



Key School engages children from 2.5 years of age through grade 12 in a progressive, coeducational, college-preparatory program on its picturesque 15-acre campus located 4 miles from downtown Annapolis.

# COLLEGE PROFILE CLASS OF 2025

## College Advising

**Laura Burrell Baxter** Director of College Advising  
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## Administration

**Matthew Nespole** Head of School  
**Brian Michaels** Upper School Division Head  
**Key School is accredited by AIMS-DC**

CEEB No. 210013

[www.keyschool.org](http://www.keyschool.org)  
410.263.9231

534 Hillsmere Drive Annapolis, Maryland 21403

## OUR UPPER SCHOOL STUDENTS

197 students in Upper School (grades 9-12)

Class of 2025 comprises 49 students

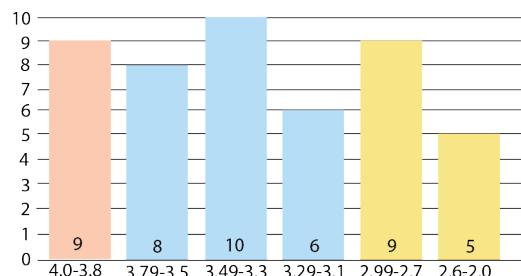
39% are students of color

6:1 student teacher ratio

Average class size is 16



## CLASS OF 2025 DATA



GPA Average for Class 2025 at end of Junior Year: 3.31/4.0

49 Seniors  
2 Seniors not in the average, new to school

	A (93-100)	A- (90-92)
B+ (87-89)	B (83-86)	B- (80-82)
C+ (77-79)	C (73-76)	C- (70-72)
D+ (67-69)	D (63-66)	D- (60-62)
	F (0-59)	

## ACADEMIC STATEMENT

- All courses are college preparatory; no honors designations
- All students take a core curriculum from 9th-11th grade in Humanities and Science
- The cumulative GPA is based on final grades
- Maximum GPA is 4.0
- GPA is not weighted
- GPA will be calculated at the end of 12th grade for a final cumulative GPA
- No Class Rank
- No honor roll or academic awards



## COURSES AND TESTING

Highest courses offered: Advanced Biology, Advanced Chemistry, Calculus II/III, French Literature and Film, Advanced Spanish Literature, Advanced Studio Art

Students are unable to complete all of the highest level courses offered given the limitations of the schedule.

## SAT/ACT

Testing through July 2024

SAT: 37 tests, 31 students, 1273 average, 1180-1400 mid 50%

ACT: 2 tests, 2 students, 27 average, 26-28 mid 50%



## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate, students must earn at least 18.25 credits:



**Arts:** 2 credits  
**English:** 4 credits  
**History:** 3 credits  
**World Language:** 2 credits  
**Laboratory Science:** 3 credits  
**Mathematics:** 3 credits  
**Physical Education:** 1 credit earned over 3 years  
**Community Seminar:** 0.25 credits



## ADVANCED PLACEMENT TESTING

AP exams are optional for students. Advanced courses are the highest level courses offered. Key's courses do not align with the College Board curriculum. Courses are not designated as AP.

SCORED	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
5	5
4	11
3	8

24 students took AP exams - 40 tests were taken

The following AP exams are optional:

Science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics

Math: Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Statistics

English: English Literature and Composition

Language: French Language and Culture, Spanish Language and Culture

Art: 2-D, 3-D and Drawing

## ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- Academic year is divided into semesters on the block system
- Minimum of 5 courses each semester
- Maximum 6 courses each per semester
- Four 85 minute classes/day

UPPER SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS			
SUBJECT	REQUIRED/CORE/COURSES	ELECTIVE COURSES	
<b>HUMANITIES</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ancient Civilization (9, 2 credits)</li> <li>Modern Civilization (10, 2 credits)</li> <li>American Civilization (11, 2 credits)</li> <li>Comparative Literature (12, 1 credit, AP English Literature Exam optional)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>African American Literature (10-12, 0.5 credits)</li> <li>The Art of Reasoning: An Introduction to Logic and Debate (10-12, 0.5 credits)</li> <li>Creative Writing (11, 12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Cultures in Conflict (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Economics (11, 12 and 10 by instructors permission, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Environmental Perspectives (11, 12 and 10 by instructors permission, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>History through Food (10-12, 0.5 credits)</li> <li>International Film (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Introduction to Anthropology (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>J.R.R. Tolkien (11, 12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Japan and The West (11, 12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>New Media Narratives (11, 12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Psychology (11, 12 and 10 by instructors permission, 0.5 credit)</li> </ul>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>REQUIRED/CORE/COURSES</b>	<b>HIGHEST LEVEL COURSES</b>	
<b>WORLD LANGUAGES</b> 	<b>CLASSICAL LANGUAGES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Latin I (1 credit)</li> <li>Latin II (1 credit)</li> <li>Latin III (1 credit)</li> <li>Latin IV (1 credit)</li> </ul> <b>MODERN LANGUAGES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arabic I (1 credit)</li> <li>Arabic II (1 credit)</li> <li>Arabic III (1 credit)</li> <li>Arabic IV (1 credit)</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>French I-II (1 credit)</li> <li>French III (1 credit)</li> <li>French IV (1 credit)</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spanish I (1 credit)</li> <li>Spanish II (1 credit)</li> <li>Spanish III (1 credit)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advanced Latin (1 credit, AP Exam optional)</li> <li>French V (1 credit, AP French Language and Culture Exam optional)</li> <li>Spanish Language and Culture (1 credit, AP Spanish Language &amp; Culture exam optional)</li> <li>Advanced Spanish Literature (1 credit, AP Spanish Literature &amp; Culture exam optional)</li> </ul>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>REQUIRED/CORE/COURSES</b>	<b>ELECTIVE COURSES</b>	<b>HIGHEST LEVEL COURSES</b>
<b>MATHEMATICS</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Algebra I (1 credit)</li> <li>Geometry (1 credit)</li> <li>Geometry with Trigonometry (1 credit)</li> <li>Algebra II (1 credit)</li> <li>Algebra II with Trigonometry (1 credit)</li> <li>Trigonometry and Finite Math (1 credit)</li> <li>Pre-Calculus (1 credit)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction to Computer Science (0.5 credit)</li> <li>Mathematical Modeling (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Introduction to Engineering (9-12, 1 credit)</li> <li>Principles of Engineering (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advanced Calculus I (1 credit, AP Calculus AB Exam optional)</li> <li>Advanced Calculus I/II (1 credit, AP Calculus BC Exam optional)</li> <li>Calculus II/III (1 credit)</li> <li>Statistics (1 credit, AP Exam optional)</li> </ul>
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>REQUIRED/CORE/COURSES</b>	<b>ELECTIVE COURSES</b>	<b>HIGHEST LEVEL COURSES</b>
<b>SCIENCE</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrated Science: Data/Physics (9 - 1 credit)</li> <li>Integrated Science: Energy/Chemistry (10 - 1 credit)</li> <li>Integrated Science: Systems/Biology (11 - 1 credit)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction to Astronomy (10-12, 1 credit)</li> <li>Introduction to Oceanography (0.5 credit)</li> <li>Anatomy &amp; Physiology (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Environmental Science (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Ecology of the Chesapeake Bay (0.5 credit)</li> <li>Global Environmental Seminar (0.5 credit)</li> <li>Fall: Experimental Methods in Science (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Spring: Applied Scientific Research (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advanced Biology (1 credit, AP Exam optional)</li> <li>Advanced Chemistry (1 credit, AP Exam optional)</li> <li>Physics (11&amp;12, AP Physics 1 Exam optional)</li> </ul>
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>REQUIRED/CORE/COURSES</b>	<b>ELECTIVE COURSES</b>	<b>HIGHEST LEVEL COURSES</b>
<b>VISUAL ARTS</b>  <i>*Note all students must take 2 credits in Visual Arts and .5 credits in Performing Arts from the electives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Art I (9- 1 credit)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fine Arts</li> <li>2D Studies I ( 0.5 credit)</li> <li>2D Studies II (0.5 credit)</li> <li>3D Media I (0.5 credit)</li> <li>3D Media II (0.5 credit)</li> <li>Digital Arts</li> <li>Digital Photography I (0.5 credit)</li> <li>Digital Photography II (0.5 credit)</li> <li>Digital Video I (0.5 credit)</li> <li>Digital Video II (0.5 credit)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advanced Studio Concentration - Fine Arts (0.5 credit each) AP Optional</li> <li>Advanced Studio Concentration - Digital Arts (0.5 credit each) AP Optional</li> </ul>
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>ELECTIVE COURSES</b>		
<b>PERFORMING ARTS</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acting, Theory and History (10 -12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Acting, Performance and Technique (10 -12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Band I &amp; II (9-12, 1 credit)</li> <li>Chorus I &amp; II (9-12, 1 credit)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dance Technique (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Multimedia Storytelling (9-12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Music Theory I (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Music Theory II (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Playwriting (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Theater Design (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> </ul>
<b>SUBJECT</b>			
<b>NON-DEPARTMENTAL COURSES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Service Elective (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Leadership Theory &amp; Practice (10-12, 0.5 credit)</li> <li>Life Skills - Community Seminar (9, 0.5 credit)</li> </ul>		<p><b>Physical Education:</b></p> <p>While there are no specific required physical education classes in the Upper School, all students must obtain one credit for graduation. Students need 1/3 credit yearly in grades 9-11. Students may obtain these credits in one of the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Play two interscholastic sports in a given year</li> <li>Enroll in the dance technique course</li> <li>Sign up for one activity per semester that is approved for a Physical Education credit</li> <li>Create an Independent Exercise Contract with a Physical Education teacher</li> </ul>

## ABOUT US

Founded as a day school in 1958 by professors and parents affiliated with St. John's College, Key School graduated its first senior class in 1971. Key's rigorous academic program emphasizes experiential learning, interdisciplinary studies and global perspectives while encouraging both collaboration and independent thinking.

## OUR MISSION

The Key School is founded upon the conviction that children are innately curious about themselves and the world; they want to learn, they want to discover, and they want to create.

Our mission is to nourish and guide this natural exuberance, energy, and delight in the search for meaning, so that each student embraces lifelong learning and develops into an informed, thoughtful, and constructive member of society.

## OUR FACULTY

118 faculty members in the School

83 hold advanced degrees / 6 doctorates

27 have taught at Key for more than 15 years

## OUR ACADEMIC PHILOSOPHY

The general tone of Key is egalitarian, academically focused, informal, creative, and caring.

Key's program is designed to develop independent thinkers, creative innovators, effective collaborators, tenacious problem-solvers, and articulate leaders.

The School emphasizes the learning process, promotes individuality and encourages the free expression of ideas and points of view.

The adults on campus honor the intelligence and capacity of the student, and the students, in turn, create genuine and long-lasting connections with their teachers.

## OUR CURRICULUM

Key's curriculum includes courses, materials and experiences intended to instruct, stimulate, challenge, and engender a delight in learning while developing a sustaining degree of intellectual curiosity.

Key faculty believe knowledge should be constructed, not delivered, and that real rigor comes from a deep understanding of the complexity of concepts and problems, not from the sheer amount of content covered.

In each course, Key's curriculum is designed to ask its students to analyze, question and construct meaning from information gathered.

## DISTINCTIVE CURRICULAR OFFERINGS

### Integrated Science Courses

- Required 9th through 11th: 9th Data; 10th Energy; 11th Systems
- Each course comprises integrated study of physics, chemistry and biology
- Topics from each of the traditional disciplines are chosen to match the overarching theme of each course
- For example, through classroom discussions and applied labs, students discover how cellular respiration (biological principle) is a series of oxidation-reduction reactions (chemistry concept)

## Civilizations Courses

- Required 9th through 11th: 9th Ancient; 10th Modern; 11th American
- Two-credit humanities-based course that includes history and English
- Study of history and literature combined with study of philosophy, art, religion, politics, economics, law, and history of science
- Student essays require original thinking and logical rigor
- Sample essay: Assess role played by early Americans' belief that they were inhabiting a "New World" drawing on literary, historical and cultural evidence

## STEM

- Courses in the STEM threads prepare students for advanced STEM studies and foster critical thinking, collaboration, and communication skills essential for future careers in technology and engineering.
- Courses across the STEM threads promote creativity, design thinking, problem-solving, and persistence through experiential and project-based learning.

## Outdoor Education

- Provides opportunities for students to make connections between their academic studies and the natural world
- Coursework in the field is overseen by core discipline teachers and outdoor education staff
- Entire grades attend 1 to 6-day-long trips that include camping, backpacking, canoeing, and rock climbing
- Required trips include:
  - Grade 9 Island Odyssey: three days on remote Bay islands, studying ancient civilizations, physics, music, and art as well as the current environment of the Bay and its cultural implications
  - Grade 10 Rollin' on the River: four-day canoeing and camping excursion, where the study of history and chemistry become integral as they assess the impact of the Industrial Revolution on the region
  - Grade 11 Assateague: a five-day trip to Assateague Island where they explore the ecological interactions in and around the Chesapeake Bay and investigate the area's diverse habitats

## COLLEGE ADVISING

Finding a college that fits the needs of the student is paramount to Key's college advising process. We work closely with students to help them identify their learning styles, personality tendencies, academic strengths, and social, extracurricular and community interests. Finding the right college is an important decision for seniors and we partner with our students and their parents to listen, understand and then determine the best list of potential schools. Our approach is personal, reflective and appropriately paced.

## ATHLETICS

- Inclusive and competitive
- No "cuts": All students may play on an interscholastic team
- More than 75% participate in Key athletics

### Varsity and JV sports include:

Fall: Cross-Country, Equestrian, Sailing, Soccer, and Volleyball  
Winter: Basketball, Equestrian, Indoor Track, and Swimming  
Spring: Baseball, Lacrosse, Sailing, and Tennis

## REPORTING DISCIPLINARY ISSUES

The Key School does not volunteer to colleges information about minor infractions for which a student may have been suspended or placed on probation. If asked, the School will report disciplinary actions resulting from violations of local, state and federal law, from acts of significant academic dishonesty, or from any threat to the safety of the School community.

# MATRICULATIONS BY STATE

## 2018 - 2024

