



California
School for the Deaf

Learn. Experience. Thrive.

PROVIDING A POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH
DEAF STUDENTS HAVE THRIVED SINCE 1860.

Excellence in Education

WHERE WE START: TOTAL INCLUSION

Deaf children of any hearing level are part of the diverse fabric of our society that makes our world a better place. We instill confidence in Deaf children by focusing on cognitive strengths while developing a positive social, cultural and family identity. Deaf children have everything to gain and nothing to lose when they are given the opportunity to learn and thrive!

THE DNA OF CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

- FREE public school supporting all families with Deaf children of any hearing level, using Bilingual ASL and English curriculum
- Direct instruction in ASL and English allows for multiple language opportunities and peer interactions
- International leader of bilingual and multicultural education while meeting State, National and International standards for curriculum and assessments through 12th grade
- Early childhood education programs and support for families with children 0-6
- Promotes full and active citizenship that contributes to society

Success Stories

The vast majority of our students are from families with diverse home languages. The success of our alumni can be seen throughout the world:



Samuel Brown, college student at Rochester Institute of Technology in New York pursuing BS and MA degrees in mechanical engineering



Melissa Malzkuhn, 2018 Obama Fellow and founder and Creative Director of Motion Light Lab in Washington, DC



Norman Chan, Vice President of Residential Sales at Zvrs/Purple Communications in Roseville, California and previously worked with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) as a Resources Analyst



Megan Matovich, Project leader and Board Chair of Norges Doverforbund. Former CEO of an early education school also in Oslo, Norway



Melody Tsai Stein, Founder of Mozzarella restaurant in San Francisco and Yantern entrepreneurship consultancy



LiAn Jackson, Operations Specialist at ASL Connect in Washington DC. Graduate of RIT with a BS in Business Administration Management and Masters in Hospitality and Tourism Management



Ian Guzman, a Mexican artist, fluent in 4 languages, works as a graphic designer & video editor for Convo Video Relay Service in Seattle, WA



Providing Children and Families Opportunities for Success

Families often receive confusing information on what is best for their Deaf child – our team of experts is here to help.

Fact Checks

- There is no reason to have a different set of academic expectations for Deaf students based on their hearing levels
- Families thrive when their Deaf child is given access to language rich opportunities
- The use of sign language promotes spoken language development

Our Model: Deaf-Bilingual Multicultural Education

- ASL Comprehension is highly and positively linked to higher scores in guided Reading, MAP Reading, Language, Math as well as Social-Emotional Learning
- Deaf-Bilingual education is the only data driven form of education that has over 160 years of success

Our Early Education Department

STARTING EARLY MATTERS

- Enrolling early sets children up to be at or above grade level
- Our Early Childhood Education program provides developmental support and resources for families with children from 0-6 years old. We work with families to foster an environment that promotes language development
- Our families thrive through a “whole family” approach from birth through Kindergarten. This includes:
 - Social-emotional learning
 - Free family ASL classes
 - Family home visits
 - Community events to connect with other families
 - Family education workshops and discussions
 - Working with Deaf adults as mentors/role models



FACT: CSD’s language-rich environment leads to age-expected academic outcomes for Deaf children of both hearing and Deaf parents. (Finton, Hall, Berke, & Caselli, 2021)

THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

- Highly qualified teachers who are experts in literacy and early language development
- Small student-to-teacher ratios support classroom discussions, collaborative work, student centered lessons, and individualized attention
- Critical thinking and literacy experiences
- Respect and appreciation for equity, diversity and inclusion
- Course content is based on state standards for public schools with a strong emphasis on literacy

The biggest factor in a Deaf child’s education is their access to language. California state law (SB210) requires monitoring and reporting Deaf children’s language every six months to the California Department of Education.

KNOW YOUR CHILD’S MILESTONES!

Visit the links below to learn more about your child’s language milestones:

cde.ca.gov/sp/ss/dh/sb210langmilestones.asp

cde.ca.gov/sp/ss/dh/sb210langmilestones-spa.asp



FACT: Deaf children who sign, with or without a cochlear implant, have better reading and writing skills. (Hassanzadeh S. 2012, Kushalnagar P, Hannay HJ, Hernandez AE. 2014, Padden C, Ramsey C, 2000)

Empowering Students In School and Beyond

A FULLY INCLUSIVE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Our unique educational experience focuses on an inclusive environment where each child can be a leader. Students have full access to all of our teachers and staff members who are trained in current ASL/English Bilingual Education instructional strategies.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

- Students have full access to ASL conducted activities such as academic competitions, arts and athletics
- Our boarding school option provides living space for students that allow for our trained ASL-fluent staff to help develop children's self-esteem, leadership, and independent living skills outside of the classroom
- All students have leadership opportunities through student government, student-run clubs and organizations
- Partnerships with Silicon Valley tech companies, community agencies, research institutions and international organizations
- Access to on-site pediatric audiology and speech language specialists

FACT: *A majority of our students are involved with leadership, diversity and athletic activities.*



How We Can Work With You

WE PARTNER WITH LEAD-K FAMILY SERVICES, LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES AND COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS

We support all families in Northern California with Deaf children. We can supplement your local program with our toddler playgroup, home visits, and workshops. We can collaborate with Local Education Agencies, Special Education Local Plan Agencies, and County Offices of Education. We also host annual family events and special activities that are open to all families. The California School for the Deaf is a free public-school option available to all families in Northern California. CSD is a place with experienced and highly qualified teachers and large numbers of Deaf and Hard of Hearing children. This is key for peer interactions, language development and social-emotional learning.

Parent Support



- Tours, classes, and events for current and prospective families
- Family-friendly educational workshops/webinars
- Online and in-person Family ASL classes for beginners through advanced
- Outreach services that bridge the gap between school, family, and community



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