School Introduction

Hyogo Prefectural Kobe High School is located at the foot of Mount Rokko, and has 1080 students from 15 to 18 years old studying one of two courses: a General Course and a Science Course (Sougourigakuka). In 2016, it marked its 120th anniversary and a great number of people gathered to celebrate its long successful history.

Kobe High School is acknowledged as the leading high school in Hyogo Prefecture for the following three reasons. Firstly, it has various kinds of unique science curriculums. It was designated as a Super Science High School (SSH) in 2004, and since then it has developed special courses such as “Gateway to Science”, “Science English”, and “Science Topic Studies”. These courses aim to improve students’ skills to find and solve problems by integrating knowledge, rather than just having them gain knowledge in science subjects. Kobe High School also plays an important role in planning and organizing events such as the “Science Fair in Hyogo” and the “Science Conference in Hyogo”, in which a great number of students from many high schools participate and present their research work in Japanese and English.

Secondly, students’ excellence in both studies and extracurricular activities such as school events and club activities makes Kobe High School stand out among other high schools. Many of our students have great academic records and go on to Japan’s top universities to continue their study. Students take great pride in organizing their annual Cultural Festival, Sports Day and Music Concert. These school events are a showcase for the students’ independence and self-governance.

Thirdly, Kobe High School has many International Exchange Programs. It has two sister schools overseas; Chatham Grammar School for Boys in England and Raffles Institution in Singapore, both of which have excellent students and great academic records. Students from Kobe High School and its sister schools visit each other annually and have exchange programs to make stronger bonds between the schools and learn about each other’s culture and society.
Kobe High School’s Goals

1. To nurture pride in academic excellence and the traditions of Kobe High School
2. To enable our students to become successful, contributing members of society
3. To provide our students with the tools to be flexible and adaptable to today’s rapidly changing society
4. To encourage our students to create a more caring and harmonious society

School History

Meiji Period (1868—1912)

1896 Hyogo Boys’ School was founded by the Ikuta River
1899 Hyogo Boys’ School was renamed Kobe Boys’ School
1901 Hyogo Girls’ School was founded in Shimoyamate
1907 Kobe Boys’ School was renamed Hyogo Prefectural 1st Kobe Boys’ School
1910 Hyogo Girls’ School was renamed Hyogo Prefectural Kobe Girls’ High School

Taisho Period (1912—1926)

1925 Hyogo Prefectural Kobe Girls’ High School was renamed Hyogo Prefectural 1st Kobe Girls’ High School

Showa Period (1926—1989)

1938 Hyogo Prefectural 1st Kobe Boys’ School was moved to its present location
1948 Under the new school system, the school names were changed to Hyogo Prefectural 1st Kobe High School and Hyogo Prefectural 1st Kobe High School for Girls
1948 The two schools merged to become Hyogo Prefectural Kobe High School
1986 The Math-Science Course started

Heisei Period (1989—Present)

1996 100th Anniversary of the School’s Foundation was celebrated
2000 Construction of the new auditorium and the science building was completed
2001 100th Anniversary of Hyogo Girls’ School was celebrated
2002 Construction of the New main building was completed
2003 The Science Course [Sougourigaku Course] started
2004 Kobe High School was designated as a “Super Science High School” by MEXT
2006 110th Anniversary of the school’s foundation was celebrated
2007 The Science Course became the current Science Course [Sougourigakuka]
2016 120th Anniversary of the school’s foundation was celebrated
2009 Kobe High School has played the main role in organizing the annual Science Fair in Hyogo
2015 Kobe High School has played the main role in organizing the annual Science Conference in Hyogo