

# KOSEL GAKUEN GIRLS' JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



## About our School

## Message from the Principal

### Let's try to understand different ways of thinking. This is the skill which will help you to become a global citizen of the future.

Our school's founding principle is to help young women to take their place on the international stage and make a contribution towards a more peaceful world. We aim to achieve this through our classes, school events, research trips abroad and other educational activities. This year, we are emphasizing five different ways in which our students can work towards this goal in their everyday lives. These are; Greeting others, bowing to show respect when they pass through the school gates, improving their organizational skills, expressing their gratitude before and after a meal, and showing consideration towards others. In this way, we are helping our students to grow not only academically, but also as people. We hope that, through these activities, our students can develop skills such as empathy and the ability to view a situation from another person's perspective. Such skills will be essential to the global leaders of the future. As a designated Super Global High School, we realize the importance of encouraging our students to be considerate to those around them every day. In international society, it is important to work harmoniously with others. This is why we consider these skills to be an integral part of our programs, and encourage our students to work together to solve problems and overcome new challenges.



Mr. Takanori Shishido Principal

## Founder Niwano Nikkyo and Kosei Gakuen Girls'





Our school was founded by the Reverend Nikkyo Niwano. Founder Nikkyo Niwano was born in 1906 to a farming family in Niigata Prefecture, northern Japan. As a child he was deeply impressed by his grandfather's and parents' kindness to others. Their good examples instilled in him a love of peace and harmony and service to others. In 1938, together with Co-Founder Myoko Naganuma, Founder Nikkyo Niwano founded a lay Buddhist organization - Rissho Kosei-kai. In 1955, he established Kosei Gakuen Girls' Junior and Senior High School. Later, in 1979 he was awarded the Templeton Foundation Prize for Progress in Religion, and in 1992 he was made Knight Commander with the Silver Star of the Order of St. Gregory the Great by the Vatican. In 1993 he received the Interfaith Medallion from the International Council of Christians and Jews. He passed away on October 4, 1999, at the age of 92. His legacy lives on through the work of the Rissho Kosei-kai and Kosei Gakuen Girls' Junior and Senior High School

## Key Information

## **Our Current Courses**

#### Special Humanities and Sciences Course:

- Medical Class
- Super Global Class
- Humanities and Sciences Class

### Kosei Girls Global Studies Course (KGGS):

Study Abroad Class

Academic Progression Course



## **Our Location**

- We are located in <u>Setagaya</u>, a leafy suburb of western <u>Tokyo</u>.
- We are on the <u>Keio Line</u>.
- ♦ We are a five minute walk from <u>Chitose-Karasuyama</u> station.
- You can take a; Semi-Special Express (marked in ORANGE), Express (marked in GREEN), Semi-Express (marked in LIGHT GREEN), Rapid (marked in BLUE) or Local (marked in BLACK) to our station.
- We are around a <u>5 minute walk</u> from the station. Take the South Exit. Walk around the school campus to the Main Entrance.

### Map from Chitose-karasukama Station:



We are just 20 minutes away from Shinjuku!

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#### **Contact Information:**

Keio Line

Chitose-karasuyama

Roka-koer

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In 2014 we were designated as a SGH (Super Global High School) by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. We used to be "Kosei for English," now we are "Global Kosei."



## Debate Contest

Students build their awareness of topics such as war, disasters and immigration. They learn how to state their opinion in a clear and logical way

Discover global issues and develop investigative skills



## KEY SKILLS

You can learn at an SGH

## Lectures by world renowned specialists

Including Nobel Prize recipients, international development workers and designers.

## 3

Learn how to express your opinion through discussion

2

Improve your communicative ability and language skills



# Global Village

Students meet with international students who are attending graduate school in Japan. Together they discuss various social issues in English. Students also have the chance to talk about their own research through poster sessions and presentations.



Use of I.T in class

Students learn how to use I.T as a tool to enhance their presentations and discussions



Visits to mosques and NGOs

A strong knowledge of world religions is essential in order to understand current events, both in Japan and abroad.



## SGH FORUM



## Recipient of the Education Minister's Prize

In 2017, Kosei Gakuen Girls' High School students shone at the National SGH Forum. Our two students were chosen as

## the best in Japan.

Our students made a poster presentation in English at the SGH forum. Out of the 133 schools that participated, we were chosen to advance to the final round of four schools. After their presentation on the main stage, our students were awarded the top prize!



**Research** Theme

Endangered Minority Languages in Thailand To what extent is the Karen languages dying out?



## Student Message

Originally, I was interested in researching English language education in Asian countries. However, as I had the precious chance to carry out fieldwork in a Karen village in Thailand, I decided to focus on minority languages and the impact that globalization is having on them. There are both positive and negative aspects to globalization. In the future, Japan will likely become more multiethnic than it is today. We will need to think about how to protect the rights of minority groups.

I hope to continue researching various issues related to globalization in order to help find solutions to such issues.

## WHAT IS A SUPER GLOBAL HIGH SCHOOL (SGH)?

The SGH program was started by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. This program recognizes and encourages schools that place an emphasis on leadership skills and internationally minded education. In 2014, our school became one of 56 designated SGHs chosen from 246 schools across Japan. These SGHs hope to educate the global leaders of the future. Our research theme is:

### "The Furthering of Peace in Multiethnic Societies Through Fieldwork"

Our students investigate how we can build a society where people of different ethnicities and cultural backgrounds can live alongside each other peacefully. They have the chance to visit various communities and experience cultural differences firsthand during their fieldwork.

## **International Experiences**

## New Zealand Long Term Study Abroad

New Zealand is beautiful, warm and has a stunning natural environment! Our students study here for one year, attending local schools and staying with a homestay family. This experience means that they come back to Japan with dramatically improved English skills!

## Australia The University of Sydney

After spending a year in New Zealand, the study abroad course students spend two weeks at the University of Sydney. Students attend academic lectures with a focus on Australia's indigenous peoples and developing leadership skills. They also attend classes at the university's language

school.

## Thailand



Experience life in the village of an ethnic minority group Super Global class students do a home-stay in a Karen village in the mountains of northern Thailand. In this village they can experience life without electricity or running water. They can also see how the villages retain their self-sufficient lifestyle. This gives them a chance to contemplate different lifestyles and values and is an essential aspect of their field work.

### England SOAS, the University of London

SG

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SG

3rd year students in the SG class attend SOAS in order to write up the results of their Thai field work in English. After attending a language school for two weeks, the students spend a month at SOAS receiving lectures on topics related to African and Asia. They also have special classes to help them with their reports.

### England

#### School Trip and Short Term Study Abroad

The purpose of our school trip is not sightseeing! Students do a homestay with a British family and have the chance to practice communicating with people of different cultural backgrounds in English! Students who wish to stay on in England can attend a local language school over the summer.



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Peace and Multi-Ethnic Societies Until 2009, a civil war was being fought in this beautiful nation. Now, the many peoples of Sri Lanka are working towards to creation of a peaceful multi-ethnic society through respecting each other's languages, religions, and cultures. Visiting Sri Lanka is the perfect chance for our students to consider the true meaning of our school's research theme!

Sri Lanka

## Three Streams / Three Global Research Programs!



## Course Introduction: Study Abroad Course

## Preparation Period (April – December)

#### Activities to prepare first year students for life abroad

- ♦ English conversation classes with native speakers.
- ♦ Math classes taught in English by a native speaker.
- ♦ Chances to make presentations in English.
- ♦ Japanese culture classes.
- ♦ Classes to learn about New Zealand's culture and history.
- ♦ Fieldwork research practice.
- Workshops to help students recognize and overcome both personal and cultural differences.
- ♦ Six information sessions.
- ♦ Three school camps.
- ♦ Two chances to sit the EIKEN examinations.
- ♦ Two chances to sit TOEFL Junior<sup>®</sup>.

We all worked together towards the shared goal of studying abroad!

1<sup>st</sup> Year

1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Year

Native speakers will join you in your homeroom and for lunch. We will help you get ready for life abroad!



#### ESOL Lessons for Study Abroad Students

New Zealand's schools offer a wide range of subjects, including math, English literature, and history. All exchange students also take special ESOL classes to help them improve their English language skills and keep up with their other classes.

## Studying Abroad (January – December)

#### A chance to study abroad for a year as a class

- Students study at 23 different schools in four different areas across New Zealand's North Island.
- Students are always the only Japanese student in their homestay.
- Students have classes from Monday to Friday. They can also join club activities at their host schools.
- ♦ In spring, they will be visited by a member of our teaching staff.
- ♦ In the Japanese summer, there is a camp for the class in Rotorua.

#### Improve your English skills and gain a global perspective

- Before returning to Japan, students attend the University of Sydney where they receive lectures related to our SGH research theme.
- Students learn how to use English as a tool for meaningful communication.
- ♦ Students improve their speaking and listening skills.
- ♦ Students develop a global worldview.

#### **Extensive Support for our Students**

Teachers from the International Relations Department visit the students in New Zealand four times during their year abroad. What's more, Japanese support staff members (advisors) are always on hand to assist the students.

#### Our Partner Schools in New Zealand

#### Tauranga Area

- 11. Te Aroha College
- Katikati College 12.
- Tauranga Girls' College 13.
- 14. **Bethlehem College**
- Matamata College 15.
- Te Puke High School 16.
- **Aquainus College** 17.

#### **Hamilton Area**

- Morrinsville College 18.
- **Hillcrest High School** 19.
- Hamilton Girls' High School 20.
- Sacred Heart Girls' College 21.
- 22. Waikato Diocesan School for Girls
- 23. Cambridge High School

#### Napier Area

- **Taradale High School** 1.
- 2. Napier Girls' High School
- Sacred Heart College Napier 3.
- 4. Hastings Girls' High School
- 5. Havelock North High School
- Woodford House 6.

#### New Plymouth Area

- 7. New Plymouth Girls' High School
- **Inglewood High School** 8.
- 9. Spotswood College
- 10. St Mary's Diocesan School for Girls



- $2^{nd} 3^{rd}$  Year

### After Coming Home to Japan (January – March)

#### Helping each student to progress to their desired university

- ∻ TOEFL iBT® (for those who wish to sit it)
- ∻ One to one interviews and personalized advice.
- ∻ Studying to improve their English grammar and reading skills.
- Special study camps designed to increase each student's motivation. ♦
- Special class schedules and timetable changes. ⊹
- ♦ Classes to teach the skills needed to pass EIKEN Grade Pre-1 and Grade 1.

#### **Real English for a Bright Future!**

In July and December, study abroad course students sit tests to check their English level. They can compare these results to their previous test score and see just how much their English language skills have improved! Before students depart they sit TOEFL Junior® which leads to a smooth transition to exams such as TOEFL iBT® and IELTS after they have returned to Japan. The students' guardians, host schools and our staff share such information in order to further assist their progress. Even while they are in New Zealand, our students have plenty of chances to practice for EIKEN and prepare for the university admissions process.

## YouTube

Watch our video; "My Three Years in the Study Abroad Course" http://www.youtube.com/user/KoseiGirlsHighSchool  $\geq$ 

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Graduate Message!

hile I was studying abroad in New Zealand, my advisor filled me in on how my classmates were doing, I always felt happy to hear such news and it helped me to put my best foot forward! When I was having a hard time, my teachers in Japan called me to cheer me up and offer me advice. As soon as I came home, I started thinking about the university admissions process. In the after school classes, I was always able to talk with graduates and receive good advice. It really helped me to do my best in my studies. I want to use my English skills to further my studies of education at university. Ultimately, I hope to put them to use to help education providers in developing nations."

- Tauranga Hamilton
- Napier New Plymouth

## Super Global (SG) Class



#### Gaining investigative skills through research tasks

All SG class students carry out research assignments. Students investigate a range of global issues before deciding on their own research theme. During their first year of high school, students learn basic research methods, and develop their intercultural communication skills. They then travel to Thailand, to carry out fieldwork, as second year students before analyzing the results of their investigations. Last, our third year high school students complete their fieldwork reports in English at the University of London.

high sh at There are lots of chances to

Even Students who are shy at first soon become active researchers!

#### Partnership with SOAS

Our school is proud to have a strong relationship with the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies. We have had a cooperation agreement with SOAS since 2013. Each April, the third year SG class students have the chance to study at this prestigious campus in the heart of central London.



speak with people from different

walks of life. This has helped me

to expand my worldview!



#### Learning the English skills prestigious universities seek

During their three years at Kosei, students gain four extra English credits, on top of the regular 20 credits. This helps them to further strengthen their ability across all four skill areas. Japanese teachers of English work together with the native teachers to improve each student's writing and presentation skills. Their combination of strong English skills and research skills helps our students to get ahead in the competitive world of university admissions. Some students even decide to take on the challenge of attending university abroad.

# **GLOBAL KOSEI** Kosei Girls Study the World!

## **PARTNER INSTITUTIONS**

### SOAS, The University of London (UK)

In June 2013, our principal and Mr. Graham Davis signed a partnership agreement between our school and SOAS (the University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies). SOAS has many remarkable professors including Ms. Aung San Suu Kyi and is considered to be at the forefront of research in the field of Asian and African studies.

### The University of Sydney (Australia)

We have a partnership agreement with the University of Sydney. This university was founded in 1850 and was the first university in Australia. The University of Sydney is a member of Australia's "Group of Eight," a group of eight Australian universities that are known for their excellent research programs. It is ranked as one of the top 100 universities in the world and one of the top three in Australia.

## Waikato Diocesan School for Girls (New Zealand)

Waikato Diocesan School for Girls is an Anglican school located in Hamilton, New Zealand. Each year, two of our study abroad course students study at this school. Students are encouraged to take part in a wide range of extra-curricular activities, and the school's moto is "Making the Dio Difference."

## SISTER SCHOOLS

### Visakha Vidyalaya (Sri Lanka)

In 2018 we signed a new sister school agreement with this school in Sri Lanka. From 2018, we will begin a short term cultural exchange program. This program will see a few students from Sri Lanka visit Kosei Gakuen Girls' for one week each September, and a few students from Japan attend school in Sri Lanka each March. We look forward to deepening our understanding of Sri Lanka's culture and religions.

### Napier Girls' High School (New Zealand)

Napier Girls' High School is located in the seaside town of Napier, it was founded in 1884. They currently welcome two of our study abroad course students each year. This school also has a strong Japanese curriculum. Every two years a group of students from Napier Girls' High School visit our school to attend classes and participate in a homestay program.