



KIPP

WASHINGTON HEIGHTS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2017-18 ENROLLMENT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ABOUT KIPP Washington Heights Elementary

1. What is KIPP Washington Heights Elementary School?

KIPP Washington Heights Elementary is a free, public charter school that prepares students for success in college and life. We are relentlessly focused on results – academic results, character development, and the outcomes that ultimately matter most: graduating from high school and college, embarking on a career and becoming self-sufficient and happy. KIPP's success is rooted in a few core principles that guide everything we do:

- **High Expectations.** We believe that all of our students are capable of remarkable learning and growth and that our talented team can and will find a way to achieve those results.
- **More Time.** There are no shortcuts at KIPP. Our day starts earlier and ends later than at other schools. We hold half-day classes on many Saturdays as well as summer school for all students.
- **Character Counts.** We believe that success in school and in life depends on character. During each school day, in every lesson and every interaction, we focus as much on developing character – traits such as zest, grit, self-control, hope, love, gratitude, social intelligence and humor – as we do on academic preparation.
- **Through College – and Beyond.** A dedicated KIPP Through College team supports our students after they graduate KIPP NYC schools – to help them meet the challenges of getting a college degree and becoming successful professionals. We deliver education for life.

2. What sort of results have KIPP schools had?

- 96% of KIPP NYC alumni graduated from high school and 89% have matriculated to college (nearly twice the rate of students from communities like ours).
- 46% of KIPP NYC alumni have earned a B.A. degree (an additional 8% have earned an associate's degree), compared to only 9% of students from communities like ours.
- By the end of 2015-16, 82% of Kindergarten students, 76% of 1st grade students, and 70% of 2nd grade students met or exceeded their end-of-year reading level goals.
- This past year, KIPP NYC College Prep's students excelled on their NY State Regents exams, with 85% passing English (Common Core), 88% passing Living Environment, 89% passing Global History, and 96% passing US History.

3. What grades will KIPP serve in 2017-18?

- KIPP Washington Heights Elementary School will serve approximately 375 students in K-3.
- KIPP Washington Heights Middle School will serve approximately 500 students in grades 4-8.
- KIPP NYC College Prep High School serves over 1,000 students in grades 9-12.

4. What is the school schedule and calendar?

By choosing to enroll at KIPP Washington Heights Elementary School, families and students commit to an extended school day that lasts from 7:40am to 4:00pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and from 7:40am to 1:30pm on Wednesday. They also commit to attending a Family Saturday program that lasts from 9:00am to 11:00am every few months. The school year begins in mid-August with a shortened daily schedule. (Attendance is mandatory during the shortened schedule session in August). The first full day of school has not been set, however the school mostly follows the NYC Department of Education calendar beginning in September.



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5. What happens to KIPP students when they go on to high school?

In the summer of 2009, KIPP NYC opened KIPP NYC College Prep, a high school for students graduating from all five KIPP NYC middle schools.

6. How old do you have to be to attend Kindergarten at KIPP STAR Elementary School?

Children must be 5 years of age by December 31st, 2017 to attend Kindergarten.

7. Do the students wear uniforms to school? Do I have to pay for the uniform shirts?

Yes, all students are required to wear uniforms at KIPP. All students will be provided with one KIPP shirt free of charge. They will have the opportunity to purchase additional shirts and sweatshirts over the summer and throughout the school year.

8. How many students are in each classroom?

There are 28-31 students in each classroom. Additionally, every kindergarten and first grade classroom is taught by two full time teachers.

9. Do you take ELL (English Language Learner) or Special Education students?

Yes!

10. Do you have free breakfast and lunch programs?

Yes. All students will receive free breakfast and lunch (and a morning snack).

11. Will KIPP provide transportation for my child to get to and from the school?

As with any public school, KIPP will provide eligible students with a half-fare or full fare Metrocard depending on how far they live from the school. KIPP Washington Heights Elementary School does not provide yellow bus service to or from school.

ABOUT THE LOTTERY PROCESS

1. Do you have to apply to get into KIPP?

KIPP Washington Heights Elementary Charter School is a public school open to all New York students that are incoming kindergarteners through fourth graders. The only information needed to enter the KIPP lottery is the student's name and contact information. No test scores, grades, recommendations, or behavioral history will be taken into consideration. All applications must be received by **April 1, 2017 at 12:00pm (noon)** via mail, online at www.kippnyc.org/enroll, or in person.

2. How does the lottery work? Do I have to attend the lottery? How will I find out if my child was selected?

KIPP Washington Heights Elementary plans to enroll 95 incoming kindergarteners, including siblings and returning students. If the number of families interested in attending the school exceeds the number of students we can serve, then we will conduct a lottery on **April 5, 2017**. All students entered into the lottery will have their names drawn by an independent auditor. Open slots will be filled in the following order:

1. Brothers/Sisters of Current KIPP NYC Students (must attend the same KIPP NYC school)
2. Applicants Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch and Residing in the Community School District
3. Applicants Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch and Not Residing in the Community School District
4. Applicants Not Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch and Residing in the Community School District
5. Applicants Not Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch and Not Residing in the Community School District



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Upon submission of the application, applicants will have the opportunity to document their free and reduced price lunch eligibility. Families do not need to be present at the lottery. Students will be contacted by phone in the order they were drawn until all open slots are filled. Admissions notification letters will be mailed to all applicants beginning in mid-April 2017.

4. Do you accept applications for 1st -3rd graders?

Yes. There will be a lottery for 1st -3rd grade students, however we anticipate that there will be few, if any, open seats.

5. Can I enter my child's name in more than one KIPP NYC lottery?

Yes. The lottery application allows you to choose multiple schools that you may apply to, based on your preference.

6. Can I enter the lottery more than once?

No. Each child may only enter once. Any duplicate applications will be removed prior to the lottery.

7. If I entered the lottery last year, do I need to enter again?

Yes. There is a new lottery every year. Waitlists do not carry over from year to year.

8. Where is the school, and who can I contact with additional questions?

The school is located in Washington Heights within the P.S. 115/Alexander Humboldt Building Complex at 586 West 177 Street at St. Nicholas, 4th floor. For more information or to receive an application, please contact the School Operations Administrator at 212-991-2630 or visit <http://www.kippnyc.org/enroll>.