

HOPE VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

TEACHING SKILLS, CHANGING FUTURES

30 JANUARY 2026



KIEN SVAY DISTRICT,
KANDAL PROVINCE, CAMBODIA



SIX OPEN HOUSE NIGHTS!

Successful schools develop caring communities where students feel safe and known. We want faculty, students, and parents to join in feeling a strong sense of ownership for HVS. One important way we have tried to build our school community is by holding two Parent-and-Student Open Houses each term. At our final Open House for the 2025 school year, we served cookies to everyone and gave students with outstanding attendance coupons for special drinks at the coffee shop.



OFF TO A GREAT NEW YEAR

26 January 2026 marked the first day of school of HVS's second year. We started the year by administering a placement test to all 86 students planning to study English this year. We offer three levels of instruction: Basic English, Speaking and Listening Skills, and Conversational English. It's important that both new and returning students study at the level that best fits their abilities and needs. Our English classes are so popular because employers as well as universities often require English proficiency.



SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Students at HVS do not "graduate" because, at least at this time, we are not a degree granting institution. Our students earn grades and are eligible to receive certificates for successful completion of courses. At the 2026 Opening of School Assembly, a special group of students received certificates recognizing that they had studied at HVS all three terms of the 2025 school year. In total, 159 students studied at HVS in 2025, but forty took classes in all three terms. It was our pleasure to recognize their dedication and their commitment to learning skills that will change their futures.

HOW DO WE MEASURE SUCCESS?

So far, measuring success at HVS hasn't been as straightforward as it might be in a more traditional school. Our student population is relatively fluid. Students may leave because they need to earn more money to support their families. Others leave to go to University. Some struggle to find childcare.

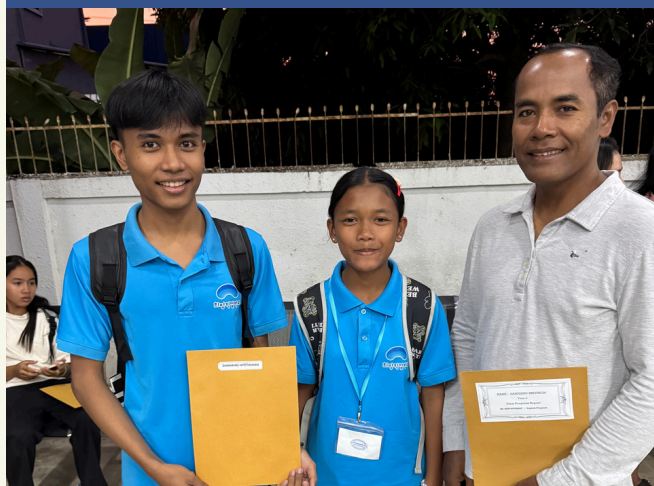
But one important measure of success is how many students who studied with us in 2025 returned to study with us in 2026: 75. These 75 young men and women affirmed the importance of the skills they are gaining at HVS by returning for a second year, even though we started charging a small tuition in 2026.

Sometimes we have to look to anecdotal evidence to measure our success. Bunthea Keum needed to get a job to help fund his university studies, so he quit studying before the end of Term Three. But he sent us a text: "In my job interview, he asked where do you study English and how do you become such a good speaker in English? I said, I study at Hope Vocational School."



HVS: A FAMILY AFFAIR

Nitethanan Samnang and his sister Sreynich both study English at HVS. At the recent Open House, Nitethanan was proud to show his father the certificate of completion he received for "Conversational English." Mr. Samnang should get a perfect attendance award . . . He has attended all six Open House events.




Hope Vocational School was built by the Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church and its Korean NGO, the Bridge of Hope. To support the school, you may donate to the Cambodian Mission Initiative Advance #00230A and indicate that your donation is for HVS.



WHAT
DO
YOU
WANT
TO
SAY???

Thank you for giving me
knowledge and I also respect
your kindness that you spend
your time for teaching us.
This school is not just give us
knowledge it also teach us
how to be a good student and
a good person.
Koth

Thank you teacher @.R Dabisa
and Mrs for everything. You're a
good teacher, kind, and big heart
to all students in the class.
I Love you. @. R

From my heart to the school
and the teacher.
Thank you for the school and
the teacher for gave me the
opportunity to study at the
school and know the living
Teacher. 
Phon Kommanika

At the Open House, Mrs. Mony gave students the opportunity to leave notes to the school and their teachers.



Also at the Open House, some of the students from the first year Korean class celebrated the end of Year One with their teacher.