“Educating... is a high responsibility. To do it well, we must look beyond the world which is passing from sight and turn our eyes to the uncharted world of the future. We must rise above the antiquated approaches of earlier days and instead infuse our students with (the) three “A’s” of modern learning - the spirit of anticipation, the spirit of adaptation and the spirit of adventure. This will happen best in learning environments which are both serious and focused on the one hand, but which are also joyous and inspiring places, operating on the cutting edge of pedagogy and knowledge.”

HIS HIGHNESS THE AGA KHAN

Foundation stone-laying ceremony of the residential campus, Aga Khan Academy in Mombasa, on 14 August 2007
Aga Khan Education Services

Aga Khan Education Services (AKES) is one of the largest private, not-for-profit education networks in the developing world. We are present in 13 countries across East Africa, South and Central Asia, and the Middle East. We operate over 200 schools and education programmes that reach over 90,000+ pre-primary to higher secondary students with the support of 5,500+ teachers and staff.

Established over 100 years ago, AKES is built on a century of leadership in education. We believe education improves the quality of life of students, their families and communities and brings hope. To this end, we focus on developing students as well rounded citizens, equipping them with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values they need to play a productive role in a complex and dynamic world.

We serve diverse populations with 75% of our schools in rural areas, many operating in marginalised communities where access to quality education is limited. It is our aspiration to provide relevant, sustainable and affordable schooling in the context in which students live so that they mature to be both local and global citizens.

We endeavour to teach students to make ethical choices and to embrace the strength of pluralism and service. We are committed to diligent scholarship and stewardship.

agakhanschools.org features over 200 stories about our schools and students.
Student Population

- PRE-PRIMARY: 15,000
- PRIMARY: 27,000
- SECONDARY: 21,000
- HIGHER-SECONDARY: 4,000
- EDUCATION PROGRAMMES: 22,400

90,000+ STUDENTS

50% MALE
50% FEMALE

Geography

- RURAL: 75%
- URBAN: 25%

A Global Network

- 13 COUNTRIES
- 200 SCHOOLS AND STANDALONE PRE-PRIMARY CENTRES

Countries:
- Uganda
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Tanzania
- Madagascar
- Syria
- Kyrgyz Republic
- Pakistan
- Bangladesh
- India
- UAE
- Afghanistan
- Tajikistan
Aga Khan schools aspire to deliver a relevant, academically rigorous and well-rounded curriculum that honours the context in which students live so that they are equipped to navigate modern life and work in their own communities and beyond.
TOP PERFORMERS

India: Four Schools Achieve Top Ratings

Aga Khan schools in Warangal, Chitravad and Mundra were awarded top ratings from the Educational World (EW) India School Rankings. The India Didactics Association (IDA) also recognised the Aga Khan School, Mundra for ‘Exemplary Initiative Towards Faculty Development Programs’. The school was ranked #1 from over 1,600 participants across India.

Kenya: Nairobi School Recognised for Values Education

The Aga Khan High School Nairobi received the Gold Presidential Award for Quality Experiential Activities that impart positive life skills and ethical values to young students.

Pakistan: Academic Accolades for 12 Students

Five students from Aga Khan schools in Pakistan secured first, second and third positions nationally for overall academic excellence in their board examinations with 12 students also scoring and top subject specific scores in mathematics, physics and chemistry.

19 EXAMINATION BOARDS

Aga Khan schools are affiliated with two international examination boards and 17 local examination boards with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) the latest examination board to be introduced into Aga Khan School, Mundra in India.

27 SCHOOLS AFFILIATED WITH AKU-ED

26% of high and higher secondary schools in Pakistan are affiliated with the Aga Khan University’s Education Board with plans to affiliate another 13 schools in 2020. All 70 high and higher secondary schools in Pakistan conduct the AKU middle years programme.

17 LANGUAGES TAUGHT

In addition to English, 17 languages are taught in Aga Khan schools - Arabic, Bengali, French, German, Gujarati, Hindi, Kiswahili, Kyrgyz, Mandarin, Marathi, Persian, Russian, Sindhi, Spanish, Tajik, Telegu, and Urdu.
We recognise the critical importance of a high quality early childhood education.

ACCOLADES FOR OUR NURSERY SCHOOLS

**Dubai: Best Nursery in UAE**
The Aga Khan Early Learning Centre in Dubai won the Best Nursery UAE Award 2019. The Centre operates as a resource hub for the Aga Khan pre-primary network.

**Kenya: Musical Talent**
The Aga Khan Nursery School, Mombasa in Kenya was ranked the best pre-primary school in the 23rd National Kenya Music Festival.

**Kenya: Taekwondo Champions**
The Aga Khan Nursery School, Eldoret in Kenya was ranked the best pre-primary school in the Regional Taekwondo Grading Championship.
THE EARLY LEARNING CENTRE IN KHOROG A RESOURCE FOR OTHERS

The Early Childhood Development Resource Centre in Khorog, Tajikistan hosted a seminar for local teachers on Assessment Tools where participants designed a process for systematically monitoring children’s learning development so that support and challenge could be better targeted to each student.

92% SCHOOLS WITH PRE-PRIMARY CLASSES

183 of the 198 Aga Khan schools conduct pre-primary classes. Our aim is to increase access to quality education from nursery to higher secondary school levels.

92 STAND-ALONE NURSERY SCHOOLS

There are 92 stand alone nursery schools across AKES. Most are in rural areas providing early childhood programmes where otherwise there have been none.
Teachers

Aga Khan schools are staffed by qualified teachers, who care for their students and support their academic achievement and overall progress and wellbeing.

HYDERABAD TEACHER CELEBRATED

Ms Nagalakshmi received the best teacher award in her district of Hyderabad in India. The award celebrates her 26 years of continuous teaching at Diamond Jubilee High School Hyderabad and her contributions to creative curriculum design.

3,100

FEMALE STAFF

56% of all AKES staff are female. AKES also has a policy of supporting local recruitment.
“The minds of our children require teachers who are the intellectual equals to the best professionals in other fields.”

HIS HIGHNESS THE AGA KHAN

Opening Ceremony of the Aga Khan School in Osh, on 30 October 2002

BRITISH COUNCIL HONORS PAKISTAN SCHOOLS

Sultan Mahomed Shah Aga Khan School, Karachi is one of five Aga Khan schools in Pakistan to win the British Council’s International School Award which supports teachers to engage in collaborative projects with educational institutions worldwide.

5,500+ STAFF
AKES employs over 5,500 staff of whom 4,000+ are teachers and school leaders.

20 DAYS OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ANNUALLY
AKES teachers average over 20 days of professional development annually. The OECD average is 9 days.

150+ EXTRA TEACHERS
Over 150 additional teachers employed to respond to increased enrolments and improve student:teacher ratios.
Co-Curriculum

Aga Khan schools aim to enrich learning with a range of co-curriculum activity. All offer after school clubs and camps and many offer additional summer and winter holiday enrichment programmes.

TALENT COMES IN DIFFERENT FORMS

Bangladesh: Biology Champions
Four students from Aga Khan School, Dhaka represented Bangladesh in the 30th International Biology Olympiad in Szeged winning a bronze medal.

Tanzania: Debating Champions
Three students from Aga Khan Mzizima School in Tanzania, won first prize for Africa in the World Scholars Cup for debate and qualified for the championships at Yale University.

Kyrgyz Republic: Russian Language Champions
Two students from the Aga Khan School Osh in the Kyrgyz Republic achieved second and third place at the national olympiad in Bishkek for biology and Russian language.

India: Sports Champions
Students of the Aga Khan Schools in Chitravad and Warangal in India received first place in the international fencing tournament, while others received accolades in the national and regional competitions for hockey, taekwondo, and volleyball.

Pakistan: Ski Champions
A student of the Aga Khan School Madaklasht in Pakistan gained first place at a local ski competition in Chitral out of 300 participants.
Music, dance, art and craft, debating and robotics

The 5 most offered co-curriculum activities across Aga Khan schools.
Educational Technology

Aga Khan schools aim to equip students from pre-primary to higher secondary levels to take advantage of an increasingly technological world. Robotics, coding and maker spaces are part of the curriculum in schools in Bangladesh, India, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan and Kenya.

MAKERS SPACES AND LEGO ROBOTICS COME TO KHOROG

65 students in Khorog, Tajikistan, voluntarily spent their summer at the Aga Khan Lycée learning about Makers Lab and Lego Robotics where they engineered their own innovative versions of real-life things. “Learning about materials that transmit energy enabled us to make a paper piano, meaning that giant equipment can be resized and be still effective, useful, mobile and practical,” said a student at the Aga Khan Lycée.

PAKISTAN STUDENTS EXCEL IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

A student of Aga Khan Higher Secondary School, Karachi won the Silver Medal at the China Adolescents Science and Technology Innovation Contest.

Another student of Aga Khan Higher Secondary School, Karachi, won the Grand Winner prize at the Shaukat Khanum National Science and Engineering Fair. Her project, "Smog Buster", was selected for the International Intel Science and Engineering Fair.
EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

ED-TECH START-UP IN GILGIT-BALTISTAN
A group of four students from AKES Pakistan, won the 2nd prize at a technology competition for developing software applications entitled 'Smart Study.'

AFGHANISTAN PIONEERS IT CERTIFICATION
AKES Afghanistan is one of the first training organisations to offer the renowned International Computing Driving License (ICDL) demonstrably improving the employment opportunities of its students.

72%
SCHOOLS WITH COMPUTER LABS
63 of the 88 Aga Khan high and higher secondary schools have fully equipped computer laboratories.

130
SCHOOLS WITH DATA PROJECTORS AND TELEVISIONS
66% of Aga Khan schools are equipped with projectors, televisions and white boards to aid teaching and learning.
At AKES, we aim to prepare students to excel in tertiary education and the world of work, and to become active citizens and lifelong learners.

250 ALUMNI MEET IN GILGIT-BALTISTAN

AKES Pakistan hosted the first ever alumni reunion programme bringing together over 250 ex-students from the Aga Khan Higher Secondary Schools in Gilgit Baltistan (GB). This event was an opportunity for alumni to share their experiences with current Aga Khan students in the continued pursuit of excellence in education. This reunion was the first of its kind in which alumni from all Aga Khan Higher Secondary Schools in GB (Gilgit, Ghakuch, Sherqilla, and Hunza) campuses came together after several years to celebrate their success.

1,700 STUDENTS GRADUATED

Over 90% of the 1,900 students who completed their final year of schooling in Aga Khan schools this academic year, passed.

79% GRADUATES PARTICIPATING IN TERTIARY STUDY

1,350 students of the graduating class went onto tertiary education.

29 COUNTRIES WHERE STUDENTS STUDY

AKES students are attending tertiary institutions in 29 different countries.
AKES alumni make an impact across the world in their own communities and beyond, in small and larger enterprises.

**A KHOROG ALUMNUS SUCCESS STORY**

An Aga Khan Lycée alumnus (class of 1999), Khirad Kargasov has gone a long way in order to be successful in his career and benefit his community in Tajikistan. After graduating from the Aga Khan Lycée, Khirad was enrolled as a Future Leaders Exchange Program’s (FLEX) student and graduated from a U.S. high school with honors.

Moreover, Khirad also succeeded in being awarded two honors degrees from Khorog State University and the Dushanbe Institute of Business. Today, Khirad is employed as a Country Manager for Saferworld, Tajikistan – an independent International NGO that focuses on conflict prevention and peace-building - working internationally and proudly representing Tajikistan in large events. He has been working in South Sudan for eighteen months as Area Project Manager for a Community Security program based in Juba.

Prior to joining Saferworld, Khirad also worked as Program Manager at the U.S. Embassy coordinating the implementation of the Tajikistan Community Policing Program, managed small grants, in cooperation with the Government of Tajikistan. Khirad has received the State Department’s Meritorious Award for outstanding performance in law enforcement assistance programs.

Recalling his time at the Aga Khan Lycée and his passion for learning Khirad underlines: “Studying at the Aga Khan Lycée inspired me to strive for career development.”
Service, Partnerships and Volunteers

Aga Khan students are encouraged to become increasingly active in the service of their communities and civil society - to be problem-solvers, innovators and socially responsible individuals. Partners and volunteers offer expertise, knowledge, time and resources to support Aga Khan students grow up as well prepared, capable and ethical citizens.

TEACHERS FROM UK AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLABORATE

For the last two years the Aga Khan Education Board of the United Kingdom have collaborated with teachers from the Aga Khan Lycee (Tajikistan) and the Aga Khan School Osh (Kyrgyz Republic) to support mathematics, science and instructional leadership. Together participants explore pedagogies that demand critical and conceptual thinking and participatory learning - a powerful partnership has been forged.

KINDNESS WEEK AT MOMBASA

This year, young learners at the Aga Khan Nursery School, Mombasa in Kenya participated in ‘Kindness Week’ where the children performed positive acts of kindness at a local children’s centre, hospital and seniors home.

50+ VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers and countless parent helpers support learning and early childhood development.
Facilities

Aga Khan schools operate out of a wide range of facilities in a diversity of locations. Our focus is on improving our infrastructure to support the learning, health, safety and wellbeing of all occupants of AKES facilities.

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD FACILITY IN KHROROG, TAJIKISTAN

After extensive strengthening, expansion and refurbishment the Aga Khan Lycee in Khorog, Tajikistan was completed over 7 phases, starting in 2018, and handed over in September. All parts of AKES cooperated to deliver an international class school where construction works were undertaken within an active facility of 1200 students without a school day loss.

300+
BUILDINGS

AKES has responsibility for over 300 different facilities which we are working progressively to improve.

7
HOSTELS

AKES has 5 hostels in Pakistan, 1 in India and 1 in Madagascar.

660+
BOARDERS

Over 660 students from remote areas complete their secondary education at AKES hostels.
Aga Khan students are encouraged to be socially and environmentally conscious citizens who strive to make positive change in their schools and wider community.

CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Kenya: Nursery Students Go Green
The Aga Khan Nursery School, Mombasa in Kenya marked World Innovation Day by doing what’s arguably the most important project of their generation: Going Green. Students created recyclable rock gardens, bottle cap board games and reusable play materials. “This activity instilled a sense of responsibility towards our environment,” said teacher Maryam Shallo.

Pakistan: ‘Clean and Green’
AKES Pakistan has launched the Clean and Green programme which aims to promote sustainability around school campuses through landscaping and horticulture repair and maintenance and cleanliness of campuses and facilities.

Uganda: Environmental Videos Best in Africa
As part of the ‘Your World’ competitions organised by the British Council, students from the Aga Khan School, Kampala in Uganda, produced videos that were recognised as Best in Africa two years running - ‘Natural Environment’ (2018) and ‘Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds’ (2019).

Central Asia: Youth Leadership Forum Showcases Environmental Projects
The 15 day Youth Leadership Forum in Central Asia, organised by AKES, brought together senior students to develop leadership, communication, problem-solving and conflict resolution skills. Participants undertake a project based on a neighborhood challenge - water conservation and water pollution were ‘hot topics’.

Bangladesh: Students March in Support of Climate Change
Students of the Aga Khan School, Dhaka in Bangladesh, with posters held high and demanding action, stood in solidarity with citizens around the world, as part of the Global Protest for Climate Justice. Their involvement was organized by the Aga Khan School Climate Change Student Committee in collaboration with the international NGO ActionAid.
1,000+ AFRICAN STUDENTS PLANT TREES

In East Africa over 1,000 students participated in reforestation and tree-planting activities.

3,225 SAPLINGS PLANTED IN INDIA

In India, 2,670 students and staff planted 3,225 saplings and trees.

12,000 SHEETS OF PAPER SAVED

In India 5 schools saved 12,000 sheets of paper in a year through re-use practices and an increased reliance on technology.
“What students know is no longer the most important measure of an education. The true test is the ability of students and graduates to engage with what they do not know, and to work out a solution.”

HIS HIGHNESS THE AGA KHAN

Inauguration ceremony of the Aga Khan Academy Kilindini (Mombasa, Kenya), on 20 December 2003