The Head-Royce Lower School is part of a K-12 learning community nestled in a canyon in Oakland, featuring all three divisions on 22 acres of flexible learning space. Having students of all ages on the same campus offers unique cross-divisional opportunities and our core values of scholarship, diversity, and citizenship guide everything we do.
Lower School Program

GRADES K-5

Children form lifelong attitudes about school and learning during their earliest school years, and we are dedicated to making sure they feel enthusiastic, capable, and successful. Lower School academics provide a strong foundation of knowledge and skills in core and specialty subjects through an innovative curriculum that emphasizes hands-on, experiential learning.

The homeroom class structure includes daily class meetings that foster a welcoming community with an emphasis on character building activities and community engagement. The Lower School program reflects our strong belief in the importance of encouraging a connection to the natural world and to one another.

“You really feel like your kids are known. It makes them feel comfortable, important and valued.”

Lower School Parent
Spanish, Mandarin, and French are taught through language immersion, hands-on activities, puppet shows, singing, written expression, and field trip exploration.

Lower Schoolers enjoy a wide range of specialty classes, including art, gardening, STEM, drama, singing, movement/PE, library, and instrumental instruction.

Cross-grade “family” groups help students build strong community bonds and enjoy engagement across grade levels.

The Lower School curriculum sparks creativity and comprehension through innovative project-based learning.

The Idea Lab—or “maker” space—and Engineering Alley provide young innovators with opportunities and materials to think outside the box.

Our After-School Program (ASP) provides opportunities for unstructured play and enrichment classes, including swimming and private music lessons.
Sample Enrichment Class Schedule

In addition to core subjects including math, language arts, social studies, science, and social emotional learning (SEL), the weekly schedule is rounded out with a selection of specialty classes.

Our students are inspired by diverse and engaging experiences and motivated by creative challenges. They are encouraged to be more curious than certain and to reach beyond themselves to make a positive impact on the world.

Lower School Faculty Member
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Lower School Faculty Member

**Scholarship**

Head-Royce’s whole-child pedagogy emphasizes character-building as a key element of the academic journey and nurtures resilience, ethical decision-making, leadership, and curiosity as important attributes for success.

**Diversity**

We believe that diversity and belonging play a pivotal role in the development of our students and the well-being of our community. We take pride in our inclusive educational program that promotes respect for others and an appreciation of our differences.

**Citizenship**

The School’s Center for Community Engagement (CCE) provides K-12 students with meaningful, hands-on—and often cross-divisional—opportunities to discover for themselves what it means to be responsible members of their local and global communities.

"Our students are inspired by diverse and engaging experiences and motivated by creative challenges. They are encouraged to be more curious than certain and to reach beyond themselves to make a positive impact on the world."

Lower School Faculty Member

**Tuition Assistance**

$7.1m

Awarded in the 2023–24 school year

**Students of Color**

67%

Reflecting the fabric of the East Bay

**Zip Codes**

82

From communities all over the Bay Area
Getting to School

At Head-Royce, we want to make every aspect of your student’s day positive… even the commute! Our convenient, cost-effective (and fun!) program combines dedicated buses—provided by Michael’s Transportation—with AC Transit to minimize traffic while getting your student to and from campus each day as safely and simply as possible.

Come Visit

The ideal way to imagine a student’s experience at Head-Royce is to walk the campus with us and see our community in action. Schedule a visit and meet our team. We’d love to hear from you.

headroyce.org/admissions