

"The visual arts, music, and theater programs at Besant Hill are truly incredible. Even if a student doesn't have talent, the teachers are so talented that they bring out the artistic talent in each student."

Student of Besant Hill School

Boarding School

Besant Hill School California

Besant Hill School is a coeducational college-preparatory boarding school located in the Ojai Valley, California, offering grades 9-12 and a postgraduate year. Its distinctive blend of academic rigour, arts, environmental education and personalised small-school experience prepares students for selective university admission and meaningful global citizenship.



BOARDING



DIPLOMA
YEAR



CO-ED



ARTS



SPORTS

Quick Facts

Founded: 1946

Niche.com Score: A+

Students: Co-educational

School Population: 100

Climate: Cool winters and Warm summers

Accepting students: Grade 9-12, PG

Diploma Year offered: No

Interview Required? Yes

English as Second Language (ESL) support: Yes

University Acceptance Rate: 100%

**Specialty Programs: Capstone Programme,
Instructional Support Program**

Academic Excellence

Besant Hill School offers a college-preparatory curriculum with AP courses, the Instructional Support Program, and a senior Capstone. Small classes and close faculty mentoring allow students to follow personalised academic pathways, with dedicated ESL support for international learners. Teachers hold advanced qualifications and emphasise critical thinking, creativity and independent work. Graduates are admitted to selective universities in the U.S. and abroad, reflecting the school's focus on strong academics, expressive arts and global awareness.

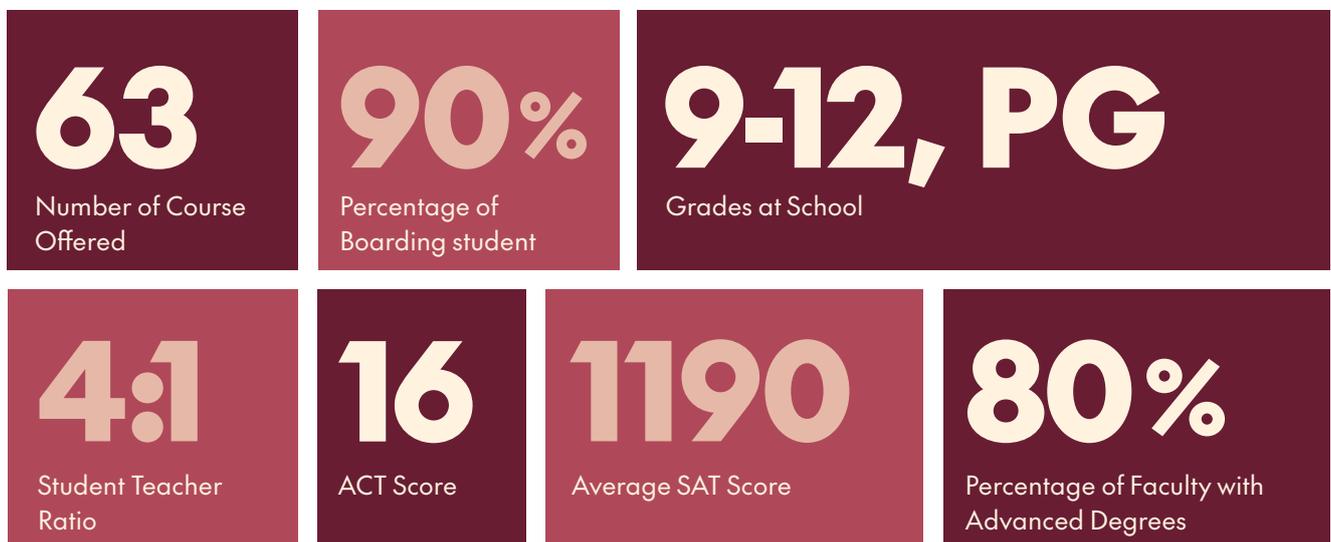
Student Accomplishments

Besant Hill students have achieved 100% graduation rate. Many participate in national debates, leadership initiatives and performance arts productions. The school's sustainability, outdoor education and arts projects regularly receive recognition in their fields.

Campus Facilities

The campus occupies roughly 520 acres of Ojai Valley, combining academic spaces, arts studios, athletic fields, and extensive outdoor terrain. Facilities include science and technology labs, photography and visual arts studios, theatre and rehearsal spaces. The school also has a working farm and garden for sustainability learning and. Multiple hiking trails can be found in the campus. Boarding residences provide shared and single rooms, communal lounges, kitchens, and dining facilities. The landscape support interdisciplinary learning, outdoor education, on-campus research and creative practice.

Stats



Recent University Acceptances

- Harvard University
- New York University
- Princeton University
- San Diego State University
- Stanford University
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, LA
- University of California, San Diego
- University of California, Santa Barbara
- University of California, Santa Cruz
- University of Southern California
- Yale University



Residential Life

Boarding at Besant Hill is traditional and inclusive, where faculty and their families live on-campus and support student welfare. Dormitories offer shared or single rooms, communal lounges, kitchens and laundry facilities, with weekend program, outdoor excursions and residential mentoring. The experience fosters independence, peer collaboration and global community with students from multiple countries.

Athletics and Arts

Athletics follow a no-cut policy and engage students in team and individual sports, promoting participation and skill development rather than elimination.

The arts program fosters creativity and performance through coursework and public showcases. Students study visual arts, theater, dance, and music with opportunities to perform, exhibit, and collaborate on productions. Facilities include studios, rehearsal rooms, and a black-box theater. The school's galleries connect students to the local arts community.



Lists

Sports: Basketball, Cross-Country, Soccer, Volleyball, Aquatics, Circuit Training, Dance, Golf, Surfing, Weightlifting, Yoga

Arts: Acting, Ceramics, Digital Design, Digital Photography, Graphic Design, Studio Art

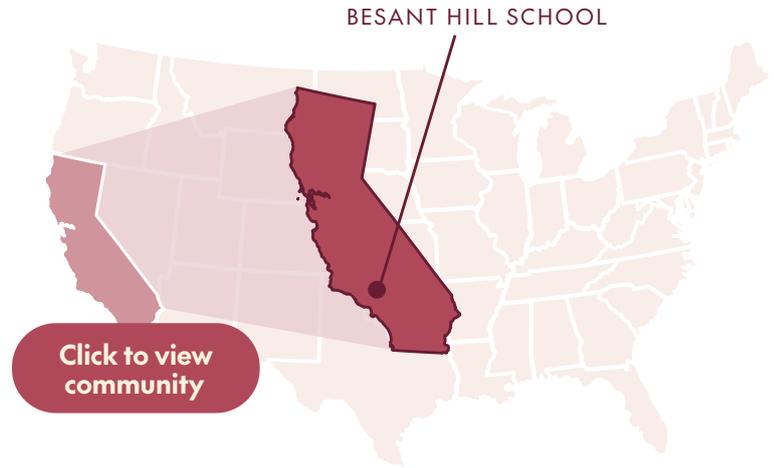
Language Offered:
French, Spanish

Tech and Innovation Courses:
Engineering practice, Sustainability education, Environmental science

Clubs And Extracurriculars
Debate Team, Environmental Club, Model United Nations, Student Government, Sustainability Initiative, Rock Band, Student-run Media, Outdoor Adventure Club, Yoga & Wellness Club

Community

Besant Hill is located in Ojai, California, a small town in the Ventura County just about 1.5 hours north of Los Angeles and 45 minutes from Santa Barbara. The region offers mountain views, coastal access, art galleries and natural reserves, and Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) serves as the major hub for travel. The location combines access to higher education partnerships and outdoor adventure in a temperate Mediterranean climate.



Climate in Ojai, California

Mediterranean climate with mild winters and warm, dry summers.



Video

Besant Hill School - Ojai, CA

