curriculum that is integrated throughout all disciplines
- Engaging with New York City cultural institutions extend classroom experiences
 - Music
 - Developing musical skills in production, appreciation, and analysis
 - Instrumental training and interest-driven band participation, independent studies
 - Visual Art: Teaching for Artistic Behavior pedagogy and the Eight Studio Habits of Mind
 - Theatre
 - Inclusive fall play and spring musical
 - International Thespian Society member school

- Spanish

- Three years of High School Spanish required for graduation

- Physical Education, Health, Sports

- Classes four times per week--three PE and one Health and Wellness

- APEX Sports--After School Program

- Cross Country, volleyball, basketball, track & field, golf, badminton

Independent Study

IDEAL seniors participate in a variety of electives and independent study courses through our membership in One Schoolhouse. The students present their work to Upper School peers and families during Pioneer Period assemblies.

- **Current Electives and Independent Study**
 - History of Black Music
 - Mental Health of Children During the Pandemic
 - American Sign Language
 - Global Health and Research Seminar
 - Engineering and Design Seminar
 - French 1
 - Next Steps Transition Program Classes
 - Journalism Skills
 - Culinary Skills





College and Postsecondary Counseling

IDEAL's college and postsecondary counselor works closely with students and their families to develop a student-centered, individualized plan that encourages the students to take ownership of the process and reflect on how they learn best.

- **Highlights of the College and Postsecondary Counseling Program**
 - Counselor routinely shares information about college placement events
 - Year-long College Research and Exploration course
 - Weekly class for eleventh and twelfth grade students
 - Includes personal statement writing workshop, interview prep, requesting letters of recommendation
 - SCOIR platform utilized as a research tool to learn about different types of colleges and track applications
 - Four-month SAT test prep class with Empire Edge
 - Opportunity to take the SAT, PSAT, and PSAT 10 on IDEAL's campus
 - Annual trips to visit local colleges and universities
 - College information nights



A hands-on experiment in Middle School science



Social Justice Curriculum

Through social justice and anti-bias instruction, IDEAL students are taught to be aware of bias and injustice, both individual and systemic; to understand the short- and long-term impact of injustice; and about those who have fought for more fairness and justice in our world.

- **Civil Rights Museum**
 - Whole school event is the culmination of deep study of civil rights leaders and concepts
 - Lower School classes study changemakers and activists such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, Ruby Bridges, and Winona LaDuke
 - Upper School students pursue individualized study and develop culminating projects surrounding inspiring leaders such as Gandhi, Malcolm X, Fannie Lou Hamer, and Malala Yousafzai
- **Words of the Month**
 - Social justice curriculum framed by Words of the Month since school was founded
 - All grade levels focus on the definition and applications of key words, including:
 - Rights and responsibilities
 - Choice
 - Peace
 - Perspective
 - Activism



The Learning Center is
the hub of Upper
School life



School Life, Leadership, and Service Learning

- **Pioneer Period**
 - IDEAL Talks
 - Clubs: Star Wars, Yearbook, Fashion, Glee, Mental Health Awareness
- **Advisory**
 - Social and emotional support: coping skills, conflict resolution, frustration tolerance, digital safety, organization, executive functioning, self advocacy
- **Social events**
 - Dances
 - High School Upper West Side Mixer (with Smith School and Robert Louis Stevenson School)
- **Student Council Leadership Initiatives**
 - Valentine's Day fundraiser
 - School mascot
 - Spirit Week
- **Service Learning Opportunities**
 - Interactions with Lower School students
 - Wider community service organizations during periodic service learning days
 - Focusing in depth and level of involvement through High School



Students take leadership in events such as the all-school Black Heritage Month assembly



Students performing at the annual Peace and Light Ceremony



IDEAL in the News

New York Times:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/24/realestate/coronavirus-second-homes-.html>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/26/your-money/summer-camps-covid.html?referringSource=articleShare>

Care.com

<https://www.care.com/c/stories/16858/teaching-anti-racism-to-kids/>

Authority Magazine:

<https://medium.com/authority-magazine/5-things-that-should-be-done-to-improve-the-us-educational-system-1cdbe9bb0342>

Thrive Global:

<https://thriveworld.com/stories/inclusive-learning-environments-with-penny-bauder-janet-wolfe/>

Parents Magazine:

<https://www.parents.com/kids/education/ways-to-better-prepare-kids-for-virtual-learning/>

Money Inc:

<https://moneyinc.com/mitch-rubin/>

New York Post:

<https://nypost.com/2020/05/16/new-york-kindergartener-sad-he-cant-be-a-big-boy-at-graduation/>

https://nypost.com/2021/03/10/why-parents-are-abandoning-troubled-nyc-public-schools/?utm_source=url_sitebutton&utm_medium=site%20buttons&utm_campaign=site%20buttons